



# Marchwood Junior School

Our Learning Family that Inspires you to Dream

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11<sup>th</sup> January 2019

## Dear Parents

We hope you enjoyed a lovely family Christmas and a good rest. The children have come back to school ready to learn and it has been super to hear what they have been up to over the last two weeks.

Each year group has produced a newsletter for this half term, which will be with you shortly. It shares what each year group will be learning in the next six weeks as well as ideas for helping your child with their learning at home. We are excited about a busy term with lots of positive learning opportunities for your child.

### ***Improving your child's vocabulary***

*"Words make us who we are and they help us become who we could be."*

Closing the Vocabulary Gap - Alex Quigley

We have noticed that children who read regularly (and who discuss books at home with an adult) have much better reading skills, increased love of reading and most definitely have a wider vocabulary than children who do not read regularly at home. Evidence shows that vocabulary is one of the most significant factors relevant to children achieving a decent grade in maths and English at GCSE. We want every child in our Marchwood family to develop a broad ranging vocabulary to be able to describe, discuss and question the world around them. Our influence in broadening their vocabulary is limited to the hours we have your child in school but parental influence on growing vocabulary knowledge is limitless through everyday conversations exploring and unlocking new vocabulary.

The most effective way you can support your child with their learning of vocabulary is by reading with them and talking to them about books. In pupil conferencing before Christmas, many children shared that they rarely share a book or talk about a book with an adult at home and instead read independently at home without any discussion about books or sharing of books with an adult. Although Y5 and 6 will be fluent enough readers to read independently, enjoying a quality discussion about the book your child is reading can help them understand plots, the actions of characters and hugely develop their vocabulary.

As a result, we have amended the reading journal logs for Y3 and 4 to encourage sharing books together at home. Your child is still asked to read at least 5 times each week as before but now **with at least 2 reads with an adult**, in order to be awarded a star. There will be many parents who do this already (thank you!) but hopefully a little pester power from children will encourage more sharing of books together for children who don't yet have regular adult support at home. Mrs Hallinan will also be launching an inter class reading class competition next week to motivate children to ensure they all read at least five times weekly.

These are the topic words for each year group for spring 1. Please take the time to help your child read, understand and learn to spell these words:

Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
prehistory Stone Age Bronze Age Iron Age roundhouse flint axe pottery smelt archaeologist	sustainability India renewable energy land use deforestation solar impact	invasion occupied infiltrate remembrance trenches gracious ambitious nutritious confidential information essential mourning plane re-sorted solemn	agreement fellowship tyranny annihilation allies appeasement Versailles declared convoy Anschluss

### PSHE in Year 4 and Year 5

As part of the National Curriculum Year 4 are teaching about the effects of smoking and drinking alcohol during their PSHE lessons this half term.

We can assure you that we are doing this in a sensitive manner and as a whole class circle time discussion. Your child may want to talk about this topic at home or may ask questions about family members that are smoking etc.

Year 5 will be talking to the children about drugs this half term and following on from last term they will also continue to discuss peer pressures they may face. This topic will also be addressed in a sensitive and appropriate manner with the children.

### A surprising start to the year for year 3!

Year 3 met people from Ancient Briton on Monday! Firstly, we heard a strange noise, and a Stone Age lady appeared in our hall! We realised it must have been a mysterious time portal that had magically opened into MJS. How odd! Then we were visited by a Bronze Age lady and a man from the Iron Age. Each person presented us with a problem which they asked us to help them solve while we were doing our work on Ancient Britain. This linked in really well with our new learning value for this term, which happened to be problem solving. We told them we would try to come up with some ideas and help them out! We are looking forward to learning all about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age, and presenting our findings by half term. Look out for our History related homework this term!



### New Forest Table Top Cricket

This Wednesday six of our Year 6 children went to Brockenhurst College to take part in the first ever New Forest Table Top Cricket festival. All the children had a great time taking part in a new sport, working together to master the tactics of the game. They represented the school superbly and displayed the school games values: respect, passion, teamwork, honesty and determination.



## **Y5 Visitor**

On Monday we had a very special visitor talking to year 5 about our topic this half term. Mrs Parsons (Niamh Hoskins' grandmother) came in and spoke about when she was living in occupied Jersey during WW2. Mrs Parsons shared some really interesting stories on how the 'make do and mend' mentality prevailed during this time of history.

Thank you Mrs Parsons, both staff and children are very grateful for your time.

## **Plastic Waste**

On Tuesday this week we welcomed Jayne from the Minstead Study Centre into our school. She is working with the Hampshire County Council Waste Prevention Scheme and together they are promoting to reduce the amount of plastic going into landfill. Jayne gave us a few ideas on how to reduce plastic usage at home and very soon we will follow this up with a plastic waste survey for all families of the school. Watch out for more information in future newsletters.

If you have any tips on how to reduce the amount of plastic going into landfill - we would love to hear from you. What have you tried out? What is working well? We would like to give weekly or fortnightly tips on how to reduce plastic waste in our future newsletters. The Green Team is hoping for lots of ideas. Please email Mrs Seydel with your thoughts and tips.

[useydel@marchwoodjun.co.uk](mailto:useydel@marchwoodjun.co.uk)

## **Parent Evenings**

Parent evening slips have been sent home this week for Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> January. We would love to see as many parents as possible at the parent evening so you are invited to make an appointment soon with your child's teacher.

### **Family Inspiration...**

#### **Destination Space at Winchester Science Centre**

2 Feb- 3 Feb and 9 Feb - 10 Feb 2019

The ultimate day out at Winchester Science Centre for budding astronauts and space engineers!

Visitors can drop in to special activities, delivered in partnership with Destination Space. Experience a fantastic live science show all about satellites. Curiosity Officers and Inspirers will be running space-themed activities and challenges in the Invention Studio and busking throughout the Centre.

Best wishes

Mrs Anderson & Mr Hoskins  
Headteacher and Deputy Head

## Diary Dates

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019 – Inset Day

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 – Testwood Lakes Trip – 3H

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 – Testwood Lakes Trip – 3P

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 – Parents Evening 4-6 p.m.

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019 – Testwood Lakes Trip – 3M

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019 – Parents evening 4-7 p.m.

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019 – Minstead Meeting at 5.00 p.m.

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 – PTA Disco

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – Year 5 Tudor House Museum Visit

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – PTA Film Club

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – Year 4 Minstead week

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019 WW11 Day & Ace Time at 2.15 p.m.

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Year 6 Ace Time & SATS Information at 2.00 p.m.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – Half Term week

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – Year 3 Ace Time at 2.15 p.m.

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – Year 4 Ace Time at 2.15 p.m.

## Inset days

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019

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**Messy Church**  
**Marchwood**

Saturday January 19<sup>th</sup>  
Marchwood Village Hall  
2pm



FREE admission  
and Afternoon Tea



Children to be  
accompanied by an adult

Organised by Marchwood Churches



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