



Website: www.marshhill.bham.sch.uk Tel: 0121 464 2920 Email: enquiry@marshhill.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 and that you and your families had a restful half term break. You will have noticed that we have now had the swimming pool installed in the key stage 2 playground. I have been overwhelmed by the reaction from the children who have been incredibly positive and are really enjoying the opportunity to swim in school time so regularly. I have been equally amazed by the reaction of parents and carers, a number of whom have asked me if they could have a look at the pool and each one has told me that their children have loved the experience.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening will take place on Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th November between 3.30 and 6.00 p.m. Parents' evening provides a good opportunity to discuss your child's progress and an insight to see how they are doing in class and school generally. You will also be able to discuss with your child's class teacher how school and home can work together to support your child's achievement.

If you have not yet made an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher then please do so.

Children in Need

On Friday 17th November we will be supporting the BBC Children In Need charity by holding our very own "Great Spot-acular Event!" The Student Squad have arranged for pupils to participate in a Non School Uniform day in exchange for a small donation of a £1. In addition to this, at breaktime the children will have the opportunity to become "spotified" - the Squad will be face-painting spots for a fee of 20 pence at breaktime. The most "spot-acular" outfit from each Key Stage will receive a prize for their efforts. We're looking forward to supporting this very important cause! Thank you in advance for your contributions - they make a real difference to the lives of vulnerable children.

Halloween Disco

Before the half term holiday, the children enjoyed a wonderful time at the Halloween Disco. Here is a selection of the fantastic costumes on show. I would like to very much thank all of the Marsh Hill Heroes who organised and ran the event. If it wasn't for our caring and selfless parents and carers giving up their own time to support our children and school community it would be difficult to put such events (that bring such happiness and joy to our children) on.



The Marsh Hill Heroes are always welcoming of new recruits, so if you would like to be involved please get in touch with the school.

Remembrance

At 11.00 today, pupils and staff at Marsh Hill marked Remembrance with two minutes' silence. The children were very respectful and all the staff were very proud of them. I would like to thank all the members of our school community who donated money to support the Royal British Legion's fundraising efforts by purchasing poppies and other commemorative items that we had on sale at school. I would also like to thank Mr. Brewer for organising the sale of these items.



*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them...*

Diwali



On Sunday, our Hindu and Sikh families have been celebrating Diwali. Diwali is celebrated to mark the return of Lord Rama after 14 years of exile and his victory over the Demon Ravana. Families light up their homes and shops to welcome the Goddess Lakshmi and to give them good luck for the year ahead. May this Diwali fill your life with a glow of happiness and sparkle of joy. Happy Diwali 2021.

Attendance

Whole school attendance for this week was 92.58%.

The class with the highest attendance was 5J who achieved 98.67%. Very well done and congratulations to 5J.

Focus on the Curriculum: Geography

At Marsh Hill Primary School, we aim to deliver a curriculum that is inspiring and ambitious. Our curriculum builds on children's prior knowledge, ensuring that there is a clear progression of skills throughout both key stages. We aim to deliver high-quality lessons in both History and Geography, using a wealth of practical and online resources. The geography curriculum at Marsh Hill enables children to develop knowledge and skills that are transferable to other curriculum areas and which promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Geography is, by nature, an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. Although children need to remember key content that is taught, we want to equip children with the skills they need to be geographers. Our curriculum is designed to ensure that teaching equips pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the earth's key physical and human processes. We make links with our local environment when possible in order to provide context when learning. As pupils progress through the school, they will be exposed to a range of topics that will enable them to develop and extend their geographical skills to the wider world. Geographical knowledge and skills are progressive and are sequenced to provide the framework and approaches that provide explanation of how the earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time. We seek to inspire in children a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people which will remain with them for the rest of their lives, equipping them well for further education and beyond. skills document. Teachers have identified the key knowledge and skills of each half termly topic and these are mapped across the school, ensuring that knowledge builds progressively and that children develop skills systematically. This progression document ensures the curriculum is covered and the skills/knowledge taught is progressive from year group to year group. Existing knowledge is checked at the beginning of each topic, as part of the KWL strategy (What I know, What I would like to Know and What I have Learned). This ensures that teaching is informed by the children's starting points and encourages our pupils to be reflective learners. At the end of each topic, key knowledge is reviewed by the children and consolidated as necessary. Teachers aim to provide appropriate challenge to all learners, in line with our school's commitment to inclusion.

Click on the link below to see the Progression of skills in Geography from EYFS to Year 6.

[https://www.marshill.bham.sch.uk/admin/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Progression%20of%20Skills%20in%20Geography%202023\(2\).pdf](https://www.marshill.bham.sch.uk/admin/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Progression%20of%20Skills%20in%20Geography%202023(2).pdf)

Storytime

Children love stories. Stories can create other worlds, emotions and ideas. They can take us on terrific journeys; and teach us empathy and make us laugh and cry. Storytime is a great way of having one-to-one time with your children. From this week we will be adding a QR code for parents and carers to scan and read at home. These stories come with a suggested age range, but of course, can be enjoyed by all.

Age 3 – 5

	 https://bit.ly/2A7ME0u	<p>Look Up! <i>Nathan Bryon and Dapo Adeola</i></p> <p>Storytime and draw-along Read by Nathan Bryon</p>
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Age 5 – 7

	 https://bit.ly/2SJXE0	<p>Beegu <i>Alexis Deacon</i></p> <p>Storytime & draw-along Read by Alexis Deacon</p>
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Age 7 - 9

	 https://bit.ly/2ze1Sk1	<p>How to Train Your Dragon <i>Cressida Cowell</i></p> <p>Storytime (extract – full book also available chapter by chapter!) Read by Cressida Cowell</p>
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Age 9 - 11

	 https://bit.ly/3dsQrnc	<p>Murder Most Unladylike <i>Robin Stevens</i></p> <p>Storytime (extract) Read by Robin Stevens</p>
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Upcoming Events	
NOVEMBER	
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)
Friday 17 th	Children in Need Day (Non-School Uniform)
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. Pantomime Visit
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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