

MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Marcham CE Primary School
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8th May 2026



"Living and learning with Faith, Community and Hope."

Our value this term is Perseverance

"As for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good." Thessalonians 3 v 13

Dear All,

We have started the summer term with excitement and the sound of maypole music ringing out from the hall. Children are working hard to learn either country dancing or a maypole dance for the celebrations to be held on Friday 22nd May. Each class has something exciting to share and so far, rehearsals have been looking very promising!

Message from Mrs Hutchinson

It was not unusual for me to start newsletters with the words, "Doesn't time fly!" Being retired doesn't mean that it slows down at all - and it is amazing to think that we are already into the summer term. (I still think according to the academic calendar: I guess I always will). It has been lovely, however, to hear of the wonderful things that are happening at Marcham School, knowing it is moving from strength to strength and thriving.

I thought that I would share with you what I have done with the very kind gifts given to me when I left. You may remember my passion for dance - salsa dancing in particular - and with your monetary gift I have been able to book a salsa weekend in London in May. I am very excited and have had to buy another pair of shoes! I am also a fan of music and bought myself a bass recorder, which I love. I thought it was big - until I was at a recorder weekend and stood next to a Contra bass (see photo below). Now, *they* are enormous!

The pear tree you gave me is in full bloom and the rose has burst into life.

Thank you again for all your kindness. I miss Marcham School very much. I think of you every day and keep you in my thoughts and prayers. Go well and safely!



"Living the Vision" certificates were awarded to:

Friday 1st May – Fiona, Nolan, Leonor, Tom, Ethan, Paige and Naia



"Reach for Learning" certificates were awarded to:

Friday 1st May – Bobby M, Leopards Class, Ed, Ashleigh, Cerys, Dexter and Aleks

Staffing news:

We are delighted to announce that Miss Taylor (Teaching Assistant in Pandas) is expecting her first baby in October. The children within Pandas class have already heard the news and are looking after Miss Taylor within the classroom!



On Sunday 26th April, a number of pupils from Marcham took part in the Schools Triathlon for Restless Development. Before the day they had spent time fundraising for this event and then during that day took part at Abingdon School. Teams from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 took part swimming 50m, cycling 1000m and running 750m. They all worked incredibly hard, persevering until the end and sharing their achievements in assembly. I'm told the hardest part was the cycling as the course had lots of tight turns. Miss Knowles and Mr Clayton showed their support and cheered on the groups of Years 5 and 6 during the afternoon.

Children who took part were: **Alex, Olly, Clayton, Phoebe, Ashleigh, Scarlett, Florence, Isla, Laurie, Annabelle, Thomas, Dexter, Ianis, Jamie, Emmy, Harriett, Heidi, Zara, Romy, Lena and Clara**. Well done to you all.



Schools Games Mark:

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved, for the second time, the **School Games Silver Mark Award** for the 2025/26 academic year. The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success. With a total of young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport.

A special thanks to: **Zoe Barnes** for helping with all the clubs and sporting fixtures and **Miss Knowles** who coordinates all the PE and fixtures for our school. We look forward to applying once again in 2027! If you have any special sporting interests or any clubs you could volunteer for, please do speak to Miss Knowles or the Office as these help children throughout our school!

Giraffes and **Kangaroos** have both recently shared their learning and work with parents during Sharing Assemblies. They all spoke well, teaching us about their topics, achievements in writing and Romy even did a wonderful teaching section on how to solve a long division!. Both classes also shared some lovely artwork, testing out techniques and persevering until their finished product was ideal.

A selection of pupils in Years 5 and 6 have started practising for another Orchestra Day on Tuesday 16th June. Rehearsals for new pieces of music take place in school on a **Monday afternoon (please ensure your instruments are in school every week)**. More information will be shared soon.



On Thursday 7th May, Meerkats walked around Marcham village to post their persuasive letters, considering directions and addresses. They also decided to send a copy of our letters to Sir David Attenborough to celebrate his 100th birthday and to show the impact that his research has had on our writing, and plastic pollution around the world. Additionally, they will try sending their letters to Blue Peter to see if we can earn an environmental Blue Peter badge! Thank you to the parents who went with Meerkats on their walk.



Statutory assessments:

These start next week with Year 6 completing their SATs. A letter has been sent home separately to share the timetable for this. A reminder about the dates for statutory assessments for children in Years 1, 4, and 6 during the summer term are:

Year 6: SATs – 11th – 15th May,

Year 4: Multiplication Check – 1st – 12th June,

Year 1: Phonics Screening Check – 8th – 12th June.

A reminder that breakfast will be available for Year 6 pupils next week (Monday – Thursday), cereal bars, toast (and a variety of toppings) and fruit will be offered from 8.05am.

Big Marcham Weekend: A reminder that this weekend is the Big Marcham Weekend with daytime and evening entertainment at the Marcham Centre. School will be sharing some of our maypole dancing skills so please do come along and support this event.



Positive self-esteem helps children feel confident, valued, and ready to learn. Children with SEND may need extra encouragement to recognise their strengths and celebrate their achievements.

Parents can support self-esteem by:

- Praising effort and progress
- Encouraging independence
- Celebrating strengths and interests
- Using positive, encouraging language
- Helping children feel included and listened to

Small successes and kind encouragement can make a big difference to a child's confidence and wellbeing.

With best wishes,

L Priddle

Lindsay Priddle, Headteacher

Learning of the Week

Pandas:

This week in Reception, the children enjoyed learning all about the police through a special visit from police officers. They learnt about the important jobs police do, explored the police car, listened to the sirens and tried on police hats.

The children also developed their gross motor skills by completing a police obstacle course to collect clues, explored fingerprints and their unique patterns and created large collage police officer alongside sharing their own imaginative police stories.

Leopards:

Leopards are very much enjoying their topic 'Castles' and last week they had extended DT. Using their new knowledge regarding the features of a castle the children needed to design and then make a castle. The brief was to include four walls, battlements, at least one tower and a door. They were then able to evaluate their castle and I was impressed by their reflections.

Tigers:

Tigers have been learning about fractions and they practiced finding halves, thirds and quarters. In writing, they have been finishing their diary entries about the Great Fire of London. In Science, they looked at different materials and they discussed why certain materials need to be used for different objects.

Kangaroos:

In Year 3 we have been finishing our stories based on a character who develops due to something difficult happening. We started a new text this week called The Egyptian Cinderella. In Maths we have learnt how to give change with money, and have learnt how to use roman numerals on a clock. Elsewhere we have been getting ready for our sharing assembly on Friday, (we're looking forward to seeing you there!).

Meerkats:

We walked around Marcham village to post our persuasive letters, considering directions and our addresses. We also decided to send a copy of our letters to Sir David Attenborough to celebrate his 100th birthday and to show the impact that his research has had on our writing, and plastic pollution around the world. Additionally, we will try sending our letters to Blue Peter to see if we can earn an environmental Blue Peter badge!



Wolves:

These past few weeks in Wolves' class, we have been busy. The year 6's have been having their final lessons before our SATS week next week. We started a new book in reading all about poems from Ancient Greece. We will be looking at a new poem every day! During writing, we are writing tourist brochures for a holiday to Greece which will be sent to a local travel agent. In Science, we have been looking at the heart and the function of it. We made hearts out of play dough and looked at a model heart.

Giraffes:

This week in Giraffes we have been finishing writing and editing our stories. The audience for our stories was the Tigers class and the class have read the stories to them. In Maths we have learnt about geometry and have recapped reflecting and translating shapes. We have also been revising areas of the KS2 curriculum to build confidence before next week's SATS.

In Science we have learnt about the circulatory system and how oxygen and nutrients are moved by blood around the body. In PE we practiced triple jump and have been perfecting our Maypole dance.

Diary Dates

Day	Date	Event	Timing
Fri – Sat	8 th & 9 th May	Big Marcham Weekend	
Mon –Thurs	11 th – 14 th May	Year 6 SATS week	
Tuesday	19 th May	Years 5 & 6 – British Museum Trip	All day
Wednesday	20 th May	Y5/6 Tennis Competition – more details to follow	12.30 – 3pm
Friday	22 nd May	Maypole Celebrations – parents welcome	9.15am
Friday	22 nd May	Tigers Sharing Assembly	2.30pm
Mon – Fri	25th – 29th May	Half Term	
Friday	12 th June	Leopards Sharing Assembly	2.30pm
Tuesday	16 th June	Music Flood Orchestra Day - more details to follow	All day
Thurs – Fri	18 th - 19 th June	Year 4 Residential to Youlbury	
Friday	26 th June	Sports Day – parents welcome	9.15am

On Wednesday 6th May, Jamie Hammond (author) visited Key Stage 2 children at Marcham and spoke about his writing, drawing and designing of books. He shared some of his puzzles and engaged the children into the plot of his latest book Dragonflare.

Have a look at photographs on the website: <https://www.marcham.oxon.sch.uk/author-visit/>

Website: Take a look at your child's class page on our school website, it has been updated with a new letter and curriculum web from their Teacher. Here you will find out all what your child will be learning this term.

[Pandas](#)
[Giraffes](#)

[Leopards](#)

[Tigers](#)

[Kangaroos](#)

[Meerkats](#)

[Wolves](#)

Attendance

Well done to Morland house for 96.40% attendance between 23rd April - 7th May 2026

Term 1 Sept 25 Wed 3 rd Sept to Thu 23 rd Oct INSET days 1 st & 2 nd Sept, 24 th Oct	Term 2 Mon 3 rd Nov to Fri 19 th Dec
Term 3 Tues 6 th Jan to Fri 13 th Feb 2026 INSET Day 5 th Jan	Term 4 Mon 23 rd Feb to Fri 27 th Mar 26
Term 5 Mon 13 th Apr to Fri 22 nd May INSET Days 4 th May	Term 6 Mon 1 st Jun to Fri 17 th Jul INSET Day 20 th July

Anson 96.10%	Denman 94.90%
Duffield 95.30%	Morland 96.40%



Playworker Vacancy for After School Club at Marcham Primary School

Are you passionate about working with children creating fun, safe and engaging play environments? We are looking for an enthusiastic and reliable Playworker to join our team. You will support children's play and development in a safe and stimulating setting, help plan activities and ensure every child feels included and valued. Following safeguarding and health and safety procedures is essential within the role.

We are looking for someone with a positive, energetic and caring attitude. Communication and teamwork skills are a must. Relevant childcare experience is preferred but not essential.

We offer a friendly and supportive team with training and development opportunities. This is a rewarding role where you will be making a real difference.

For an informal chat and more information please contact Vicky Hickman-0788 7711454
Email: info@vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk



3 afternoons a week to include a Monday & Thursday-2.30-5.30pm
Term time only (Holiday Work available)

Salary depends on experience and qualifications

Please note that an enhanced DBS check will be undertaken as part of the recruitment process along with references

website: www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

Nearly new uniform

Don't forget to take a look in the lobby for nearly new uniform before you buy summer dresses and shorts for the summer term.

Footy Kids

Marcham Primary School

5 WEEK PROGRAMME

Start: Wednesday 10th June

Where: School Field

Time: 3:20-4:20pm

Cost: £39 Per Child

£29 per sibling after first



To register your child, please visit
www.enrolmy.com/footy-kids



www.footykids.org

TAX FREE
CHILDCARE
VOUCHERS
ACCEPTED

MAY HALF TERM

Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th May
8:30am - 5:00pm
Location: Aston & Cote Primary
School

Fun for
ages 4-11



Providing quality & accessible childcare
for children aged 4-11 years within a safe,
fun & stimulating environment

ARTS &
CRAFTS

BAKING

MESSY PLAY

OUTDOOR
PLAY

WATER PLAY

NERF WARS

SPORTS

GAMES

BRING YOUR
OWN PACKED
LUNCH & A
LIGHT TEA WILL
BE PROVIDED!

BOOK NOW:

Contact Vicky Hickman

07887711454

holiday@vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

£45
PER DAY