



Marsh Hill Newsletter

September 10th 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back

I would like to begin the first newsletter of the school year by extending a very warm welcome back to all in our school community. I hope that you have had an enjoyable summer. It was lovely to see the children returning to school on Friday of last week looking so smart in their new school uniform and very excited about the year ahead. I am sure that we are all relieved that the return to school includes fewer restrictions than last academic year. This notwithstanding, please be assured that the health and safety of the children will be our foremost concern and we will always act in their best interests. We do not take our responsibilities lightly and aim to provide your children with the very best possible educational opportunities in a safe, caring and stimulating environment.

New Staff

I am delighted to introduce five new colleagues to our staff team:

Mr. Moheen joins the school as Assistant Head Teacher. Mr. Moheen has significant Senior Leadership Team experience; and in leading on the curriculum and inclusion.

We also welcome Miss Wright into the teaching profession. She was appointed after a rigorous recruitment process and will teach in Year 1.

We have also added two experienced Teaching Assistants to our team in Mrs. Marini and Ms. Ryan. They will support the teaching staff and add value by helping pupils to secure their best possible learning outcomes.

I am delighted to be able to inform you that we have also added Mr. Pritchard to our school team. Mr. Pritchard is a very experienced Learning Mentor who will support pupils across the school and I am pleased that we have been able to secure his services for three days each week.

In addition to these newly appointed staff, I am happy to announce that Mrs. Burns will continue to be part of the Marsh Hill team after working with us initially for two terms last academic year. Mrs. Burns will teach in Year 5.

Mrs. Taylor

I am sure that you will join me in offering the very warmest congratulations to (the former) Miss Palmer who got married during the summer holidays and has returned to school as Mrs. Taylor.

Parent Contact Details

Please ensure that the school has your most up to date contact details. If you change address, telephone/mobile number or email then please let us know through the school office. It is more important than ever that we are able to contact parents quickly and effectively, especially in cases of emergency. We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Attendance

It is important that children attend school every day. As a school we work closely with Birmingham Local Authority and parents to ensure that this is the case. Research clearly indicates that absence from school disrupts the education of children. Those who do not attend regularly:

- Do not achieve well in exams
- Find it more difficult to build and maintain friendships
- Are more likely to become involved in anti-social behaviour
- Miss out on the opportunities for further education and the world of work

How does your child compare?

Attendance at school during an academic year	Equals this number of days absent	Which is approximately this number of days absent	Which means this number of days missed	EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons	
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons	
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons	
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons	

We understand that at times children do get ill and need time at home to recover. If your child is ill we ask that those with parental responsibility make contact with the school on the first morning of the absence. If you do not make contact, we will ring or conduct a home visit in line with safeguarding procedures.

Safeguarding

It is the responsibility of everyone at Marsh Hill to ensure that all of our pupils are safe from harm. At Marsh Hill we have six trained Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) and should you have any queries or concerns about a child's well-being then please do not hesitate to contact one of them for advice. The DSLs are Cathy Lomas, Mrs Leavey, Mrs Clover, Mrs. Holmes, Mr. Pritchard and Mr. Cusack.

Pupils' Belongings

Please ensure that all clothing is labelled with your child's name. This helps us to identify misplaced items and return them to their rightful owner.

PE Kit

Marsh Hill's PE kit is a white t-shirt and black or red shorts (and dark tracksuit bottoms in the winter months or for outdoor lessons), black pumps or thin soled trainers. Please ensure that your child has the correct kit in school.

Water Bottles

I must apologise for the delay in water bottles being delivered to school. There has been a hold up at the distribution end but colleagues in the Admin Team at school have been in touch and we expect to receive them within the next week or two.

Communication with Parents

After this week's paper copy, school newsletters will be sent electronically via Parent App, Marvellous Me and the school website. Should you need any help accessing either system please do not hesitate to ask a member of the school staff.

Dates for Your Diary

School Year 2021

Autumn Term 2021

Term Starts: Friday 3rd September 2021 (Thursday 2nd: Teacher Day)
Half Term: Monday 25 October 2021 to Friday 29 October 2021
Term Ends: Friday 17 December 2021

Spring Term 2022

Term Starts: Wednesday 5th January 2022 (Tuesday 4th is a Teacher Day)
Half Term: Monday 21 February 2022 to Friday 25 February 2022
Term Ends: Friday 8 April 2022

Summer Term 2022

Term Starts: Monday 25 April 2022
Half Term: Monday 30 May 2022 to Friday 3 June 2022
Term Ends: Wednesday 20th July 2022 (Thursday 21st July is a Teacher Day)

Dates for Your Diary

September

20th - Year 5 Reading Workshop

21st - Year 3 Reading Workshop

22nd - Reception Reading Workshop

27th - Year 1 Reading Workshop

28th - Year 4 Reading Workshop

29th - Year 2 Reading Workshop

October

4th - Year 2 trip to the Black Country Museum

5th - Year 6 Reading Workshop

6th - Year 4 trip to Blakesley Hall

14th - Halloween Disco 5.30 – 7.30

19th - Parent's Evening 3.45 – 4.30

20th - Parent's Evening 3.45 – 6.00

21st - Parent's Evening 3.45 – 6.00

22nd - Break up for half term

November

1st – School reopens for pupils

December

14th – Years 1, 2 and 3 Carol Concert

15th - Reception Nativity

15th - Christmas Disco

16th – Years 4, 5 and 6 Carol Concert

17th – Term ends

We have two Teacher Days to be confirmed.

I wish you a happy, safe and peaceful weekend,

Yours sincerely,



Mr. J Cusack

Head Teacher