



## Newsletter – Spring 3 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to the spring term and a Happy New Year to you all. I hope you all had an enjoyable and peaceful Christmas, even though it will have been different for us all.

The staff and I would like to thank you all for your kindness and the lovely gifts you gave us before Christmas. I think there are enough biscuits and chocolates to keep us going until summer 2021, but they are all gratefully received!! I hope that there will be a time in the not too distant future when we can invite you back into the office for a cup of tea and a biscuit. 😊

In order to help keep both our school communities safe please continue to be vigilant in spotting symptoms of COVID-19 in your children and keeping them at home and book a test as soon as you can. Thank you

### **Staggered arrival and departure**

Thank you everyone for understanding as we have adjusted our arrangements for both drop off and collection. Both schools have arrangements that are now working smoothly.

Our staggered arrival and departure times will continue for the foreseeable future. Please make every effort to arrive at school by 8:55am so that learning can start promptly in all our classrooms. As part of our work on attendance, we will continue to monitor arrival times at school.

Every year it is vital that we make the most of the learning time available to us, it is even more important this year. Thank you in advance for supporting us with this.

**If you are running late, please telephone the office to let us know - 01332 824339 (LL) or 01889 590373 (MM).**

### **Attendance**

Attendance continues to be important, particularly following the closure of schools last year and the disruption some of our families have experienced through isolating following contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19. We will continue to closely monitor attendance and support families where pupils have attendance below 90%.

Attending school regularly is key to your child doing well at school and will set them up with good routines for later life and the working world.

**95% Attendance** – This is the equivalent of having half a day off every other week.

**90% Attendance** – This is the equivalent of having half a day off every week.

**80% Attendance** – This is the equivalent of having a day off every week.

When children are unwell, they should not attend school.

However, I would ask you to consider if they are too ill to attend school, or if they will perk up once they see their friends. Please remember and adhere to the 48-hour rule. Children must not be in school for 48 hours after their last incident of sickness or diarrhoea.

Any children displaying symptoms of Coronavirus should not attend school (a high temperature or a continuous cough or a loss of taste / smell).

As part of our policy on attendance, if your child's attendance falls below 90% we will inform you by letter. In January, we will be reviewing attendance for the autumn term 2020, if your child has had attendance of less than 90% you will receive a letter before the end of January.

### **Absence Procedures**

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please contact school by phone on 01332 824339 before 9.10am. You will need to inform us of the reason for their absence, and when you expect them to return to school. Thank you.

### **Holidays**

#### **"Family Holidays and Other Absences**

**Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006, which came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013. State that Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence for holidays during the term time unless there are exceptional circumstances; in these cases it is the Head teacher who determines the number of days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted.**

Parents needing leave of absence for **exceptional circumstances** should speak to the headteacher as soon as possible and, when possible, at least two weeks before the anticipated start date.

Parents who take their children on holiday without permission will incur an unauthorised absence for their child. These remain on the child's record and will be monitored for further action by the Education Welfare Service."

Derbyshire County Council may issue a fine to parents who take their children out of school for an unauthorised holiday; this can be one day or two weeks.

### **School Meals**

A child's meal is - £2.20, so a week costs £11.00.

The cost of school meals for the second half term is - £63.80.

School meals must be paid for in advance, you may either pay weekly, monthly or for the whole half term. **Due to the current situation we must insist that payment is sent in a clearly labelled envelope. Please ensure you include the name of your child, thank you.** We are unable to accept money that is not in an envelope.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils continue to receive universal free school meals so there is no need to pay.

### **Events in autumn 2 2020 (November and December)**

#### **Remembrance Day (11/11/20)**

Thank you to everyone who took the opportunity to buy poppies from the Royal British Legion, We are still awaiting our totals!

#### **Children in Need (13/11/20)**

Thank you to everyone for your support with this. Long Lane raised £80.00 and Marston raised £50.40.

**Christmas Jumper Day (11/12/20)**

Both schools had an extra festive feel today as the children and staff came in their Christmas jumpers. Once again, thank you for your generosity we raised £58.50 across the Federation.

**Christmas Dinner and Party (16/12/20)**

Mrs Charlesworth and Mrs Rhodes-Thomas did a fantastic job today, cooking us all a delicious Christmas dinner. After dinner we all enjoyed our Christmas Parties – playing games and having fun together! Thank you to our trainee teachers at both schools who planned the parties for us.

**Christmas Service (18/12/20)**

We ended the last week of term with a Christmas service. The service reminded us of the Christian meaning of Christmas and provided the children with an opportunity to reflect on this.

**Events in Spring 3 2021 (January and February)****Parents' Evening (w/b 08/02/20)**

These will follow a similar format to the parents' evenings held in the autumn term. Please look out for more information nearer the time.

**Half Term**

School closes on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 3:30pm for the half term holiday.  
School will reopen on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Unfortunately the following events continue to be postponed for the foreseeable future, -

- Little Monkeys at Long Lane
- Celebration Assembly at both schools
- Marston Tots at Marston
- Community Lunch at Marston
- Joint Days for both schools

**Mrs Bosley's Plan**

My plan for where I would be did not work last half term! I will try to follow the routine set out below, but please understand that this may change! I am aware that I have spent more time at Long Lane during the autumn term so will dedicate more Fridays to Marston whenever I can.

| <b>Monday</b> | <b>Tuesday</b> | <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>Thursday</b> | <b>Friday</b> |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| LLPS          | MMPS           | LLPS             | MMPS            | LLPS / MMPS   |

Kind regards

Teresa Bosley  
(Head Teacher)



# Marston Montgomery Primary School

## Marston Montgomery – Events in January and February

### Outdoor Learning

We will be offering a session of outdoor learning each week. The **Garden Class** will begin to have their Forest School sessions on a Wednesday afternoon during Spring 3 2021 term. When the children are taking part in outdoor learning sessions they will need to bring suitable clothing, e.g. wellington boots, raincoats, gloves, hats etc. **They will take part in outdoor learning whatever the weather so MUST be appropriately dressed!** Please take clothing home after each session.

### **Session dates**

**January – 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>**

**February – 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>**