

# **Marsh Hill Newsletter**

**December 16<sup>th</sup> 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well.

It has been a very busy term and I am sure the children are looking forward to their Christmas break. They have worked extremely hard this term and the staff are very pleased with the progress that they are making.

With regard to the staff, I cannot thank them enough or praise them too highly for all that they do for the children of our community. I am sure that you will join me in wishing them a good and well deserved break.

## **Winter Water Safety**

We have all been touched and saddened by the tragic loss of young lives at Babbs Mill Lake. With that in mind, PCSO Duncan Long, who works closely with our school community, has contacted me to advise that, "We are still forecast for more minus degree temperatures this week and need as such to ensure all our pupils, children and staff return to school safely after the Christmas break." PCSO Long, has also forwarded advice from the West Midlands Police and West Midlands Fire Service which I strongly urge you to access through the attached link or via our school website:

<https://www.wmfs.net/safety/winter-water-safety/>

## **Christmas Concerts**

A big thank you to all the parents, carers and grandparents who attended this week's Christmas Concerts. We were very pleased and overwhelmed by the fabulous turn out and I know from the response that you all thoroughly enjoyed the performances as much as the children enjoyed performing for you.

## Christmas Jumper – Save the Children

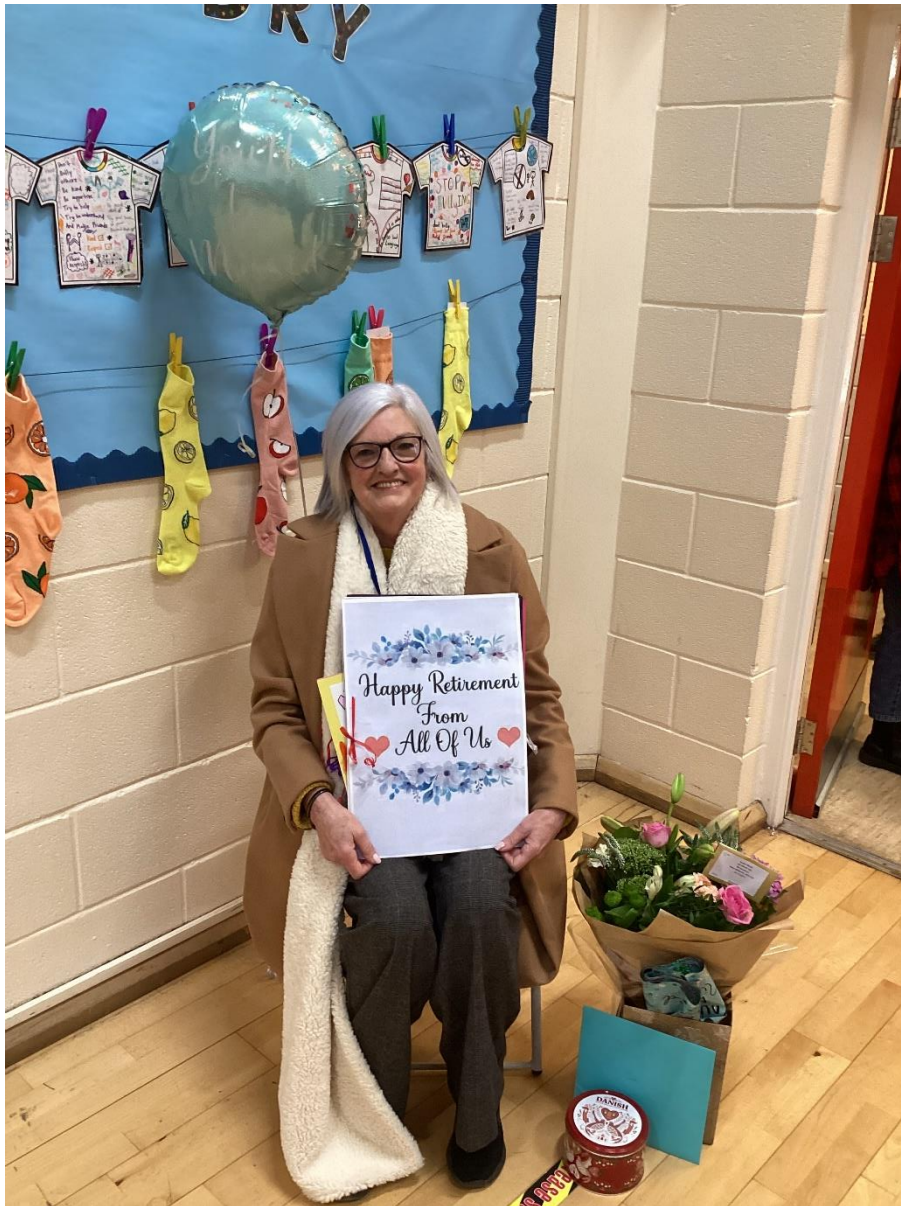
Thank you to everyone who took part and contributed to our Save the Children fundraising event:

*“You all looked fabulously festive in your Christmas Jumpers and raised an amazing £169.30! Thank you to our school community for your kind donations which will help support the work of Save the Children globally.” – Mr. Hamblett*



### Staff Leavers

Mrs. Martin, who has worked in school for seven years as a Lunchtime Supervisor, has chosen to retire and will be leaving us at the end of this term. We wish Mrs. Martin all the best for her retirement and for a happy and fulfilling future.



We are also bidding a fond farewell to Miss Kay. Miss Kay has been with us since February, and is now moving on, having secured a promotion to the position of Phase Leader. We congratulate her and wish her all the best for the future.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Mrs. Nazir, who many of your children already know as she has taught in classes across school. Mrs. Nazir will take up a teaching post in Year 5 when we return to school after the Christmas Holidays.

### Year 3 – Volcanos

I have been very impressed by the art work that I have seen created by Year 3 children this week. They have made volcanos out of modelling clay that are very impressive. They made volcanos because it links to their Geography topic. Not only are they brilliant artists but they are very well informed:

Oskar: *“Volcanos can be active, dormant or extinct.”*

Tilly: *“Active volcanos have recently erupted and probably will again. Dormant volcanos have not erupted for a very long time but probably will again; and extinct volcanos erupted thousands of years ago and probably won’t erupt again.”*



## Year 4 – The Rain Forest

I have also been impressed with Year 4's project work on the Rainforest. They too have very good retrieval knowledge, as Safa's and Vivan's recall of what they have learnt demonstrates.

*Safaa: "The rainforest has four different layers. They are the forest floor, the understory, the canopy layer, where a lot of animals like monkeys and snakes live, and the emergent layer."*

*Vivan: "The forest floor is in complete darkness and animals live in the buttress roots of the trees. Sloth, frog and toucans live in the canopy layer. Some animals live in the canopy layer and hunt in the understory layer for their prey and need to eat. The emergent layer is the highest layer and all the trees stick out from the roof which is in the canopy layer."*





Please take some time over the weekend to ask your children what they have been learning about in school over the course of this term. You may be surprised by how much they know about a whole variety of subject areas.

From myself, the staff and governors of Marsh Hill, I wish you all a joyful, peaceful and merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year. We look forward to welcoming all our children back to school on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. J. Cusack

Head Teacher