



Website: www.marshhill.bha.sch.uk Tel: 0121 464 2920 Email: enquiry@marshill.bham.sch.uk

Marsh Hill Primary School Newsletter

September 15th 2023

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

All members of our Marsh Hill community - staff, governors, parents and carers, have our parts to play in your child's learning journey if it is to be successful.

At Marsh Hill our purpose is to put children and learning at the centre of everything we do and aim to achieve. We want our children to develop their talents and love of learning. Achieve to their full potential in all areas of the curriculum and have the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of experiences. We want them to belong to a caring community and to be inspired and strive to be the best possible versions of themselves in all they do.

Marsh Hill has a talented, hard-working and committed staff who are always willing to go the extra mile to provide the very best for all our children, but we cannot do it alone and need the support of all our parents and carers.

Myself and all the staff appreciate that time can be a factor in busy families but there are ways of being involved in your child's education without feeling overwhelmed. You can do this by making sure they are in school every day and on time and ready for learning. It is important to give encouragement and show appreciation of your child's achievements, whether great or small, as this can help boost their confidence.

It is important to be involved in your child's learning and particularly crucial that you hear them read, as this is the very foundation of educational success. involvement in your child's learning gives them far greater goals and inspires them to try their best where they can.

Marvellous Me



This academic year we will be communicating more through our parent communication service, Marvellous Me.

This will include sending badges, thumbs up and activities to pupils across the week as well as sending you information about events taking place in school, important messages, information from teachers, curriculum information and the weekly newsletter.

Please ensure you download the app onto your mobile phone and sign into the service. If you require your login details again, please speak to your child's teacher.

Year 6 Tie Assembly

For even the most confident child, the move into Year 6 can be a daunting time. At Marsh Hill we acknowledge and recognise this, but we are also aware that Year 6 truly is the most memorable time in your child's primary education. They are finally at the top of the school and role models for the younger year groups. As I said to parents and carers in last week's Tie Assembly, I am confident that this year will be a great one for our new Year 6; throughout their time at Marsh Hill they have been hard-working, well behaved and eager to learn and I am sure that they will bring this positive mind-set into all that they do this year



British Values

In accordance with The Department for Education, we aim to actively promote British values in our school to ensure young people leave Marsh Hill prepared for life in modern Britain. Pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance and understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law.

The Key British Values are:

- Democracy
- Rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs
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Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Safeguarding means:

- Protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- Preventing harm to children's health or development
- Ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

Schools, as with all organisations that work with or come into contact with children (such as voluntary and community organisations, faith groups, private sector providers, hospitals and sports clubs) have safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure that every child, regardless of their age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief has a right to equal protection from harm. Setting up and following good safeguarding policies and procedures means children are safe from adults and other children who might pose a risk.

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

Child protection is part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. This includes child protection procedures which detail how to respond to concerns about a child.

If you ever have a concern about a child's wellbeing, then please report this to Cathy Lomas, Marsh Hill's Designated Safeguarding Lead – or in the event of Cathy being unavailable – please ask to speak with another DSL in school. Alternatively, you may ring The Children's Advice and Support Service (CASS) on 0121 303 1888.

Focus on the Curriculum – Phonics

Phonics is an approach to teaching some aspects of literacy, by developing pupils' knowledge and understanding of the relationship between written symbols and sounds. The aim is to systematically teach pupils the relationship between these sounds and the written spelling patterns, or graphemes, which represent them. Phonics emphasises the skills of decoding new words by sounding them out and combining or 'blending' the sound-spelling patterns.

Research carried out by the Education Endowment Fund states that: "Phonics has a positive impact with very extensive evidence and is an important component in the development of early reading skills ... it Improves the accuracy of the child's reading.... Phonics approaches have been consistently effective in supporting younger pupils to master the basics of reading."

At Marsh Hill, all planning is systematic and progressive and is in line with the school's long-term plan. Phonics is taught by highly skilled practitioners. Resources, terminology and phrases used to facilitate the teaching of phonics is uniform across the school. Phonics teaching is prioritised and is taught discreetly for 25 minutes every morning. Children are taught in ability groups, across their year group. Groups are determined through rigorous assessment, so that the teaching of phonics is matched to the children's current level of skill and phonemic awareness.

Each session follows the same systematic structure of:

- Revisit (previous sounds and common exception words taught),
- Teach (new sound and Common Exception Words)
- Practise
- Apply new sounds and words taught in word/sentence reading and writing.

The sounds and words taught are divided into 3 progressive stages and the expectations of coverage are:

Phase 2, 3 and 4: Taught in Reception

Phase 5: Taught throughout Year One

Phase 6: Year 2. Once children have a good command of phonic knowledge and use this competently to blend and segment, children move onto learning the rules of spelling.

STARS of the Week



Very well done to all our Merit Award Winners for this week. We are all proud of you:

Year 1 – Matthew, Mikhail, Freddie, Siyana
Year 2 – Muhammed, Sulaiman, Jessica, Cayci
Year 3 – Sabaina, Maria, Elita, Rayhaan
Year 4 – Aishah, Louis, Alan, Daisy
Year 5 – Harry, Younis, Safiya, Safa
Year 6 Amaya, Zoya, Oliver, Wajiha

Attendance

Whole School attendance for this week was 93.08%. The class with the highest attendance was 6C. Very well done and congratulations to 6C

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER	
Monday 18 th	After School Clubs begin (for 10 weeks)
Thursday 21 st	Deafness Awareness Assembly
Thursday 28 th	MacMillan Coffee Morning: 9.00 a.m.
OCTOBER	
Tuesday 3 rd	EYFS Phonics Workshop: 9.00 a.m. Year 6 Ancient Maya Workshop
Tuesday 10 th	World Mental Health Awareness Day
Wednesday 11 th	Year 5 Shakespeare workshop all day – hall out of use
Thursday 12 th	Year 6 Virtual Reality Workshop
Monday 16 th	Whole School Photographs
Wednesday 18 th	Year 2 Trip to the Black Country Living Museum
Monday 23 rd	Harvest Festival Assembly
Tuesday 24 th	Year 5 Workshop: Portals to the Past
Wednesday 25 th	Year 2D Whole Class Assembly – Diwali: 9.15 a.m.
Thursday 26 th	PTA Halloween Discos (times TBC)
Friday 27 th	Year 2C Whole Class Assembly – Diwali: 9.15 a.m.
NOVEMBER	
Tuesday 7 th	Year 1G Trip: Back-to-Back Houses
Wednesday 8 th	Year 1W Trip: Back-to-Back Houses
Thursday 9 th	Bonfire Night themed lunch
Monday 13 th	Year 3 Trip to Edgmont Hall
Tuesday 14 th	Parents' Evening (3.30 – 6.00)

Thursday 16 th	Parents' Evening (3.30 – 6.00)
Tuesday 21 st	Year 3 Virtually Reality Workshop: The Amazon Year 4 Virtual Reality Workshop: Volcanoes
DECEMBER	
Thursday 7 th	PTA Christmas Discos (times TBC)
Wednesday 13 th	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Carol Concert: 9.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.
Thursday 14 th	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Carol Concert: 9.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.
Friday 15 th	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Carol Concert: 9.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.
Tuesday 19 th	Reception Nativity: 9.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.
Wednesday 20 th	Children's Christmas Lunch
Thursday 21 st	Christmas Party Afternoon
Friday 22 nd	Last Day of Autumn Term – School closes at 1.00 p.m.

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

Yours sincerely,



Mr. J. Cusack
Head Teacher

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