



## Newsletter – April 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

March was a busy month for both schools. The children have enjoyed two joint events and World Book Day as well as continuing to work hard and make progress. The children completed their termly assessments during March and staff are delighted with the progress that the children have made this term. Well done children for all your hard work.

### **Dinner Money – Spring Term 4**

The price for a child's meal is - £2.10, so a week will cost £10.50. The price of an adult meal is £2.88. The cost of meals for Spring 4 is £71.40. Please make cheques payable to Derbyshire County Council or DCC. Next term (Summer 5) the cost for meals is £39.90.

School meals must be paid for in advance, you may either pay weekly, monthly or for the whole half term. **Payment must be sent in a clearly labelled envelope, thank you.**

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils are still receiving universal free school meals so there is no need to pay.

### **Breakfast Clubs and After School Clubs**

If your child(ren) is attending Breakfast Club please bring them to the front door (the office door) and wait for a member of staff to answer the door. Thank you.

Children arriving at school prior to **8:45am** when the gate opens should wait outside with their parents. In order to be fair to all parents anyone who drops their child(ren) at school prior to 8:45am will be charged for Breakfast Club.

Children should be collected promptly at **3:30pm**, if you are unable to do this please book your child into After School Club.

Booking forms for the summer term 5 will be sent out this week. Please complete these and return them to school so that we can ensure staff are available when necessary. Thank you.

### **Reading Bookmarks**

The children in the Garden classroom have been provided with colour band bookmarks for their reading books. The bookmarks are a useful tool for helping your children's reading development at home. The bookmarks recommend useful discussion points and questions to ask your child while reading a text to develop their comprehension skills. Please use these bookmarks and share what you have discussed in their reading diaries for staff at school to see and build on.

### **Future Event - A date for your diary (27/06/19)**

Today both schools will invite Mums, Grandmas, and Aunties etc. to join us for the morning / part of the morning / lunch. We will send out more details during the summer term but wanted to give you plenty of notice so that you can make appropriate arrangements.

### **Federation Residential – Summer 2020**

We have booked a joint residential for all children in the Meadow Class to attend. This will be offered to pupils who are currently in Year 2, 3, 4 or 5. A letter with more details will be sent out during the Summer Term 6. We are planning to offer residential trips to our children in the Meadow Class every other year.

### **Safeguarding Information**

We have attached a leaflet with information / advice on becoming a safer parent online.

### **Joint Events in March**

**Year 3/4 Splashdown (08/03/19)** – The Acorn Federation entered a team of four children for this event. They took part in a variety of races, using various strokes and showed good team spirit as they did so. Massive congratulations to the children who took part, they came second in the competition!

**Red Nose Day (15/03/19)** – The children joined together today at Marston. The Acorn Federation raised £55 for the charity today.

In the Garden Class, they spent the morning learning about Hassan, a young boy who lives in Sierra Leone. We learned about his life; his family and their home, the foods they eat, the games and activities they enjoy and how Red Nose Day helped them. We compared Hassan's life to our own and created posters to show the similarities and differences. The children then presented their posters to their friends.

On Red Nose Day, the Meadow Classes were inspired by Farhad's Story to create some powerful, brilliant writing. Farhad was a refugee who risked his life, along with his family, to escape the dangers in Syria, by travelling to the safety of Serbia. In the afternoon, they took part in fun activities, including "design your own nose", also word-searches and crosswords based on Red Nose Day clues. It was super to see all of the children working and playing together, raising funds for such an important cause.

**Meadow Class: Islam Workshop (25/03/19)** - The children from both schools had another opportunity to work together when Nahida from the Open Centre came to talk to them about her Muslim faith. She explained how prayer, for Muslims, is an important part of showing respect to God, talking through the rituals of washing before prayer and going through the correct movements into prayer positions. The second part of the workshop gave the children an insight into the important pilgrimage, or religious journey, to Mecca for the Haj, something which is expected of Muslims once in their lifetime, if they can afford it. The children had the opportunity to ask lots of questions, too!

**Garden Class (25/03/19):** The children had a Maths focus this morning. They took part in a range of activities exploring length, weight and capacity. We weighed objects using balance scales and Numicon; we used measuring scales and learnt to read scales; the children also explored Cuisenaire rods and learnt to compare lengths. We also discussed units of measure.

### **Future Joint Events in April**

**QEGS: KS2 Dance Festival (04/04/19)** – Children at both schools have received a letter with more information about this fun annual event.

**QEGS: KS1 Dance Festival (11/04/19)** – Children at both schools have received a letter with more information about this event. It promises to be enjoyable for all the children.

**QEGS: Y1/2 Football Festival (30/04/19)** – A letter will be sent out before the Easter holiday with details so keep an eye out!

### **Mrs Bosley's Plan**

Please remember that if you would like to speak to me when I am at the other school, you can contact a member of staff to see if they are able to help or ask staff to contact me so that I can contact you.

<b>w/b</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>01/04/19</b>	MMPS	MMPS	Work at home	LLPS	LLPS
<b>08/04/19</b>	MMPS	MMPS / LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS / LLPS
<b>15/04/19</b>	<b>Easter Holiday</b>				
<b>22/04/19</b>					
<b>29/04/19</b>	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS
<b>06/05/19</b>	Bank Holiday	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS
<b>13/05/19</b>	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS
<b>20/05/19</b>	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS	MMPS	LLPS
<b>27/05/19</b>	<b>Half Term</b>				

#### **Transport to / from Joint Events**

Please complete the attached survey and return it to school so that we can gauge how the majority of parents feel and plan future events accordingly.

#### **Policy Documents**

Please remember that relevant policies are available on our school websites, including our 'Whistleblowing Policy'. If you would like paper copies of policies, please contact the appropriate school office.

Please remember that all our staff are happy to discuss any concerns / worries you have.

Kind regards

Teresa Bosley  
Head Teacher



# Marston Montgomery Primary School

## Events in March

**FOMM Meeting (01/03/19)** – Friends of Marston met today and planned several fun events to help raise funds for our school. If you would like to join them and help raise funds for our school please speak to a member of staff or one of the Friends.

**World Book Day (07/03/19)** – As well as welcoming the children to school dressed as their favourite book characters today we also welcomed potatoes dressed as book characters and what a variety of characters joined us! We welcomed the following potatoes – a mermaid, Cat in the Hat, Goldilocks and the three Bears to name a few!! We also welcomed some Dads / Grandads into school today and they worked with us whilst we took part in a range of activities based on books.

The School Council organised a Book Sale today and raised £38.40, well done!

**Parents Evening (19/03/19)** – Thank you to all our parents who attended parents' evening. Staff and parents discussed the progress that children have made, their strengths and any next steps.

**ValleyCIDS Assembly (26/03/19)** – Valley Cids presented an assembly on Emotions – What makes us Angry? They also told the story of The Money Lenders.

**Community Lunch (27/03/19)** – As always it was wonderful to welcome members of our local community to school to enjoy a tasty roast dinner!

**Open the Book Assembly (21/03/19 and 28/03/19)** – The Open the Book team led us through parts of the Easter story during these two assemblies.

## Marston Montgomery – Events in April

**FOMM: Film Night (04/04/19 at 6pm)** – We are looking forward to seeing lots of you at our second film night organised by FOMM. The children will enjoy hotdogs and popcorn with their friends while they watch the film.

**Swimming** – The Meadow Class will swim on a Monday afternoon this term. The children will need to bring a swimming costume / trunks and towel. They may bring goggles if they wish. The final date for swimming is – 01/04/19.

**Forest School** – Forest School sessions will continue this term. Each class will take it in turns to take part on a Wednesday afternoon. When the children are taking part in Forest Schools, they will need to bring suitable clothing, e.g. wellington boots, raincoats, gloves, hats etc. They will take part in Forest School whatever the weather so **MUST** be appropriately dressed!

**Garden Class** – 10/04/19, 15/05/19

**Y3/4** – 01/05/19, 22/05/19

**Y5/6** – 03/04/19, 08/05/19

**Celebration Assembly** – All parents and carers are warmly invited to join us on a Friday morning (9:00am to 9:15am) for our celebration assembly where we will celebrate the children's work from the week.

Dates – 05/04/19, 12/04/19, 03/05/19.

**Marston Tots** – Parents, carers, grandparents with pre-school children are welcome to join us for our Tots session on a Friday morning (9:15am – 11:15am).

Dates – 05/04/19, 12/04/19, 03/05/19.

**FOMM Meeting (03/05/19, 2pm at school)** – Everyone is welcome to join us to plan / organise events to raise money for our school.

**FOMM: Car Treasure Hunt (12/05/19)** – This is a date for your diary. FOMM are organising a Car Treasure Hunt to raise funds for our school. The Treasure Hunt will start and end at The Crown in Marston. More details will come closer to the time.



## Transport to / from joint events

Dear Parents / Carers,

Prior to our last joint event (Red Nose Day), some parents offered to contribute to the cost of the coach. They also wondered if it would be easier for parents to go to the host school at the end of the day instead of the beginning as we now do.

In order for us to find out which arrangements the majority of our parents are happy with we have decided to ask you. **Please return your completed surveys to school by 11<sup>th</sup> April.** I will look at the completed surveys over the Easter holiday and let you know the results.

### **There are a number of options for how we organise transport on joint days.**

- 1) Parents take children to the host school, children return on a coach
- 2) A coach takes children to the host school, parents collect from the host school
- 3) Parents take and collect children from the host school
- 4) A coach takes and collects children from the host school

Obviously, the coach has a cost attached to it, on Red Nose Day this cost was £40 for the journey from Marston Montgomery back to Long Lane, a little over £1 per child.

The joint days are an important part of our partnership and provide many benefits to the children, which is why I am happy for school to pay for the transport one way to ease the inconvenience for parents. If we were to start transporting the children in coaches both ways we would need to ask for a voluntary contribution to these days.

Below I have listed the different options for transporting children to the joint events along with a variety of ways we could charge for this. Please complete the list by ordering them starting at 1 with your favourite preference. Any options that you would not be happy with please put a cross in that box.

Option	Order of Preference
1) Parents take children to the host school, children return on a coach – school pays for the coach	
2) Parents take children to the host school, children return on a coach – parents contribute to the cost of the coach	
3) A coach takes children to the host school, parents collect from the host school – school pays for the coach	
4) A coach takes children to the host school, parents collect from the host school – parents contribute to the cost of the coach	
5) Parents take and collect children from the host school	
6) A coach takes and collects children from the host school – parents contribute to the cost of one journey	
7) A coach takes and collects children from the host school – parents contribute to the cost of both journeys	

**Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey**