



MARSH GIBBON  
— CE SCHOOL —

# Newsletter

# Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors

Merry Christmas!

We are almost at the end of an incredible term. At this time of year with so much going on in all our lives, we want to take time to give thanks. We have such a special school and the events of the last few weeks have shown what strength, generosity and kindness we have in our school community.

I have been so proud of the children and staff this term; from watching the nativity to enjoying the choir's performance at the URC, we have had so many opportunities to celebrate them. We love and care for all our children and feel such pride in them all. The staff have gone above and beyond to help bring together these celebrations and I hope you have all enjoyed the result as much as we have.

All that remains now is to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and furthermore a happy, healthy New Year!

I leave you with a variation of our school prayer from us to your households this Christmas:

Father God, Come and be with us this Christmas. Fill our hearts with joy. Fill our minds with wonder. Fill our homes with peace. Fill our celebrations with fun. Fill our communities with kindness. Fill our lives with love.

Amen.

Mrs B Brown  
Headteacher

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# NATIVITY

What a wonderful performance down at St Mary's Church on Tuesday 12th December.

Huge thanks to Miss Exley for directing the nativity supported by the EYFS & KS1 team: Mrs Blane, Mrs Maskell, Mrs Anderson and Mrs Doe. It was a truly magical event.



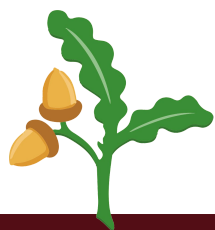


# CHRISTMAS FAYRE



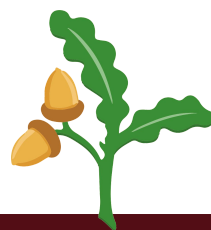
Our Christmas Fayre was a resounding success. The PTA and all the volunteers did such an amazing job. Special thanks has to go to Mrs Mew, is the driving force of our PTA and we are so grateful.

To all our parents who came and supported the Fayre, thank you. The money raised is vital to the school and every penny spent will go to supporting the children. The total as it stands is £1300. What an amazing achievement!



# CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY & LUNCH

What a delicious feast! The children thoroughly enjoyed their meal and we are all so grateful to our fabulous Fresh Start staff: Sam, Linda and Charley who worked together to plate up over 140 Christmas meals; thank you ladies. We saw some wonderful Christmas jumpers, too! They all looked smashing and we thank you all for the money you have donated to the 'Save the Children' charity.





# CHOIR URC PENSIONERS LUNCH

Our wonderful choir provided some musical entertainment at the URC last week. The elderly audience even sang along to some traditional christmas carols, too. A fabulous time was had by all. The choir's next performance will be on Monday 22nd January at the Young Voices concert in Birmingham.

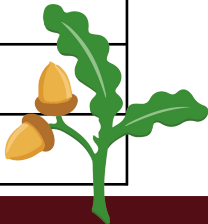


## BAUBLE COMPETITION



The Bauble competition winners are....

EYFS/Y1	Nancy, Martha, Arlie
Y2	Phoebe
Y3	Mason, Tom
Y4	Chloe, Elsie
Y5	Raya, Emma
Y6	Tyler

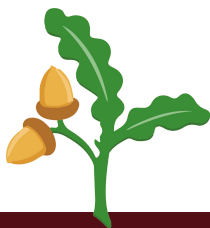


December is such a busy month both at school and at home! Take a moment for some self care with these daily wellbeing activities and make looking after yourself a priority.



As always we also have our Action For Happiness calendar for December available too for those of you following this 'Do good December'.

<https://actionforhappiness.org/calendar>



# HOT CHOCOLATE

The hot chocolate and cookie mornings have been a huge success and have helped to raise money for upcoming school trips. Thank you for your support with this and a big thank you to Mrs Riley and Mrs Thripland for coordinating! This has been so popular with the children that we will continue this in to the new year.





# HOME LEARNING

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our next Home Learning Gallery tomorrow **at 2:45pm**. We hope that you will be able to join with us in celebrating your child's home learning tasks. The children really enjoyed showcasing their learning at our first Home Learning Gallery and it was a pleasure to see so many parents attend. We have already had lots of wonderful pieces of home learning coming into classes.



## GOODBYE

Last week, we said goodbye to Miss Jones and Miss Gibbons as they finished their placement with us. We want to say a big thank you to them for all of their hard work over the last 4 weeks and wish them all the very best as they return to university to complete their training.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many platforms which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalonline.com](http://nationalonline.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+ combines entertainment from the famous animation studio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noted that adverts have now been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is – unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

## LESS SUITABLE CONTENT

While Disney+ is predominantly family friendly, there *are* some movies and shows in its library which are aimed at an older audience: these may scare younger ones or contain themes or language that you'd rather your child wasn't exposed to. You could avoid such situations by enabling Junior Mode (see 'Adjust content settings', below) or specifying a content age rating for your child's profile.

## BINGE WATCHING

With the option to view content on any internet-enabled device and a growing catalogue of movies, cartoons and documentaries, Disney+ can make managing screen time difficult. This could result in children binge watching content, distracting them from activities like homework or socialising. Too much screen time has also been shown to negatively impact mood, sleep patterns and weight.

## PHISHING EMAILS

Be especially cautious if you receive emails or text messages purporting to be from Disney+. There have been numerous reports of online scammers impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their private information or their password.

## ENCROACHING ADVERTS

Disney+ has introduced a new subscription package – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays commercials before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). There are no adverts in Junior Mode, but profiles with a content rating of 6+ years will see ads appropriate for that age category. Adults who give consent will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.

## ACCESSING ADULTS' PROFILES

If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and encounter content which isn't age appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle titled 'Kid-Proof Exit' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

## ADJUST CONTENT SETTINGS

When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles in what's called Junior Mode. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 6 and is therefore fairly limited. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a standard profile, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 6+, 9+, 12+ or 14+.

**TURN OFF AUTO-PLAY**

When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will also enjoy. This suggestion will then automatically begin to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.

## ADD PIN PROTECTION

Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's Star content hub are far more oriented to adults (including several hard-hitting dramas from US networks), so protecting parents' or older siblings' profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.

**ENJOY AS A FAMILY**

When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's suitable. You could do the same when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years: your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and some of the language and attitudes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Source: [https://help.dnswypl.com/csp?id=csp\\_article\\_content&sys\\_kb\\_id=1f86cdd93d4c4f9890190d0000000000](https://help.dnswypl.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=1f86cdd93d4c4f9890190d0000000000) | [https://help.dnswypl.com/csp?id=csp\\_article\\_content&sys\\_kb\\_id=795ebaffbdc44d03affet2c3989f936](https://help.dnswypl.com/csp?id=csp_article_content&sys_kb_id=795ebaffbdc44d03affet2c3989f936)  
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# MRS RILEY

At the end of this term, we will be saying a fond farewell to Mrs Riley. Mrs Riley has been with us here for 9 years, first as a volunteer parent reader, mid-day supervisor and also as an HLTA (Higher Level Teaching Assistant). We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Riley and we will all genuinely miss her. Mrs Riley is moving on to further her HLTA skills at another setting and we wish her all the very best.

In her 9 years at Marsh Gibbon, Mrs Riley has been an invaluable member of the team. Almost all of our Key Stage 2 children will have come up through the school with Mrs Riley and her support of the children's learning has had a real impact. We know that she will do great things in her new setting as she did for the whole of the Marsh Gibbon School Community.

With staff leaving this brings new opportunities and we're pleased to inform you that Mrs Nelms will be joining our Support Staff team after the Christmas break. Mrs Nelms is known to all of our children as she has been our wonderful kitchen manager. I know that she is looking forward to being the other side of the counter working and supporting the children with their learning.



Marsh Gibbon School is committed to supporting the children to achieve the best possible attendance, to enable every child to achieve their full potential. There is a strong link between good school attendance and achieving a good education. Children who frequently miss school may fall behind in their learning and development. We remain determined to improve attendance further with your support.

## How Marsh Gibbon CE School Supports Attendance?

- > Daily monitoring of registers and contact parent/carers
- > Communications with parents regarding importance of school attendance
- > Education on importance of attendance
- > Marsh Gibbon 'Attendance Ted' - *do ask the your child about this.*



## HOLIDAYS

The headteacher will only grant a leave of absence to pupils during term time if they consider there to be 'exceptional circumstances'. In keeping with government guidance and the Local Authority advice, family holidays will be unauthorised by Marsh Gibbon School during term time.

If you need to take your child out of school due to exceptional circumstances you will need to complete an **APPLICATION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST** form which can be found on the parents page on our [school website](#).

Our policy meets the requirements of the [working together to improve school attendance](#) from the Department for Education (DfE), and refers to the DfE's statutory guidance on [school attendance parental responsibility measures](#).

Attendance Ted has made an appearance at Marsh Gibbon CE School! Weekly attendance is analysed and Attendance Ted gets to join the class with the best weekly attendance. Attendance Ted has already spent a week with Y4 and is currently enjoying his second week of learning with Year 3.



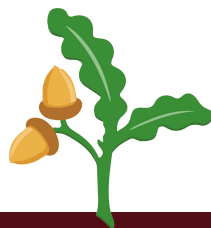


# FOOTBALL



A huge well done to both the boys and girls football teams in the last few weeks. The girls played a friendly game against Chesterton. Although the girls lost they played so well together and showed real potential for the future games. Many thanks to Mr Lyon who refereed the game for us, too. All children and staff especially enjoyed the hot chocolate and cookies at the end of the game. It most certainly warmed us all up!

A mixed team played in a tournament at the Royal Latin Secondary School and came first! The children played fantastically and won 2 of their games and drew the other game. We are **VERY** proud of their achievements.



Thank you to all of you who supported our Maths Open morning at the end of November. It was lovely to welcome parents into school seeing how maths is taught. The presentation that was shared can be found on the school website. The key message shared was how **you** can support your child at home - please support our teaching of Maths by engaging in positive conversations about Maths at home, model the growth mindset approach to your children and encourage them to say '**yet**' when talking about things they might find challenging. We also discussed the importance of securing key number facts such as number bonds and times tables and the impact these can have on our learning throughout the school. For example if a child knows the times table fact  $8 \times 6$ , they can use this to help:

- Calculate  $6 \times 8$
- Double  $4 \times 6$
- Calculate  $0.8 \times 6$
- Calculate  $80 \times 6$
- Calculate  $80 \times 60$
- Identify multiples
- Identify factors
- Identify common multiples and factors
- Complete fraction based questions involving 6th and 8th
- Compare fractions
- Find equivalent fractions
- Solve a word problem such as: 'how many books are in a bookcase with 8 shelves and 6 books on each shelf?'

This is why we place such a high level of importance on TT Rockstars and securing these number facts at such a young age.

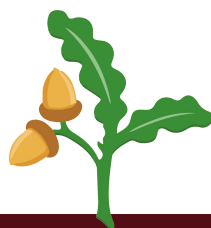
The positive feedback from parents included -

*"That growth mindset is such a positive thing for the whole family"*

*"It's really helpful to see how they are taught in school so we can understand and support what they are doing at home"*

*"The CPA (concrete, pictorial and abstract) approach is really clear to support at home and see how they move on when they are ready"*

*"It was so useful to see the teaching methods that are used now compared to how we were taught".*

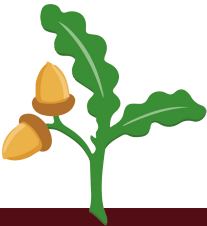




# SCHOOL VALUES

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to the children who have recently received their value bands.

	Love	Friendship	Honesty	Respect	Compassion	Forgiveness
EYFS/Y1	Henry B Veera Zachary	Jack D.		Rowan	Martha	
Y2		Oscar Amy	Joseph Max Dylan C			
Y3	Xenia Molly	Mason	Rosalie	Monty Koryn	Harry Senan	
Y4	Leonora Paige	Ella N,	Bella	Elsie S-L Thomas	Franki Chloe	
Y5		Henry B Connor Bobby	Clem	Chloe	Vivi	Joseph Joshua Kaelan
Y6		Olivia	Connor Shyla	Lucas		



# Celebration Certificates



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EYFS&Y1

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**Arthur, Winnie, Fraser,  
Daniel, Whole class**

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Y2

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**Cameron, Jack, Dylan  
Whole Class**

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Y3

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**Freddie, Alice, Noah,  
Rosalie**

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Y4

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**Thomas, Neave, Jack,  
Arthur, Elsie B, Noah**

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Y5

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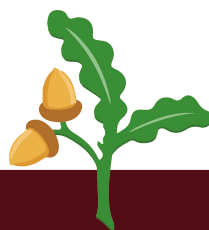
**Kaelan, Lucy, Gracie,  
Oscar, Rose**

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Y6

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**Arthur, Lolita, Olivia,  
Albie, Connor, Poppy**



# DIARY DATES

**DEC**

- 18/12 BEECH HOUSE MUFTI
- 18/12 School to visit the Shepherds at the Rectory 10am
- 19/12 Christmas service at the Church 9:30: all parents welcome
- 19/12 Last day of term
- 19/12 Last day of swimming for Y3
- 19/12 Class Christmas parties

**JAN**

- 04/01 Start of Spring Term
- 08/01 RECEPTION & YR6 heights and weights
- 09/01 Year 3&4, and EYFS/Y1 & 2 Atomic Science in school visit.
- 22/01 Young Voices
- 24/01 Faith trip Yrs 3&4
- 30/01 YR1&2 invasion games
- 31/1 E-safety training for parents

**FEB**

- W/C 5/2 Mental health Week
- 6/02 Yr 3&4 football festival
- 9/02 last day of term
- 19/02 school returns
- W/C 19/02 Bikeability Yr 6
- 27/02 YR 5 &6 Handball festival

