

Marsh Hill Newsletter

September 23rd 2022

Free School Meals

If you are on one of the following benefits and have not previously applied for free school meals, we would be grateful if you could complete an application. Every successful claim means that school will receive additional funding, called Pupil Premium. Pupil Premium funding is used for the benefit of pupils in our school community.

1. Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
2. Income Support
3. Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
4. Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
5. Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
6. The guarantee element of Pension Credit
7. Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
8. Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

To complete an application, you will need to provide:

Your own name and date of birth (the benefit claimants)

Contact details

National Insurance Number or National Asylum Seekers Number

Child's name and date of birth

School your child is attending/will attend.

To complete an application, please follow this link:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham>

Once you complete the online application, you will be advised whether you are successful or unsuccessful. School will automatically be notified of any claims.

If you need any help with the application, please contact the school office.

National Fitness Day

Wednesday 21st September was National Fitness Day. National Fitness Day is a way of encouraging the nation to celebrate the fun of fitness and physical activity. As part of National fitness day, we signed up to take part in a virtual PE activity. This took place via ZOOM at 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday, and all the children in school, from Reception to Year 6 took part (alongside 18,000 pupils across the country) for the 20-minute session.

Pupils from Years 3, 4 and 5 told me how much they enjoyed the event.

“It made me feel good because we don’t normally get to get up in lessons.”

“I liked doing the ‘Jumping Jacks’ best because I like jumping.”

“My favourite part was when we had to touch our toes.”

“I enjoyed the exercise where we had to keep our balance.”

“I enjoyed doing different kinds of squats because I had not tried to do them before.”

“I really enjoyed it because I love fitness.”

“Exercising is really fun and you get to keep healthy.”

Year 7 Places for September 2023

Parents of pupils in Year 6 must apply to their preferred choice of secondary school by **October 31st, 2022**. If you apply after this date, it will be considered a late application, which makes the chances of getting your preferred school less likely. This is because late applications will not be processed until after the offer of places on **March 1st 2023**.

Year 2 visit to the Black Country Living Museum

On Tuesday this week, Year 2 visited the Black Country Living Museum. Mrs. Cureton writes that: “This brought to life our history topic of 'Transport through Time'. As well as looking at lots of different transport, we also had a Victorian lesson in the school. The boys were horrified that the girls went into school before them! In fact, every time we went into a different shop, the girls always went in first. The children's behaviour was outstanding and was commended by the staff at the museum. We were very proud of them. We learnt many new things and the children now know a lot more about how transport has changed over time. In Birmingham and the Black Country, canals were the 'motorways' of the time. The children learnt how important they were for transporting goods across the country. We also learnt that the canal was a manmade waterway and had the nickname of 'the cut' because it had to be 'cut out' of the ground.”

Year 6 Virtually Reality Experience

On Thursday, Year 6 took part in a Virtual Reality workshop in school. This was part of their topic on Ancient Maya (200 BC – 1500 AD). A Virtual Reality experience day allows pupils to retain knowledge by immersing themselves into exciting experiences that they will never forget. It is a way of effectively helping them learn through experience. The children told me that the technology made them feel as if they were actually in the Ancient Maya civilisation and described the day as awesome, scary (especially when it appeared like a shark was swimming right at them), exciting and fun. The children also had the opportunity to take part in practical activities, such as making baskets that could carry maize and playing an ancient board game that reminded them of chess.

The types of experience that Year 2 and Year 6 have had this week is important. Trips out, and visitors into school, increase our children's cultural capital by enhancing their experience and opening opportunities up for them to explore the wider world. That is why this year we have increased these types of opportunities for all our children.

Book of Condolence

As I mentioned in last week's newsletter, school has been compiling a book of condolence in memory of Queen Elizabeth II. The book is near completion and will soon be placed in reception for parents, carers and visitors to our school. In the meantime, I am sharing with you two examples - chosen at random - from each year group, that give a flavour of the children's affection for the late Queen.

Year 2

"I was heartbroken to hear about Queen Elizabeth II. She will always be missed."

"I will remember you always. You were graceful and kind. Thank you for your honesty and kindness."

Year 3

"Thank you your majesty for everything you have done for the world. God bless you."

"Thank you your majesty for being a good queen. You will always be remembered by the people.
Thank you for the memory of when you reigned."

Year 4

"Thank you for everything you did for our country. The queen was a remarkable woman who served her country like no other."

"I am so sorry for your loss. She was a really remarkable woman. She was a remarkable queen for a great country and a favourite mother."

Year 5

"I am sorry Charles, that your mom passed but she is in a better place. She will keep looking down on you. You will make your mom proud."

“Thank you for being such a nice queen. You played such a nice role in our lives we have the best memories with you. These seventy years made a big difference.”

“Year 6

“We will miss you Queen Elizabeth II, at least you will be with your husband and corgis.”

“We will never forget the things you have done for us. You were a great ruler to the UK.”

Book Review

You will recall that last academic year, each week a member of staff wrote about their favourite children’s book (either one they particularly enjoyed when they were a child or one that they read as an adult to their own children). This year we will be featuring reading recommendations from the children themselves through the format of their book reviews.

This week’s reading recommendation comes from Idrees in Year 4.

One book I have read is, **The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse** by **Charlie Mackesy**.

“This book helps me to be strong and to know that I am loved.”

The Boy, the mole,
the fox and the Horse



Charlie Mackery

Dates For Your Diary – Autumn Term

October	
3 rd	Harvest Festival Assembly (all food collected will be donated to our local food bank)
4 th	Year 1G trip to Back to Back Houses
5 th	Year 1W trip to Back to Back Houses
12 th	Year 5 Freshwater Theatre Workshop - in school
13 th	PTA Halloween Disco EYFS/KS1 - 3.45 -5.00 pm PTA Halloween Disco Ks2 5.30 - 7.00 p.m.
14 th	Year 3 trip to Sarehole Mill (3M) all day
21 st	Year 3 trip to Sarehole Mill (3A) all day
November	
8 th	Parent' Consultation Evening 3.30 – 4.30
9 th	Parent' Consultation Evening 3.30 – 6.00
10 th	Parent' Consultation Evening 3.30 – 4.30
14 th	Year 6 Workshop – Merry-Go-Round Junior STEM - in school
15 th	Year 3 and 4 (Prime VR day) - in school
16 th	Year 2C Whole Class Assembly – Diwali
18 th	Year 2S Whole Class Assembly – Diwali
21 st	KS1 and KS2 Assessment Week
December	
7 th	Pantomime trip – Years 1 to 6
8 th	PTA Christmas Disco EYFS/KS1 - 3.45 - 5.00 pm PTA Christmas Disco KS2 – 5.30 – 7.00 pm

I wish you all a happy, safe and peaceful weekend.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. J. Cusack
Head Teacher