



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you and your families well.

Christmas Hampers

I would like to express school's thanks to, and admiration for, the 'Help to Make Tummies Full' Team for their donation of 14 Christmas Hampers and Gift Bags to school. 'Help to Make Tummies Full' is a charity formed by Lucy Dennis and run by her and a Team of committed volunteers who have given up their own free time to help families across the West Midlands during the festive period. As a result of this generosity, one lucky family from each class in school has been selected at random to receive a hamper and gift bag. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Carless for instigating Marsh Hill's involvement with this very worthwhile campaign.



Christmas Celebrations

It was lovely to go around school and see all the children enjoying their Christmas parties. Reception were having a wonderful time and Year 1 told me:

"It's the best day ever"

"We've had so much fun. We've had party games, party food and presents"

"I liked 'Musical Statues', 'Musical Bumps' and 'Simon Said' best."

The children also had a surprise visit from Virtual Santa, all the way from Lapland!



Virtual Christmas Concert

Although we were unable to put on our traditional Christmas performances this year, we will be putting a virtual Christmas concert onto our website from Friday afternoon. Unfortunately, Year 3 and Year 6 will not be part of this because it was filmed while their year group bubbles were closed. However, I am sure that they, and all parents and carers, will enjoy the show.

I would like to thank Mr. Kinson, Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Campbell, Ms. Caruana and Ms. Marshall for being Marsh Hill's version of Santa Claus this year and delivering presents to all our Year 3 and Year 6 pupils. I hope that this treat made up, at least in part, from missing out on filming their Christmas songs.



Dates for your Diary

Friday 8th January is the closing date to apply to be a Parent Governor (more information about this role and an application form are available on our website).

Friday 12th February will be a Teacher Training Day. School will not be open to pupils on this day.

P.E Kit and time table for January 2021

On our return to school in the New Year we ask for parents to send children into school in their full P.E kit on the day that is scheduled for their year group. Full P.E kit consists of; White T-shirt with or without the school logo, black or red shorts, pumps for inside and trainers for outside. As we require the children to come into school with their P.E kit on, we ask you to send them in a blue or black tracksuit.

Year Group	Time table for P.E in January 2021
Reception	Friday
Year 1	Wednesday
Year 2	Thursday
Year 3	Tuesday
Year 4	Tuesday
Year 5	Monday
Year 6	Friday

And finally...

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all the staff who have worked so hard this term in order to ensure that Marsh Hill has continued to remain a safe, happy learning environment for all our children. This thanks goes out not just to the Teachers and Teaching Assistants but to our Admin and Pastoral Teams, the Catering Staff, Lunchtime Supervisors, Cleaners, Mr. Overthrow (Building Services Manager) and Mr. Ward (IT Technician). Collectively, the team has responded to advice and directives received from The Department for Education and Public Health England rapidly and effectively.

The whole staff have been impressed by our wonderful pupils who have shown great resilience in adapting to the new and unusual measures that schools have had to employ since the return to school in September; while at the same time working so hard to make up for lost learning time earlier in the year. I know that you are as proud of them as we all are. Lastly, but certainly not least, I would like to thank you all so much for the support that you have given as parents and carers both at home and at school.

On behalf of the Governors and staff I would like to wish our children and families a Merry Christmas and a very happy new year.

We look forward to seeing you all back safe and well on Monday 4th January, 2021.

Mr. J Cusack

Head Teacher