



North Marston Church of England School

Shining our Light to be our Best Selves!



The Summer Holidays are a distant, fading memory, and the weather is letting us know that autumn is definitely upon us (although today was a pleasant surprise)! The children continue to work hard and have all settled well into their new year groups.

We are very proud of how the children are being very sensible about ignoring the scaffolding, and tolerant of the intermittent noises from the roof – work is currently progressing as expected and I will bring updates as I receive them.

We would love to see lots of you at our MacMillan Coffee Morning next Friday, 26th September straight after drop off. If you are unable to attend but would like to make a contribution, there is a QR code on the poster in the front entrance.

Have a great weekend everyone, Sarah x

Pupil Leadership Team

I am delighted to announce the new additions to our Pupil Leadership Team:

House Captains:

Schorne – Eliza

Verney – Rishi

Camden Neild – Scarlett

School Council:

Ruby – Ella

Opal – Rosie

Diamond – Bethany

Sapphire – Barnaby

Eco-Council:

Ruby – Daniel

Opal – Isla & Ava

Diamond – Jayden & Bryan

Sapphire – Albert & Ayla

The children were chosen through a democratic voting system and will be having their first team meetings over the coming weeks. I look forward to working with them to make the changes which are important to them.

Headteacher: Miss Sarah Brew

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How to Save a Life

Restart a Heart Live – Free Family CPR Training

All of our children will be taking part in Restart a Heart Live in school, and we'd love you to join in at home too and let your child show you what they've learned in school!

This free online event will teach you and your child the essentials of CPR and how to use a defibrillator—skills that can save lives.

Every year, over 40,000 people in the UK suffer a cardiac arrest outside of hospital, and sadly only 1 in 10 survive. Early CPR and defibrillation can double or even triple survival chances. That's why it's so important that as many adults and children as possible learn these skills.

 When: Wednesday 1st October 2025

 Sessions run every hour from 9am–9pm - please join the sessions after school!

 If you can't join live, register anyway and watch the recording later.

It only takes 20 minutes, it's suitable for all ages, and it's completely free.

Please register, take part at home, and let your child show you what they've learned—together we can help save lives.

<https://www.restartaheart.live/#register>

Assessment Information

Assessment is an ongoing process within school, an integral part of the teaching and learning cycle. However, alongside this and our more formal termly summative assessments, there are also times throughout primary school when children undergo external, statutory assessments.

Reception: Baseline Assessment (Autumn) and EYFS Profile Assessment (Summer)

Year 1: Phonics Screening (June)

Year 2: (Optional) Key Stage 1 Tests (Summer)

Year 4: Multiplication Tables Check (June)

Year 6: End of Key Stage assessments – SATs (May)

The Standards and Testing Agency have recently updated their information for parents regarding these assessments and the link is available below for you to access that information should you wish to. If you have any further questions regarding assessment, please drop an email to the office.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-information-for-parents>

Aylesbury Vineyard Storehouse Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has donated pasta, beans and other items to our collection which will help families in need in our local area. If you haven't donated yet, or you have any other items you would like to donate, we will leave the collection basket outside the office so you can add to it until next Friday 26th September.

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Packed Lunches

Please remember that we are a '**No Nuts School**' which means that we ask you to avoid sending nuts in packed lunches or for snacks in order to support our children with allergies.

Please also make sure that fruit is cut into manageable pieces for your child, especially **grapes** which must be cut lengthways in half (or even quarters) for children in Reception as they pose a choking habit – this is in line with guidance from healthcare professionals as grapes are the third most common cause of death in food related accidents.

PTA

GranMarstonbury was a roaring (or should I say 'Woofing'!) success and our fabulous PTA are just about regaining their voices. The weather was kind to us and so were the guests who came out in force to support this fantastic community experience. I am so proud of the hard work and effort of Liz and her team, who worked tirelessly to put together such a professional event.

Please do show your support for our PTA by coming along to the AGM on **Wednesday 24th September at 7pm** at school. You don't have to sign up to join but it is just an opportunity to hear about the successes of last year – of which there were many – and plans for the upcoming year – of which there are many! We are always keen to welcome parents to share their feedback to help us to improve.

Forest School

We would like to thank The Shop Association for its generous donation towards the new boardwalk for the nature trail at the sports field, which will make for a safer and more enjoyable experience for our children when they visit Forest School. Thank you also to all those who support the Village Shop, enabling them to raise much needed funds which they can then donate to worthy projects. Another example of how our community works together to support each other.

Clubs

We still have spaces at some of our after school clubs so, if you are thinking of exploring this opportunity, please speak to Katie in the office who will let you know what is still available.

Parent Information Evening

Another opportunity for you to gain a better understanding of the work we do in school. On Thursday 2nd October at 6pm, we invite you to come and find out more about our RE teaching and Collective Worship offer. It would be great to see you there.

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Fresh Start Update – Harvest Festival

Fresh Start will be hosting a **Theme Day** on **Thursday 2nd October**. Please see the attached poster for full details of the event and order in the usual way.

We can confirm that the **Chicken Burger** on the menu is **HALAL**.

Author Visit – Key Stage 2 (Tuesday 7th October)

We are thrilled to announce that **Susannah Lloyd**, the brilliant author of many beloved children's books will soon be visiting us! She will share stories about her books, her writing journey and also reveal top-secret badger information!



This is a wonderful opportunity for all our young readers and writers to be inspired, ask questions and dive into the world of storytelling with a real-life author.

Susannah will also be **signing books for the children** at the event. If you would like to order a copy of her latest book, ***Badgers are GO!! Revenge of the Claw***, you can do so via the link.

<https://www.ourbookshoptring.co.uk/product/badgers-are-go-revenge-of-the-claw/>

All **pre-ordered books will be signed** and handed to your child on the day of the visit.

This promises to be a fun and inspiring event and we're sure it will be a memorable experience for all the children!

From the Vaults

Ruby:

Ruby children have settled into school very well. They have had many firsts: their first PE lesson, first visit to the library, their first walk for Forest School. Rubies would like to say thank you to all the children and adults who have helped them find their way around the school and supported them at lunchtime. Ruby class would also like to thank the PTA for their new water tables which they have been enjoying during their outside learning.

Opal:

Opal class have had a very positive start to the new school year and are loving their topic work on Local Legends. This has given them a perfect opportunity to follow the success of ex-North Marston pupil Helena Rowland who continues to shine her light along with the rest of England's Rugby Team in the Women's Rugby World Cup!

I hope you'll all be tuned in on Saturday afternoon to support the ladies in their semi-final against France (kick off is at 3:30!).

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Diamond:

Diamonds have settled well into their new class and routines. We have had a very practical start to the term and here are some of the children's comments about what we have been doing:

"I enjoyed acting out living in a Celtic village, it was interesting." Lucy

"We liked it when we marched like Roman soldiers in the army. We had to follow commands in Latin and we performed the testudo (tortoise) battle tactic." Alby and Lily

"I enjoyed learning about Roman numerals in maths. We made the Roman numerals using matchsticks." Isaac.

"We liked learning about the Celts in the Iron Age. It was fascinating to learn how they didn't waste anything." Quin and Ryan

"It was interesting to find out about Roman soldiers, what they wore and how much of Europe they conquered. Their battle tactics were clever." Annie and Oliver

"I have enjoyed English as we have been writing in paragraphs." Trixie

"I've liked learning my multiplication tables." Maci

"I like science, it is lots of fun doing investigations and learning about forces." Hunter

"I liked scoring goals in netball." Bertie

"I liked netball as we practised scoring goals in a net." Bethany

"I've liked maths as we have been learning new methods to help us explain our maths." Harry

Sapphire:

We are so proud of Sapphire class for their excellent start to the academic year! The children have made it hard for us to choose who will be our Stars of the Week as we have seen so many of the children demonstrating our school values. We have dived straight into our learning with a lot of excitement - particularly about our World War Two topic. It has been great to see the children enjoying new books and sharing their reading recommendations; we hope that the children will grow to love reading even more this year! We are so proud of our new Eco and School Council representatives as well as our new House Captains - we look forward to seeing them representing the school and our class alongside our Head Pupils. We have a feeling it's going to be a great year for Sapphire class!

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Autumn Term 2025 Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
22nd September Whole School Art Workshop	23rd September Whole School Art Workshop	24th September 7pm PTA AGM	25th September	26th September MacMillan Coffee Morning 8:50 – 10am
29th September	30th September	1st October	2nd October 6pm Parent Information Evening RE and Collective Worship	3rd October 9am celebration assembly
6th October	7th October Ruby class phonics for parents	8th October	9th October Diamonds Trip to Milton Keynes Discovery Centre	10th October 9am celebration assembly
13th October	14th October	15th October	16th October	17th October 9am celebration assembly
20th October NO CLUBS THIS WEEK	21st October Parents' Evening	22nd October	23rd October Parents' Evening	24th October 9am celebration assembly 3:10pm finish for half term

Term Dates 2025/2026

Term	Start at 8:40 on:	Finish at 3:10 on:
Autumn 1	Thursday 4 th September	Friday 24 th October
Autumn 2	Monday 3 rd November	Thursday 18 th December
Spring 1	Monday 5 th January 2026	Thursday 12 th February 2026
Spring 2	Monday 23 rd February 2026	Friday 27 th March 2026
Summer 1	Monday 13 th April 2026	Friday 22 nd May 2026
Summer 2	Tuesday 2 nd June 2026	Tuesday 21 st July 2026

INSET days (for staff only): Wednesday 3rd September; Friday 19th December; Friday 13th February; Monday 1st June; Wednesday 22nd July

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