



Marsh Hill Newsletter

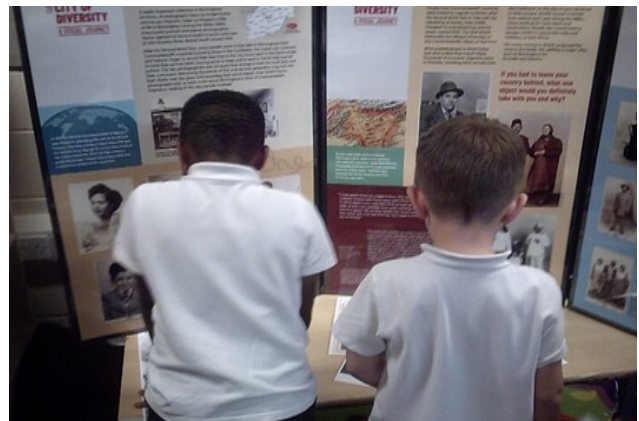
February 4th 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well.

City of Empire Project

Last week, an exciting exhibition visited our school that focused upon post-war migration. Pupils spent the week celebrating cultures from around the world via a range of activities including dance workshops and art sessions. All classes were given the opportunity to explore the 'Dyche Collection' - a collection of photographs taken in the 1950's of people from many different cultures and backgrounds. Children listened to stories from teachers at school who had personal experiences of moving to England during an assembly. Mrs Aujla told us all about her father-in-law's journey. She explained how he had travelled to the UK alone in the hope of providing a better life for his family, he thought that England was a very strange and busy place. Mr Chikandwa shared parts of his own experience with us, he remembered having to buy a new coat as it was much colder here in England. These stories inspired many of our pupils to have discussions with family members about what it was like to move to a new country. It was lovely to receive so many responses to the questionnaire about migration, these stories will be collated to make a special book documenting the experiences of many of our families at Marsh Hill.



Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, and to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively. Safer Internet Day 2022 is on 8th February and will be celebrated with the theme 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'.

As a parent or carer you can help to keep your child safe on line in the following ways:

Talking openly with your child about their online activity

Keeping screens and devices where you can see them

Knowing who your children's online friends are

Using your parental controls - parental controls can help prevent your child from seeing and accessing inappropriate material

Dates for Your Diary

School will be closed to Children and staff on **Thursday 3rd March** as it is being used as a Polling Station for the Parliamentary By Election being held following the sad passing away of Erdington's MP Mr. Jack Dromey.

Local Elections will be held on **Thursday 5th May**

I apologise for these closures but unfortunately this is not within school's control.

Parents' Evening will be held on the **March 29th 30th, and 31st March**. You will receive further information regarding arrangements for Parents' Evening closer to the time.

School breaks up for the Easter holidays on **Friday 8th April**.

The remaining INSET Days for this academic year are as follows:

Friday 27th May

Friday 24th June

Monday 11th July

School will close for the summer holidays on **Wednesday 20th July** at 1.00 pm.

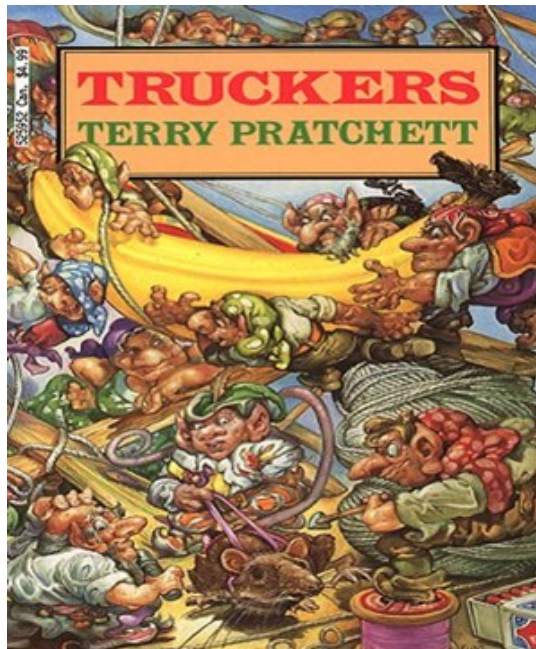
Thursday 21st July will be a day off in lieu of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

Reading Inspirations

This week's recommendation comes from Mrs. Clover, who is an Assistant Head Teacher in Year 2.

When I was in Year 5, as a 10-year-old, I clearly remember this book (Truckers, by Sir Terry Pratchett) being read to my class, just before home time each day. It was simply magical. The book is about a world of tiny people, who live under the floorboards of a large department store. Unexpectedly, one day, they are joined by new arrivals, which is when the chaos begins!

When this story was read to me, I felt as if I was part of the fascinating imaginary world beneath the floorboards. My imagination would spiral out of control every time I visited C&A or Woolworths in Birmingham city centre - I'm certain that my mother never knew what I was thinking about whilst she was shopping! As an adult, I now find myself enjoying certain TV dramas/mysteries. I can only put it down to one reason: the love I developed for these kinds of fictional stories when I was younger. Reading is a powerful life skill: it can spark a passion of interest for everybody.



I wish you a happy, safe and peaceful weekend,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J. Cusack'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. It is positioned on a white background with faint horizontal lines, suggesting it was written on a piece of paper.

Mr. J. Cusack
Head Teacher