

20/03/2023



MARSH GIBBON
— CE SCHOOL —

Newsletter

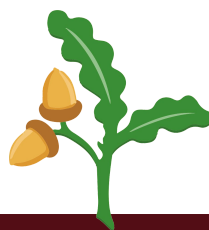
Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors

Our school curriculum

At Marsh Gibbon, we are proud to be an inclusive school that provides a high quality, creative and challenging education for all of our pupils. Every child experiences a sense of enjoyment and achieves their full potential within a secure, caring and happy environment.

The aim of our curriculum is to provide; endless opportunities for children to develop as independent, confident, successful learners who have high aspirations of themselves; who know how to make a positive contribution to their own and the wider community and who are excited by learning opportunities around them. There is a determined focus on developing children's moral, spiritual, social and cultural understanding and we ensure that children are well prepared for the next stage in their education as well as life in modern Britain.

Our curriculum places the learning journey of **ALL** of our pupils at its very heart. We offer rich and vibrant opportunities, which draw upon purposeful real-life experiences, to offer meaningful outcomes. Our curriculum aims to promote curiosity and instil in our children, a strong passion for life-long learning. Our curriculum for each subject area is available on our school [website](#).



Learning Discussions

Thank you for booking your learning discussion appointment for this upcoming Tuesday and Thursday. We are very much looking forward to welcoming you into school. The appointments are up to 10 minutes. Please do enter either through the Year 5 classroom door for Y5&6, The Year 1 classroom door for EYFS, Y1 & Y2. Your child's work books will be available for you to share with your child and we ask that you wait in the classroom until the teacher comes to collect you for your appointment.



Uniform Expectations



We believe that the wearing of school uniform is an extremely important part of school life. It lets everyone know that we have high expectations in terms of behaviour, academic work and social awareness. The expectations for children's uniform are as follows:

	Early Years Foundation Stage	Key Stage 1 & 2	ALL PE
WINTER	Grey trousers/ shorts/skirts/pinafore. White polo top. Branded school Sweatshirt/Cardigan. White/grey socks/tights. Black school shoes	Grey trousers/ shorts/skirts/pinafore. White shirt/blouse School Tie. Branded school Sweatshirt/Cardigan. White/grey socks/tights. Black school shoes	Socks (no tights) Black shorts Black jogging bottoms White T shirt School PE hoodie (optional) Trainers
SUMMER (After Easter)	Grey trousers/ shorts/skirts/pinafore. White polo top. Red & white summer dress Branded school Sweatshirt/Cardigan. White/grey socks/tights. Black school shoes	Grey trousers/ shorts/skirts/pinafore. White shirt/blouse School Tie. Red & white summer dress. Branded school Sweatshirt/Cardigan. White/grey socks/tights. Black school shoes	Skirts and shorts must be just above the knee or longer. Short 'hot-pants' styles are unacceptable. School shoes should be flat and plain black

The PTA run an excellent resource, Merry go round, which has good quality second hand items. Please contact the school about availability or to donate uniform.

School uniform from T King can be purchased [here](#)

Please name all items of school uniform.

Cost of living

As many of you will be feeling at home, we at the school are also feeling the pinch. Increases in the cost of electricity, heating oil even stationary means we are having to do more with less. The school has received no additional funding to deal with these increases and in fact schools are receiving less to fund all that we do.

We are making a concerted effort to look at where we can save in every detail, some of you may have noticed our ParentMail looking for help with grass cutting. We are calling on our talented community of parents to help us in whatever way you can. Do you have a skill set the school could benefit from? From green fingers to connections for sponsorship, have a think and email the office [here](#)



This week has been Neurodiversity Celebration Week; the children have been learning about neurological differences and how they can affect children and adults. The Year 5 and 6 boys talked openly and sensitively about the subject. They all agreed how important it is to understand, celebrate and value the talents of neurodiverse minds. Year 5 and 6 girls will have their session next week.

Online Safety

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

In the guide, on the next page you'll find tips on avoiding potential risks such as connecting with strangers, inappropriate content and high visibility.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

18
CENSORED

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



**National
Online
Safety®**

#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 26.01.2022



Maths @ MGS

At Marsh Gibbon we follow a Mastery approach to our Maths teaching. This approach helps the children to develop a deeper understanding of each of the mathematical areas, allowing them to build on strong foundations and make connections between the different areas of learning. We follow the White Rose schemes of learning which is based around the children undertaking small steps and becoming secure with each of these before moving on to the next one. We support this approach with an emphasis on helping the children develop their Number Sense - becoming fluent in recalling and applying a range of number facts - which in turn helps the children free up their cognitive load - brain space - to solve problems and reason.

In Early Years and Key Stage 1 we follow a programme called Mastering Number to support the children's number sense and throughout the school the children have daily fluency sessions to learn and practice using their addition and subtraction strategies as well their times tables. Developing a quick recall of number facts is key to the mastery approach which is why TT Rockstars is a key part of our home learning and children across the school are encouraged to play daily.



TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS



Year 4 continues to lead the way with 97% active play, followed by Year 1 with 64% active play. Let's aim for all classes to achieve the 100% active play for the next newsletter!

House / Av Answer

ASH

444

BEECH

513

MAPLE

424

WILLOW

733

Y1

64%
active play

Cameron
1447

Y2

29%
active play

Senan
1653

Y3

50%
active play

Chloe
814

Y4

97%
active play

Clementine
7088

Y5

23%
active play

Ben
747

Y6

28%
active play

Connor
714

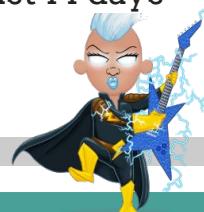
Most Correct Answers

Congratulations to our top three players over the last 14 days

Clementine
Y4

Senan
Y2

Cameron
Y1



Football

A massive congratulations to both the boys football team and the girls football team for winning their matches over the last two weeks. The girls played St.Marys and won 4-2 and the boys played Bure Park and won 4-1. All the children played well together as a team and we are looking forward to our next games.



Red Nose Day

The children supported Red Nose Day by wearing something red, and having crazy hair! A super effort from everyone and we raised a fantastic £125 for Comic Relief.



**RED
NOSE
DAY**



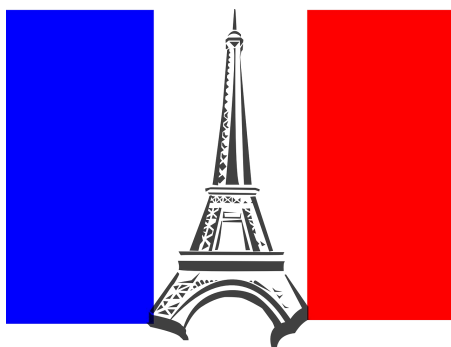
Lunchtime quiet clubs

During lunch times we run a Quiet Club in the library for children to attend, with activities such as reading, mindful colouring and lego. Mondays and Tuesdays are for EY/KS1, Wednesday Y4/5, Thursday Y3/6. The children sometimes welcome an alternative to the playground and are enjoying the activities on offer. We also have a Quiet Zone on the playground in Taylan's corner for children to sit and chat or share a book.



French in KS2

KS2 children are loving their French lessons! We have recently invested in a new program called Language Angels which offers interactive learning with songs and games. "French is really fun, we are learning how to talk about the weather. We had a cool song in the first lesson and we play some games too. It's really good" Y4 child.



EYFS Spring Walk



Last week we enjoyed a walk around Marsh Gibbon spotting signs of Spring. The children found many signs, daffodils, new green leaves, sheep, buds on trees, a bird nest and many more. The children were very sensible when walking around the village and were a real credit to the school.



EYFS outdoor area

A polite reminder, the EYFS outdoor area has many toys and resources that are tidied away by our children at the end of the day. We are often finding that these are being used by other children during pick up time. Valuable time is spent by teaching staff first thing in the morning putting them away again, some of our resources are also being broken or misplaced.

The mud kitchen and forest area are closed off when there is not a staff member to supervise the children. Similarly when the outdoor area is set up ready for the children in the mornings, children are moving things around. A gentle reminder to please supervise your children whilst waiting and discourage them from playing with the resources and equipment including those that are covered. Many thanks for your support.

Eco Warriors

Eco-Warriors are two pupils from every class who have an active role in school. They raise our awareness about sustainability and encourage everyone to be good at recycling and saving energy. We encourage good habits for the future. We will be meeting this week to discuss what we can do next to support our school to promote recycling.



Collective Worship

Our theme continues this term with 'Be the Change'. Our thinking has been centred on the story of [Zacchaeus](#) and the difference Jesus made when he invited himself to tea! This story has been helping us all think about how we go about creating a school where all are welcome and how we are a welcoming community at Marsh Gibbon CE School.



As a welcoming community, we've had many visitors over the last couple of weeks; St Mary's school has visited to play football, our music teachers from the Buckingham Music Trust continue to visit us weekly, Reverend Angela Mann has been in to lead Collective Worship and to speak to our Year 3 children to deepen their understanding about Christianity in their RE lessons, Furze Down school have returned to continue with helping us with producing an Assets Register of resources, Mrs Lesley Wasley has been in to lead a mindfulness session to our Year 4 children, Hazard Alley have been in to visit Year 6 to make them aware about knife crime, Mrs Rakham has been in to support teaching staff with their curriculum subject leads, new prospective families have had a tour of our wonderful school and this week we are looking forward to welcoming parents to our learning discussions. Next week, we will be welcoming five work experience students from the Bicester School and Magdalen College School and our Year 1 and Year 2 classes will be welcoming parents in to share their end of topic learning.



Celebration Certificate



Well done to our latest Celebration Certificate recipients:



EYFS

George, Amias, Daniel, Henry



Y1

George, Max, Cameron,
Harrison



Y2

Ted, Oliver, Tom, Emily



Y3

Hudson, Bella, Franki, Jaethan



Y4

Mabel, Henry, Marisa, Chloe



Y5

Keira, Albie, Isla B, Isla R



Y6

Ethan, Florence, Bertie, Xavier

DIARY DATES



MAR

- 21st - Parent/Child Learning Discussions
- 21st - Full Governing Body
- 22nd - Girls Football @ home
- 23rd - Parent/Child Learning Discussions
- 28th - Soup tasting Yr 1 & 2
- 28th - Boys football @ Langford
- 28th - Phonics screening Yr 1
- 29th - Easter Service at church 9.30am
- 30th - Music performances to parents
- 31st - Last Day of term



APR

- 17th - Inset Day
- 18th - Back to School
- Sat 22nd - AVPSSA Cross Country @ Ascott House
- 25th - Girls football @ Brookside



MAY

- 8th Additional bank holiday
- 9/10/11/12 Year 6 SATs
- 15th 2023 Year 2 SATs
- 15th – 17th May 2023 Year 6 Residential Culmington
- 18th - School Photos
- 23rd - Boys football @ Chesterton
- 26th - End of term

- 12/6 Whole School Sports Afternoon
- 19/6 Reserve whole school sports afternoon
- 4/7 Transition Afternoon

