

MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



6th March 2026

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

Our value this term is Responsibility

"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might." Ecclesiastes 9 v 10

Dear all,

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term. As I write this the sun is shining and we are now in meteorological spring, the daffodils in the garden are in full bloom and we are enjoying being outside during playtime and lunchtimes! Do please make sure that your child still has a coat at school just in case the rain comes unexpectedly.

With the season of Spring comes new life and Pandas have had first-hand experience of this during the last few weeks. Eight eggs arrived on Monday 23rd February carefully positioned in an incubator for the children to watch. Two days later, great excitement shared that our first chick has hatched. Following this hatching continued until seven successfully started cheeping for food and water. The children have thoroughly enjoyed watching this life cycle and were sad to say goodbye to the chicks today.



On Wednesday afternoon Key Stage 2 welcomed members of Hanney Church to give a presentation on the stories in the Old Testament of the Bible. The leaders of the session praised the children for their attention and participation skills.

As part of our PE curriculum, Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) are having cricket teaching this half term. Zoe Barnes from Chance to Shine Cricket came into school on Thursday 26th February and led an assembly highlighting the key skills and requirement for all to be resilient when learning something new. All classes have now had two sessions and everyone was eager to learn more.



Thank you to Zoe for providing this cricket tuition as part of Chance to Shine.

More photos on the website: <https://www.marcham.oxon.sch.uk/chance-to-shine/>

World Book Day:

What a spectacular array of costumes we had today in school, ranging from fairy tale characters, to Harry Potter as well as football characters and even a Gruffalo (or two)! The children spent time voting in their classes for costume winners as well as looking at the book: Charlie Cook's Favourite Book. Winners were awarded in each class:

Pandas: Angus, Leo, Edison,
Tigers: Fern, Mia, Jayjay,
Meerkats: Alba, Ethan, Cerys,
Wolves: Paige, Dexter, Clara.

Leopards: Phoebe, Isla N, James B,
Kangaroos: Lottie, Leira, Sylvia,
Giraffes: Joden, Romy, Naia,



"Living the Vision" certificates were awarded to:

Friday 27th February: Lily W, Ria, Axie, Amadou, Amelie, Mamadou and Romy.

"Reach for Learning" certificates were awarded to:

Friday 27th February: Leo, Elodie, Finley L, Sophia L, Hadley, Ella, Aurora and Willow.



Diary Dates:

Please do look at the end of the newsletter for some important dates for this half term. We will update this with more events as they are booked so, please keep checking!

Parents Evening: Appointments for Parents Evening (Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th March) are opening next week. These appointments will be face-to-face. If you have recently had a SEN review, you may not need to book another appointment as you will have already discussed your child's progress.

Please note: Wolves Class appointments are only on Tuesday 17th March due to Miss Knowles being unavailable on Thursday

Sensory Processing

Some children experience the world differently because their brains process sensory information (such as sound, touch or movement) in unique ways. They may become overwhelmed by certain sensations or need extra movement or fidgeting to help them focus.

Ways to support at home include:

- Regular opportunities for movement and outdoor play
- Short breaks during homework or focused activities
- A calm space your child can go to if they feel overwhelmed
- Keeping routines predictable where possible



With best wishes,

L Priddle

Lindsay Priddle, Headteacher

Learning of the Week

Pandas:

Over the past two weeks, we have been learning about the life cycle of a chicken. The children loved observing our real eggs in class and were excited to watch 7 of the 8 chicks hatch, learning about the hatching process along the way. They carefully held and stroked the chicks, named them and tracked how they grew. We also explored how chicks develop inside an egg, learned about the parts of an egg, wrote about the chicken life cycle and enjoyed creative activities such as making plasticine chicks, drawing them step-by-step and painting pictures inspired by our real chicks.



Leopards:

Leopards have been busy learning about 'The Great Race' and how in ancient times 12 animals swam across a river! Leopards have not only produced fantastic writing but also brilliant artwork which will make a new class display. During Maths we have been working with numbers to 50 - lots of counting in tens. We have also been using dienes to represent numbers within 50.

Tigers:

Tigers have been learning about multiplication and division this week and they have been using arrays and grouping. In Writing, they have been using conjunctions and in Art, they created an ocean collage using different patterns, textures and materials.

Kangaroos:

Since returning from half term, Year 3 have been focusing on a new text for English, The Pebble in my Pocket. We have our own rocks with eyes to tell us what they have seen in the last 480 million years! We have started a new unit on fractions in Maths, learning to compare fractions with either the same numerators or denominators. All this alongside a range of other learning in our foundation subjects, such as branching databases, cricket, and the work of Georgia O'Keeffe

Meerkats:

In Meerkats class, we have been exploring boats as part of our Design and Technology (DT) unit. This week, we have been investigating a range of materials and shapes to evaluate their buoyancy and speed. We carried out practical tests to discover which materials float best and which boat designs move most efficiently through the water.

Wolves:

These past few weeks in wolves' class have been busy! We have had our assessment week this week where the year 6's have taken on practice SATS papers. We have been busy practicing our class assembly and we have had World Book day today where we dressed up as characters. We looked at the book 'Charlie Cooks favourite book' and created our own class version of the story. We have also started our weekly cricket sessions with Zoe from Chance to Shine!

Giraffes:

This week in Giraffes it has been assessment week. The year sixes have been preparing for SATS week by having a full practice week and the year 5's have been completing their assessments too. Both year groups have worked hard in their assessments. In Maths we have started to learn about algebra. We have looked at how formulae can be used like sets of instructions to work out answers. In English we have started a new book, Kensuke's Kingdom, and have plotted Michael's journey from the UK to Australia. In Science we have learnt how offspring share similarities to their parents but are not identical. In PE we have had the first of our Cricket sessions. Everyone had a great time getting involved in the cricket related games.

Diary Dates

Day	Date	Event	Time
Friday	6th March	World Book Day – come dressed as favourite character from a book	
Friday	6th March	Wolves Sharing Assembly – parents welcome	2.30pm
Monday	9th March	Inflatable Football Taster Day	
Tuesday	10th March	Year 5 – Let's Communicate Visit to Abingdon School	9.30 – 12.00
Thursday	12th March	Netball Competition – more details to follow	
Tuesday	17th March	Parent Teacher Consultations	3.30 – 6pm
Thursday	19th March	Parent Teacher Consultations	5.00 – 7.30pm
Friday	20th March	Meerkats Sharing Assembly – parents welcome	2.30pm
Monday	23rd March	Years 4 & 5 – Big Sing at Radley College – more details to follow	9.30 – 11.30am
Monday	23rd March	Triathlon Bake sale	3:13pm KS2 playground
Friday	27th March	Easter Assembly in Church – all welcome	9.30am
Friday	27th March	Term Ends -	1.30pm
Monday	13th April	Pupils return to school for Summer Term	8.35am

Please see the link below to the School Health Nursing Newsletter from the School Health Nurse team

[Term 4: Primary School Health Nursing Newsletter March 2026](#)

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 for 97.70% attendance between 3rd February to 5th March.

Anson 96.99%	Denman 93.65%
Duffield 96.39%	Morland 97.70%

School Website

We have been busy updating our school website - take a look at:

[Reception \(Pandas\)](#) - There is a new class letter from Mrs Wagsatff for this term and a new curriculum web so you can see what your child is learning.

[Year 4 \(Meerkats\)](#) - Science Workshop at Abingdon School - Cricket Sessions

[Year 5/6 \(Wolves\)](#) - Yoga Sessions in Mental Health Week - Music Flood - Chance to Shine Cricket

[School Sporting Events](#) - Dance Festival at KA's - Chance to Shine(KS2)

Easter Activities

There are many leaflets with information about Easter holiday clubs and activities, drop in and take a photo of any that may interest you and your family.

Isla, Florence, Scarlett,
Laurie and Annabelle,
from Meerkats class, are
having a

BAKE SALE
fundraiser!

Triathlon Bake Sales:
Monday 23rd March and
Friday 17th April

On Monday 23rd March

after school

Marcham Primary School
playground

We are taking part in the Knight Frank Schools
Triathlon. We will be swimming, cycling and
running, as a team, to raise funds for the charity

Restless Development