

MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Marcham CE Primary School
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28th November 2025

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

Our value this term is Respect

"So, in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets." Matthew 7 v 12

Dear all,

It doesn't seem possible that we are quickly approaching the end of the Autumn Term, we have already had such a busy term and there are even more events planned for the last three festive weeks of term with performances, carol services and a PTA Christmas Party – make sure you check the dates!

Before all the festivities start, we look forward to seeing you at **Parent Teacher Consultations** which are taking place next week (2nd and 4th December). We made the decision that this year all appointments would be face to face where relationships between staff and parents can be established. They provide a valuable opportunity for families and staff to discuss pupils' progress, strengths, and areas for development as well as giving you an insight into the end of year expectations. All meetings will take place in your child's classroom.



In the next few weeks, we have a number of upcoming events which parents are invited to:

- Reception Nativity Performance – Tuesday 9th December: 2pm
- Year 1 & 2 Nativity Performance – Tuesday 16th December: 2pm
- KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5, & 6) Carol Service – Thursday 18th December: 9.30am



During these events we will be collecting donations in support of *Save the Children* (www.savethechildren.org.uk), which works to improve the lives, safety, and education of children around the world, and the *Dave Thorne Bursary* (www.oolt.org.uk/index.html), which supports children and young people needing financial subsidies to attend outdoor education activities. We warmly encourage anyone, who is able, to contribute to these worthwhile causes.

In addition to these events, we will also be having a Christmas Jumper Day on **Thursday 11th December**, where pupils and staff can all come to school wearing their favourite Christmas jumper. A small donation will be collected if you can contribute.



Christmas Lunch takes place on **Thursday 18th December** - please make sure you have booked a school lunch if you would like one that day.

“Living the Vision” certificates were awarded to:

Friday 21st November: Felix G, Toby B, Poppy, Scarlett and Paige.

Friday 28th November: Bella, Spencer, Lottie, Cerys, Joe, Alfie S, Huey and Mila.

“Reach for Learning” certificates were awarded to:

Friday 21st November: Amalia, Axie, Melody, Ethan and Joe.

Friday 28th November: Joanna, Finn W, Leonor, Joseph, Miguel, Mamadou and Joden.



Children who are part of the school choir (Years 4, 5 & 6) will be taking part in the Music Flood Christmas Carol Service at St Helen’s Church, Abingdon on **Thursday 4th December**. The children have been learning a selection of carols which they will perform with children from a selection of other schools. Some of these children will also be included in the massed orchestra playing some of the carols on a variety of instruments: violins, double bass, glockenspiels, keyboard and percussion. Please make sure you have given permission for your child to attend this event.



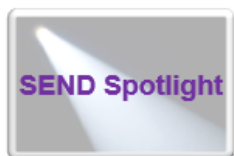
Thank you to all the parents who baked and decorated a large amount of cake and cookies for the Bake Sale organised by our Year 6 pupils to fund the creation of the Friendship Bench. So much hard work and support enabled us to raise £167.75 which will be used to buy paint, brushes, sandpaper and other resources for this bench to be decorated as shown in the design. Next is an exciting trip to buy the resources!

We are sad to share that Mrs Chloe Rowland (taught Year 2 last year for 2 days a week) has made the decision to leave our school following her maternity leave. Although we are sad to be saying goodbye while she was on maternity leave, her family has relocated. We wish her every happiness and success for the future, and we thank her for all the care, dedication, and enthusiasm she brought to our school community. She will always be part of the Marcham family.

With best wishes

L Priddle

Lindsay Priddle, Headteacher



Looking for affordable ways to enjoy family time this autumn and winter? The Max Card offers free or discounted entry to hundreds of attractions across the UK – and it’s free for families of children with disabilities in Oxfordshire.

Local venues accepting the Max Card include:

- Museums like the Oxford University Museum of Natural History
- Play centres such as Snakes & Ladders in Abingdon
- Farms and wildlife parks including Fairytale Farm and Cotswold Wildlife Park

To find out more, [click here](#).

Learning of the Week

This week **Pandas** have started to think about Christmas with their very first practice of their nativity performance. We have been learning about Thanksgiving and how this is celebrated across the world. We continue to learn our phonics each day and are beginning to read simple sentences.

Leopards class enjoyed visiting All Saint's Church on Wednesday. As part of RE we have been learning about different celebrations, and we visited church with Jill and Phil to learn about a christening and what happens during this event. Evie and Roman made great parents and Felix and Isla made wonderful Godparents. A huge thank you to Jill and Phill for taking time out of their day to bring our learning alive.

This week, **Tigers** have been learning about non-chronological reports and they have been reading fact files about different animals. They have learnt about the different subheadings and what they mean. In Maths, they have been working on their adding and subtracting with exchanging, and in Science they learnt about what animals need to survive.

In **Kangaroos** we have been finishing off our work in The Ice Palace, (ask us what has happened!), writing predictions and book reviews. We have started a new unit on multiplication and division in Maths. We have also been investigating what the Uffington White Horse can tell us about the Bronze Age, among other things!

In **Meerkats**, we developed our DT skills by creating mock sandals out of paper. We experimented with different styles, sizes, and construction techniques in preparation for designing, making, and evaluating our final product.



Last week, we had assessment week, the Year 6's were in **Wolves** Class and practiced their SATS, they all did really well! They were tricky but every child showed our learning behaviours and did their best. This week, in Maths we have been looking at adding and subtracting fractions. In Writing, we started our new topic reading the book 'What the Macaw Saw' and we will be creating poems from this. On Thursday 27th November, both Giraffes and Wolves class went to the Living Rainforest as part of our Rainforest topic. The pictures are on the website to have a look at! <https://www.marcham.oxon.sch.uk/living-rainforest/>

This week in **Giraffes** class, we have made periscopes. We got to go in groups of 2's, 3's or 4's to make one. First, we cut diagonal lines on each side and 2 squares. We put mirrors through the lines and we could see around walls! In Maths, we have been learning how to subtract fractions. Yesterday, we went to the Living Rainforest and we all saw loads of cool animals. In Writing we planned a non-chronological report on rainforest animals. In DT we have been planning and designing a Christmas decoration. Poppy

We have learnt how to make periscopes with two mirrors and a cereal box. The angles of the mirrors needed to be precise, or it won't work at all. We have been on a field trip to the Living Rainforest which is near Newbury. We learnt a lot of facts about the animals there and how they have adapted to survive in the Rainforest. Miles

Diary Dates

Day	Date	Event	Time
Monday	1st December	IMPS visit for Year 6 (in school)	Morning
Tuesday	2 nd December	Parent Teacher Consultations	3.30 – 6pm
Thursday	4th December	Carol Service – Choir (details sent)	11 – 2.30pm
Thursday	4 th December	Parent Teacher Consultations	5 – 8pm
Friday	5 th December	PTA Christmas Party – ticketed event	6.30 – 8pm
Tuesday	9th December	Pandas Class Nativity – parents welcome	2pm
Thursday	11th December	Open Morning – parents welcome to visit classes	8.35 - 9.05am
Thursday	11th December	Christmas Jumper Day	All day
Tuesday	16th December	KS1 (Leopards & Tigers) Nativity – parents welcome	2pm
Thursday	18th December	KS2 Carol Service – Church – parents welcome	9.30am
Thursday	18 th December	Christmas Lunch	12 – 1pm
Friday	19th December	End of Term	1.30pm



Nearly New Uniform

Don't forget to look at the rails of nearly new uniform in the school entrance area for some amazing bargains. There is lots of great condition uniform on sale. All money donated will go to the PTFA to buy extras for the pupils of our school.

Term 1 Sept 25 Wed 3rd Sept to Thu 23rd Oct INSET days 1 st & 2nd Sept, 24th Oct	Term 2 Mon 3rd Nov to Fri 19th 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

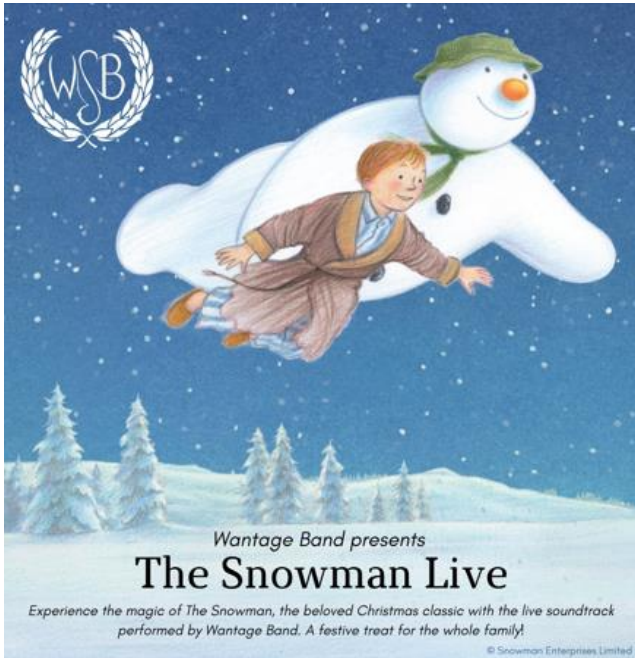
Attendance

Well done to Morland house with 98.49% attendance 13th to 26th November.

Anson 96.7%	Denman 93.55%
Duffield 96.43%	Morland 98.49%

Little Recyclers

Thank you to everyone who donated clothes/shoes etc. To the collection on Tuesday. We raised £35.25 which will go into the Preschool Foundation partnership to buy additional learning resources.



Christmas opportunities to hear live music of *The Snowman* performed by Wantage Band. Scan the QR code for more information.

Saturday 6th December
The Beacon, Wantage

Sunday 14th December
Amey Theatre, Abingdon

Tickets available at
www.wantageband.org/events



You're Welcome It's the Fab Kennington Christmas Charity Display

 **Sat Nav OX1 5QP**
NOW LIT UP EVERY
EVENING FROM 5pm

**Visit Santa every Fri Sat
and Sun 5pm till 8pm**

**Every child receives a good present,
all we ask is a kind donation
for our chosen charities**

**Thank You For Your Support.
See You Soon.**



Ancient & Modern Astronomy and Stargazing Evening, 18th December

We are delighted to announce our Ancient and Modern Astronomy Evening at the Iris Classics Centre at Cheney School on Thursday 18th December.

The event will feature an opening talk from an expert astronomer, planetarium shows, stalls and activities, and stargazing.

Below are timings for each part of the evening:

4.30 – 5.15pm – planetarium show

5.30 – 6pm – opening talk by Katie Savard, University of Oxford: Black Holes

6 – 8pm – stalls, activities and stargazing – including planetarium shows at 6.15 – 7pm, and again from 7.15 – 8pm

Please note all three planetarium shows are identical.

If you would like to book places to attend, please fill in [this form](#).