

New Marston Primary

School Newsletter

Monday 29th January 2018



Newsletter from Ms Smith:

Extra INSET day

We are intending to make New Marston School a “High Performance Learning” school and need to train staff for this. Here is more information: <https://www.highperformancelearning.co.uk/>

School will be closed for the day on [Monday 19th February](#) for staff training.

Apologies for the short notice, but we feel it is really important that we begin this as soon as possible, as we want to be able to maximise the learning outcomes for our pupils. This is the only date the trainer is free before September.

River Learning Trust School Review

Last Tuesday, we had some external consultants visiting our school to carry out at School Review (like a mini-Ofsted). They were extremely impressed with the school. All of them knew the school a year ago and commented that everything had undergone a huge improvement—namely: the quality of teaching and learning; the pupils’ attitudes to learning; behaviour across the school; levels at which the children are working.

They have, of course, given us “next steps” to work towards and these will form our new School Improvement Plan. Please see here <http://www.new-marston.oxon.sch.uk/information/latest-news>

Home Learning Policy

We have written a draft of a new homework policy (which we are calling Home Learning). This will be in place until we review it in September. Here is the link: <http://www.new-marston.oxon.sch.uk/information/policies>

The New Marston Times

Thanks to the great work by our students at Journalism Club both last term and this one, we're proud to launch The New Marston Times, a magazine with content created entirely by pupils. You will soon be able to find it under the Pupil Pages section from the school homepage, and see stories, pictures, reviews, interviews, and other writing from our talented students.

There will be a new issue every two weeks, and anyone who can't attend Journalism Club on Thursdays is more than welcome to contribute – we'll add details on how in the next issue.

School Library Update

{Happy New Year from Kate and the Year 6 librarians in the school library!

Parents and carers if you haven't discovered us yet - please do come and visit - we are at the end of the Year 1 corridor and through the magical wardrobe.

The 'Monday Family Sessions' are open to everyone. Please do drop in any time from 3.20pm and 4.15pm.

The next few library sessions will include fun games or crafts:

Monday 29th January - Growing a Book Tree

Monday 5th February - Harry Potter Night - (dress up if you want!)

Monday 12th February - Chinese New Year - Year of the Dog

Help needed! - We always need more lovely books, as all our books are so well read, and do get tatty quite quickly. If your book shelves at home are too full - please could you send any unwanted books to the library? We need good quality kids information and chapter books. Just bag them up and label them for 'Kate in the library' and hand in to the office please. Many thanks, Kate

Family Links Group (opportunity for our parents)

Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun but looking after them can be stressful and challenging. The Nurturing programme helps deal with those challenges so that you can have a calmer, happier life.

We are very lucky to have Family Links starting at New Marston! Come and find out how to get the best out of family life, through this fun and nurturing support group.

Places are available on our course, starting the week after half term on a Thursday morning 10-12 or Friday after school 4-6pm. Tea and coffee provided. Please phone or pop in and see Kate Stratford (Home school Link worker)

Menu

The new lunch menu can be found by visiting <http://www.new-marston.oxon.sch.uk/information/menus>

Activities for Children: Please note that I cannot vouch for any of these, but these are for your information:

Brookes Science Bazaar 2018

Saturday, 24 February 2018, 10:30 to 16:00

Recommended by one of our parents—see information here:

<https://www.brookes.ac.uk/about-brookes/events/brookes-science-bazaar-2018/>

Tower Playbase

There is a holiday club held during half term at the Tower Playbase, which is discounted for our pupils—see information here

<https://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/directory/service.page?id=wEAOU6wv8x8>

Mindfulness Classes for Children

For children 6 - 9 years old West Oxford Community Centre Every Saturday from 10.30a.m, 1 hour class Tel. 07837281693 - Tina Fully qualified, DBS checked, First Aid www.oxfordspirehypnotherapy.co.uk Limited places - please express your interest to attend! Please bring a mat or a cushion to feel more comfortable! Drop - in classes, just £5 per class.

Dates for the term

Term Ends—Friday 9th February at 3.15pm.

Term 4 begins—**Tuesday 20th** February.

Year 1 trip—19th March (details to follow)

Friday class assemblies: see dates below

English for Mothers—Tuesdays 9-10am

School Disco—Friday 9th February 3.130 - 5.00

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

Year 6 residential—July 16th-20th 2018

INSET days for 2018-19

4th Sept, 21st Dec, 7th Jan, 3rd June, 24th July + 1 other

Scooters and bikes in school

Most of our older pupils are now getting off at the school gates, but some of the pre-school children or not. Please can you remind your children? Thanks

Class Assemblies

These are held on Fridays at 9am and everyone is welcome to come along.

Friday 2nd Feb Lime, Friday 9th Feb Hawthorne, Friday 23rd Feb Rowan,

Friday 2nd March Oak, Friday 9th March Beech, Friday 16th March Poplar,

Friday 23rd March Elm, Silver Birch, Willow, after Easter.

And finally.....

We have been talking about appreciation and kindness for the past two weeks. In Monday assemblies, we introduce these topics and then class teachers reinforce them throughout each week, with children making it onto the Recognition board by each Friday.

Here is a link to the “Colour Your World With Kindness” video that we watched.... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rweIE8yyYOU>