

06/03/2023



MARSH GIBBON
— CE SCHOOL —

Newsletter

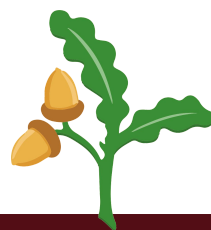
Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors

World Book day

What a fantastic day we all had! Our World Book Day became a 'World Book Week' at MGS this year, as every class enjoyed reading the picture book 'Flotsam' by David Wiesner. Each year group had a different writing outcome, which will culminate in a display in the Hall which will show our amazing writing progression across the whole school. The children also enjoyed stories and poems throughout the week. On Thursday, we began the day with a 'fashion-show' assembly, so that we could all share our wonderful costumes. We all then enjoyed book-related activities throughout the day; here are some photos:



Thank you for all the Extreme Reading Challenge photos, the winner will be announced this week. Look out for the photos on the website!





Forest School

Forest school is so much fun, we can explore the area and we can have a go at anything we want. We have already climbed some trees, walked on a rope from tree to tree, built dens, drank hot chocolate, tried to light a fire, played in the mud kitchen and tried to find different types of bugs. We have focused on two main skills : mindfulness and teamwork. We cannot wait for our next session!- All of the Rabbits.

Can you help?

We are in need of some old pots and pans, wooden bowls, wooden spoons for our mud kitchen down at the site. Our younger children will love using them in the mud kitchen. If you have anything that we can use down at our Forest School site, please do send them in with your child / children.



Year 2 Year 6 SATS Assessments

During May for Year 2, and specifically week beginning Monday 8th May for Year 6, the children will be completing their national SATs assessments. In both cases, these must be administered in a controlled fashion and therefore we would ask every effort is made for children to be in school, on time and without absence. Whilst we appreciate the results of these tests reflect more on the school than the children, we of course want to make sure they demonstrate the hard work of the children and staff. Whilst punctuality and attendance are always important, we want this assessment period to be as calm and organised as possible. Specific information will be provided to both Year 2 and Year 6 parents in due course but if you do have any specific questions, please speak to the class teachers.

School Council

The School council gives every child a voice within the school. Class representatives talk to their class members and feedback back their views, opinions and ideas to the council at each meeting. The school council has already organised a successful fundraiser to provide children with clean water for UNICEF's WASH campaign. The School council provided feedback from the children regarding lunch times. Following this consultation, a Quiet Club has been introduced at lunch times for children to have a calm and quiet space as an alternative to the busy playground. For those wanting more physical activities, Play Leaders have been provided to share activities and games with the children. The School council are now looking at ways to support and make a difference within our local community.



Marsh Gibbon PCC

Last week we welcomed the Marsh Gibbon PCC (Parochial Church Council) and our school Governors to our school for a school tour. It was wonderful to share our school learning environment with them and they thoroughly enjoyed seeing

Community

Last week we welcomed 10 students and 4 members of staff from Furze Down school. The students are helping us with labeling and registering the school assets in each class. They have made a wonderful start and they all loved being here with us. The students were extremely complimentary about the wonderful and positive behaviour of all our children. The students and staff from Furze Down will be joining us again on Friday 10th March.



Collective Worship

In collective worship last week we discussed Lent and its connection to Shrove Tuesday. The children participated in a short activity which helped them to understand how, like Advent, Lent is a special time of preparation for Christians a time to prepare for Easter... a time to live differently....a time to slow down and reflect. The children loved learning about the history of pancakes and were keen to tell me about the toppings they were looking forward to enjoying on their pancakes the following day.



Lent lasts for six weeks and is the 40 days before Easter in the Christian calendar (not including Sundays!). It is a time of disciplined preparation for the great festival of Easter—a time for getting spiritually fit. It is a time to stop and take stock of life and to make resolutions to do better in future. Many Christians try to do something special during Lent. This might be something extra like reading a thoughtful book about the Christian faith, spending more time in prayer, or it might be giving something up (cakes or chocolate, for example) as an act of self-denial and discipline, and giving the money saved to a charity.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

NGL

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NGL (which stands for 'Not Gonna Lie') is an app through which users share a link to their Instagram story or Twitter account, inviting their followers to give anonymous feedback. The app includes some prewritten questions (such as 'if you could change anything about me, what would it be?'), plus the option to ask followers to simply 'send me anonymous messages'. All replies go into the user's NGL inbox, with the sender remaining anonymous – although subscribers to the app can receive hints about who each message was from.

ANONYMITY AND OVERSHARING

Anonymous messaging gives rise to the 'online disinhibition effect', which causes users to feel detached from their words and actions in the digital world. This can make young people in particular (as they tend to act more impulsively online) far more likely to disclose personal information on the internet, as well as making ill-advised confessions or revealing their fears and insecurities.

PROTECTION FOR BULLIES

Having their identity hidden makes bullies feel safe from repercussions, so anonymous chat sites are a major avenue for cyberbullying. NGL claims to use AI to filter out insulting terms, but our expert sent a range of such phrases (starting with 'cow' and 'ugly', and becoming progressively more offensive) to a 'dummy' account. All of these trial messages were delivered to the recipient's inbox.

COSTLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

NGL offers a subscription where – for a weekly fee – users can unlock hints about who's been messaging them, including the sender's approximate location and which device they used. Young people will naturally be extremely curious about who sent which message (especially if they have a lot of Instagram or Twitter followers) and may be unable to resist spending money to find out.

INFLATED ENGAGEMENT

1K

In June 2022, NGL had to revise its terms of service, informing users if a message was sent by the app's developers as opposed to genuine followers. It emerged that, previously, NGL's makers had attempted to boost engagement with the app (as well as enticing users to pay for subscriptions) by sending fake anonymous messages from bots. This update was rolled out very quietly by the team.

QUESTIONABLE SUPPORT

NGL does have a 'report this message' button for users to flag upsetting content. After sending a message, however, an automated reply arrives stating "NGL is 100% anonymous and we have no way of knowing the identity of the user and would not be able to find out, even if we tried." This did not fill our expert with confidence that the app can address bad behaviour adequately.

ACCIDENTALLY GOING VIRAL

The messages on NGL itself are anonymous, but users can share these messages via their Instagram story or Twitter feed – enabling all their followers (or anyone, if their accounts are set to 'public') to see them. If a young person has disclosed something embarrassing or identifiable on NGL without realising, this information has the potential to be re-shared very quickly to a far wider audience.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DEALING WITH NEGATIVITY

Blocking another user on NGL will prevent them sending anonymous messages to your child in the short term – although a determined abuser could get around that obstacle simply by setting up a new Instagram account. If your child continually receives negative messages that upset them, it might be worth encouraging them to consider whether they really need to use the app at all.

BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

To avoid your child running up an eye-watering bill through an NGL subscription (or indeed any kind of costly in-app purchases), go into the settings on whatever devices they use to go online and either disable the ability to make purchases or protect that function with a password. If those options aren't available, it's prudent to ensure there aren't any payment methods linked to their account.

EXPLAIN ANONYMOUS APPS

We understand that a conversation with your child about the risks of anonymous messaging may seem difficult to initiate (especially if you aren't that comfortable with using social media yourself). It is vital, however, that young people understand that, for some people, having their identity obscured online can make them feel more powerful and less accountable for their actions.

THINK BEFORE SENDING

Regardless of whether a messaging app is anonymous or not, it's a good idea to regularly talk to your child about how it's wise to think through what they're sharing before they post it. Emphasise that nothing is truly private once it's online. If the post is something your child might hesitate to say to someone face to face, then it's probably not the sort of thing they should be writing online either.

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 concerning internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



Music @ MGS

What a fabulous time our choir had at the Church Spring Fayre last Saturday. Our children sang so beautifully and the church was full. We are incredibly proud of our fabulous choir and it was lovely to be part of the community. Thank you to all the parents for bringing the children along and to Mrs Bramwell, along with Mrs Brown who accompanied the children.

Young Voices the PROUD Charity Single is OUT NOW!

Every single voice from the YV23 concerts has been blended together along with the unmistakable sound of Heather Small! All UK proceeds will be donated to children's mental health charity Place2Be. Here is the link

<https://www.youngvoices.co.uk/proud-charity-single>



SEND

If you have any concerns about your child's learning needs and need to chat to our school SENDCo, Mrs Williams is available on Mondays and Tuesdays. Please contact the school to arrange for an appointment. As a school, we have a number of professionals who we can call upon for help and advice.

Healthy Minds

For our Healthy Minds curriculum all year groups follow the same termly topic as part of a spiral curriculum, allowing prior knowledge and understanding to be built upon year on year. Our curriculum promotes a mindful approach to learning, each session starting with a short 'Calm me' time to focus on breathing, develop visualisation skills and reflection. The children are then ready to begin their learning. This term the focus is '**Healthy Me**' and the children are learning about making healthy choices with food and lifestyles, as well as keeping safe, and maintaining healthy friendships.

Art & Design @ MGS

This year in art we have been using resources from 'Access Art' to support our curriculum. Across the school we have focused on building confidence with our drawing and mark making skills.

Year 1 & 2 have been looking at printmaking, creating a 'plate' from which to print and looking at the work of other printmakers such as William Morris and Angie Lewin. Years 3 & 4 have been exploring the work of Matisse and have created work by 'painting with scissors.'

Fashion design has been the focus in Years 5 & 6. The children have studied the work of current designers and have designed and made a t-shirt for their teddies.



Absence/Registration

Our school gates open at 8:40am. We ask that all children are in class, settled and ready for the register which is taken at 8:55am. The main school gates are closed at 8:55am. Please ensure that your child is in the classroom ready for the 8:55 register. Learning starts straight away and every morning all children arrive and have early morning tasks to complete. Please report any absences via the absence register or leave a message on the phone.

Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day for Comic Relief-Friday **17th March**- Children are invited to 'Wear something red' with their school uniform, eg a hair band, socks, a red nose...be creative! The school council have also decided to mark the day by inviting children to have a crazy hair day!! Donations to Comic Relief can be made online following our school link

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mgschool>





TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS



Insert your message here. Insert your message here.
Insert your message here. Insert your message here.

House / Av Answer

ASH

2,098

BEECH

3,282

MAPLE

2,985

WILLOW

4,578

Y1

71%
active play

Holly
Lambourne
668

Y2

29%
active play

Senan Poole
422

Y3

42%
active play

Chloe Flegg
754

Y4

100%
active play

Clementine
England-White
5,653

Y5

23%
active play

Benjamin Scott
1,283

Y6

97%
active play

Clementine
Paterson
465

Most Correct Answers

Congratulations to our top three players over the last 14 days

Clementine
England-White
Y4

Benjamin Scott
Y5

Chloe Flegg
Y3



English

- On Tuesday 28th March, Year 1 & 2 would like to invite parents into school to try some delicious soup that we will be preparing. This is part of our DT work and will support our learning in English around our focus text, 'Stone Soup.' Please arrive for 2:15.

Phonics

- Tuesday 28th March at 1:45, we would like to invite Year 1 parents to attend a session about the phonics screening test next term. The parents of Year 2 children re-sitting the test are also invited.

Safeguarding

- S4A provide such an amazing provision for us here at MGS. They have recently reviewed their Safeguarding procedures for child collection and drop offs. Thank you to each and every one of you for your support with this. At MGS we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children.



Football



- The girls team played 2 matches against Chesterton and Kings Meadow primary school. We all equally played the matches and have worked well together as a team. We are looking forward to our next match on Wednesday against St Marys. - Isabella (Y6)
- The boys team played their match against Fritwell. We won 4-2. We played fairly as a team and we were really happy with the result. We can't wait to play again next week against Bure Park. - Sam (Y6)



Celebration Certificate



Well done to our latest Celebration Certificate recipients:



EYFS

Winnie, Ivy-Rose, Jack M,
Arthur



Y1

Holly, Reagan, Isla, Eric



Y2

Monty, Flynn, Bryony, Isaac



Y3

Leonora, Elsie S-L, Ella, Arthur



Y4

Poppy, Lucas, Jacob, Kaelan



Y5

Ben, Isla B, Willow, Shyla



Y6

Ted, Brooke, Kier, Clementine

DIARY DATES



MAR

- 17th : Red Nose Day
- 21st - Parent/Child Learning Discussions
- 21st - Full Governing Body
- 23rd - Parent/Child Learning Discussions
- 28th :Soup tasting Yr 1 & 2
- 28th :Phonics screening Yr 1
- 29th - Easter Service at church 9.30am
- 31st - Last Day of term



APR

- 17th Inset Day
- 18th Back to School



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

- 12/6 Whole School Sports Afternoon
- 19/6 Reserve Whole School Sports Afternoon
- 4/7 Transition Afternoon

