



The Lion

Monday 15th January 2018

WELCOME BACK TO THE SPRING TERM

We would like to extend a warm welcome back for the Spring Term and wish everyone a Happy New Year.

As you may be aware, we said a fond farewell to several members of staff at the end of the Autumn Term including:

- Reception Teacher Mrs Koppert who has relocated to East Anglia
- PE Specialist Miss Laura Boyle who has returned to Northern Ireland
- Year 4 Teacher Miss Kapoor who is exploring other career opportunities
- Computer Technician Mr Lunn, who has taken up an opportunity to work in the private sector
- Marlborough Minders staff Mr and Mrs Davidian who have retired after many years of exceptional service

We are very pleased to have welcomed some new and returning members of staff including:

- Mrs Pandher (formerly Miss Rai) who has returned to teach in Scarlet Class on Monday Tuesday and Wednesday
- Mrs Dewhurst who will teach Scarlet Class on Thursdays and Fridays
- Miss Zahra who will be teaching Indigo Class
- Computer Technician Mrs Paranjape who will be joining our team shortly
- PE Specialists Mr Hill and Mr Hanafin who have taken over Miss Boyle's teaching responsibilities

Please be aware that our 'Peer Challenge' partners (i.e. the Headteachers who work together to support the monitoring and evaluation standards in each others' schools) and our independent professional adviser have spent time at Marlborough observing lessons, talking to children and looking at their books, scrutinising school performance data and meeting with team leaders as part of our termly review. We are delighted to report that they have validated our own self-evaluation which continues to judge the school as 'Good' with some 'Outstanding' and some 'Excellent' features. They also highlighted our key strengths as the overall high quality of teaching, the positive behaviours and attitudes of the pupils and the levels of support given to learners with Special Educational Needs and provision to ensure that for higher attaining pupils are appropriately challenged. In addition, our visitors concluded that we are making good progress in terms of our improvement priorities i.e. the development of pupils' writing skills and some curriculum areas such as Design Technology and Art and Design. They also recognised the challenges arising from the current teacher recruitment crisis in the London area and managing significant budget cuts and reinforced our view that addressing our declining attendance figures is of paramount importance, if we are to realise our aspiration of becoming an 'Outstanding' school in all areas.

Attendance for Autumn Term 2017

Whole School = 95.29%

Mauve	Purple	Violet	
96.78%	97.42%	97.30%	
Cerise	Magenta	Pink	
95.36%	97.92%	94.51%	
Turquoise	Sapphire	Blue	Indigo
97.69%	96.12%	96.20%	96.99%
Green	Emerald	Lime	
95.94%	95.70%	95.86%	
Gold	Lemon	Yellow	
96.99%	93.86%	95.70%	
Amber	Orange	Saffron	
93.09%	95.63%	95.88%	
Cherry	Red	Scarlet	
94.67%	92.49%	94.52%	
Nursery	am	pm	
	81.56%	85.75%	

Unfortunately our attendance figures for the Autumn Term have not shown the improvements we were hoping for. Whilst we are always grateful to the majority of parents/carers who always ensure that their children attend school regularly, there appears to be a significant proportion of families who still insist on taking their children out during term time e.g. to go on holiday and/ or to visit relatives or friends abroad. In addition, there are many examples of children who are persistent non-attenders on a specific pattern of days e.g. every Monday or Friday or are regularly and unnecessarily kept off school for extremely minor ailments. Please be aware that there is a very strong link between good punctuality and attendance at school and good progress in learning, the opposite is also true. We would therefore wish to ask those parents/carers who find it challenging to support the school in this way, to consider the negative impact this has on their child's education and life chances and help our hard working teachers by ensuring their children attend regularly.
Thank you for your support.

ONGOING ROAD SAFETY ISSUES

Despite our ongoing pleas, there are still a significant minority of parents/carers who continue to refuse to help keep our children and other pedestrians safe by insisting on bringing their cars as close to the school as possible e.g. into Holderness Road and then driving and/or parking in an irresponsible, inconsiderate and illegal way. Unfortunately this includes behaviours such as mounting the kerb to park or turn their car around, parking across our neighbours driveways, obstructing the school gates thereby making it impossible for emergency vehicles to enter or exit the premises, driving whilst using mobile phones, failing to have their own children secured in appropriate child seats/belts and/or booster seats and even engaging in abusive or even threatening interactions with others when challenged. This issue has been raised again by a concerned local neighbourhood group who sent a representative to meet with Mr Murrell and a Hounslow Council officer before the Christmas break. During this meeting they went out to directly observe the situation at the end of the school day and were very disappointed to note the volume of cars around the school, some poor driving behaviour and even witnessed a parent becoming argumentative when challenged about parking across a neighbours driveway.

Although we are very grateful to the majority of our parents/carers who always try to ensure that their children walk to school along with those who do drive and park with due care and consideration, we are determined to work even harder with the council, the police, our parents/carers and our neighbours to find a solution which minimises the level of risk. This is likely to include the issuing of tickets in the short term and restricted access and parking in the longer term. In the meantime we would like to encourage as many parents/carers as possible to support the school by enabling their children to walk to school whenever possible.

Thank you.

News, Messages and Reminders

- * We are very grateful to all of the parents/carers and visitors who attended our various Christmas productions and concerts. We received many positive comments in respect to the quality of the performances and the confidence of our children.
- * A huge thank you to our PTA for all their hard work in organising and running our very successful Christmas Fair. This event included a gift stall for children, an inviting Santa's Grotto and some excellent live music and raised a fabulous £1935.98 for the school. This followed up our newly named 'Spooky Disco' in November which raised in excess of £1500.00.
- * Please be aware that our PTA is in the process of being re-structured and are pleased to inform you that Michele Stephen and Jack Butcher have taken on the role of Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.
- * Our school football team have enjoyed a promising start to the season by winning the Cavendish/Marlborough tournament and recording a comfortable victory against Isleworth Town. Congratulations to all the teams involved who represented the school well by showing respect for their opponents.
- * Thank you to everyone who supported our fund raising events for Children in Need and Down's Syndrome Month which raised £646.47 and £602.41 respectively.
- * Well done to the children who have been involved in a special photography project in connection with Cavendish Primary and the Border Crossings intercultural, multi-media and theatre group. The work produced by the children will be part of a special exhibition at the school and Syon House.
- * We have had a number of recent and successful trips including Year 1's visit to the Milestone Museum, Year 2 to the London Transport

REMINDER:PARENT/TEACHER CONSULTATIONS - WEDNESDAY 7th FEBRUARY FROM 2.30pm