



Marsh Hill Newsletter

March 18th 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well.

Online Safety

The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children, and it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers. Learning how to act safely when using the internet is an incredibly important part of safeguarding our children.

We are therefore delighted to announce that Marsh Hill have shown our commitment to protecting our pupils online by working with National Online Safety- providing resources for all Parents and Carers.

The resources include Parents and Carers courses (presented by Myleene Klass), online video resources and weekly guides covering a huge range of topics, including:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| • Online Relationships | • Online Gambling |
| • Fake Profiles & Social Bots | • Radicalisation, Terrorism & Extremism |
| • Online Bullying | • Age Inappropriate Content |
| • Online Grooming | • Copyright & Ownership |
| • Child Sexual Exploitation | • Hacking |
| • Sexual Harassment & Violence | • Fake News |
| • Sexting | • Online Fraud |
| • Live Streaming | • Online Reputation |
| • Online Identity | • Personal Data |
| • Screen Addiction | • Pornography |
| • Online Challenges | • Targeted Adverts & Pop-Ups |
| • Overspending | • The Dark Web |
| • Social Media Platforms | • Games & Trends |

When you are set up, you will be able to set 'Parent/Carer' as your user type.

You can access National Online Safety online via any device- including via our brand-new smartphone app. To download the app, please go to:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/national-online-safety/id1530342372>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.nationaleducationgroup.nos>

Alternatively, search for 'National Online Safety' in the App Store/Google Play Store.

Answers to frequently asked questions and customer service can be accessed at <https://helpdesk.thenationalcollege.co.uk/helpcentre>.

British Sign Language Awareness Week

Sign Language Week is celebrated each year in March to coincide with the [anniversary of the recognition of British Sign Language](#) (BSL) by the UK Government in 2003. Sign Language Week is an initiative of the [British Deaf Association \(BDA\)](#). This year's Sign Language Week runs from **14th – 20th March 2022**. The theme this year will be "BSL Brings Us Together".

We are fortunate at Marsh Hill in that we have a parent with expertise in the field of sign language (Mrs. Bryant-Myers) and she came into school on Wednesday to deliver a special whole school assembly about the importance of sign language as a means of providing full access to communication for many deaf and hard-of-hearing people.

Mrs. Bryant-Myers taught the children how to sign the alphabet and a number of useful words and phrases including, 'please', 'thank you', 'good morning', 'how are you' and 'my name is...'

I am delighted that she will be returning to the school to carry out workshops in each year group over the course of the term.



Fundraising for the Ukraine

On Wednesday, the children turned out in their home clothes (many of them wearing yellow and blue) to support school's efforts to raise money for the people of the Ukraine. The compassion and generosity of our school community never fails to move me and it is an aspect of Marsh Hill that all of us (pupils, parents, staff and governors) should be proud of.

I would also like to remind you of our upcoming coffee and cake afternoon that is being held in the minor hall between 2.00 pm and 3.00 pm on Monday 21st March. You are all welcome to this event so please join us if you can. All monies raised will be added to that which was generated by having the non-school uniform day and passed onto the Disasters Emergency Committee's appeal to raise vital funds for the people of Ukraine. I would like to thank Mrs. Carless in advance for organising the coffee and cake afternoon.



Parents' Evening

Letters went out this week (Monday 14th March) to invite you all as parents and carers to book a meeting with your child's class teacher. I hope that a parent or carer for each child in school will be able to attend an appointment with their teacher as I firmly believe parental engagement and a partnership between home and school has a significant and positive impact on children's learning, progress, attainment and outcomes.

Appointments are available to book online. A link has been sent to your mobile phone or email address which will take you to our online booking system to select a time that is convenient to you.

Reception Playground

Please do not allow your school aged children or their younger siblings to use the climbing frame, house or any other Reception resources when dropping them off at the beginning of the school day or when collecting them at the end of the school day. These items are all part of the Early Years Foundation Stage teaching resources and we do not want them inadvertently damaged or broken. Thank you in advance for your understanding and co-operation in this matter.

Collecting your children

If you are unable to collect your child at the end of the school day and you have arranged for someone else to collect them, you must inform the school office before 3pm. We will not dismiss the children to anyone that is not on the contacts list without a phone call.

Congratulations

Congratulations and a very big well done to Jessica and Ryan who have both become bronze medallists at a recent British Tae Kwon Do championships. Jessica is a red and black belt (this is the stage before becoming a fully fledged black belt) and Ryan is a blue belt.



Congratulations and well done also to Nella who won 1st place in a City of Birmingham Gymnastics Competition.

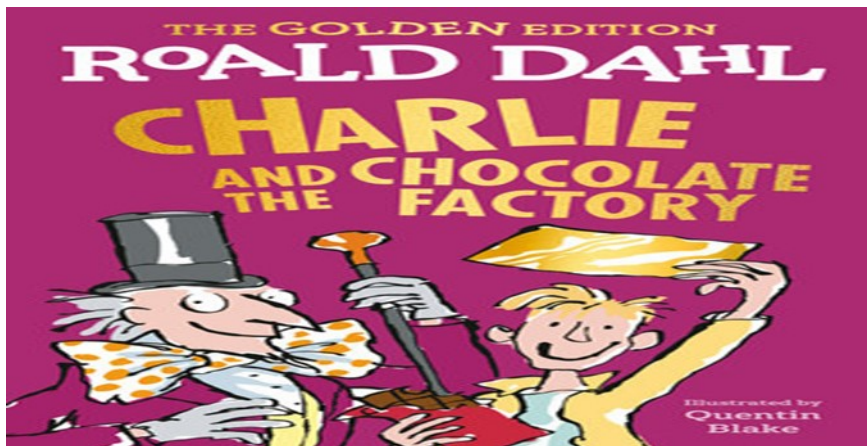
Reading Inspirations

This week's recommendation comes from Mr. Arnold who teaches in Year 4.

My favourite childhood book was Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Charlie Bucket lives with his family, Grandpa Joe and Grandma Josephine, Grandpa George and Grandma Georgina and his mother and father. Charlie's father works hard in a toothpaste factory but no matter how hard he works he never makes enough money to feed his family.

Charlie loves chocolate and gets one chocolate bar for his birthday every year. The great Willy Wonka's chocolate factory is close to where Charlie lives. Mr. Wonka shut himself off from the public years before because his workers were selling his new ideas to rival companies. He made an announcement that he is opening his factory to the five lucky people who find a golden ticket in his chocolate bars.

I absolutely love this book because it teaches us not to be so materialistic and get caught up in our own lives. It allows for imagination and creativity to flow through in the form of its wacky and fun adventures. It is also beautifully written and shares many morals you can learn.



I wish you all 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 style and is placed on a set of horizontal lines.

Mr. J. Cusack
Head Teacher