



North Marston Church of England School
School Hill
North Marston
Bucks
MK18 3PE

Challenging each other to love learning and truly care.



I think I'm just in time to still get away with saying 'Happy New Year' to anyone who I haven't seen yet! I hope your year has got off to as positive a start as ours has in school – the children (and adults) got straight back into their learning and they are well into their Spring Term topics.

I have updated the calendar with the Spring Term dates so please take some time to look at what's coming up and ask the office to print a copy if you'd like one to stick on the fridge!

Sarah x

Staffing

We are delighted to welcome Emma Tebbutt back to school. The staff and children are so pleased to have her back and Emma is thrilled to finally be able to return to doing what she loves.

Unfortunately, Georgia Simms will be off for 2 weeks from Monday 27th January due to a minor operation. During this time, Opal class will be covered by Emma Tebbutt and Tom Onan-Read so they will be in good hands. We wish Georgia all the best for a speedy recovery.

Finally, I am pleased to inform you that Esther Marsland will be returning from maternity leave in March.

Parent Engagement

It has been lovely to have so many parents join us already for our Friday celebration assemblies at the new time of 9am. A couple of parents have commented that the new time is much more convenient so I do hope that it is helpful to the majority.

We are delighted to have some more dates for our 'Reading with Rubies' sessions this term as well as our half-termly Learning Showcase and some upcoming Parent Information Sessions.

Heating

Thank you to you all once again for working with us to keep the children in school on Monday despite having no heating – a lesson in resilience for us all. I did consider doing an emergency closure but that will always be a very last resort as I am a firm believer in the importance of routine and promoting the philosophy that 'every second counts' when it comes to the children's education. However, I will always put their well-being first and foremost and so each situation will be considered on the information available.

I would also like to thank the staff for their stoicism, we certainly felt the cold far more keenly than the children!

Headteacher: Miss Sarah Brew

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Rotary Club – santa float

Thank you to all the parents and carers who supported with this event. We have been informed by the Rotary Club that they have a cheque for us totalling just over £1000 which I will be honoured to receive on behalf of the school next week. This money will go towards a new reading shed for the playground as, through our school council process, the children requested access to reading materials during break and lunch time. We would like to thank the Rotary Club and specifically Colin, Roy, Pete, Paul and Don for the roles they played in this wonderful event.

Parking

I have had another 'not-quite-complaint' from a local resident regarding parents parking inconsiderately while dropping and collecting their children. I appreciate that it may be necessary to drive up the hill on occasion but, if you need to leave your car parked to come into school, even for a short time, please ensure it is not blocking the road or any driveways. The school is an integral part of this community and it is vital we model respectful behaviour in our everyday interactions and this includes being considerate to others.

PTA updates

The PTA have a full programme of events planned for the rest of the year and would love to have your continued support. Please check out the calendar for details of Friday treats and the ever-popular school disco and watch this space for some very exciting events in the summer term, including one which I'm dreading but the children will love!

Clubs

Cookery club has already started this term and most of our other clubs start next Monday, 20th January with the exception of Basketball Bonanza which starts on 3rd February. We are delighted to inform you that we were able to accommodate all the children in all the clubs they requested. We still have spaces available in some clubs, unfortunately not in Crafty Club or Basketball. If you haven't booked in for any yet, or if you'd like to add an extra, please email or call the office and Katie will tell you what's still available.

A register will be taken at all clubs so if your child is unable to attend for any reason then please let the office know.

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Spring Term 2025 Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
20th January After School clubs start this week	21st January	22nd January	23rd January	24th January PTA hot chocolate and donuts sale
27th January Reception – height and weight checks	28th January	29th January	30th January 3:10 Meeting re: residential for Sapphire parents	31st January
3rd February	4th February	5th February	6th February PTA meeting	7th February
10th February Young Voices event	11th February	12th February Learning Showcase 9am – Ruby 9:30 – Opal 10am – Diamonds 10:30 – Sapphire	13th February PTA Disco	14th February Break up for half term

Other dates for your diary

Thursday 6th March – World Book Day

Tuesday 11th March & Thursday 13th March – Learning Progress Meetings (Parent's Evening)

Tuesday 1st April 2pm – Diamonds Production

Wednesday 2nd April 6:30pm – Diamonds Production

Friday 4th April 2pm – Easter Church Service

12th – 15th May KS2 SATS week

Tuesday 20th May – Learning Showcase afternoon

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Thursday 19th June – Sports Day and Summer Fete

Tuesday 1st July – Whole School ‘Move-up Day’

Tuesday 8th & Thursday 10th July – Summer Term Learning Progress Meetings (Parent’s evening)

Wednesday 16th July 2pm – Sapphire Production

Thursday 17th July 6:30pm – Sapphire Production

Wednesday 23rd July 2pm – Leavers Church Service

Term Dates 2024/2025

Term	Start at 8:40 on:	Finish at 3:10 on:
Autumn 1	Thursday 5 th September	Friday 25 th October
Autumn 2	Tuesday 5 th November	Friday 20 th December
Spring 1	Tuesday 7 th January 2025	Friday 14 th February 2025
Spring 2	Monday 24 th February 2025	Friday 4 th April 2025
Summer 1	Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	Friday 23 rd May 2025
Summer 2	Tuesday 3 rd June 2025	Wednesday 23 rd July 2025

INSET days (for staff only): Tuesday 3rd September; Wednesday 4th September; Monday 4th November; Monday 6th January; Monday 2nd June

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