

New Marston Primary School Newsletter

Friday 20th October 2017

Attendance:

Last week's attendance was 96.8, which is The highest so far since February!. Well done to Hazel and Elm Classes for 100%!!



Newsletter from Ms Smith and Ms Flannery:

Open Days

We will be having 2 Open Mornings for current and prospective families to come in and have a look around school during lessons. We will teach as we normally do and it is an opportunity to have a look around and see us for yourself. We are very proud of what we do and want people to see what a lovely school we are. The dates will be Tuesday 2nd November and Wednesday 8th November, both at 9-11.30am.

If you know any parents who might be looking for a first school for their child, please spread the word! Everyone is welcome.

Nursery

We have had to delay our nursery move from its current building into its new one (the old Children's Centre), due to remedial works that were necessary to ensure safety. From January our Nursery will be housed in the old Children's Centre on our site. We will also be able to take some 2 year-olds. Please enquire with Oxfordshire Children's Services if you would like to find out whether your child might be eligible to take advantage of the Early Year's Funding.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/free-early-education-2-year-olds-0>

Parent/Teacher Consultations

Many thanks to all of you who were able to come along this week. We value your input and insights into your children just as much as you value hearing about their school life and academic progress.

International Evening

Please come and join us for this exciting event—children should have brought home letters. If you need a copy please ask at reception.

Questionnaire

Your views about school are very important to us.

Please take part in this brief 2-minute survey, so that we can put your responses into our action planning. Thank you. We will share the results with you. We do listen to your views and many of the changes around school have been as a result of information we have received from parents.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KTNXJSJ>

Parent Forum

We would like to set up a parent forum, to have a regular meeting when school can get an idea of what it feels like to be a parent at New Marston. We will hold the meetings at 8.45-9.10 on the second Thursday of each month. Please come along to our first meeting on 9th November if you would like to be part of the group.

Mr Pinnell/Lime Class

After interviewing and observing 5 candidates this week, I am delighted to be able to tell you that Mr Pinnell will be teaching the class for the remainder of the academic year.

Megan May

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to Megan this week. She has worked in Early Years for a number of years as a trainee teacher and will be missed by many for her kindness and teaching ability.

Library News

Spooky stories and crafts in the Library.

Monday 30 Oct, 3.15 - 4pm. Dress up if you want to!



Phonics

Phonics is a really important teaching tool and we are giving the teaching of phonics a huge boost this year. We would like to invite parents in for Information Sessions during November, when you will be able to find out more about our approach (dates tbc).

In the meantime, here are some links to teaching tools that you might like to try with your (younger) children:

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/tag/videos-for-parents/>

(practise sounds and watch videos).

www.phonicsplay.co.uk (A variety of free phonics resources for your child to play. These games include both pseudo and real words).

www.ictgames.com (the Literacy section has games for all different levels of ability).

www.letters-and-sounds.com (more online resources).

Pantos and costs

Friends of New Marston have very kindly agreed to pay half of the costs towards our Christmas shows this term (A Christmas Carol, Dickens for Year 5-6 at The North Wall Theatre and Jack and the Beanstalk for Years N-4, in school). These are related to our English topics. The remaining half for parents to pay will shortly appear on your list of items in Parent Pay.

Please contact Zoe on pp@new-marston.oxon.sch.uk if you have lost your login details, or have any problems.

Friends of New Marston (FONM)

This facebook page is a really good way to communicate with school and find out about all of our FONM events. Please follow the link and ask to become a member.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1480960318824343/>

The Swan School Consultation

The Swan School is a new comprehensive secondary school due to open for Year 7 pupils in 2019 at the Harlow Centre site in Marston. The River Learning Trust who are responsible for opening the new school, as well as having responsibility for a number of other schools including The Cherwell School, are having a consultation period about what The Swan School will be like, including the catchment area. The proposed draft catchment area overlaps totally with the current Cherwell School catchment area as well as having some additional areas and as such the school may be of interest to parents.

All consultation materials, including a questionnaire, are available via this link <http://theswanschool.org.uk/> and you can also sign up on the website for regular email updates. The consultation is running until Monday 27th November and there are public consultation events being held at New Marston Primary School 6-8pm on Weds 1st November and Tuesday 7th November.

Dates for the term

Half Term Break - 23rd October - 27th October

International Evening/Food Festival—Thursday 9th November 6-7.30pm

Early Pantomime in school - Jack and the Beanstalk (Year Nursery - Year 4)-
Tuesday 14th November

Year 5/6 Trip to Creation Theatre (Christmas Carol) - Thursday 7th Dec

Morning Christmas Production—Nursery and Reception—Tuesday 12th Dec

Afternoon Performance (Nursery and Reception) - Wednesday 13th Dec

KS1 Christmas Performances—1.30 and 6.30 on Tuesday 12th December

Term Ends—Tuesday 19th December at 1.30pm

Spring Term begins—Monday 8th January

Open mornings—Thurs 2nd and Wed 8th Nov—9-11.30am

Phonics Information Sessions—tbc

Parent Forum—9th November and 14th December, 8.45am

Family Photos

Mrs V and the inclusion team would like your family photos! We will be putting them on display to celebrate the families in our school. If you can, please pop them into the office marked 'Mrs V'. Please note that we **won't** be able to return them.

Cycling to School

Children are now dismounting their bicycles before entering the school gates, which is great. But please ensure your children have lights and helmets and wear something hi-viz.

Parents and Carers—it is your responsibility to keep them safe on their journey too and from school; please ensure they have the appropriate equipment.

