

Marsh Hill Newsletter

February 17th 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well.

It has been another busy and productive half term at Marsh Hill. We have been pleased with the progress that children are making and with their behaviour and attitudes to learning. We are delighted that we have been able to enhance their learning opportunities across the curriculum with a variety of trips, workshops and visitors into school, as we believe that this enhances the children's learning experiences.

I would like to thank the staff across school for all their hard work and efforts. I am very appreciative of those colleagues who give willingly of their own free time to support our extra-curricular activities such as running after school clubs and off site activities, such as sporting competitions.

I am, as always, heartened by the response of parents to all that we are trying to achieve in school. This was evident yesterday with a written comment I received from a set of parents who wrote, after our presentation assembly for those children who had achieved 100% attendance during the autumn term, the following:

"Keep up the good stuff you are all doing. Appreciating the small things makes a difference in a positive way and makes the children proud. Thank you."

As a school we are always interested in the views of parents and so I would like to invite you to an informal coffee morning on **Monday 13th March, 2023**, between 9.00 and 10.00 a.m. During the meeting you will have the opportunity to share your thoughts, experiences, suggestions and ask me any questions that you may have.

100% Attendance Assembly

We were delighted that the parents and carers of 47 children across school were able to attend a special assembly yesterday to acknowledge an attendance rate of 100% for the autumn term. I am hoping that we will have even more children, parents and carers in attendance when we hold another special assembly after the completion of the spring term.

I would like to thank the Attendance Team at school: Cathy Lomas, Mr. Brewer and Mrs. Mynett for their rigorous work to improve attendance and to Eleanor Langston-Jones, our Chair of Governors, for presenting the awards.



Weekly Attendance

The whole school attendance for this week is 93.61%. The class with the highest attendance this week is 2C with 100%. Very well done to 5K with 97.06%.

Spaghetti Pantry

A 'Spaghetti Pantry' has opened at All Saint Church, George Road, Erdington B23 7QB. For a weekly fee of £5, local residents can gain entrance to a weekly shop every Monday between 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. (except on Bank Holidays) and get access to food worth up to £20. You can find out more information about the Pantry at www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk or send your enquiries to spaghettifoodpantry@gmail.com. We also have leaflets available in the reception area at school.

Value of the month – Courage

This week I have been asking children across key stage 2 what courage means to them. Here is an example of their responses.

“Courage is when you find something difficult but you do it anyway, even if it might be hard for you. So maybe if you were at a Theme Park and there is a rollercoaster you are afraid to go on, maybe you find the courage to go on the ride.” (Year 3)

“Courage is like bravery. Say if you want to go in a swimming pool but you can't swim, you have to have courage to go in the water. That's what I did when my dad encouraged me and now I can swim.” (Year 4)

“When you are courageous you might think you can’t do something but you keep trying and you don’t give up if something gets in the way of what you want to do.” (Year 5)

“If you are afraid of something but you know you should do it, a part of you tell you that you can do this. It might be putting your hand up in class or telling your friends ‘no’ when they are annoying you.” (Year 6)

Parents’ Evening

Parents’ Evening in spring term will take place on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd March, between 3.30 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. You will receive a letter enabling you to book appointments online during the first week back after half term.

World Book Day

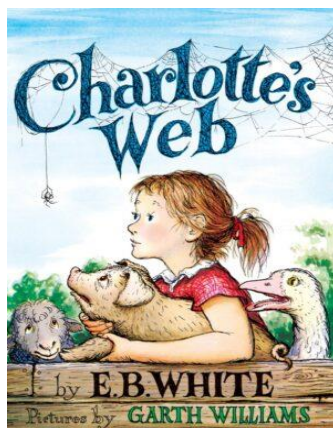
On Thursday, 2nd March we will be celebrating World Book Day in school (we will not be celebrating on 23rd March as noted in last week’s newsletter). Children may dress up as their favourite book character on the day.

Thank you to everyone who has brought in a book or books to school in preparation for our ‘Big Book Swap’ on Tuesday 28th February. As a reminder; all children who bring in any children’s book that they no longer read will have the opportunity to swap it for another.

Book Review

This week’s book review is by Noah from Year 4, who has chosen **Charlotte’s Web** by **E.B. White**.

“At the beginning there is a young girl, a dad, a mom and a brother. When the family have a new pig born into the litter, the dad said he was going to kill it because it was a runt, but the girl said ‘No.’ So when the pig was old enough, the family sold it to the girl’s uncle for £6. At the girl’s uncle’s house, the pig got its own pen. The pig escaped the pen but soon went back to it because he didn’t like the freedom. When the pig was back in the pen, he noticed that there was a spider in the corner. The spider was called Charlotte. Charlotte was a trapper. When they first met, a fly flew into Charlotte’s web and she put the fly to sleep and then ate it. The pig learned Charlotte’s ways and they became friends. I would recommend this book to others because they would really enjoy it.” (Noah)



Dates For Your Diary

February	
27 th	All children return to school after the half term break
28 th	Big Book Swap
March	
1 st	Potential day of Industrial Action (Parents and Carers will be updated regarding if and how industrial action may/will affect school)
2 nd	World Book Day
6 th	Photographers in school for class groups/teams
9 th	Year 5 and Year 6 Forensic Science Workshop
13 th	Head Teacher informal coffee morning with Parents/Carers
14 th	Year 2 Continent Explorers Workshop
15 th	1G Mother's Day Assembly EYFS Writing Workshop for Parents
16 th	Potential day of Industrial Action (Parents and Carers will be updated regarding if and how industrial action may/will affect school)
17 th	1W Mother's Day Assembly
20 th	Book Fair in school all week Supporting Families event in the main hall – 9.00 a.m.
21 st	Parents' Evening: 3.30 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.
22 nd	Parents' Evening: 3.30 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.
27 th	Deadline for Easter Bonnets (EYFS and Ks1) and Decorate An Egg entries (Ks2) to be brought into school
29 th	Year 5 Easter Assembly EYFS trip to the Think Tank
31 st	Easter Bonnet Parade Assembly (EYFS and Ks1) 9.00 a.m. Decorate An Egg Assembly (Ks2) 10.00 a.m.

I wish you all a happy, safe and peaceful half term break.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. J. Cusack
Head Teacher