



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

Marsh Hill Primary School Newsletter

October 27th 2023

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well.

It has been a very busy and productive term at Marsh Hill, and this week has been no exception. We have had a visit from Reverend Gerrard from The Erdington foodbank who did a special assembly on Monday morning, workshops from our PCSO Duncan Long in Reception and Year 6; an Ancient Greek workshop in Year 5 and Diwali Assemblies for parents and carers of children in Year 3. You can read more about these events later on in this newsletter. We also held our annual Halloween Disco.

Next term will be equally busy and so I hope that you and your families have, and enjoy, a relaxing half term break.

Harvest Assembly



We were delighted to welcome Reverend Gerrard from The Erdington Foodbank into school this week. He was very grateful for all the donations that he received from our school community. Reverend Gerrard and his team serve over 500 people every week and

your generosity will ensure that he will be able to continue his good work. Children's personal development is a strength at Marsh Hill. We strive to develop their character and want them to leave here and go on to the next stage of their education as responsible, respectful and active citizens. Becoming involved with charities and helping others less fortunate than themselves is one way of promoting this desire and we are all very proud of them.

Year 3 Diwali Assembly

Thank you to the very many parents, carers and relatives who came to school to watch the Year 3 whole class assemblies. We have received really positive feedback about the performance and I am very grateful to those parents who took the opportunity to express their views. Here is just a small sample of the responses:

"Wow, amazing performance, loved the dance. Keep up the hard work Marsh Hill and children. Can't wait for the next time."

"Fantastic performance! Very impressed with everyone's involvement! All kids were fantastic."

"Well done to all of you. You all did fantastically. Diwali is a festival of celebration and happiness. We all enjoyed the assembly. Thank you."

"Amazing performance. All the children were amazing! Enjoyed watching them. Plus it educates everyone about Diwali."

"I really enjoyed the kids performance. It was so adorable watching the kids be so bold and talk in front of all the parents and carers. I was truly in or the whole time. A big well done to all of you. I can't wait to see the class' next assembly in the future."

PSCO Workshops

Over a number of years we have developed strong links with West Midlands Police and they have been regular visitors to our school. This week, for example, PCSO Long has held workshops in our EYFS and Year 6 classes. The workshop in EYFS was about 'stranger danger.' While the risk posed by strangers is rare, it is really important to make children aware of simple tips they can follow to make themselves even safer. To complement the work we do in school and the support we receive from PCSO Long, we would advise you to talk to your child about who their safe adults are and where there are safe places near you if help is needed.

Our Year 6 pupils received a workshop involving the ways we behave, conduct ourselves and have positive attitudes to one another and how these things together can create safer communities free from fear and anti-social behaviour.

PCSO Long's workshops are a regular feature of the school year and we thank him for all his support and input. The work is just one way that we promote the **British Value** of the **Rule of Law**.

Year 5 Ancient Greece Workshop

We prioritise trips and workshops because they are a valuable way to supplement and enhance the curriculum. This week, Year 5 have had a special visitor to provide them with enriching experiences around their topic of Ancient Greece. I received the following feedback from a group of our Year 5 pupils:

"It was different from our normal learning. We role played to see how their lives were."

"The role play was fun. I learned about Ancient Greek myths."

"We acted out scenes from myths. I was Fear from Hercules and Aries"

"I was Medusa."

"We learned that in Sparta and Athena times, Sparta women had more freedom than Athena women, but only men were allowed to vote."

"In the first ever Olympics there was only one sport."

"Theatre was a popular entertainment in Ancient Greece. 15 000 people would attend a show."

Thanks to Aleena, Alan, Rayah and Maysam for their feedback.



Mrs. Aujla adds:

This week we participated in a fantastic Greek workshop by a company called Past Productions. We started the day by asking who were the ancient Greeks? We talked about their legacy – the impact and influence of what they left behind (eg the Olympic Games).

We learnt about life in ancient Greece by role playing different scenarios. We particularly enjoyed dressing up and using props when we performed our group acts.

We explored the myths of Greece by creating our own 'mythical consequences' that we had great fun sharing in groups.

We delved into the history of the Athenian Games (now known as the Olympic Games). We found out about its origins and how it has evolved to the current spectacle it is today. We took part in our very own mini Olympics and crowned our own long jump champion!

We ended the day consolidating our learning by participating in a tense Class 5C versus Class 5J quiz.

Onsite Swimming Pool

Last week I informed you of the portable, heated swimming pool that we will be having on site for seven weeks when we return to school after the half term break. This is a very good opportunity for all our ks2 children as they will all be able to have a swimming lesson each week on site over next half term. Yesterday, every child in ks2 was given a letter to take home that explains the arrangements more fully. Please take the time to read the letter, fill in the questionnaire that has been sent out via text message regarding your child's current swimming ability (in order that they can be put in a group that will best meet their needs) and ensure that they have the correct and appropriate kit. I would like to thank Mrs. Leavey for organising this fantastic opportunity for so many of our children.

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.

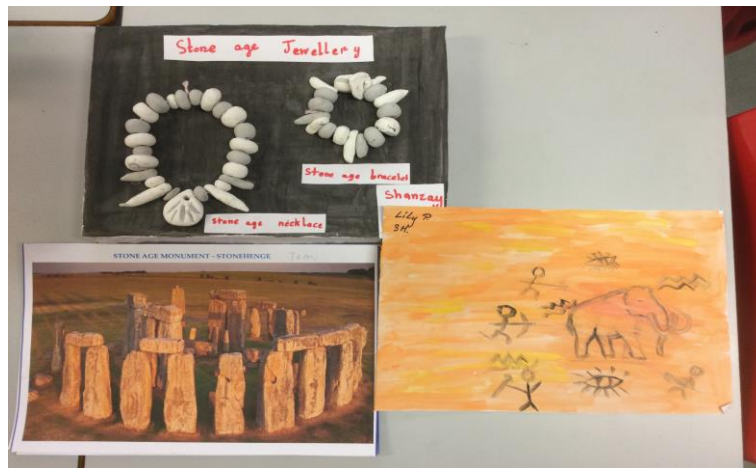
The money raised will help to provide support to the Armed Forces community in six key areas: Financial Support, Advice, Employment, Mobility, Housing and Mental Health.

Flu Vaccinations

Earlier this week, you will have received nasal flu vaccination consent form offering protection against winter flu. Please complete the form on both sides in either blue or black pen, stating whether you do or do not want your child to have the nasal flu vaccination and return to school as soon as possible. The school nurse team will be collecting the forms from school on Thursday 9th November, so will need them returned to school by that date.

Year 3

This half term, the children have enjoyed learning about the Stone Age to Iron Age in History lessons. We have learnt about the different stages of the Stone Age: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic. We have explored how people in the Stone Age were hunter gatherers and progressed into being farmers. In the Bronze Age, the people developed tools made out of bronze and began to trade. Later in the Iron Age, people discovered iron and steel; they realised that iron was a fantastic resource and was plentiful. For homework, Year 3 were provided with lots of options to showcase their learning. The picture below shows how Stone Age people made cave painting to tell their stories, Stone Age jewellery and significant monuments from the Stone Age. – Mrs. Mirza



The class with the highest attendance was 6M who achieved 95%. Very well done and congratulations to 6M.

Focus on the Curriculum: Art & Design

At Marsh Hill, we believe that an art, craft and design education will engage, inspire and challenge pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to participate in, experiment with, invent and create their own works of art, craft and design. We value the contribution that art and design has in our curriculum and to the culture, creativity and wealth of our nation. We provide a high-quality art and design curriculum which provides pupils with the opportunity to use and understand the properties of a wide range of tools, materials and techniques. Crucially it provides children with regular opportunities to think imaginatively and creatively and develop confidence in other subjects and life skills.

Art, craft and design is a practical, and creative subject. Through their active participation, pupils at Marsh Hill Primary School learn to explore their imagination, generate ideas, acquire skills and apply judgement. It is also a subject in which pupils develop their knowledge and understanding as well as their skills. They learn about the materials and

techniques they use and about the world of art, craft and design, recognising the achievements of artists, designers and craftspeople from many different times and cultures. It also develops and encourages critical and creative thinking.

Pupils in EYFS are encouraged to be "Dynamic Designers" and "Talented Tool Users" through planned adult led activities and child initiated activities in the continuous provision.

Aims:

To enable children to become visually literate and understand that art is a form of communication.

To enable children to use a wide range of media to communicate ideas and feelings.

To nurture and harness creativity and acquire and develop a range of skills and techniques.

To develop children's capacity for imaginative and original thought and to try out ideas without the fear of failing.

To enable children through observation to learn about the world around them.

To help children learn about the role of art, craft and design in their environment and take inspiration from it.

To enable children to become independent in the planning and reviewing of their work

To enable children to develop their full potential confidently and independently.

Upcoming Events	
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 half term holiday.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. J. Cusack
Head Teacher