



# Marsh Hill Newsletter

September 24<sup>th</sup> 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Reading Workshops

It was wonderful to see so many of you turn out for our Reading Workshops this week. The response has been very positive from parents and carers in Reception, Year 3 and Year 5. I would like to share just a small selection of the feedback that we have had from you:

“It was a really useful reminder of how words are formed and how the children will be deconstructing them to learn to read. Definitely worth doing the session and helped me to understand how to approach reading on the same level as the children are.”

“I have learned a lot myself on how to help my children break down sounds. I would recommend this workshop to everyone.”

“It’s surprising how complicated something so simple as letter sounds can be. I think the encouragement to come is great, even though I have older children, a refresh and update is great.”

“It helped me understand better how to help my little one with reading. It was like a lesson for myself as well. Very helpful. Very useful.”

“I learned a lot myself which I never knew before and it will help me at home with my children.”

“If I ever felt that I was unable to help my son I know I can always come for assistance with my son’s teacher so thank you very much for the opportunity.”

“I have learned a lot from this workshop and other parents have the same experience too. Good work and keep it up.”

“It was very well presented. It was interactive, making it fun and easy to understand”

“Very good workshop session, interacting with other parents and sharing their concerns has helped me understand that we are all in the same boat when it comes to our children’s learning needs. It was good to have the opportunity to ask questions and good to know how I can help my child this year.”

Many of you commented on the quality of the presentation and I am very grateful to Ms. Deans who planned and delivered each workshop. The Reading Workshops for Years 1, 2, 4 and 6 take place on the following dates:

Year 1 - 27<sup>th</sup> September    Year 4 - 28<sup>th</sup> September    Year 2 - 29<sup>th</sup> September    Year 6 - 5<sup>th</sup> October

### **Fundraising for John Taylor Hospice**

You will recall that in July school took part in The Captain Sir Tom More 100 challenge to raise money for the John Taylor Hospice. The children raised £528.31 as a result of their efforts and this week Upjeet Sidhu, who is the Community Fundraiser for the John Taylor Hospice, came to school to be presented with a cheque for this amount. Well done to everyone involved and thank you to all parents and carers for encouraging the children and contributing to this valuable cause.



### **Secondary School Applications for September 2022**

I would like to remind all parents and carers of children in Year 6 that applications for secondary schools are now open and will close on the 31st October. Applications received after this date will be treated as late applications and you will be less likely to be offered your preferred Secondary School. You can apply online at: [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

### **Attendance**

Congratulations to 6C who achieved 100% attendance this week. Please ensure that your child is in school every day as absence is disruptive to their education of children and can make it difficult to build and maintain friendships.

### **Parking**

I have received two complaints this week regarding discourteous parking at the end of the school day. One on Woolmore Road and one on Marsh Hill. On both occasions the members of our community who raised this issue with the school were sworn at and verbally abused. I have been given a description and the registration number of one of the cars involved and I have passed these details on to the Police.

While the very large majority of parents are thoughtful and polite when picking children up from school in cars, there are those who both disregard the rules and who behave inappropriately in terms of their responses. Please be mindful that this type of behaviour sets a bad example to our children.

### **Urban Devotion Birmingham**

This academic year we are delighted that Urban Devotion Birmingham, who support children and families in the Erdington area and already work with a number of local schools, will be supporting the work we do here at Marsh Hill. UDB offer activities, mentoring and opportunities for support with personal development. UDB will be doing 'tea in the playground' after school for parents on Wednesday 13th and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October, so please feel free to stop by and say hello to them when you are picking up your children from school.

### **Water Bottles**

I am pleased to report that water bottles for every child have now been delivered to school and will be available for the children to use from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September. The water bottles will be kept in a water bottle carrier in each classroom. They will be washed and sterilised at the end of each day by a member of staff.

### **Marsh Hill Heroes**

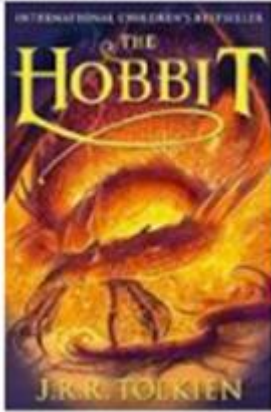
Our wonderful Parents and Teachers Association – The Marsh Hill Heroes - will be meeting each Friday this half term at 2.20 pm in the school hall. All parents are welcome and indeed encouraged to attend. If you are unable to attend but would still like to be involved, or would like to find out what kind of things the PTA do, then email: [pta@marshill.bham.sch.uk](mailto:pta@marshill.bham.sch.uk). As the Marsh Hill Heroes themselves say 'Any contribution you can make will be greatly received, whether it is 20 minutes per year or 20 minutes per week.' I thank all those involved for the generous giving of their time and for their commitment to our school community.

### **Former Year 6(Now Year 7) Leavers party**

On Thursday (23<sup>rd</sup> September) we welcomed back last year's Year 6 pupils for their (belated due to Coronavirus) Leavers Party. It was lovely to see them all again and we were delighted to learn that they are all getting on so well in their new schools. It was also impressive that so many of them turned up: 42 in total! We wish them well as they continue on with their life journey and hope that they will visit us again and that when they think of Marsh Hill it will be with fondness.

### **Reading Inspirations**

This week's recommendation comes from Mr. Jellyman who teaches in Year 6.



*My favourite book is The Hobbit by J R R Tolkien. One of the reasons that The Hobbit appeals to me is that we can all find our inner-Hobbit; the part of us that wants nothing but an easy and comfortable life. But there is still something inside all of us that sparks up at the thought of adventure and a journey. I love the images of the magical world that leaps from the pages - much better than the film.*

I wish you a happy, safe and peaceful weekend,

Yours sincerely,

Mr. J Cusack

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J. Cusack'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Head Teacher