Newsletter Friday 18th September 2026

Headteacher News

It has been another really positive week at Loose, and I have particularly enjoyed seeing our focus on **Exceptional Behaviour and Culture** beginning to develop across the school.

Exceptional Behaviour and Culture

Mr North and I spent a couple of hours walking around the school on Thursday morning, and we saw so many examples of what we want to see across Loose. Mrs Ballard and Mrs Malhotra have also joined me in visiting classes throughout the week. There was a real sense of positivity, strong teacher presence and, perhaps most importantly, a calmness that made the school feel safe, purposeful and focused on learning.

This is something we feel very passionately about. Behaviour underpins everything we do in school. When children understand what is expected of them and adults are consistent in those expectations, we create an environment where children can feel safe, relationships can flourish and learning can happen.

We are working hard to ensure that we have the highest expectations for our children, while recognising that exceptional behaviour is something we build over time. Children will make mistakes — that is a natural and important part of growing up. What matters is how we respond to those mistakes and how we support children to reflect, learn and make better choices next time.

In many ways, this is no different from academic learning. We don't expect children to get everything right immediately. We identify what they need to improve, provide the right support and give them opportunities to practise and get better. We should approach behaviour in exactly the same way.

Ultimately, one of the most important things we do as a school is keep our children safe. The conduct and behaviour of our children, alongside the relationships and expectations of the adults around them, play a crucial role in creating that safe environment.

Practising Our Safety Procedures

Our children responded really well to our planned fire drill this week. We practise these procedures so that, in the event of a real fire, children know what to do and can leave the building quickly and calmly.

We were pleased with how quickly the school was evacuated. There are still some areas for us to refine, particularly around improving the route and exit for some of our children in Key Stage two.

A special well done to our children in Little Loose Nursery, who experienced their very first fire drill. They were absolutely amazing and followed the instructions brilliantly. It was fantastic to see such a calm and confident response from our youngest children.

Feeling Safe

Next week, we will be thinking more deeply about what it means to feel safe at Loose. This links closely to one of our key school rules: Be Safe.

Being safe is about much more than following instructions. We want every child to understand how their choices, words and actions can help to make school a place where everyone feels safe and able to learn.

We will also be reminding children and families about the importance of keeping our school site safe. Parents and carers are not generally permitted to park on the school site. There are a small number of families who have been given permission to park on-site in exceptional circumstances, but this is not a general arrangement. Given the limited space available and the number of children and adults using the site at the beginning and end of the school day, allowing general parent parking would compromise site safety.

Our children should know that the adults in school are there to keep them safe, and that everyone in our school community has an important role to play in creating a safe environment for themselves and others.

Knowing Our Children, Unlocking Potential

Our work around Responsive Teaching continues to develop, with staff thinking carefully about how our knowledge of individual children should shape the teaching, support and challenge they receive.

This week, Mrs Spelman led a wonderful professional development meeting for staff, where we explored the precision needed in our planning and teaching. We thought carefully about how we can use what we know about our children to make decisions about what we teach, how we teach it and the support or challenge individual children may need.

I was really impressed by the way our teachers responded to the session. There was a real willingness to reflect on our current practice and, importantly, to already think about how we can continue to grow and strengthen the quality of teaching across our school.

Knowing our children well is fundamental to this. When we understand what children know, what they find difficult and where they are ready to go next, we are better placed to respond to their needs and adapt our teaching accordingly.

This is an important part of our ambition to ensure that every child at Loose receives the right teaching, support and challenge to make progress and unlock their potential.

Our PTA

It was a real pleasure to attend our PTA AGM this week and spend time with the wonderful group of parents who give so much of their time to our school.

We are already excited about how we can use the money raised by the PTA to enhance provision for all of our children. We have some particularly ambitious plans around playtimes, alongside a number of other projects that we will be able to share with families over the coming months.

Our PTA does so much more than raise money. The events and occasions they organise provide wonderful opportunities for our families to come together, strengthen our school community and create memories for our children.

Given the size and strength of our school community, I think there is huge potential for our PTA to grow even further. With the support of more families, staff and the wider Loose community, we have an opportunity to create something really special that can support our children and our school for many years to come.

A huge thank you to everyone involved in our PTA. Your time, energy and commitment make a real difference, and I am very excited about what we can achieve together.

Developing Our Handwriting

Next week, we will also be spending some time developing our approach to handwriting across the school.

Miss Payne has worked incredibly hard over recent months to create our very own bespoke Loose approach to teaching handwriting, and we are really excited to introduce this to staff next Wednesday before beginning to roll it out with our children as soon as possible.

Developing fluent, automatic handwriting is an important part of becoming a confident writer. When handwriting becomes more fluent, children are able to give greater attention to other aspects of writing, including grammar, punctuation and composition, allowing them to focus on communicating their ideas effectively to their audience.

This is another important step in our work towards Writing Excellence, ensuring that we give our children the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to become successful writers.

Getting to Know Loose

Finally, I have really enjoyed spending time getting to know more of our children, staff and families over the past few weeks. Every conversation, classroom visit and opportunity to see school life in action is helping me to understand Loose more deeply — what makes our school special, where our strengths lie and where we can continue to grow.

I am learning a great deal from the people who know our school best, and I am really looking forward to working together to build on everything that is already wonderful about Loose and make it an even better place for our children.

Potential is limitless.

Daniel Childs



Diary Dates

Term 1

22/09 - Flu Immunisations

23/09 Year R & 6 Height & Weight checks

25/09 PTA Quiz Night - more info to follow

28 & 29/09 Road Safety Talks for Years 3 & 4

01/10 Early Years Phonics Workshop - more info to follow

02/10 PTA KS2 Disco

06/10 Year 4 to Kent Life

06/10 Year 6 Residential Meeting with parent 5.30-6.00pm

07/10 Fizz Photography in to do class & individual photos for Years R, 1 & 2

07/10 Fizz Photography doing a parent drop in sessions Brook Hall 7.30am to 8.30am for sibling/family photos

08/10 Fizz Photography in to do class & individual photos for Years 3, 5 & 6 (Y6 done in June)

08/10 Year R Biscuit Bake Off

13/10 - Open Classrooms - more info nearer the time

14/10 Harvest Church Services at All Saints Church Loose

15/10 Kent Test Results to parents from 4pm

15/10 Last day of term

16/10 Staff Training Day no children in school - children due back 02/11/26



Ethic of Excellence

Well done to the children that received a certificate of excellence this week. Your teachers are very proud of you.

Moonstone Class - Finley B

Sapphire Class - Sienna S

Aquamarine Class - Wilfred B

Turquoise Class - Bisrat F

Tanzanite Class - Poppy S

Amber Class - Theadora B

Coral Class - Emily M

Jade Class - Anabelle M

Emerald Class - Joshua L

Ruby Class - Lewis W

Onyx Class - Thomas N

Amethyst Class - Roselle S

Topaz Class - Solomon H

Sunstone Class - Harley K

Peridot Class - Bess O

Quartz Class - Lola H

Zultanite Class - Hollie H



Hot Chocolate Friday

Well done to the children who were nominated by their teachers for Hot Chocolate Friday this week.

Diamond Class - Grace T

Sapphire Class - Jacob S

Moonstone Class - Johann F

Tanzanite Class - Mila H

Aquamarine Class - Ada-Rose L

Turquoise Class - Sophia M

Coral Class - Arabella H

Amber Class - Artie C

Jade Class - Harris H

Emerald Class - Joshua L

Onyx Class - Emily G

Ruby Class - Scarlett A

Topaz Class - Florence L

Sunstone Class - Tillie R

Amethyst Class - Sienna B

Peridot Class - Amelie F

Zultanite Class - Bella Y

Quartz Class - Lola H



Lost Property

Please do come along to the lost property area (the large white box is located in the year 3 & 5 cloakroom) and have a look if your child/children are missing any items of property. Any items that are not claimed, by the end of the day on ***MONDAY 21st SEPTEMBER will be donated to charity or recycled***. Thank you.



School Office – delivery of forgotten items

We appreciate that occasionally children may forget something they need for the school day. Where possible, we encourage children to take responsibility for remembering their belongings, helping them to develop independence and prepare for their next school.

If a non-essential item is brought into the office during the school day, we may not always be able to deliver it to your child, depending on the demands on the office team that day. Of course, we will always do our best to ensure that essential items, such as lunch boxes, reach the child.Thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support and understanding with this — it is very much appreciated.



Shout Out

A huge well done to Grace M from Amethyst Class who completed her first Triathlon in Brighton at the beginning of September. Grace had to swim, bike and run in her TriStar event. Grace had lots of fun and loved it so much she wants to do more next summer!



Secondary Admissions

For children starting year 7 in September 2027 applications opened on Monday 1 September and close on Monday 2 November 2026.

You can apply for up to 4 schools:

- Put the schools in your order of preference.

- It’s in your best interest to list 4 schools.
- Naming only one school does not guarantee your child a place at that school or give priority for a place over another child.
- You are not able to name the same school more than once.

To apply for a school outside of Kent, name the school in your application with your other preferences. Your application details will be passed on to the relevant local authority for processing.

To help you choose the schools to add to your application:

- read our advice about choosing a school
- find information about open days from the school's website or contact the school
- read our guide to secondary admissions for 2027 (PDF, 1.4 MB)

Apply

To apply for a year 7 place, complete our online application form.

https://kent.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/Synergy/Admissions.aspx

If you provide an email address on your application, we will email you on Monday 1 March 2027 to tell you which school you have been offered or view your offer online.

Important dates to know

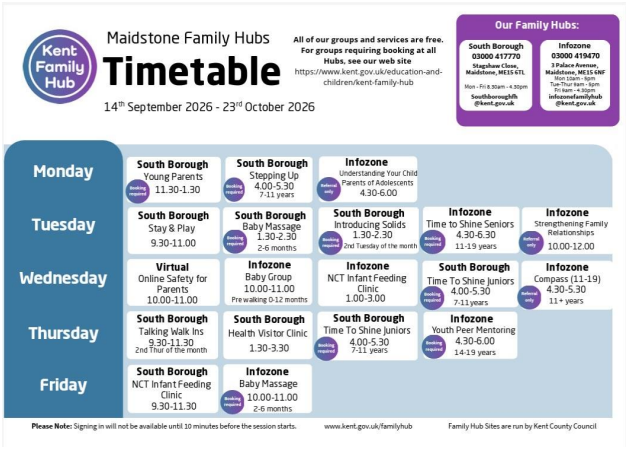
Important dates to note for primary and secondary school applications for the 2027 entry.

What happens	Primary school applications	Secondary school applications
School application deadline day	15 January 2027	2 November 2026
National Offer Day	16 April 2027	1 March 2027
Deadline to let the school know whether you accept or refuse the place	30 April 2027	15 March 2027
Waiting list deadline	30 April 2027	15 March 2027

PTA Newsletter



SEN Information



Information

Time to Shine Seniors (Booking required)
Small, supportive groups for children 12+ with neurodiverse needs to build confidence and social skills through fun activities.

Compass (11-19) (Referral only)
A 10 session course helping children 11+ manage emotions and develop skills to cope with life's challenges.
Referral only
infozonefamilyhub@kent.gov.uk

Youth Peer Mentoring (Booking required)
Confidence Building, face-to-face training, learn new skills for life.
14-19 years
Please contact maidstonefh@kent.gov.uk for booking information
Volunteer with Family Hub - Kent County Council

@MaidstoneFamilyHubs
@Maidstonefamilyhubs
@Maidstonefamilyhubs11to18

Kent Family Hub

Young Parents (Booking required)
For parents and parents-to-be up to the age of 25 and is a great way to meet other families and build friendships in a fun, educational and stimulating environment to explore and play.

Introducing Solids (Booking required)
A workshop run by the Health Visiting team to guide you through the weaning journey.
Book when baby is 4-6 months.
Please note we hold 2 workshops a month: Parkwood & South Borough.
Booking Required
Family.kentchft.nhs.uk/introducingsolids

Stepping Up (Booking required)
A 6-week programme for 7-11 year olds to boost confidence, manage emotions and make friends.
To express an interest please email Southboroughfh@kent.gov.uk

Understanding Your Child - Parents of Adolescents (Referral only)
For parent/carers that would like to know more about sensitive and effective parenting. For parents with children aged 11+. Exploring positive relationships, adolescent brain development, emotional containment, behaviour as, communication and more.

Baby Group
A welcoming space to bond with your baby and meet other parents. Includes songs and sensory play. For babies who are 0 - 12 months pre-walking.
Please note we hold 2 Baby Groups a week: Greenfields & Infozone.

Time To Shine Juniors (Booking required)
Small, supportive groups for children aged 8-11 years with SEND to build confidence and social skills through fun activities.
Booking required
southboroughfh@kent.gov.uk

Virtual Online Safety (Booking required)
6 sessions for parents on supporting children to stay safe online and using technology responsibly
Booking required.
southboroughfh@kent.gov.uk

Strengthening Family Relationships (Referral only)
A Workshop to help parents reduce conflict and build positive family relationships.
Tue 22 and 29 September.
Referral only.
infozonefamilyhub@kent.gov.uk

Healthy Start Vitamins
Are you eligible for Healthy Start Vitamins?
If so, complete this form to order Healthy Start Vitamins to your door:

Free Early Education
Some 2 year olds can get up to 15 hours of free childcare per week!
For more information and how to apply

Useful Contact Numbers:
Health Visiting Team:
0300 013 2204

Please Note:
For Health and Safety reasons there are room capacity limits in place.

For more information about opening times give your local Hub a call

www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub
Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council

Kent Family Hub

Maidstone Family Hubs
Timetable
14th September 2026 - 23rd October 2026

All of our groups and services are free. For groups requiring booking at all Hubs, see our web site https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/kent-family-hub

Our Family Hubs:

Parkwood
03000 412700
Furfield Close, Maidstone, ME15 9JR
Mon - Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm
Parkwoodfh@kent.gov.uk

Greenfields
03000 412987
Rutland Way, Maidstone, ME15 8DR
Mon - Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm
Greenfieldsfh@kent.gov.uk

West Borough
03000 419361
Greenway, Maidstone, ME16 8TL
Mon & Tue 8.30am - 4.30pm
Wed 8.30am-12.00pm
Closed Fridays
Westboroughfh@kent.gov.uk

Monday	**Parkwood** Health Visitor & NCT Infant Feeding Clinic 9.30-11.30	**Greenfields** Stay & Play 9.30-11.00	**West Borough** Little Bookworms 10.00-11.30 1-4 years	**Parkwood** Introducing Solids (Booking required) 1.30-2.30 1st Monday of the month
Tuesday	**West Borough** Health Visitor Clinic 9.30-11.30	**Greenfields** Baby Group 10.30-11.30 0-12 months, pre-walking	**Parkwood** (Booking required) Little Talkers 10.00-11.00	**West Borough** NCT Infant Feeding Clinic 1.00-3.00
Wednesday	**Parkwood** (Booking required) Baby Massage 10.00-11.00 2-6 months	**West Borough** (Booking required) Baby, Family & You 10.00-12.00	**West Borough** Closed From 12pm	
Thursday	**West Borough** Stay & Play 10.00-11.30	**Greenfields** Understanding Your Child (Booking required) 10.00-12.00	**Parkwood** Stay & Play 1.00-2.30	
Friday	**Greenfields** Twins Group 9.30-11.30 0-4 years 2nd & 4th Fri of the month	**Greenfields** Talking Walk Ins 9.30-12.00 2-4 years 1st & 3rd Fri of the month	**West Borough** Closed All Day	

Please Note: Signing in will not be available until 10 minutes before the session starts.

Maidstone Food Resources

Family Hubs:
(For families with children under 18 only or young people in supported accomodation)

Infozone, Palace Avenue, ME15 6NF
Tel: 03000 419470
Email: Infozonefamilyhub@kent.gov.uk

South Borough, Stagshaw Close, ME15 6TL
Tel: 03000 417770
Email: Southboroughfh@kent.gov.uk

West Borough, Greenway, ME16 8TL
Tel: 03000 419361
Email: Westboroughfh@kent.gov.uk

Parkwood, Furfield Close, ME15 9JR
Tel: 03000 412700
Email: Parkwoodfh@kent.gov.uk

Greenfields, Rutland Way, ME15 8DR
Tel: 03000 412987
Email: Greenfieldsfh@kent.gov.uk

Please contact the hub beforehand if possible.

Other Providers:

MADM
48 Church Street, Maidstone, ME14 1DS
Tel: 01622 687414
Email: madmstone@gmail.com

Salvation Army (Food Bank)
74-80 Union St, Maidstone, ME14 1ED
Wednesdays 11am - 3pm
Tel: 07724 473796

The Vine (Food Bank)
Northumberland Road, Maidstone, ME15 7LP
Tel: 07724 473796

Staff can be reached on the food bank number above. If not available someone can leave a message and a team member will get back to them to arrange a time for the food to be collected.

Fusion: Community Table - A Menu For Change
Fusion Healthy Living Centre, 2-3 Cobb Way, Maidstone ME15 9XF
Friday
Tel (To Apply): 01622 691177

30 people can get a hot meal in a local restaurant (or takeaway for those who lack mobility) for free.

How to Join:
- Apply to the Community Table waiting list.
- List is reviewed every 3 months.

Maidstone Day Centre
(Support Homeless People)
Knightrider Street, Maidstone, ME16 6LP
Tel: 01622 674064

The Bread and Butter Thing

£35 worth of food for £8.50, including fresh fruit and veg, fridge favourites and cupboard staples.

Shepway
Shepway Youth and Community Cewntre, Cumberland Avenue, Maidstone, ME15 7JN
Thursday 1pm

Sign Up and Book a Slot:
Text 0750 723 7311 with your full name, postcode and the name of the hub you will be collecting from:

Park Wood
Fusion Healthy Living Centre, 2-3 Cobb Way, Maidstone ME15 9XF
Wednesday 2pm

Sign Up and Book a Slot:
Text 0750 723 7311 with you full name, postcode and the name of the hub you will be collecting from:
'PARK WOOD'

Trinity
Trinity House, 20 Church Street, Maidstone, ME14 1LY
Tuesday 1pm

Sign Up and Book a Slot:
Text 0750 723 7311 with you full name, postcode and the name of the hub you will be collecting from:
'TRINITY'

The Blackthorn Trust
Andrew's Road, Maidstone, ME16 9AN
Monday 12:30pm

Sign Up and Book a Slot:
Text 0750 723 7311 with you full name, postcode and the name of the hub you will be collecting from:
'BLACKTHORN'

SEND INFORMATION ADVICE AND GUIDANCE ROADSHOW

CALLING ALL MAIDSTONE FAMILIES!

Those whose child/young person has or may have special educational needs and/or disabilities and would like to learn more about the local services. We will have a wide range of services in attendance that can provide support through ages 0-25.

Maidstone Community Support Centre
39-48 Marsham St
Maidstone, ME14 1HH

Drop-in session, no need to book!
Any questions? Email sendroadshows@kent.gov.uk

10:00AM-3:00PM, 5TH OCTOBER 2026

Kent Family Hub

Kent County Council

familiesfirst

SPACE 2 LEARN
AT SPACE 2 BE ME

East Malling Centre

SUPPORTING AUTISM & ADHD

A WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS & CARERS

An interactive session exploring:

- **What is autism? An overview of diganostic criteria and the autistic spectrum**
- **What is ADHD? Traits and types of ADHD**
- **Dual diagnosis and other co-occuring conditions**
- **Common difficulties including communication, sensory processing, and executive functioning skills**
- **Different stress responses**
- **Support suggestions embedded throughout**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EAST MALLING CENTRE

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

£12.50 per ticket

THURSDAY 8th OCTOBER

10:00 - 13:00

THE EAST MALLING CENTRE, CHAPMAN WAY, ME19 6SD

LUNCH PROVIDED BY THE EAST MALLING CENTRE

A LIMITED NUMBER OF FREE SPACES ARE AVAILABLE FOR EAST MALLING RESIDENTS VIA THE EAST MALLING CENTRE

space2beme.org.uk support@space2beme.org.uk

Registered Charity: 1140764

Supporting children with additional needs and their families in West Kent

FAMILY SUPPORT

SUPPORT GROUP FOR NEURODIVERGENT PARENTS

PADDOCK WOOD

Welcome to our supportive group for parents who are neurodivergent or believe they might be! No formal diagnosis is needed to join us. We're here to offer a calm space where you can discuss recognizing and managing your needs, share the challenges of parenting, and connect with others.

Monday 28th September

Monday 30th November

10:00 - 11:30

PADDOCK WOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE, MAIDSTONE RD, PADDOCK WOOD, TN12 6EB

https://space2beme.org.uk/services/space2talk/#NDPW

Supporting children with additional needs and their families in West Kent

FAMILY SUPPORT

Space 2 Talk Snodland

Space 2 Talk offers support and advice for parents and carers of children with additional needs in a friendly atmosphere. Whether you're seeking help for your child, looking for guidance after a diagnosis, or simply wanting to connect with others, you can attend regularly or drop in as needed.

Tuesday 13th October, 10:00 - 11:30
Tuesday 10th November, 10:00 - 11:30
Tuesday 8th December, 10:00 - 11:30

Pavilion Cafe, Cricket Pavilion, Rocfort Road, Snodland, ME6 5NQ

For full details including all dates & venues please see our website
https://space2beme.org.uk/services/space2talk/

space2beme.org.uk support@space2beme.org.uk 01622 764566
Registered Charity: 1140764, Company Reg 07324545

Supporting children with additional needs and their families in West Kent

FAMILY SUPPORT

Drop-In Support Session

for families of children with additional needs

The Family Support team has extensive experience aiding families of children with additional needs. They offer guidance in education, wellbeing, diagnosis, disability benefits, and signposting to local services.

St Stephen's Church Cafe,
37 Waterloo Rd, Tonbridge TN9 2SW

Thursday 1st October
Thursday 5th November
Thursday 3rd December
10:30 - 12:30

No appointment necessary!

The session is run alongside a pre school stay and play organised by the church.



Correct Contact Details

extended.services@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk - please use this email address for ***ALL*** extended services bookings/queries/requests etc. Please **do not email the office with these.**

absence@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk - please use this email for all absence related matters including illness and hospital appointments and holiday notifications.

office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk - use this for all other emails and urgent matters

loosenursery@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk - please use for ALL nursery queries.

Phone Number 01622 743549

