

# New Marston Primary School Newsletter

Friday 28th April 2017



Welcome back from what I hope was a wonderful Easter Break for you all. This is most definitely my favourite term, with all the sun, celebrations and holidays ahead!

## **A new direction for New Marston**

Back in March of this year a consultation evening was held with staff and parents about the future vision and direction for New Marston Primary School. The event was excellently attended by New Marston staff, and a good number of parents were also present to discuss ideas on how to move the school forward.

There was general agreement that the TIGER values are no longer achieving their original aims, and that they might hold the school leadership back from determining a fresh direction. There was some debate too around changing the school's name, logo or uniform, but there was no obvious benefit identified in doing so.

Since the vision event Tracey Smith has been appointed as New Marston's new full-time Headteacher, and her top priority now is to ensure that any fundamental shortcomings identified by the last Ofsted report are quickly and thoroughly addressed. Once the new senior leadership team and school structure are cemented in place, and consistent and excellent standards of teaching are assured in every classroom, New Marston Primary School will be well on track towards a Good Ofsted rating.

But we do not believe that good is enough. The foundation of our school strategy moving forward will be 'Striving for Excellence'. This will be at the heart of everything we do, and securing the school an Ofsted rating of 'Outstanding' is the first and foremost measure of success for the staff and governors.

We will continue to look for a differentiator that helps to uniquely position New Marston in the local community, one that emphasises the rigorous academic standards to which we aspire. A new consultation based on a selection of more considered proposals will be issued to parents and staff in September, shortly after the beginning of the next school year.

Dan Taylor—Parent Governor

## **Uniform**

A huge thank you to all of our families who have sent their children into school looking so smart this week. The black school shoes really make a difference and set the right tone for a school that is "striving for excellence".

## **Class Newsletters**

Will be sent home, by your teachers today. They will also be available on the website from next Wednesday.

## **Extreme Reading**

We are extending the deadline for this, so if you haven't done so already, please take lots of fun photos of your children (and yourselves) reading in "extreme" ways and send them into school next week to be displayed on the entrance notice boards.

## **Website & Social Media**

Please remember to keep up to date with the school by visiting the schools website. Also the FONM have their own Facebook page, and we always try to ensure the administrators of that page are given any information as soon as we send it.

	<b>Summer Term 2017 &amp; INSET</b>
May Day	Monday 1st May <b>school closed</b>
Y6 trip to Cadburys World	Monday 15th May
FONM—Stay & Play	Friday 12th May
Able Writers—from selected Year 1&2 pupils	Monday 22nd May
INSET	June 5th <b>school closed</b>
Spring Fling (Whole school dance event)	Tuesday 13th June
Save the Children—Den Day	Thursday 16th June
School Photos—Starters and Leavers only	Wednesday 21st June
Able Writers—from selected Year 1&2 pupils	Monday 26th June
Sports Day—KS1 & Reception	Monday 3rd July—Morning
Sports Day—KS2	Monday 3rd July—Afternoon
Y6 Glamping at Hill End	Tuesday 4th July
Y2 Glamping at Hill End	Thursday 6th July
School Summer BBQ	Saturday 8th July

Introduction from Stott Lewis, our new Deputy Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you all properly. My name is Scott Lewis and I started as the Deputy Headteacher here at New Marston this week. It was a unique first day with the school having no water and I'd like to thank all of you for your understanding of our situation. Since then I've spent as much time as I can getting to know the children and I can already see how wonderful they are. I'm going to try and get outside at the beginning and the end of the school days as much as possible so please come over and say hello or ask any questions that you may have.

My previous position was a maternity cover as the Acting Head of School just down the road at Cutteslowe Primary, another of the River Learning Trust schools. The position allowed me to move my family over from Newham in East London, where I had worked for the previous 10 years. In that time I worked at a school that went through two 'Outstanding' OFSTED inspections as well as working at a school with issues that are similar to some here at New Marston.

I look forward to getting to know you, your children and helping this school to realise its full potential as soon as possible. It's a very exciting time for the school and I am delighted to be a part of it.

Hope you all have a lovely weekend

Scott Lewis

Deputy Headteacher

### After Schools Provision

You will see that a questionnaire has been sent home with regards to the after school provision. Please fill it out and return at your earliest convenience. We are striving for excellence as a school, and I would like that to be reflected in everything we do. If you have any questions or queries, please do contact the school office, but I can assure you that we have lots of exciting ideas already in place, and I am extremely confident in what we will be offering to the children. For parents who need provision until 6.30pm, we will be fulfilling that requirement. Our current school staff will be running the club.