



The Lion

Monday 2nd October 2017

ENSURING HIGH QUALITY LEARNING AND TEACHING

We have just completed a major review of our Learning and Teaching Policy to make certain that this specifies our values and rationale and reflects what is actually happening in the classrooms. Our policy acknowledges that providing high quality learning experiences is the prime function of our school. We make a commitment to implementing a broad, balanced meaningful curriculum which promotes enjoyment and helps to maximise the rates of progress and standards achieved by all our learners.

Our approach is closely aligned with the National Curriculum 2014 and recognises the need to guide our pupils through a pathway of learning. At Marlborough this is typically described through three sequential phases i.e. 'Knowing and Remembering' through to 'Using and Applying' and then 'Deepening Understanding.' A pupil will be assessed as working at 'a Greater Depth' of understanding when they are able to apply their knowledge and understanding to new and unfamiliar contexts and respond appropriately to higher order questions which might include: Can you see a possible solution to...? What would happen if...? Can you create a new use for...?

We will continue to help our children to understand that:

- Their capacity to gain knowledge, skills and understanding can be transformed when pupils have regular learning opportunities, receive clear guidance from their teachers and show the determination and motivation to practice skills
- Progress in learning is optimised when the experience is appropriately challenging i.e. an achievable struggle
- Making and trying to address/fix errors is an important and necessary part of the learning process

All teachers have been asked to ensure that praise and recognition for the learners is given in direct proportion to the amount of effort and in response to good learning behaviours such as determination, concentration and resilience. Teachers will avoid praising learners according to any criteria which implies a fixed notion of ability e.g. being smart, clever or talented. We would respectfully urge parents/carers to do the same as research has clearly shown that learners do better when they understand that success is determined by effort rather than relying on any misplaced idea of natural talent or ability. Further information about our curriculum along with a copy of our Learning and Teaching Policy can be found on the school's website.

Thank you for your interest and continued support.

Attendance for September 2017

Whole School = 96.4% ↑

Mauve	Purple	Violet	
96.2%	98.2%	96.6%	
Cerise	Magenta	Pink	
96.4%	98.1%	96.0%	
Turquoise	Sapphire	Blue	Indigo
94.7%	97.1%	96.4%	97.3%
Green	Emerald	Lime	
96.1%	97.4%	97.2%	
Gold	Lemon	Yellow	
98.0%	95.6%	95%	
Amber	Orange	Saffron	
95.3%	97.1%	97.5%	
Cherry	Red	Scarlet	
96.0%	91.5%	97.0%	
Nursery	am	pm	
	93.7%	94.3%	

Overall attendance figures have improved slightly from September last year. This is an encouraging sign and we are always very grateful to those parents/carers who continue to support the school by making sure that their children attend each day and arrive on time. We are however still extremely concerned about a significant minority of children whose attendance has already fallen below 90%. Please be assured that the school would not be encouraging any child to attend school when they are genuinely unwell however we would encourage any parent/carer who is uncertain whether their child is well enough to attend school to bring them in and allow the staff to assess the situation. Thank you.

TRIP TO THE SCIENCE MUSEUM

On Friday 29th September Year 5 went on a trip to the Science Museum. This was to help us learn even more about our topic 'To the Stars' where we have been learning about space and the planets in our solar system.

When we arrived we went to the space exhibition where we saw rockets and a luna module and a space suit worn by Buzz Aldrin who was the second man to walk on the moon behind Neil Armstrong.

Next we went to a section about future engineering and did some activities such as building a computerised train track.

After lunch went to the Imax theatre which has one of the biggest screens in Europe. The film was a space documentary and learned about what astronauts do in space. Some of the characters were very funny.

Overall we had a great time and would highly recommend it.

Thank you to all our teachers and adult helpers.

Report by Tanishq, Shirin and Taran
Pink Class

News, Messages and Reminders

- * Mr Murrell represented the school at a special award ceremony at City Hall on Friday 29th September This is where we were formally recognised by the Mayor Sadiq Khan as a 'School for Success' i.e. a school that enables all pupils to fulfil their potential and especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, with Special Educational Needs and/or with English as an Additional Language. This signifies a considerable achievement for Marlborough and we will now be part of a directory of schools who represent examples of best practice.
- * Thank you to all the parents/carers who have adapted so quickly to our new drop-off and pick-up arrangements and continue to support our expectations in respect to school uniform.
- * We were extremely grateful to all those parents/carers who were able to attend our Infant and Junior meetings to help launch the school year.
- * Thank you to all those who have been supporting our PTA MacMillan Coffee mornings

BATTERSEA PARK ZOO

On Tuesday 26th September, Year 3 went to Battersea Park Children's Zoo.

We arrived at school early at 8.30 we went into our groups and got on the coach.

When we arrived the zoo keepers met us and took us to see some of the animals. We saw Otters and Chimpanzees and creatures called Wallabies from Australia. They looked a lot like Kangaroos. We also met and stroked some rabbits and went to the Mouse House where we saw lizards, snakes and mice.

After lunch we saw some Ostrich eggs and a snake's skin. The keepers told us all about them.

We had a really great time and would like thank our to our teachers, our adult helpers and the Keepers at the zoo.

Report by Louis, Maya, Sofia
Lime Class

REMINDER: PARENTS' CONSULTATIONS ON WEDNESDAY 18th OCTOBER AT 2.30pm to 7.00pm