



# Marsh Hill Weekly Newsletter



## Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your family are managing during these incredibly sad and challenging time that we are all facing. We are proud of the positive responses from pupils, staff, governors and parents. This has highlighted how special our school community is and shows what a great team we are!

## The Season of Spring is here!



This has been the first week of Spring and I am sure you all have enjoyed the warmer weather and the longer days, We know it is spring because the Earth tilts toward the sun and the sun rises earlier in the morning and sets later in the afternoon. This means that everywhere on the planet should get 12 hours of daylight and

darkness

**Spring** lasts for four months and comes after winter and before summer.

During early spring we see flowers like tulips and daffodils, leaves are budding, birds are chattering, and butterflies are migrating.

## Home Learning for Pupils

All learning packs that were not collected this week have now been hand delivered by school staff over the last few days. If for any reason your child has not received their home learning pack then please telephone the school office on 0121 464 2920. Please try to **set routines** so that your time at home is structured. It is important that families get up and dressed so that as much normality as possible can continue. These are early days and I am sure that there will be many more updates with tips and ideas of how to manage being at home for so long. These are unprecedented and challenging times but we are committed to your child's education through our remote learning programmes and through caring for those who will continue to attend school.

If possible try to ensure there is a learning space in the home and try to limit the amount of screen time the children have. Being physically active on a daily basis is a must. We have also created an email account [help@marshill.bham.sch.uk](mailto:help@marshill.bham.sch.uk) which can be used if you have problems accessing online resources

**Twitter** - Please visit our twitter page [@marsh\\_hill](https://twitter.com/marsh_hill) as we have been tweeting throughout the day various educational activities that can be completed from 5 minute move with Joe Wicks to practicing times tables.



We want to keep in touch with you and what you are up to so please share any home learning/activities so we can celebrate the great work at home and school [@marsh\\_hill](https://twitter.com/marsh_hill)

## Communication with our Families



As part of our duty of care and from 30 March 2020, a member of the school's leadership team will telephone you **and** your child (ren) once a week to ask how you are.

You might need us to have a word with your child or you might want to let us know if there is anything else we can do to help. If we need to send a message out we will use either Marvellous Me or the school's text messaging service.

## School Website

Keep right up to date by looking at the school website: [www.marshall.bham.sch.uk](http://www.marshall.bham.sch.uk) As we have entered a period of uncertain times it is therefore crucial, that when we do receive updates from the DfE about school closure that we pass them on to you. We will keep our website updated with any correspondence as and when we have it and will notify you via text that the website has been updated.

## Free School Meal pupils

Our catering staff have done a fantastic job this week with providing food parcels. We will be issuing FSM food parcels between **10am and 12pm** on Monday 30th March 2020. We have been informed that the government will be issuing supermarket vouchers for all children eligible for free school meals and we understand that you will need an email address for this. More information will be sent to you via text or Marvellous Me as and when we hear.

Friday 27th March 2020

## Value for March is Caring



**COVID-19** is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It's caused by a virus called coronavirus.

If you think you may have the virus or have been in close contact with someone that has the virus. Stay at home and avoid close contact with other people if you have either:

**a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

**a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

**DO NOT** go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service which will tell you if you need to continue to stay at home (self-isolate) or if you need medical help.

**Going abroad or thinking of going abroad?**

If you are planning a holiday abroad or have a holiday booked. Please contact the DfE for further information and guidance.

Telephone:- 0800 046 8687

Email:-

[DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)



## Competition Time



Easter is fast approaching and we **invite all children** who are in EYFS/KS1 to design and make an Easter Bonnet, whilst children in KS2 are asked to design and decorate a hard boiled egg.

So Easter Bonnets Felt, feathers, fluffy chicks and or paint, glitter and hard boiled eggs at the ready!

Please email [enquiry@marshill.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@marshill.bham.sch.uk) school a photograph (including child's name and class) of your home-made bonnet or egg by: **Wednesday 1st April 2020**

It will be wonderful to see your super creations, as always.

All entries will feature in the weekly newsletter for the rest of the school to see and prizes for the winning entries will be distributed accordingly.



## Please Remember

We are currently operating as an emergency care facility for children of key workers (e.g. NHS staff, police, others in frontline services) and children with certain needs. The Government have advised that children stay at home where possible and only to use this service when there is no alternative provision for the children.



Stay home

Protect the NHS

Save lives



**Thank you to all the families that joined in last night** 26th March at 8pm for a big applause (from front doors, garden, balcony, windows, living rooms, etc) to show all nurses, doctors, GPs and carers our appreciation for their ongoing hard work and fight against the virus. To show our support we have painted a rainbow on the Y2 windows.



If you have not already done so, please download our school app so that you have instant access to information that we are sharing.

Go to either the App Store or Google Play and search for '**The Parent App**' (by Phenix Education). When you've downloaded the app, search for Marsh Hill Primary School.

## Online Safety



In order to provide you with the most current Online Safety information whilst your children are at home please download the Safer

Schools App from either the App Store or Google Store (Free) Your Parent code to open the app is: **7440**

The app will also provide you with the latest news information from our website if you are unable to access this via a laptop or computer. The app is designed to give you live updates and a sixty second briefing weekly, in addition there are resources to help you explain to the children about the current crisis.

## Educational Psychology

**Birmingham Educational Psychology Service** is providing a telephone helpline for any parent or carers of children, who feel they would benefit from a consultation with a psychologist to support them with any concerns arising at this time, for them or their families. Areas of concern you may wish to discuss could include:

- Anxiety around the current situation and its impact on your children and family.
- Supporting you to support your children's emotional needs.
- Concerns about family relationships.
- Concerns about friendships, learning, daily structure and activities.
- How to best look after yourself so you can support your children.

The concerns can also be related to school or family life.

**Please visit the school's website for further information.**

**Although school is closed** we will have some staff on site throughout the closure period so we will be picking up phone messages and emails on a daily basis.

If parents or carers need to get in touch with school, for general enquiries please email [enquiry@marshill.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@marshill.bham.sch.uk) or ring **021 464 2920**

In the event of a **Safeguarding** issue arising please phone: **07538 45727**. However if you consider this to be urgent please contact Birmingham Children's Advice and Support service on **0121 303 1888**

We hope that schools will reopen at some time in the near future and we want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your overwhelming support. You have all been amazing and we are so very grateful..

**Finally...**Have a good weekend, stay safe and don't forget to set your clock forward by 1 hour at 2am on Sunday!

Kindest Regards,

Mrs. Marlene Douglas—Head Teacher  
and the Marsh Hill Team.

