

Marsh Hill Newsletter

September 9th 2022

The whole of the Marsh Hill family, as with people everywhere, were saddened to hear of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. It was only a short while ago that we were celebrating Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee and we have thought fondly of those events again today. School marked yesterday's historic event with a respectfully held two minutes silence at 11.00 o'clock this morning.



Rest In Peace

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of all the staff and governors at Marsh Hill, I would like to warmly welcome you back after the summer holidays. I hope and trust that you all had a happy, peaceful and relaxing break and are fully rested and prepared for the busy year ahead.

The children have all returned looking very smart in their uniforms and have settled back into school life well. It has been wonderful to see them and hear about their holiday adventures.

I would like to send out a particular greeting to all the new parents and children joining our Reception classes. It is my warmest hope that all of you enjoy a long, happy and successful association with Marsh Hill.

Mrs. Hunt

As well as welcoming new children into our Reception classes, we also welcome a new member of staff to the Marsh Hill team (or more accurately, a returning member of staff). Many of you will have had your children taught by Mrs. Hunt in Reception and I am delighted to inform you that, after a few years working in another school and area, she has returned to us. Mrs. Hunt is an excellent and highly experienced teacher and I am confident that she will further strengthen our outstanding Early Years Foundation Provision.

Mrs. Quelch

I am sure that you will join me in offering the very warmest congratulations to (the former) Miss Bramwell who got married during the summer holidays and has returned to school as Mrs. Quelch. The whole of the Marsh Hill family wish the joyful couple many years of happiness and all the very best for their future together.

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. Should you ever have a concern about a child's well-being then please contact school's Designated Lead for Safeguarding - Cathy Lomas. We are fortunate to have eight trained DSLs in school, so if Cathy is unavailable then please do not hesitate to ask to be put through to one of our other trained DSLs: Mrs. Leavey, Mrs. Clover, Mr. Moheen, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Hunt, Mr. Pritchard or Mr. Cusack.

As a parent myself, I understand that it can be difficult to keep a step ahead of our children when it comes to social media and technology in general. All staff at Marsh Hill recognise that online safety is a crucial aspect in safeguarding our children and we strive to ensure that pupils are aware of the risks that the digital world can bring. As parents and carers, you may find the following websites useful to help you in keeping your children safe during online activity:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.internetmatters.org

www.parentinfo.org

www.childnet.com

www.ceop.police.uk

Contacting School

If there is anything that you wish to discuss with me then you can contact me via the school office (0121 464 2920) or via email at enquiry@marshill.bham.sch.uk.

If you have a query regarding your child/children then please speak, in the first instance, with their class teacher.

If you wish to discuss your child with a member of the Senior Leadership Team, then please contact:

Mrs. Leavey if your child is in Reception

Mr. Moheen if your child is in Year 1, Year 2 or Year 3

Mrs. Clover if your child is in Year 4, Year 5 or Year 6

If you have a query regarding special educational needs then please contact school's SENDCo – Mr. Moheen

If you have a query regarding a child's medical condition then please contact Mrs. Holmes.

All of the above members of staff can be contacted through the school office.

Parent/Carer Contact Details

If you have changed your contact details (phone number/email address/place of residence) then please inform the school office so that we can update your details on our system.

Mobile Phones

If children bring a mobile phone to school, they must hand it into the school office as soon as they arrive at school.

I would also like to politely remind Parents and Carers that in order to safeguard our children that mobile phones should not be used on the premises – please wait until you are off the school site before making or taking a call.

School Uniform

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the Marsh Hill School Uniform Policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. Parents should ensure that their child has the correct uniform and that it is clean, in good condition and is named clearly.

- White shirts or white/red polo shirts
- Red sweatshirt/cardigan
- Black or grey trousers/skirt
- In Year 6, pupils also wear a tie that is provided by the school

In terms of footwear, we believe that it can be dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles, high heels, or stiletto heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; this is because we believe that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear black shoes.

PE Kit

All children are required to take part in PE unless they provide a note from a parent excusing them from that session due to a medical condition. We do not allow the children to wear jewellery including stud earrings during PE for safety reasons. Children are required to wear the following PE and/or Games kit:

Indoor:

- Black or red shorts
- White t-shirt with school logo
- Pumps

Outdoor:

- Black or red shorts
- White t-shirt with school logo
- Plain track suit (preferably black)
- Trainers

PE Days

Reception	Friday
Year 1	Thursday
Year 2	Wednesday
Year 3	Thursday
Year 4	Tuesday
Year 5	Tuesday
6M	Monday
6C	Friday

KS1-to come into school in their PE Kits on PE days

KS2-to bring PE Kits to school and change in school

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds, the only items of jewellery we allow children to wear in our school are small stud earrings and watches. If children arrive in school wearing unacceptable items of jewellery they will have to remove them.

Make Up - No makeup, nail varnish on fingers or toes or temporary tattoos should be worn.

Extreme Haircuts

Extreme haircuts are not permitted in school ('extreme' being any haircut that is considered by the school to be significantly different to cause distraction to others, and therefore their learning. No colours or styles, which would be considered as extreme, are allowed.

Pupils' Belongings

Please ensure that all clothing and belongings (bags, lunchboxes etc.) have your child's name labelled in them. This helps us to return misplaced items to the rightful owner.

Dates For Your Diary – Autumn Term

September	
12 th	EYFS Baseline starts (baselining will take place over the two weeks commencing 12/09/22 and 19/12/22)
19 th	A request for children to start bringing in non-perishable goods for our annual Harvest Festival (Harvest Festival Assembly to take place on Monday, 3 rd October).
20 th	Year 2 trip to the Black Country Living Museum
22 nd	Year 6 Virtually Reality Experience - ancient Maya workshop in school
October	
3 rd	Harvest Festival Assembly (all food collected will be donated to our local food bank)
5 th	Year 1G trip to Back to Back Houses
6 th	Year 1W trip to Back to Back Houses
12 th	Year 5 Freshwater Theatre Workshop - in school
13 th	PTA Halloween Disco EYFS/Ks1 - 3.45 -5.00 pm PTA Halloween Disco Ks2 5.30 - 7.00 p.m.
14 th	Year 3 trip to Sarehole Mill (3M) all day
21 st	Year 3 trip to Sarehole Mill (3A) all day
November	
8 th	Parent' Consultation Evening 3.30 – 4.30
9 th	Parent' Consultation Evening 3.30 – 6.00
10 th	Parent' Consultation Evening 3.30 – 4.30
14 th	Year 6 Workshop – Merry-Go-Round Junior STEM - in school
15 th	Year 3 and 4 (Prime VR day) - in school
16 th	Year 2C Whole Class Assembly – Diwali
18 th	Year 2S Whole Class Assembly – Diwali
21 st	Ks1 and Ks2 Assessment Week
December	
7 th	Pantomime trip – Years 1 to 6
8 th	PTA Christmas Disco EYFS/Ks1 - 3.45 - 5.00 pm PTA Christmas Disco Ks2 - 5.30 – 7.00 pm

I wish you all a happy, safe and peaceful weekend.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. J. Cusack
Head Teacher