



MARSH GIBBON
— CE SCHOOL —

Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year. I am pleased to announce this term has started off well; the children have settled in quickly to their routine and learning. It has already been a busy and exciting start to the term with Wow days, Atomic Science, cookie and hot chocolate, Forest School and violin lessons.

Next week is another busy week with the choir heading off to take part in the Young Voices concert up at the World Resorts Arena, Birmingham and our Year 3 and Year 4 classes will be heading off to Bedford to visit a Gurdwara, Mosque and Parish Church.

Mrs. Brown

Mrs B Brown
Headteacher

office@marshgibbon.bucks.sch.uk



EYFS, YR 1 & 2 WOW DAY

The children had an exciting day to launch our new history and geography topic: Fire! Fire! The day involved travelling back in time to 1666, dressing up, singing, dancing and storytelling. The children learnt the events of the Great Fire of London, worked as a team to transport buckets of water to put out a fire, as well as colour mixing to create giant flames, and baking cupcakes in the bakery on Pudding Lane. There was a real buzz of excitement from the children all day (and the staff had a brilliant time too!) It was a super day of learning and the children are very keen to learn more this term.



YEAR 5&6 WOW DAY

Year 5 and 6 had a great day to launch our new Science topic 'Living Things and their Habitats'. Their first task was to create an imaginary creature. They named their creature and decided on what it might eat, where it might live and how it looks. This then helped them to create the creature's habitat. After a scavenger hunt around the village the children made habitat dioramas using the natural resources they found. Take a look at their amazing diorama habitats below:

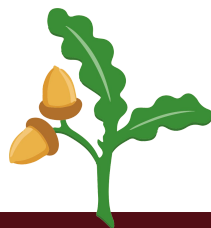




ATOMIC SCIENCE

Year R/1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 had fantastic workshops with Atomic Tom from Atomic Science on Tuesday for their WOW start to their science topics!

KS1 took part in a slime-making workshop and had an introduction to chemistry (yes, chemistry!) and the atoms that make the world around them. They had great fun and are excited to learn more about different materials in their science learning this term!





ATOMIC SCIENCE

Year 3 and 4 took part in a workshop all about the human body ready for their new topic, The Human Machine! It was great fun and the children participated in several different experiments about the human body. They learnt about the important role of our organs using stethoscopes and studied their senses with an awesome taste test. The children finished off their workshops with a dissection of a pig's heart, which they found fascinating!



WELLBEING

Happier January 2024

SUNDAY



MONDAY

1 Find three things to look forward to this year

TUESDAY

2 Make time today to do something kind for yourself

WEDNESDAY

3 Do a kind act for someone else to help brighten their day

THURSDAY

4 Write a list of things you feel grateful for and why

FRIDAY

5 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths

SATURDAY

6 Take five minutes to sit still and just breathe

7 Learn something new and share it with others

8 Say positive things to the people you meet today

9 Get moving. Do something active (ideally outdoors)

10 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why

11 Switch off all your tech at least an hour before bedtime

12 Connect with someone near you - share a smile or chat

13 Take a different route today and see what you notice

14 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today

15 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful

16 Contribute positively to your local community

17 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes

18 Get back in contact with an old friend

19 Focus on what's good, even if today feels tough

20 Go to bed in good time and allow yourself to recharge

21 Try out something new to get out of your comfort zone

22 Plan something fun and invite others to join you

23 Put away digital devices and focus on being in the moment

24 Take a small step towards an important goal

25 Decide to lift people up rather than put them down

26 Choose one of your strengths and find a way to use it today

27 Challenge your negative thoughts and look for the upside

28 Ask other people about things they've enjoyed recently

29 Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better

30 See how many people you can smile at today

31 Write down your hopes or plans for the future



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

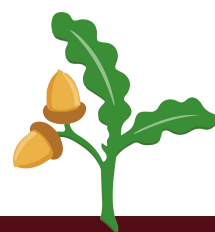
Happier · Kinder · Together

New year, time for new habits. Try these daily tips to improve your wellbeing and make others feel good too by spreading positivity and happiness

www.actionforhappiness.org

Information and support for mental health and wellbeing can also be found on our school website:

<http://www.marshgibbon.bucks.sch.uk/mental-health-and-wellbeing.html>



PTA

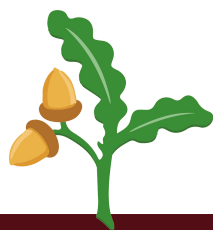


The first PTA meeting of this school year will take place on **Thursday 18th January** at **8pm on Zoom**. The meeting link will be sent out nearer the time. Please send any items for the agenda to pta@[marshgibbon.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:pta@marshgibbon.bucks.sch.uk). All are welcome, please come along and see the advantages of getting involved in supporting our school. Input and ideas are always valued, any contribution is welcome.



The PTA has some positions that need filling for Vice Chair and Secretary.

If you would like to find out how fulfilling and valuable it can be to volunteer, then the PTA would love to hear from you. Feel free to contact the PTA team to discover more.



BABY BANK

[The baby bank](#) is like the food bank but for baby essentials. They collect new and pre-loved items for 0-12 yr olds from the local community and give them to families in urgent need of help.

Bicester Baby Bank works tirelessly to provide quality, long-term solutions for a number of families within our community



WISHLIST DECEMBER 2023

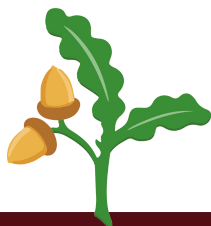
NO CLOTHING AT THE MOMENT WHILE WE CATCH UP
WITH THE GENEROUS DONATIONS WE HAVE RECEIVED,
THANK YOU!

Stroller pushchairs	Adult/Child toiletries inc. toothpaste and brushes, and toiletries for hospital bags
Universal rain covers	Formula - no prescription formula
Foot muffs	Baby food
Pushchairs suitable for newborns	Nappies/pull ups - opened packs fine
Winter coats (0-12 yrs) & hats	Breast pads
Room thermometers	Maternity pads & sanitary products
Baby monitors with instructions	Wipes and cotton wool
Changing bags	New bottles still in plastic packaging
Stair gates	Bags for Life (to bag up referrals)
Cot/Cotbed, Moses basket and next to me sheets	Next to me cribs
	Bath seats for 6m+

NO THANK YOU TO CAR SEATS AND MATTRESSES

Drop off times:
Tuesday 12pm - 2pm
Wednesday 9.30am - 11am
Friday 12pm - 2pm

Cinch Self Storage, Arkwright Road, Bicester, Oxfordshire, OX26 4SU
Please check our Facebook page for any updates to opening hours before visiting





Dreams and Goals

This half term the whole school PSHE theme is **Dreams and Goals**. We started with a collective worship to bring the whole school together to experience being a community; focussing on the same learning theme in every year group, thereby raising the profile of this learning. Throughout the term, children will learn that it is important to have dreams and goals, and that it is up to them to work hard to achieve these goals. It might not be easy, and there may be challenges along the way, but the sense of pride you feel when you achieve a goal is worth it.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This half term, we begin a series of themes based on wise words from the Bible. These wise words of wisdom will be linked to stories from across the world and across cultures. After half term, in the weeks leading up to Easter, we will connect into the life and stories of Jesus.



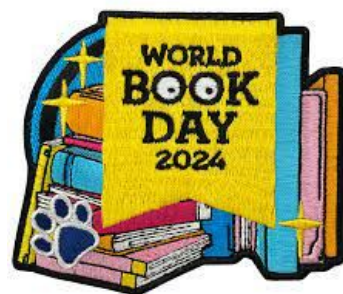
STAY AND PLAY



Our next Stay and Play session will be on Friday 2nd February.

WORLD BOOK DAY

We are currently planning our exciting World Book Day for the children and staff. This will be on Thursday 7th March. More information to follow.



YOUNG CARERS

We have been requested this year to record on our census those children who would be considered 'Young Carers'. Young carers' responsibilities at home can often impact their education so it is important that they are appropriately identified and supported. All schools (except nursery) are asked to record their young carers in the Spring 2024 census. The Spring 2024 census and school-level annual school census both open on 18 January 2024. If you believe your child is a young carer please contact the school office in confidence. Further information about Young Carers can be found on the [Young Carers website](#).

GOVERNORS



Governor Positions - Foundation Governor and Parent Governor

We presently have 2 vacancies on our Governing Board.

This is an exciting opportunity to really help shape the direction of the school. If you are a professional, with a passion for education, we invite you to consider joining our Governing Board.

The school has a proven track record as a "Good" school. We are on a continuous journey to provide the best possible provision for our pupils and staff. Therefore, we are looking for experienced individuals to join our Governing Board. If you are a driven professional with expertise in one of the following fields, we would love to hear from you:

- Finance & Accounting
- Business & Marketing
- Leading in the Education sector
- Safeguarding & Child Protection
- HR or Health & Safety

If you would like more information about the position, please contact the school office on 01869 277 268 or email office@marshgibbon.bucks.sch.uk

Please note that all prospective governors will be required to complete an application form including supplying references. All governors also undergo DBS and other safeguarding vetting prior to being appointed.

SAFEGUARDING

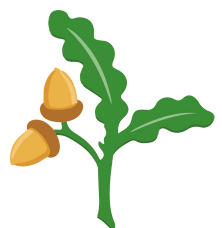
In the first guide (see next page), ***'What children and young people need to know about Freedom of Speech Vs Hate Speech'***, you will be given helpful tips on how to help children and young people learn to identify the boundaries and recognise genuine hate speech when they see it, including some helpful definitions and guidelines. Freedom of expression is enshrined in international law.

Some individuals, however, misunderstand the right to share their opinions as a license to target others with the most horrendous prejudice. So how do we balance people's prerogative to have their voice heard against everyone's right to live in a respectful, inclusive society? This conflict frequently unfolds in the digital world. Online posters can be falsely accused of hate speech, while actual hate is often defended as merely being 'free speech'.

In the second guide, ***Top Tips for Setting up Parental Controls on New Devices***, at this time of year, it's highly possible that you have a new phone, games console or other digital device stashed somewhere at home, ready to be unwrapped.

Many parents also prefer to place some protective measures on those gifts – to keep their child shielded from potential **#OnlineSafety risks** – while others would like to but aren't sure where to begin.

The guide shepherds you through the process of establishing parental controls on new internet-enabled devices, from smartphones to laptops to consoles. Simply find the device in question and read on to find out what options you have and how to enable them – letting children enjoy their shiny new gadget, without so much of the worry over where it might lead them.



What Children & Young People Need to Know about

FREE SPEECH VS HATE SPEECH

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonsing and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collective of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the DEC app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL
EQUALITY
COLLECTIVE

The
National
College

NOS
National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/schedule/11/part-1/entry/one/20/b/1/20/the-22/bright-20/13/20/freedom%20of%20expression>

Top Tips for SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen addiction and unsuitable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to 'Screen Time'. From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your own device, select 'Add Child' and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unwrapped. At my.account.sony.com, create an account, then go to Account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and who they can talk to. On the PS5, you can make exceptions for any games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing anything age-inappropriate after you hand them the device, there's a feature called Guided Access (under Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access). With this switched on, young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't alter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone, and you'll be shown how to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You'll also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

WINDOWS 11 PCS

On Windows 11, account management is key. Set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other Users and create your child's account (if you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details). Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app. Unlike an Android device, however, you need to set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in, and you can monitor what they're up to via Family Link.

MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the crux here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for Users & Groups to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and who your child can communicate with (and vice versa).

SMART TVS

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs, you can control the content available to your child. In the Settings menu, under 'Broadcasting', you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however: some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins is a technology journalist and editor with more than 20 years' experience of working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a tech pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly on the subject of internet safety.



The National College

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Family
Support
Service

Wellbeing matters

For 7 to 11 year olds

A two-day workshop during the February half-term for primary-aged young people. Each session will run from 10am to 2pm

Topics will include your wellbeing, emotions, self-esteem, resilience, and relationships with others.

Book your place by 29 January 2024

Scan/press the QR code to secure your place or for more information.

If you need help completing the form email:
earlyhelpduty@buckinghamshire.gov.uk



**Burnham
Family Centre**
12 and 13
February 2024



**Berryfields
Family Centre**
13 and 14
February 2024



**Mapledean
Family Centre Plus**
14 and 15
February 2024



**Buckinghamshire
Council**

SCAN ME



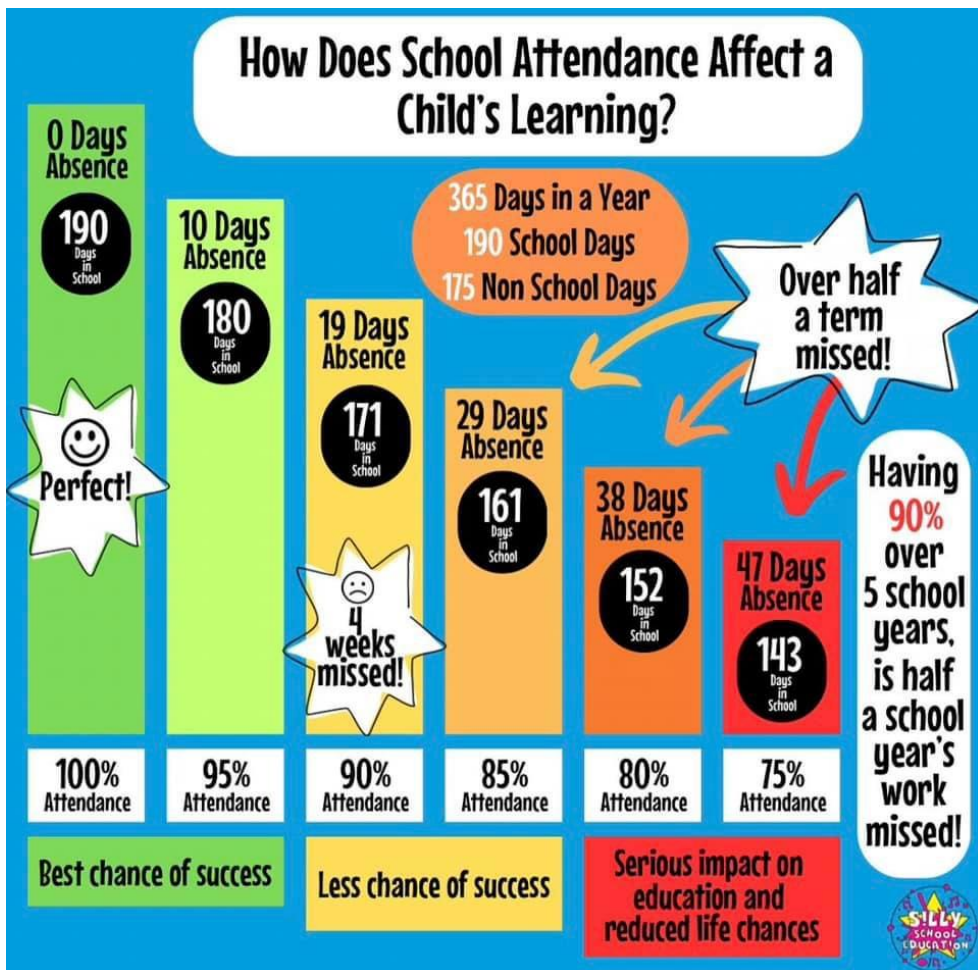
ATTENDANCE

Good school attendance is vital to enable all children to achieve their full potential, develop socially, forge good friendships and have a sense of belonging within their school community.

Marsh Gibbon CE School has a legal duty to record attendance of all children in school. Reasons for absence must be provided; we will contact families if we have no reason for absence.

The impact of absence in school is significant in terms of missed learning. We are unable to authorise term time holiday. Here is the link to our [Attendance Policy](#). Please read this carefully before applying for leave.

Currently our Year 4 class have Attendance Ted with them this week. They achieved the highest attendance in the school with 99.4%. Well done Year 4!





TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS



Who will be the next top three players?

House / Av Answer

ASH

198

BEECH

287

MAPLE

217

WILLOW

181

Y1

43%
active play

Amias 459

Y2

44%
active play

Cory, 592

Y3

14%
active play

Oscar, 441

Y4

100%
active play

Thomas, 1112

Y5

32%
active play

Bobby, 3868

Y6

62%
active play

Verity, 587

Most Correct Answers

Congratulations to our top three players over the last 14 days

Bobby YR5

Thomas YR 4

Cory YR 2



Celebration Certificate



EYFS & Y1

Arthur M, Arthur N

Y2

Oscar, Max

Y3

Clara, Rosalie

Y4

Jack, Paige

Y5

Lucas, Chloe

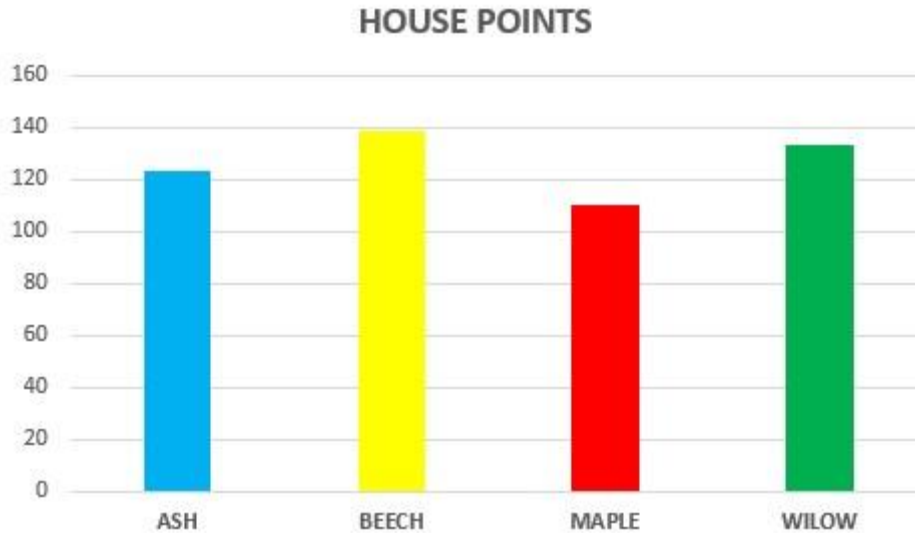
Y6

Holly, Lucy

VALUE BANDS

Year Group	Love	Friendship	Compassion	Honesty	Forgiveness	Respect
EYFS/Y1	Henry B Veera Zachary	Jack D	Martha	Jack Mc		Rowan Jack M
Y2		Oscar Amy Holly		Joseph Max Dylan Phoebe		George
Y3	Xenia Molly	Mason Dylan Oscar	Harry Senan Isaac	Rosalie	Brodie	Monty Rosalie
Y4	Leonora Paige Arthur Thomas Franki	Ella	Franki Chloe	Bella		Elsie S.L Thomas Neave
Y5	Marisa Rose	Henry B Connor Bobby Gracie Chloe	Vini Raya Emma Will	Clem Lucy Mabel Georgina	Joseph Joshua Kaelan	Chloe
Y6	Poppy	Olivia Albie	Imogen	Jonty	Arthur	Lucas Connor Shyla Kiera

HOUSE POINTS



Our children are all working extremely hard and the house points are all adding up.

Beech House are currently in the lead but, who will earn the most house points by the end of this half term?

Congratulations Beech House !



DIARY DATES



JAN

- 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

- 1/02 YR5&6 girls football VS. St Edburgs
- W/C 5/2 Children's Mental Health Week
- 6/02 YR 3&4 football festival
- 07/02 Yr 5&6 Girls football VS. Langford
- 9/02 last day of term
- 19/02 school returns
- W/C 19/02 Bikeability Yr 6
- 26/02 YR 5&6 Boys Football VS. Grendon
- 27/02 YR 5&6 Handball festival



MAR

- 04/03 Girls Football VS. Grendon
- 06/03 Boys 5&6 Football VS. Twyford
- 08/03 Level 1 Bikeability
- 12/03 YR 1&2 Target ball festival
- 13/03 Year 5&6 Netball festival
- 18/03 YR 5&6 Trip
- 26/03 Easter Service at the church
- 26/03 YR 3&4 Basketball festival
- 27/03 Home learning Gallery 2:45pm
- 28/ Inset Day

