



Succeeding together - 'fostering a love of learning, within a nurturing Christian community, to bring out 'the best in everyone'

## **Newsletter 4 – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

|                    | <b>Term Begins</b>                | <b>Term Ends</b>                 | <b>Half Term</b> | <b>Term Begins</b>               | <b>Term Ends</b>                  |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Autumn 2022</b> | Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September | Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October  |                  | Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November | Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December |
| <b>Spring 2023</b> | Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January | Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February |                  | Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February | Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March     |
| <b>Summer 2023</b> | Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April    | Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May      |                  | Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June     | Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July      |

**Inset Days:** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022, **Extra Bank Holiday Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2022,**  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022, Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023, Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors

It is great to see that the children have settled straight into their routine following the half term. This term always puts lots of pressure on our time and this year is going to be equally busy over the next 6 ½ weeks.

### **Staff Absence**

Due to personal reasons, both Mrs Nyazika-Fowler and Mrs Williams are currently absent. Mrs Nyazika-Fowler usually covers a day in EYFS, Y1, Y2 and Y5. In the absence of Mrs Nyazika-Fowler, Miss Bowdery, a Cover Teacher who has experience teaching across all age groups, was scheduled to cover Mrs Nyazika-Fowler's days. With the absence of Mrs Williams, and to ensure consistency for our children, we have arranged for Miss Bowdery to take the Year 5 class for the next 4 weeks. Mrs Martin and Mrs Underwood will teach full time for the next 4 weeks and Mrs Blane will teach full time for the foreseeable. As you can imagine, ensuring that we have cover for the classes has been a juggling act however, I am extremely grateful to all of our teachers and support staff for their flexibility and would like to reassure you that all decisions have been made in the best interests of all of our children.

### **Roving Bookshop Visit TOMORROW**

Today, your child will come home with an envelope for tomorrow's Roving Book Shop. If you would like your child to purchase a book, please do send your child in with some money.

Your child will visit the bookshop during the school day. If you would like to attend the bookshop with your child, the bookshop will be open until 4pm. Please make your way to the school hall at pick up time.

### **Marsh Gibbon School Eco Warriors**

I am pleased to announce that we now have Eco Warriors at Marsh Gibbon CE School. Our Eco Warriors are: Y6 Bertie, Clementine, Y5, Emily-Rose, Verity, Y4, Mabel, Vivi, Y3 Leonora, Georgia, Y2, Lily, Tom, Y1 Phoebe, Cameron, EYFS Arlie and Winnie.

Our Eco Warriors will be leading on helping us all to care for our school environment. They will be devising an eco-code for our school, help others to follow our eco-code, monitor our energy use in the school and encourage teachers and children to recycle.

The Eco Warriors are being led by Miss Exley.

### **Do you have a child who will reach the age of 4 on or before 31st August 2023?**

Applications for School places must be made to the Local Authority no later than 15th January 2023 for places in school. [Applications for school places can be made here.](#)

We have already been busy this term with many school tours. Our next open event is Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November from 1.00pm-3.00pm and then Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 11:30am-1:30pm. Please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

### **Poppy Sales**

Our Year 6 House Captains will continue to sell our poppy themed items for the Royal British Legion. Unfortunately, as a school, we are only sent a limited number of items. Purchasing early is essential if children do not want to be disappointed.

### **Children in Need**

As in previous years, as a school we will be supporting Children in Need. On Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> November the children can come to school in mufti wearing something spotty. *As we have PE sessions on this day, please do ensure that your child wears sensible shoes.* The Children in Need Appeal funds local charities and projects that support children so they can thrive. They work closely with a whole range of organisations so they can understand where the need is greatest, ensuring the money you raise goes to supporting the young people that need it most. Please follow the link below if you wish to donate: <https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

### **PTA Mufti Day**

The PTA are holding a mufti day on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> of November in exchange for tombola items for the Marsh Gibbon CE School Christmas Fayre. The items can be brought in to school on the morning of Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November and our PTA representatives will be available at the school gates to take them from you.

### **Bicester Foodbank and Bicester Baby Bank Collection**

Many thanks to each and everyone of you for sending in the collections for these two charities before the half term.

### **Phonics Parent Session**

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the phonics session with Mrs Blane. The PowerPoint from this meeting can be found on the [school website](#).

### **Road Safety**

With the amount of traffic along Castle Street and other streets around Marsh Gibbon during morning drop off and after school collection, it is vital that our child learn how to be safer pedestrians and road users. Please do click on the parent guide and share the information with your child. [Footsteps – Parent Guide](#)

### **Extra Bank Holiday**

We are awaiting confirmation from Buckinghamshire County and the Department for Education regarding the announced extra Bank Holiday yesterday, especially as it will have an effect on the Year 6 SATs timetable due to start on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

## **Police Visit**

Following a number of anti-social behaviour incidents throughout the village over the last couple of weeks, we have had an unscheduled visit from our local Police Officer today.

The Police Officer, Eleanor Fennimore spoke to our older children (Year 5 & Year 6), and explained that if they do see any anti-social behaviour happening, to walk away and inform an adult.

## **Member of Parliament Visit – Greg Smith**

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November, Greg Smith the Member of Parliament for Buckingham, will be visiting our school to see our newly refurbished Early Years class. This refurbishment was made possible by the wonderful fundraising by our PTA. Mr Smith will also officially open our Forest School provision too. Our Year 4 children will be having their Forest School session on Friday this week instead of Tuesday afternoon so that Mr Smith can see Forest School in action too.

## **Disabled Parking spaces outside the village shop**

We have been asked to inform you that these spaces are reserved for blue badge holders only. Please do apply on the [government website](#) should you wish to apply for or renew a blue badge.

## **Online Safety**

This week we have attached two online safety guidelines for parents. 'What Parents Need to Know about Overwatch 2' (Age rating 12) and What Parents Need to Know about Amigo, (Age rating 18) In the guide, 'What Parents Need to Know about Overwatch 2' (Age rating 12), you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as violent gameplay, in-game purchases and voice chat.

A long-awaited sequel to 2016's massively successful Overwatch, this is a futuristic shooting game with a focus on teamwork and strategy which gives it an extra dimension to the majority of titles in the genre. Its cast of characters is diverse and memorable, while there's a definite (and rewarding) learning curve to players improving their skill. Created by established developers Blizzard Entertainment, Overwatch 2 is free to play, with an emphasis on competitive multiplayer action – meaning that children may want to play the game even more simply because their friends have it.

In this guide, What Parents Need to Know about Amigo, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as inappropriate contact, strangers and membership costs. Amigo is a social platform which purports to connect strangers from around the world – and, with built-in translation software, it reduces the expected language barriers. Focusing heavily on one-to-one chat, video calls and live streams, Amigo encourages its users to build up online relationships to unlock exclusive features such as private video and audio calls: essentially, the more that people chat, the more features become available to them. This is an app designed with mature users very much in mind and is therefore definitely not recommended for children.

## **Covid National Guidance**

- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.
- Please follow this link to the latest information from the UK Health Security Agency regarding when to keep a child off school [UKHSA](#)
- Adults with a positive COVID19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.

## Congratulations

Well done to our latest Celebration Certificate recipients:

|                           |                               |                          |   |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <b>EYFS - Butterflies</b> | Rowan, George, Jack M, Daniel | <b>Year 3 - Rabbits</b>  | Elsie, Wilfred, Hudson, Leonora         |
| <b>Year 1 - Owls</b>      | Oscar, Holly, Scott, Amy      | <b>Year 4 - Hedgehog</b> | Reuben, Emma, Kaelan, Ayrton            |
| <b>Year 2 - Dragons</b>   | Monty, Georgia, Faebien, Lily | <b>Year 5 - Foxes</b>    | Isla, Tyler, Whole of Y5, Olivia, Shyla |
|                           |                               | <b>Year 6 - Eagles</b>   | Heidi, Jack, Poppy V-L, Xavier          |

Mrs B Brown  
Headteacher

[office@marshgibbon.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@marshgibbon.bucks.sch.uk)

### DATES FOR THE DIARY (Bold are new additions)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> November            | Parent Child Learning Discussions (Postponed)   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> November                              | Roving Book Shop visit  |
| <b>11<sup>th</sup> November</b>                       | <b>Y4 Forest School (Official Opening)</b>  |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> November                             | Children in Need Charity Dress Up Day   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> November                             | PTA Christmas Mufti Day   |
| <b>22<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 24<sup>th</sup> November</b> | <b>Parent / Child Learning Discussions</b>  |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> November                             | Y1 & Y2 British Motor Museum  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> December                              | PTA Christmas Fayre   |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> December</b>                        | <b>Y3 &amp; Y4 Groovy Greeks Assembly to parents 9am – 10am (more info to follow)</b> |
| <b>8<sup>th</sup> December</b>                        | <b>EYFS, Y1 and Y2 Nativity to parents 2 pm &amp; 6pm (more info to follow)</b>       |
| <b>9<sup>th</sup> December</b>                        | <b>Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day</b>   |
| <b>15<sup>th</sup> December</b>                       | <b>Fresh Start Christmas Lunch</b>  |
| <b>20<sup>th</sup> December</b>                       | <b>Church Christmas Carol Service (Time TBC)</b>                                      |
| <b>17<sup>th</sup> January 2023</b>                   | <b>Parent Maths Workshop</b>  |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2023                         | School Choir Young Voices   |
| <b>8<sup>th</sup> May 2023</b>                        | <b>Year 6 SATs (changes due, awaiting DFE confirmation)</b>                           |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2023                             | Year 2 SATs   |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2023          | Year 6 Residential Culmington Manor   |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2023                            | Whole School Sports Afternoon   |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2023                            | Reserved Whole School Sports Afternoon  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2023                             | Transition Afternoon  |