MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Marcham CE Primary School
Morland Road, Marcham
Abingdon, Oxon OX13 6PY
Tel; 01865 391448
or email on; office.3235@marcham.oxon.sch.uk



09 October 2026

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

Our value this term is Friendship

"Two people are better than one. They get more done by working together. If one person falls, the other can help him." *Ecclesiastes 4 v 9-10*

Dear all,

Harvest Festival took place yesterday in the dry (but not hugely sunny) Autumn afternoon. Thank you to all who donated food for the Abingdon Foodbank (see pictures below), we had a wonderful selection to take today. The children all shared their wonderful songs, poems and information about Harvest around the World. Pandas sang songs Big, Red Combine Harvester and Dingle Dangle Scarecrow, Leopards sang The Singing Vegetables, Tigers sang What the Harvest Brings, Kangaroos shared a poem with actions, Meerkats shared their mosaic leaves, Wolves shared a poem and Giraffes shared information about Harvest around the world. All the children showed confidence and enthusiasm when sharing their work.









Just a quick reminder that we are a Nut-free school due to some children having severe allergies which would need medical intervention if exposed to nuts. Please make sure that all items in your child's lunch box do not contain nuts or nut-flavouring. This includes biscuits with chocolate flavoured fillings (especially Nutella).

Pupil voice groups:

Congratulations to our newly elected pupils for our pupil groups who were awarded their badges last Friday. All groups have now met and are working to develop the school further. Look out for more information from each group in the future.

School Council	Eco Council	Worship Council
Chloe, Ella, Catalina, Laurie, Lottie, Isaac, Sophia L, Dawson, Nola, Nushka, Fiona and Leo.	Maisie W, Alba, Cerys, Oliver, Hadley, Sylvia, Finley P, Lucas M, Ava, Milly, Elodie and Edison	Layla, Isla H, Melody, Ezra, Felix P-G, Prayushi and Heidi

Reminder – Open Morning is on Thursday 15th October. Please come into school and see your child's books and learning when you drop them off (8.35 – 9.05am).

SCHOOL COUNCIL NOTICE:



Non-uniform day **Thursday 22nd October**- Pot of Gold Day
Dear Parents & Carers,

Sobell House wrote to the school and have invited us to take part in their fundraising campaign- Pot of Gold Day. They are marking their 50th anniversary and have invited schools in Oxfordshire to dress in bright colours for a day. They ask that you donate £1 or £2 to the charity. Sobell House Hospice is part funded by the NHS but half of their funding comes from their charity.

On Thursday 22nd October please come to school dressed in bright colours and bring in £1 or £2 cash which the school councillors in each class will collect.

Thank you again for taking part in our rainbow day for hospice care!

Kind regards
School Council

ClassDojo

As a school we use the online platform of ClassDojo to share learning and achievements. Please make sure you have logged into your child's class to be able to see what they have been doing as well as acknowledgements for positive learning behaviours. If you need further information about doing this, please speak to your child's class teacher.

"Living the Vision" certificates were awarded to:
Friday 2nd October: Bobbie, Joanna, Amadou, Chloe and Aaliyah
Friday 9th October: Angus, Roman, Leonor, Sylvia, Maisie W and Sienna



"Reach for Learning" certificates were awarded to:
Friday 2nd October: Edison, Amalia, Tom, Scarlett and Maryam
Friday 9th October: Leopards Class, Amalia, George, Darcie, Jamie, Cerys

If you have any spare Lego base boards at home that you would be happy to donate to our Nurture group, we would be very grateful. Please drop any donations into the school office. Thank you for your support!

SEND Spotlight

Oxfordshire Parent Carers Forum (OxPCF) and the CAMHS NDC team are offering free online webinars for all Oxfordshire parents and carers. Topics include supporting neurodivergent children, emotional wellbeing, school avoidance and understanding behaviour. Sessions run from 12:00–1:30pm via Microsoft Teams, with recordings available afterwards. Please see the flyer attached at the end of this newsletter for further information and details on how to book your free place.

We look forward to sharing more of the work of our pupil groups with you soon.
Best Wishes,

LPriddle

Lindsay Priddle Headteacher

Learning of the Week

Pandas:

This week in Pandas, we have been enjoying the story *The Little Red Hen*. We used puppets and props to act out the story and thought carefully about what we might do if we were the Little Red Hen. This gave us lots of opportunities to develop our speaking and listening skills and to talk about kindness, helping others and working together.

We also explored how bread is made, looking closely at wheat and watching videos of farmers harvesting the grain using combine harvesters. We then had a go at making our very own bread! We made some delicious bread for ourselves, as well as some to share with our friends across Marcham School.

Leopards:

Leopards have been using the story 'The Scarecrow's Hat' as a base for their learning. The have collaged two of the main characters from the story and carefully draw animals and painted backgrounds. In Phonics they have looked at 'air' as in chair, 'ure' as in manure, 'er' as in hammer' and also started to spot these sounds within pictures books. In Maths we have been matching number words to digits within 20, comparing numbers and using the language fewer, more, same to identify groups of items.

Tigers:

Tigers have been learning about living things and their habitats in Science. They learnt about what animals get from their habitats and why it is important for each animal to be in the correct habitat. They also learnt about different plants and why they need to grow in certain places. In Maths, they have been learning about fact families and they have been learning the 3 times tables. In topic, they have learnt about African animals and they wrote non-chronological reports about them in Writing.

Kangaroos:

We have been working hard in Kangaroos and really started getting into our topic about The Stone Age. We have learnt that the prehistoric people were nomads and have discovered how they survived. In addition to this, we have begun to experiment with charcoal and chalk to create cave paintings.

At the beginning of last week, we were lucky enough to have Phil and Jill come in to share their experience of Holy Communion to understand what it means to them - thank you so much VIPs - and many of us are proving to be quite green fingered in Science growing some very healthy broad bean plants.

We Kangaroos have been continuing our work on presentations, making colourful Harvest posters and been perfecting our letter formation/joins while we aim to get a pen licence - some imminent so watch this space!

We have also loved learning our Harvest poem to perform at our wonderful festival.

Meerkats:

In Year 4, our topic this term has been The Romans. In art, we have been exploring what mosaics are, how they are made and we have developed our design skills in preparation for creating one. We have applied our knowledge of mosaics to make our own mosaic harvest leaves.

Wolves:

These past few weeks we have been working hard in Wolves Class. We have spent time reading and finishing our book 'Goldfish boy'. It has kept all of us on edge with trying to find out what happened to Teddy! In writing, we have been busy writing letters, and we have started to form letter which we will send to Oxfordshire County Council! In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting and using them in context. In Geography, we have been looking closer at Oxford and population growth and key dates to create a timeline of events.

Giraffes:

This week in Giraffes we have been continuing to read Journey to the River Sea. We are now half way through the book and have lots of questions. What is Westwood? How will Finn stay hidden from the Crows? Why did Faro take Clovis to Finn? We will be writing biographies next week about explorers who travelled to the Amazon River to find new species of plants and animals. In Maths we have been learning about factors and multiples as well as counting through zero. In Science we dissected an egg and looked closely at the different parts and what their function would be if the egg were fertilised.

Diary Dates

Day	Date	Event	Time
Thursday	15th October	Open Morning – all classes	8.35am – 9.05am
Monday	19th October	Road Safety Workshop – Pandas	Morning
Wednesday	21st October	Lego Workshop (Y5&6) & Assembly – KS2	All day
Thursday	22nd October	Lego Workshop (Y3&4)	All day
Thursday	22nd October	Non-uniform Day – raising money (School Council) - £1	
Friday	23rd October	INSET Day – School closed to pupils	
Mon – Fri	26th – 30th Oct	Half Term	
Monday	2nd November	Autumn Term 2 starts for all pupils	
Tuesday	3rd November	Open Morning for Prospective Reception Pupils – September 2027	
Tuesday	3rd November	River Thames & Abingdon Museum visit – Graffes (more details to follow)	All day
Wednesay	4th November	River Thames & Abingdon Museum visit – Wolves (more details to follow)	All day
Mon – Fri	9th – 13th Nov	Y6 Residential to Kilvrough –collection time to follow	
Monday	23rd November	Parents Evening – 3.30 – 6pm	
Thursday	26th November	Parents Evening – 4 – 6.30pm	

Term 1 Sept 2026 Thurs 3rd Sept to Thu 22nd Oct **INSET days** 1st & 2nd Sept, 23rd Oct	**Term 2** Mon 2nd Nov to Fri 18th Dec 26
Term 3 Jan 2027 Tues 5th Jan to Fri 12th Feb 27 **INSET Day** Mon 4th Jan 27	**Term 4** Mon 22nd Feb to Thurs 25th Mar 27 **Bank Holiday: Fri 26th Mar 27**
Term 5 Mon 12th Apr to Fri 28th May 27 **Bank Holiday:** Mon 3rd May	**Term 6** Tues 8th Jun to Wed 21st Jul 27 **INSET Day** Mon 7th Jun

Well done to Anson house with the best attendance for the 28th September – 8th October 2026.

Anson 96.6%	**Denman** 93.3%
Duffield 94.1%	**Morland** 96.1%

OXFORDSHIRE PARENT CARERS FORUM
A Voice for Parent Carers in Oxfordshire

NHS
Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust

OxPCF & NDC CAMHS
Parent Carer Webinar Series

Information | Support | Practical strategies | A chance to ask questions

A series of online webinars for parent carers in Oxfordshire, offering expert information, practical strategies and the opportunity to ask questions.

All sessions take place from 12:00pm – 1:30pm (online via Teams)

Online via Microsoft Teams

Wed 30 Sep 2026	What to expect from the CAMHS NDC Service
Fri 23 Oct 2026	Parent carer burnout and looking after yourself
Wed 18 Nov 2026	Parenting neurodivergent young people as a neurodivergent parent
Wed 09 Dec 2026	Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)
Wed 20 Jan 2027	Making sense of distress
Wed 24 Feb 2027	Understanding masking
Wed 17 Mar 2027	Supporting neurodivergent young people to stay safe online
Wed 21 Apr 2027	Understanding eating difficulties in neurodivergent young people



Join us online from the comfort of home

Everyone welcome!

Register for your free space via **www.oxpcf.org.uk/events**

All sessions are recorded and a summary will be shared on our website.
You can watch the recordings, slides, Q&As and other useful resources on our website under the Resources section.