

# New Marston Primary

## School Newsletter

Friday 15th December 2017

### Attendance:

Please ensure you contact the school office as early as possible on the first morning if your child is ill. Please see our attendance policy on our website:

<http://www.new-marston.oxon.sch.uk/information/policies>



### Newsletter from Ms Smith:

#### Introducing the new Chair of Governors

I am delighted to take on the role as the Chair of Governors at New Marston Primary School as of November. I have served as a Parent Governor since April this year which has allowed me to visit classrooms, meet staff and get to know the School community better.



Coming from an Indian and Greek background myself, I am keen to invest in a unique multi-cultural setting like New Marston Primary School. In addition, as a parent of three young children, I am particularly committed to the long-term future of our School; my eldest daughter is in Year 2, my middle daughter is in Nursery, and my youngest is yet to join.

Currently in my work I am the Managing Director of 'Artesian' (a leadership consultancy) and I have served on the boards of two non-profit organisations before. I am passionate about helping people be the best they can be and I have twenty years of experience helping large businesses to improve and develop their staff.

As Governors our aim is to support and challenge the School to ensure that each pupil reaches their full potential, not just academically. As the Chair of Governors, my specific focus is to manage the work of the Governing Body, have regular one-to-one meetings with the Headteacher and oversee the strategic development of the school.

It is an exciting time to be part of New Marston Primary School and I am confident that with Tracey Smith's leadership we are now well placed to go from strength to strength. Already robust and thorough school improvement plans have been put in place and talented staff have been recruited. The recent 'Outstanding' rating from Oxford County Council for Safeguarding is a positive sign of the changes being implemented.

The future is looking bright...

I look forward to meeting many of you in person during the school drop-off or at school events over the coming months. Please contact me via the School Office email address ([office@new-marston.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office@new-marston.oxon.sch.uk)) or 'via my private New Marston address, ([chair@new-marston.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:chair@new-marston.oxon.sch.uk)) with any questions, concerns or comments.

Best wishes,

Nick Chatrath

Please find out more about our other Governors here: <http://www.new-marston.oxon.sch.uk/about/governors>

#### British Sign Language

The Oxfordshire school hearing base shares our site and pupils are integrated into our lessons, so we will soon be teaching our pupils a little more sign language, by having a sign of the week. The signing we use is BSL if you are interested.

#### Office Team

Sadly, Jane Cartilidge is leaving New Marston at the end of this term, after having been here for 28 years. She will be missed by all of the staff and many of our families that she has come to know over the years. We would like to thank her wholeheartedly for all of her hard work and support for the school, and wish her all the very best. She has requested a quiet departure, but you have 2 days left if you would like to wish her a fond farewell.

Tina Flannery will be our new School Business Manager from January and Zoe Garrett will be our new Office Manager, who will be the person you meet - as she will also be on the reception desk. We welcome them to their new roles and know they will be fabulous.

#### Meet the new Reception Teachers—Monday 8th Jan at 8.45am

An early opportunity for Nursery and Reception parents to meet our very own Rachel and Sarah, who will be teaching the class during Lucy's maternity leave. Sarah will meet parents in the spare classroom (next to Rec class) and Sarah will meet Nursery parents in the Blue Room in our new Nursery, then everyone will meet together in the Blue Room.

## 10 Winter Break Activities

We are emailing home some fun activities to do together as a family which can be done as extra homework if your family chooses. Please note—this is NOT compulsory, just for fun. If your child does take part, please can they bring the sheet into school in January for a house point.

### House Points

Einstein (red) team were this terms' winners and won themselves the chance to watch a dvd.

### Collecting at the end of the school day

If your child is not collected from school by 3.30 at the latest, we will put them in after school club and charge parents. Staff have meetings after school finishes and cannot look after children.

### Parents Evenings—see dates opposite

### Year 6 Residential

We have booked the Year 6's onto a residential trip to the Woodlands Activity Centre in Glasbury on Wye for the last full week of the Summer term, 16th—20th July 2018.

<https://www.woodlandsoec.org>

### FONM Facebook page

Please can any complaints be addressed directly to the school and leave this page for FONM and important events.

### English Class for mothers

The first mother's English class will start on Tuesday 16th January from 9:00-10:00 in the ICT suite.

**Ringworm**—please see separate emailed letter.

### Tower Playbase

Info from Tower PlayBase; We are now taking bookings for our Christmas provision! Open from: Wednesday 20th December to Friday 22nd December We will be offering two late sessions on Wednesday 20th December and Thursday 21st December. These will run from 3pm-5.30pm on these two days. \*All our activity days will have available free play, fancy dress, soft play and sports\* Christmas Activities Weds 20th Dec • Art Studio: Christmas Tree decorating • Catch me if you can! Scavenger Hunt • 10am – 3pm (core day) + 3pm – 5.30pm (late) Thurs 21st Dec • Art Studio: Snowflake-making • Playbase Picture Palace: Christmas Movie! • 10am – 3pm (core day) + 3pm – 5.30pm (late) Friday 22nd Dec • Art Studio: Frosty the Snowman Model-Making • Winter Wonderland + Snow Disco! • 10am - 3pm

Please contact Imran Mirza, Children's Service Manager [imran@parasolproject.org](mailto:imran@parasolproject.org) 01865 742816

### Dates for the term

Term Ends—Tuesday 19th December at 1.30pm **NO ASC that day**

Spring Term begins—Monday 8th January

Nursery Maths sessions tbc

Meet the new Reception Team Monday 8th Jan 8.45—for Nursery and Rec parents

Friday class assemblies: **Aspen Class**—Friday 12th Jan, 9am

English for Mothers—Tuesday 16th Jan, 9-10am

Stay and Play—Friday 26th January 3.15-4.30

Parents Evenings—Tues 6th March 4.30-7pm and Thursday 8th March 3.30-6pm

Year 6 residential—July 16th-20th 2018

### Police message to schools

We have received some information from the police which we think it's important to pass on. A message containing an indecent image is being circulated on Instagram. Some have opened it without knowing what it is. Children should not be on Instagram but please be mindful of this information. Please explain to older children to delete anything they are uncomfortable with immediately and inform a parent or teacher. Do not store the image or send it on to friends as this is an offence.

### Uniform

Please can children come back ready to learn on 8th January with full uniform, including black shoes please, and no shaved tramlines in boy's hair. Thank you.

### Sumatran Rhinos

Katriona, Philippa and Jose raised an amazing £83.00, which we are sending to the WWF, along with a letter from the girls stipulating how they would like the money to be spent.

### And finally.....

We have had a brilliant Autumn Term here at New Marston—children and staff have worked so hard and really enjoyed doing so. The school is a calm, happy environment where everyone strives to do their very best every day. Staff look forward to coming to work every day and there is a real caring community amongst our staff and pupils. Thank you to parents for all your support in helping to make this happen.

**Have a lovely holiday, when it comes!**