



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

Newsletter 12 – Monday 7th March 2022

	Term Begins	Finish	Half Term	Return	Term Ends
Autumn 2021	Thursday 2 nd September	Friday 22 nd October		Tuesday 2 nd November	Friday 17 th December
Spring 2022	Wednesday 5 th January	Friday 18 th February		Monday 28 th February	Friday 8 th April
Summer 2022	Tuesday 26 th April	Friday 27 th May		Monday 6 th June	Wednesday 20 th July

Inset Days: Monday 25th April, Wednesday 20th & Thursday 21st July

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors,

The end of last term came to an abrupt end with storm Eunice. Fortunately, we had very little damage at school.

Parent/Child Learning Discussions

Just a reminder that our Parent/Child Learning Discussions will be held at the school this evening, Monday 7th March and Thursday 10th March.

Bringing your child to the child and parent learning discussion is an important way of encouraging your child to be more involved in their own education and hearing any targets or expectations their teachers may have for them. It is important for your child to hear this directly so they are aware that both their parents and teachers have certain standards they would like them to meet and there will be no excuses.

We do ask that parents wear a mask inside the building at all times and your child will have the chance to share their books with you. Teachers will collect you and your child from the book look room ready for your appointment time. Please enter either the Year 2, 4 or 6 classroom via the outside door and not via the reception area. In order to stagger the amount of parents and children in the book look room, we ask that you arrive **no longer than ten minutes before** your appointment time.

Entrance	Book Look	Class appointment room
		EYFS
Year 2	EYFS, Y1, Y2	Year 1
Year 4	Year 3 and Year 4	Year 3
Year 6	Year 5 and Year 6	Year 5

Donated Computers and Monitors

On behalf of all the staff and children I would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to the Penny Group, Chartered Financial Planners, Mr Adam Roberts, who has kindly donated 15 computer hard drives, 15 mice and 15 keyboards to the school. <https://thepennygroup.co.uk/>

David Hopkins, from Motor Parts Direct Ltd, (Bicester) has also kindly donated 15 computer monitors <https://www.mpdonline.co.uk/>

The computers are going to make such a difference to the teaching and learning of IT at Marsh Gibbon CE School and we are extremely grateful to the both companies.

World Book Day

What a fantastic World Book Day celebration we all had here at Marsh Gibbon. Thank you so much to everyone for the amazing costumes. It really was lots of fun and there was a buzz of excitement around the school. The children and staff all had a wonderful day! Mr Owens will send out a separate World Book Day update so that you will all know the competition winners.

Batteries

Following on from our last successful collection of batteries we have signed up for the current 'Big Battery Hunt'. This is a national competition where children and families collect batteries from home/work to be recycled and we can win prizes for our school. Last year we collected thousands of batteries that were saved from landfill and won some great prizes, I hope we can be as successful this year. Your child will soon be bringing home a collection box for your old batteries. **Please do not send button batteries in to be recycled as they will not accept them.** Make sure they are disposed of correctly or if possible recycled. I am aware that Lidl and Aldi in Bicester have battery collection boxes too. Many thanks for your support and I hope we can win some amazing prizes for the school. *Mrs Williams*

PTA

The PTA would like to thank everyone for their fantastic efforts in raising money for school resources, with the most recent being the £22.22 sponsorship challenge! The total raised for this challenge was over £1,000. This is absolutely incredible and the PTA are absolutely thrilled with this. Thank you to everyone for your tremendous efforts.

Lisa James PTA Chairperson

ClassDojo Private Messaging

Please remember that we are no longer using ClassDojo for parents to send private messages to teachers. All communication must go through the school office.

Safeguarding

At Marsh Gibbon CE School, we take the safety of all our pupils seriously. All school staff have annual safeguarding training, receive updates throughout the year and all volunteers have a safeguarding induction. If you have any concerns regarding our children, please speak to one of the school's Designated Safeguarding Leads; Mrs Brown (Headteacher), Mrs Williams, (Deputy Head Teacher) or Miss Trafford (Year 4 class teacher). Our Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Franklin. All of these people can be contacted via the school email office on office@marshgibbon.bucks.sch.uk or telephone 01869 277268.

Attendance Matters

We recognise the key role that punctuality and attendance plays in the quality of education we can deliver at Marsh Gibbon CE School and ask parents to play their role in supporting us by;

- **ensuring children arrive at school on time and no later than 8:55am.**
 - When children arrive persistently late, we recognise this may be unsettling for them, in addition to missing out on the morning learning tasks planned to address misconceptions from prior learning
- **Booking all holidays/appointments outside of term time.**
 - We have seen a significant rise in the number of requests for absence from education this academic year which may be as a result of rearranging disrupted holidays booked throughout the pandemic and we wanted to clarify our stance on taking holidays in term time informed by DfE guidance;

*“Head Teachers are **unable** to authorise absence during term time unless they are satisfied that there are ‘**exceptional circumstance**’; the fundamental principles for defining ‘exceptional’ are rare, significant, unavoidable and short, by ‘unavoidable’ it implies that **an ‘event’ could not reasonably be scheduled at another time.**”*

The way **absence from learning** are requested is changing to help us better safeguard attendance, track patterns and work with the Bucks County Attendance Team and we now ask you complete [this form](#) at least **one month** before your intended leave of absence.

Of course, we recognise, that there are valid emergency instances where the month prior request will not be possible. Parents of children whose attendance falls below 90% will be invited to a meeting to discuss ways we can help improve attendance to draw up an attendance contract.

Marsh Gibbon C of E School Governing Board

School governors have an important role in monitoring the safety, welfare and education of all of our children. To do this, school governors work as a team with an open and caring approach alongside the Headteacher, staff and parents to create a school where everyone feels valued and the children are at the heart of everything that we do here at Marsh Gibbon C of E School.

We are looking for committed people to join Marsh Gibbon C of E School's Governing Board. Our next Full Governing Board meeting (FGB) is on Tuesday 22nd March. If you know of someone **outside of school** who might have the time and interest in becoming a school governor, please do ask them to contact the school office.

office@marshgibbon.bucks.sch.uk If you would like to find out more about how you can contribute to governance at our school, or have any questions about anything, then please contact the school office who will then arrange for a governor to contact you. office@marshgibbon.bucks.sch.uk

Congratulations

Well done to our latest Celebration Certificate recipients:

EYFS - Butterflies	Dylan, Amy, Christopher, Emily	Year 3 - Rabbits	Amaryllis, Joshua, Will, Vivienne
Year 1 - Owls	Ella, Noah, Alice, Emily	Year 4 - Hedgehogs	Holly, Ben, Shyla, Emily-Rose
Year 2 - Dragons	Maisie, Neave, Elsie B, Bella	Year 5 - Foxes	Bailey, Bertie, Gen, Louie, Luke, Teagan
		Year 6 - Eagles	Abbie, Tilly, Finnbar, Liam

Times Tables Rock stars

Many congratulations to 'Willow' house who won last term's Times Tables Rock Star House Tournament with 2863 points. All children in Willow house have been awarded an extra mufti day which will be on **Tuesday 15th March**.



House	Correct Answers	Most Correct Answers					
		Congratulations to our top three players over the last 14 days JD (Y3), AA (Y5), EB (Y6)					
No tournament has started today		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
		NS 210	HDB 207	JD 2,774	HC 357	AA 2,156	EB 1,364
		10% Active Player	30% Active Player	39% Active Player	89% Active Player	73% Active Player	7% Active Player

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BBA', is enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Mrs Beth Brown
Headteacher
office@marshgibbon.bucks.sch.



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