

December 2022

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. S Hall

What has been going on?

We are coming to the end of a busy month; December always is. The focus of this month is to make sure the learning opportunities continue, but at the same time ensuring children make magical memories as we lead up to Christmas. We have made sure the children have started their Marshland Moment journals. We have seen our children: prepare an art exhibition, write and post a letter (to King Charles!), jump in the biggest puddles and make and sell something to raise money.

Curriculum Planning

There have been some really exciting lessons this term. One subject we are particularly proud of is art and design. The focus for autumn was drawing and sketching and the children have an additional drawing lesson each Thursday. We have been very pleased with the progress we made, so much so that we decided to do our own Art Gallery which I know many of you enjoyed attending. One of the comments on the recent parent surveys is about making sure parents keep informed of their child's learning, so we will make sure you get the curriculum planning for each term. You can also help by working with your child on their homework menu which will be sent home when we return in January.



Stars of the Week for December

Class	2.12.22	9.12.22	16.12.22
Mrs Aston - FS2	Grace	Ruby	Henry
Miss Farrar - Y1	Jace	Romie	Brooklyn
Mrs Latham - Y2	Leyton	Nicoleta	Savannah
Miss Robinson - Y3	Daisy	Kasey-Leigh	Jace
Miss Gardiner - Y4	Travis M	Dolly	Travis K
Mrs Stables - Y5	Ruby-Anne	Taylor	Ameara-Jenny
Mrs Marshall - Y6	Cameron	Henley	Everyone!

Well done to the children who have won the Stars of the Week throughout December. We are going to be introducing a new reward. The staff who work in the kitchen have been so amazed by one of our youngest pupils **Carter-Jai** in Y1. They have said that he has the most amazing manners and is always kind and respectful to others, so that prompted us to introduce a new award in our weekly Celebration Assembly, for lunchtimes.

Monday—PE Kit

PE will continue on a Monday and this includes Year five now that swimming has finished. Please support us by making sure your child attends Marshland on a Monday wearing their PE kit. This should be black shorts/ leggings/ jogging bottoms and a plain white t-shirt, **NOT** slogans or cropped-tops. At this time of year, they also need plain hoodies.

'At the heart of it all is the child'

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How can we help?

There is no doubt, that these are difficult times. Please remember there is nothing wrong with asking for help—it is a strength. **FREE SCHOOL MEALS** if you are unsure whether you are eligible for free school meals, it is worth checking on DMBC's website. Not only does this entitle your child to a school meal, it opens up opportunities for **free** holiday clubs and meals. Even if you are out of work for a couple of days, you can apply and this entitlement stays with the children for a number of years. If you need support to access the online application, please contact the school office. [Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk) **UNIFORM** We have a uniform shop on a Thursday afternoon. This allows you to come in and make a donation for school uniform. We also welcome any donations, so if you are having a clear out as Santa is visiting, then please pass us any school clothing that your child/ children will no longer wear. And finally, don't forget our FareShare shop on a Thursday afternoon—with free tea and coffee.

Attendance

There are new guidelines out about attendance, which was sent earlier this week.

https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/aaa-guide-for-parents-on-school-attendance.pdf?utm_source=12%20December%202022%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

Class	w.e. 25.11.22	w.e. 2.12.22	w.e. 9.12.22
Mrs Jowitt - F1	85.2%	72.2%	60.7%
Mrs Aston - FS2	86.1%	88.3%	57.8%
Miss Farrar - Y1	78.8%	84.7%	75.9%
Mrs Latham - Y2	97.5%	80%	95.6%
Miss Robson - Y3	97.5%	95.6%	98.8%
Miss Gardiner - Y4	95%	77.5%	81.0%
Mrs Stables - Y5	95.8%	92.5%	82.9%
Mrs Marshall - Y6	100%	94.7%	91.8%
Whole School	92.5%	87.1%	81.7%

We must have your support with this—we can't do it without you! This does mean the children arrive on time and are collected at 3:15. There is an increasing number of children being collected in an afternoon before the end of the day. This means that your child misses some or all of the last lesson in an afternoon and if this is regular, they will always miss that lesson. Children should only be collected early if **they have an appointment that cannot be made out of school hours.**

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Reading

We have recently had an 'advent' reading challenge at Marshland with over 80 children completing this. We gave out advent calendars and chocolate Santas as their reward. This response was great.

Your child brings home a reading book and a reading record home from Foundation Stage Two through to Year Six. This might be a 'colour band' book, a chosen book from the library or they might be a free reader. In addition to this, some children might have eBooks linked to our phonics scheme Little Wandle. Please do all you can to get them reading during the break.



Reading is a life skill; something your children will do every day of their lives and we want them to be the very best they can be. We will do all we can at Marshland and we are planning even more different rewards and initiatives, but when they come home with a book at the end of the day, we need your support. Please sit and read to your child, let them read to you, share a book ... or if your child is more independent, just sign to say you know they have read. Working together, we can improve reading. We have made some great steps forwards—let's keep this going. Use the words 'have you read today ...'

Contact Information

If Santa is kind to you and brings you a new phone, which means your number changes, then please let the office know. It is good practice to have two contact phone numbers per child in case of an emergency.

Please make sure contact can be made; you never know when we might need to talk to you.

Your Opinion Matters



[Welcome to Ofsted Parent View | Ofsted Parent View](#)

Your opinion matters at Marshland. Thank you for all the responses we received during our 'Celebration of Learning'. We will look at all the feedback and respond in the new year.

Christmas

And finally, this time of year is such a magical one, but for many it can be equally as difficult. Please make sure you look out for each other; family, friends and neighbours. Be kind, be understanding and remember everyone has a story behind them. Look after your amazing children and I hope Santa is kind to every single one of them

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! See you all on Wednesday 4th January.

Mrs Sarah Hall

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