

18 September 2023



MARSH GIBBON  
— CE SCHOOL —

# Newsletter

# Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors

Welcome ,

What an amazing start to the year we have had so far. The excitement in the classrooms has been palpable.

We have started the year with a bang and already the children have been achieving great things, with wow days, Forest School, and an author session. It is wonderful to see the care our children have shown towards our new Early Years children; who have taken to school life beautifully.

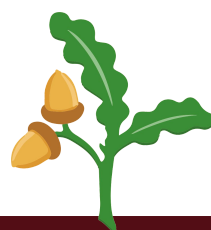
I am incredibly proud of all our children and school, the daily acts of kindness that we see are a testament to you all as parents. The enthusiasm and imagination of our teachers and TA's is inspiring.

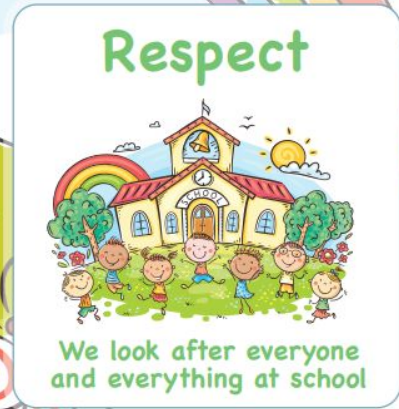
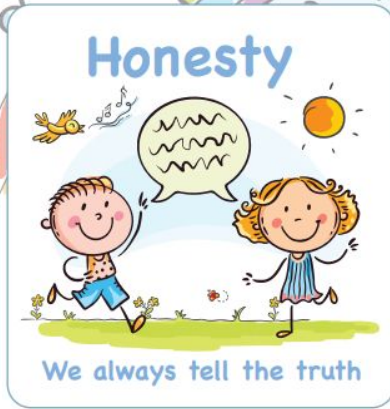
I know we have a fantastic year ahead and look forward to sharing all that is to come.

*Beth*

Mrs B Brown  
Headteacher

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## Our Values

Our Christian community is seen through everything we do - from the way we treat each other, to the way we work and learn together. Our values of love, friendship, compassion, honesty, forgiveness and respect underpin our school vision.

As a Church of England School, our strong links with the church and our village, enhance our learning and understanding of what it means to belong. During our collective worship this term, we will have a focus on our school values.

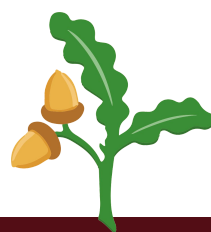
Love, Friendship, Compassion, Honesty, Forgiveness and Respect.





## YR 1&2 WOW DAY

In Year 1 and 2 we started our Geography topic 'Around The World' with an afternoon all about our favourite places and where in the world they are located. We had a look at where lots of different teachers' favourite places are and then we went to the hall to share where our favourite places are. We learnt lots about each other and enjoyed working together for the afternoon. Well done to all the children for their commitment to our learning and knowledge about the place they chose.





# Forest School



What a great start to our Forest School sessions!

We enjoyed our first week exploring the area, making dens (to keep dry!), climbing trees and bug hunting. We spoke about the three Forest School rules and the importance of habitats for wildlife. We are looking forward to next week already.





## YR 3 & 4 WOW DAY

In Years 3 and 4 we launched our 'Lights, Camera, Action!' topic by trying lots of different experiments to explore light, sound and electricity.

We dressed up as Scientists and encouraged the children to think carefully about all the different sorts of Scientists that there are. We loved seeing everyone arriving as Chemists, Computer Scientists, Paleontologists, Geologists, Astronomers, Marine Biologists... the list goes on!

Many of the children researched scientists and have found out about the different types of scientists there are. We had a great morning and enjoyed activities including making circuits with potatoes, making rainbows with prisms, creating instruments and making shadow puppets.





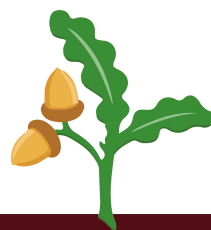
# YR 5 & 6 WOW DAY

On Monday we transformed into Roman soldiers in Years 5 and 6! We began our WOW day with finding Rome on a world map, followed by the story of how Rome was named, based on Romulus and Remus.

We created life-size Roman soldiers by drawing round our partners, then adding the things they wore in battle. We used pencil crayons and collage to decorate them. We then created Roman shields, which were red and yellow.

We got to choose a design for the front of our shield, then stick it on.

After lunch, we used our Roman shields to practise marching, then re-created formations such as The Repel-Cavalry, The Tortoise and The Orb. It was quite tricky to stay in formation and march at the same time! It was great fun and a fantastic start to our new topic.

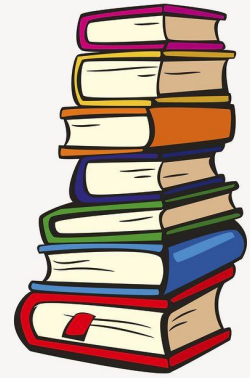


# READING @ MGS

This year we want to drive home the importance of reading.

If your child reads for just 15 minutes each day, in one year they will have read over one million words!

Not only does regular reading improve your child's academic outcomes, it can also improve mental health, improve empathy and reduce stress and anxiety.



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## Reading records

The expectation across the whole school is that children will read **at least** 4 times at home. Teachers will be checking reading records for parent and carer signatures, any children that haven't quite completed 4 reads at home will read in school at break or lunch. Well done to those who have started the year with 4 or more reads for the first week!



## Blue Peter reader badge

We would love our Marsh Gibbon children to apply for a Blue Peter badge. Click on the link below and it will explain what you need to do. We can't wait to see some of the special reading badges making their way to MGS!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-book-badge>

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## Volunteer readers

We continue to be supported by wonderful parents and grandparents who volunteer to read with the children. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer reader please contact the school office.







We are so grateful to all the parents who have gifted the school books from our wishlist. This is such a vital resource in the classrooms. We want all our children to develop a love of reading and exciting new books makes this much easier.

Our gift lists are still open and we are so grateful for any donations.

R - <https://amzn.eu/3vCbI16>

Y1 - <https://amzn.eu/d5BeVqp>

Y2 - <https://amzn.eu/3av89qZ>

Y3 - <https://amzn.eu/dn226vK>

Y4 - <https://amzn.eu/d3SV8hW>

Y5 - <https://amzn.eu/7vJmArl>

Y6 - <https://amzn.eu/bR7wYqO>





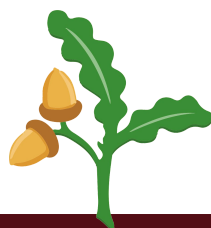
# We're funded through



A big 'Thank you' to Nick Lyon who was the driving force behind our Heart of Bucks funding application which has enabled us to run Forest School again this year!

Heart of Bucks is a community foundation that raises funds across Buckinghamshire to then distribute money directly to local causes. Heart of Bucks operate to ensure any form of philanthropy, whether from an individual or an organisation, is effective and brings the greatest benefit to those in need across Buckinghamshire. Since Heart of Bucks began in 2000, the charity has awarded £10m to local causes and are proud to be one of 47 members of UK Community Foundations.

The panel were supportive of this project and liked the fact that there was evidence of demand through the children's comments. They felt that the project was exciting and recognised the impact of being able to get the children out into nature. This grant has been funded by the Green Schools Fund - a charitable fund held and managed by Heart of Bucks.



# HEAD BUMPS

Having listened to parents, notification for head bumps will now come via text message. Injuries that require further action will still be notified via telephone.



## SAFEGUARDING

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that I, Mrs Brown, will remain in the position of Designated Safeguarding Lead. If you have any concerns regarding the safety and/or welfare of a child in our care, please do not hesitate to report it to me. In my absence any concerns can be report to my Deputy Leads which are Mrs Williams, Mrs Bramwell and Miss Trafford.

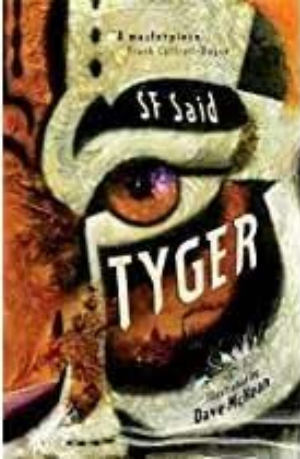
### **Senior Leadership team**

This year our SLT team comprises Mrs Brown, Mrs Williams (Deputy Headteacher), Mrs Bramwell and Mrs Blane.





# MEET THE AUTHOR



Years 4 and 6 enjoyed a virtual author visit with SF Said this morning. He shared his new novel; Tyger & what inspired him to become an author. The session was fantastic & the children came away feeling really inspired to read his new novel & to write like an author!

## CARETAKER JENNY

As many of you will have seen in the village social media pages, Mrs Jenny Rouse, our school caretaker of nearly 40 years has now retired. We are very sorry to see Jenny leave our family here at Marsh Gibbon and would like to express our sincere thanks to her for the wonderful commitment and hours that she has given the school over the years. We will be welcoming Jenny back to school for a presentation of thanks from the staff and children in a couple of weeks time.



# Mrs Freeman

Mrs Freeman is already a familiar face to our students but this year we will be seeing more of her as she leads our music with the children. With 13 years experience, her knowledge is invaluable and we know the children love her classes.



# Mr Hammond

Mr Hammond will be joining us from S4A to lead the children's PE sessions across the week. The children already know him well and look forward to his lessons each week.



# Mr Skelton



# Mr Gibbon

Our new caretaker Mr Skelton joins us from the Bernwood Schools Trust and is an experienced caretaker. We are thrilled to have him as part of the team.

Mr Gibbon will be returning to teach our yr 6 students all things brass. We have seen just how far he brings the children throughout the year and we look forward to the end of year showcase hearing all they have learnt.



# ALLERGY ALERT

We care greatly about all of our children and do everything we can to ensure they are in a safe, secure environment whilst in our care. Therefore, to that end, I must ask that you do not send any nuts or products containing nuts into school. Please can you also be vigilant about reading labels on products as often nuts are a 'hidden' ingredient. This is an airborne allergy and coming into contact with products, or someone who has eaten the products, could trigger a life-threatening scenario. Marsh Gibbon CE School is a caring community, and I am sure that none of you would want any child to be put in such a situation and I therefore thank you in advance for your cooperation



## TEDDY TAKEOVER



Thank you very much to all the children who brought their teddy in for the display for the church this weekend. The teddies enjoyed their weekend away and are full up after toasting and eating lots of marshmallows! Thank you also to everyone who visited the church.





# TT ROCKSTARS



This year the children in Years 2 - 6 will be continuing with TT Rockstars as part of their home learning. TT Rockstars gives the children the opportunity to rehearse their times tables knowledge which is a key part of our Maths at Marsh Gibbon. Being secure with their times tables helps the children to become much more confident and fluent with their day to day maths learning and helps free up brain space to allow the children to go deeper with their learning.

The children are expected to complete their sessions each week and we will setting up a Battle of the Bands for the children to take part in very soon. An inter house battle has been set up starting today and will run until the October half term holiday. The active players in the winning house will receive their reward in the final week of this half term. Until then keep practising as much as you can to see if you can make it to our school leaderboard!

Year 1 children will begin with TT Rockstars later in the term so keep an eye out for your login details.

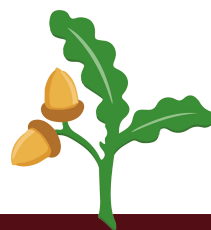


# Home Learning

All children should have now received their Home Learning sheets. We are really excited to inform you that you'll be invited into school, to share in celebrating the wonderful home learning that the children have done. The first Home Learning gallery will take place on Friday 20th October at 2:45pm. You will have a chance to view the home learning across the school.

## Home Learning Gallery Dates:

- 20/10/23
- 15/12/23
- 09/02/24
- 27/03/24
- 24/05/24
- 17/07/24



# DIARY DATES

A calendar icon for the month of October. It has a dark red header with two white tabs at the top. The main body is light grey with the word "OCT" in large, bold, black letters.

OCT

- 4/10 whole school census
- 5/10 individual and school sibling photos
- 19/10 Harvest collective worship - 2pm  
Church - staff and children only
- 20/10 Home learning gallery 2:45 - 3:15
- 23-27/10 Half term
- 30/10 INSET

A calendar icon for the month of November. It has a green header with two white tabs at the top. The main body is light grey with the word "NOV" in large, bold, black letters.

NOV

- 7/11 & 9/11 Parent and child discussions
- W/C 13/11 Anti Bullying week
- 16/11 Odd sock day
- 17/11 Children in Need
- 15/11 Home learning Gallery 2:45 - 3:15

A calendar icon for the month of December. It has an orange header with two white tabs at the top. The main body is light grey with the word "DEC" in large, bold, black letters.

DEC

- 08/12 PTA Christmas Fayre
- 13/12 EYFS & KS1 nativity performance 2pm  
5:30 pm
- 19/12 Christmas service at the Church 9:30 all  
parents welcome
- 20/12 Finish for Christmas

- 04/01 Start of spring term
- 22/01 Young voices
- 09/02 Home learning gallery 2:45 - 3:15





# Celebration Certificate



EYFS

Arlo, Clara, Amalie,  
Henry

Y1

Amias, Henry, Winnie,  
Rowan

Y2

Joseph, Bodhan,  
Christopher, Maisie

Y3

Clara, Senan, Oscar, Tom

Y4

Noah, All of Y4, Franki,  
Lara

Y5

Lucas, Marisa, Mabel,  
Raya

Y6

Olivia, Arthur, Kiera,  
Tyler

