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Marsh Hill Primary School Newsletter

October 20th 2023

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well.

We were very glad to welcome in members of the Marsh Hill Heroes today in celebration of the school's fundraising efforts to support MacMillan Cancer Research. I am grateful for all that the Marsh Hill Heroes do for school and I know that they are busy working on their next project: the annual Halloween Disco. The Halloween Disco takes place next Thursday (26th October) between 3.45 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. for Key stage 1 children; and between 5.30 p.m. and 6.45 p.m. for Key stage 2 children. The entrance fee is £2.



Sports Report

We are so proud to announce two fantastic achievements for the last academic year. Firstly, we have been awarded The Sainsbury's School Games Mark – Gold Award. This is the second year running that we have achieved this. It is an award that recognises our commitment to school sport, physical activity and competition.

Secondly, we finished as champions in our Erdington cluster. To achieve this we gained the most points, out of all the key stage 2 schools in the area, for attending sports competitions and events.

Huge congratulations to all the Marsh Hill children who competed and represented our school with such enthusiasm and talent. We are going to make this year another good year for school sport and look forward to more success.

At Marsh Hill we are committed to giving all our children the opportunities to be active, competitive and healthy.

I would like to thank Ms. Coppock and Miss Black for all the work that they do in their own free time to ensure that our children are provided with the opportunities to take part in a variety of after school sporting competitions.





Pools to Schools

We are thrilled to inform you that after much planning we will be having a portable, heated swimming pool on site after half term for 7 weeks. The company we are using is Elite Swimming, they deliver their very own bespoke '**Pools to Schools**' programme across

the UK. This is to enable all our KS2 pupils to have a swimming lesson each week on site, this will reduce the cost of transport and time travelling to the local swimming pool. More information regarding your child's swimming session will be sent out next. Please check the website to find out more. www.eliteswimming.co.uk

Poppy Appeal

Poppies and other merchandise will be on sale in the hall each breaktime from Thursday 26th October until Friday 10th November. Poppies are a minimum donation of 20p, zip tags and reflective poppies are 50p, wristbands are £1 and snap bands are £1.50.

The money raised will help to provide support to the Armed Forces community in six key areas: Financial Support, Advice, Employment, Mobility, Housing and Mental Health.

The Value of the Month is Freedom

At school we are working with your children on the value of freedom and striving to instil in them the notion that freedom consists not in doing what we like, but having the right to do what we ought.

Alongside our School Values we also follow **British Values** such as **The Rule of Law**. In school we have agreed rules and expectations so that our school is a safe and happy place for all. We use restorative justice to mediate any conflict if it arises.

STARS of the Week



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

Year 1 – Layton, Hoorain, Haadi, Myron

Year 3 – Ivy, Layton, Riaz, Ayah

Year 4 – Aisha, Ciena, David, Fatima

Year 5 – Alan, Zara, Safa, Aleema

Year 6 – Phoebe, Makai, Harry, Sophie

Year 2 were on their school trip to The Black Country Living Museum

Attendance

Whole School attendance for this week was 92.13%. The class with the highest attendance was 6M who achieved 99.33% attendance. Very well done and congratulations to 6M.

Focus on the Curriculum: History

The History curriculum at Marsh Hill aims to provide children with a coherent understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world. Our aims are to fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for history; providing a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum; ensuring the progressive development of historical concepts, knowledge and skills; and for the children to develop a love for history. Furthermore, we aim to inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about history that will lead to pupils leaving Marsh Hill wanting to know more. Pupils in EYFS work towards being an "Exceptional Explorer" through planned adult led activities and child initiated activities in the continuous provision.

The aims of teaching history in our school are:

- to inspire pupils' curiosity to discover more about the past and to develop an understanding that enables them to enjoy all that history has to offer;
- to enable children to know about significant events in British history and to appreciate how things have changed over time;
- to develop a good sense of chronology;
- to have some knowledge and understanding of historical development in the wider world;
- to help children understand society and their place within it, so that they develop a sense of their own cultural heritage;
- to develop in children the skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis, evaluation, debate, interpretation, problem solving and presentation.

We aim to provide a curriculum that is meaningful and engages our children. To teach history effectively, we look to teach and implement key skills throughout a broad range of topics. We aim to equip children with skills, vital knowledge and deep understanding that they need as they develop their own historical perceptions.

The Importance of Reading

Reading is the secret to introducing knowledge that can help children through difficult choices in life and expand their imaginative skills. The importance of reading for children cannot be underplayed, as it lays the foundation for their mental development and improves their reasoning skills. It also significantly improves their language and vocabulary development. Children who read frequently and who are read to regularly,

improve their reading skills; it is definitely a case of “practice makes perfect”. So please ensure that you build in sometime each day to read with your children.

Upcoming Events	
OCTOBER	
Monday 23rd	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