

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

Challenging each other to love learning and truly care.



Welcome to the summer term and our new look Newsletter!

I would firstly like to say a big thank you to children, staff, parents and Governors for making me feel so welcome at North Marston. My first 2 weeks have been a complete whirlwind but I have loved every second of it and I am so excited to be on this journey with you all.

It has been lovely chatting to some of you on the gate in the mornings and afternoons so, if you haven't had a chance to speak to me yet then please do come and say 'hi'. I am trying to learn names but bear with me if I have to ask more than once! If you would like a longer chat, or a more private

conversation for any reason, then please do contact the office to make an appointment.

The Summer Term is shaping up to be a busy one; the children got straight down to work on the first day back and are making great strides into their Summer term Topics. Several activities have already taken place and we have lots more opportunities for us to come together as a community, including the PTA dog show on Saturday 11th May and School Sports Day, followed by the Summer Fete, on Friday 21st June. I look forward to seeing many of you at these events – fingers crossed for more weather like today!

Have a fabulous weekend everyone,

Sarah

Cross Country

Huge congratulations to all who showed courage by taking part in the cross-country at Wing last weekend. We are very proud of everyone who represented the school but must give special mention to the amazing performances from Grace (2nd) and Poppy A (8th).

Thanks also to the parents who took the children along to the race and to Chris and Bob who went along to support and coach the children.

Beep Beep Day

On Wednesday afternoon, Reception and KS1 children took part this year's Beep Beep Day. They completed fun activities that focused on three important topics:

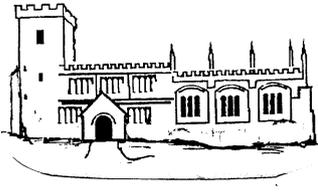
1. Holding hands with a grown up when walking near roads
2. Crossing roads at a safe place with a grown-up
3. Using a child seat when travelling by car

Car seats were brought into school for the children to look at and children talked about their own experiences. More importantly, they learnt about what could happen if you are not wearing a properly fitted seat belt. The children used soft toys to discover why we wear seat belts and then designed seat

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belts for them. Reception visited the staff carpark and were shocked to discover that an adult would not be able to see them from the driver's seat if they stood near a car.

This event was run in conjunction with the charity "Brake". [Beep Beep! Days | Brake](#)

In response to this event, we have decided that the carpark will no longer be a point of access and therefore, from Monday, the gates will be closed at 8:30am. We want all the children to understand that carparks are not safe for them to walk across and feel that by allowing them unsupervised access to our own carpark, we are normalising their use and children may become complacent when using other carparks. I appreciate this may cause some initial inconvenience to start with but I am sure you will all want to support the School in safeguarding our children both onsite and when they are out and about in the community.

Trip to Science Oxford

As you are aware, we are taking the whole school to Science Oxford on Friday 3rd May. Thank you to those who have already made payment – I appreciate it was short notice and offer my apologies for this – if you are struggling to make this payment, please speak to us so we can support you with this. Reception will not have forest school on this day and there will be no celebration worship as we won't be back in time.

On our return at the end of the day, the coach will drop us off at the bottom of the hill and we will walk the children back to their classes to ensure they have all their things ready to go home for the weekend. Please help the staff to keep all our children safe by not approaching your child on the walk from coach to class. The children will then be released in the usual way.

Staffing Changes

Esther Marsland will be starting her maternity leave on Friday 10th May and I'm sure you will join me in wishing her every blessing.

Georgia Simms, who has been appointed to cover Esther's maternity leave, joins us from Monday 24th June.

In the interim, we have made some changes to the timetable in order to utilise internal staff who are known to the children.

From Monday 13th May – Monday 24th June, year 2 will be taught by Emma Tebbutt (Tues, Wed, Thurs) and Bob Kellam (Fri). Bessie Hockaday and Carla Duggan, who know all of the children very well, will lead the class on Mondays and continue to provide daily support within the classroom.

Forest School for KS1 will move to a Monday during this transition period.

I would like to thank the staff for their flexibility in order to ensure year 2 continue to be supported on their learning journey.

PTA Dog Show

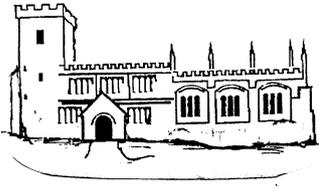
The PTA is hosting its FIRST EVER Dog Show and Village Fete on Saturday 11th May 2pm – 5pm on North Marston Sports field (see separate flyer).

Alongside the dog show, there will be dog agility, gun dog scurry, fastest recall and retrieve, sniffer dog training, vintage tractors and cars, an obstacle course, bouncy castle, refreshments, village games, beat

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the goalie and more!

We'd love you to attend (with or without your dog!), but if you'd like to support in a different way, we have a few requests!

- 1) **Bake Sale:** we are asking for cakes and bakes to be sent into school on the morning of Friday 10th May ready to be sold at the show the following day. Please no nuts and gluten free always welcome but not compulsory!
- 2) **Gazebos:** If anyone has a Gazebo they are willing to lend for the day, we'd be very grateful! Please contact your class PTA rep if you can help with this.
- 3) **Tombola donations:** A school mufti day will take place on Friday 10th May in aid of the PTA. Children can wear their own clothes in exchange for a donation of a bottle or chocolates (one donation per family).
- 4) **Volunteers on the day:** If you'd be able to help with any element of the show: set up, running a stall, clearing up - we'd be super grateful! A list will shortly be coming round for you to sign up or please contact any PTA member if you can help.

Thank you!

Year 6 SATs breakfast

SATs take place week beginning 13th May and we would like to invite all the year 6 children to join us each morning, Monday - Thursday from 8:20am for breakfast. The children have been working super hard to prepare for the tests and we want to make sure they have a smooth, calm start to each day and a chance to remind them that the tests are an opportunity for them to show what they know.

Brew's Board Games Breakfast

I am delighted to invite you to join me and the staff for breakfast and board games to celebrate the end of SATs week with year 6.

The event will start at 8:15 when the hall doors will be opened to welcome you in for some refreshments. The year 6 children will then be ready with board games and card games at the tables in the hall and the year 5/6 classroom for you to enjoy with your children.

We would ask that you support the children to be tidied away in good time for them to be in their own classroom, ready for registers at 9am.

If you are unable to join us for this event, please send your children in through the hall doors when they arrive at the usual time as the playground gate will not be open on this day.

Eco Council (Written by Isabella and Henry)

For the next few weeks in Eco Council, we will be creating a special bee garden in the quiet area because bees are becoming endangered across the world. We decided we needed to do something to help so we are going to plant wild flowers to make sure the bees have a safe place to go. We have also been thinking about the rubbish around the school and we are getting children to make sure they don't drop litter by having pictures of 'Parky Pigeon' keeping an eye on them and reminding them to use the bins

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Young Carers

Young Carers is a group of children who meet every other Friday afternoon in school, supported by Carla Duggan and Marian Smedley who is a volunteer.

Young Carers do not necessarily play a role in physically caring for anyone but rather they are children who live with a family member who has an illness or disability which has an impact on their lives. The children have the chance to freely discuss their experiences with other YCs and adults who can offer support where needed. Sometimes, bereaved children also join the group if parents/carers and the group leaders feel this is appropriate and beneficial.

Activities are adapted to meet the needs of the children in the group but might include:

Feelings - we explore feelings through games or, where the children are quite young, use the Bernstein bear cards which help us to assess emotional maturity.

Worries - making communication boxes and using the book "The Huge Bag of Worries" to promote discussion.

Personal safety - in the real and online world by suggesting situations and using the red/yellow/green target to decide on the risk factor.

Tricky situations - the YCs suggest the situations that they find tricky and write these down on cardboard clothes which we hang on a washing line. We then bring the washing in and discuss these situations and how we can make them easier to deal with.

Anger - we look at how being angry makes us feel, how it affects others and strategies we can use to diffuse our anger.

What would you do? - we pretend to be an advice line and think about what we would advise other YCs to do in their tricky situations.

Our caring role - we think about what the children have to do at home that their friends don't, such as physically helping or taking more responsibility for themselves or the person they are caring for.

The cared for - we think about what it might be like to be the person who is cared for such as how they see the world and the difficulties they face. We also talk about the positive things they bring to our lives. Discussions in the group are confidential but the children understand that occasionally we might need to share the information with other, trusted adults in order to support them further.

If you think your child may be a Young Carer and would like them to be included in the group, please speak to their class teacher in the first instance.

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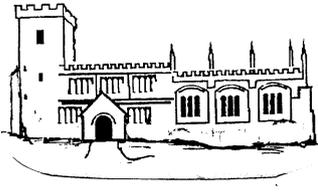
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Summer Term 2024 Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
29th April	30th April Vision check for Reception children	1st May Y3 & 4 Swimming	2nd May KS1 Forest School	3rd May Whole school trip to Science Oxford	4th May	5th May
6th May Bank Holiday – school is closed	7th May	8th May Y3 & 4 Swimming	9th May KS1 Forest School	10th May Reception Forest School Mufti day Mrs Marsland last day 2:40 Y 5 & 6 celebration worship	11th May PTA Dog Show and Fete 2 – 5pm	12th May
13th May Y6 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar SATs paper KS1 Forest School	14th May Y6 Reading SATs paper	15th May Y6 Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning) Y3 & 4 Swimming PTA meeting - time TBC	16th May Y6 Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)	17th May Brew's Board Game Breakfast! 8:15 – 9am Reception Forest School 2:40 Y3 & 4 Celebration Worship	18th May	19th May
20th May KS1 KS1 Forest School	21st May	22nd May	23rd May 6pm Y5 Parents Secondary School Transition meeting	24th May 2:40 Reception Forest School Y2 Celebration Worship Break up for half term	25th May	26th May
27th May	28th May	29th May	30th May	31st May	1st June	2nd June
3rd June Back to School KS1 Forest School	4th June Whole school NSPCC assembly (children only)	5th June	6th June	7th June	8th June	9th June
10th June KS1 Forest School	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June Mufti Day for summer fete donations	15th June	16th June

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				Reception Forest School 2:40 Reception Celebration Worship		
<u>17th June</u> KS1 Forest School Class photos	<u>18th June</u> Y2 & Y6 NSPCC workshops	<u>19th June</u>	<u>20th June</u> 6pm Meeting for New Reception parents September 2024	<u>21st June</u> Reception Forest School 1pm Sports Day 3:15 – 5pm Summer Fete	<u>22nd June</u>	<u>23rd June</u>
<u>24th June</u> Gerogia Simms starts teaching year 2	<u>25th June</u>	<u>26th June</u>	<u>27th June</u> KS1 Forest School	<u>28th June</u> Reception Forest School 2:40pm Y5 & 6 Celebration Worship	<u>29th June</u>	<u>30th June</u>
<u>1st July</u>	<u>2nd July</u> Y6 transition day (secondary school dependant) Whole school move-up afternoon	<u>3rd July</u> Y6 transition day (secondary school dependant)	<u>4th July</u> KS1 Forest School	<u>5th July</u> Reception Forest School 2:40pm Y3 & 4 Celebration Worship	<u>6th July</u>	<u>7th July</u>
<u>8th July</u>	<u>9th July</u>	<u>10th July</u> 6:30pm Y5/6 Production	<u>11th July</u> KS1 Forest School 6:30pm Y5/6 Production	<u>12th July</u> Reception Forest School 2:40pm Y2 Celebration Worship End of year reports sent home	<u>13th July</u>	<u>14th July</u>
<u>15th July</u>	<u>16th July</u> Open afternoon for parents (details to follow)	<u>17th July</u>	<u>18th July</u> KS1 Forest School	<u>19th July</u> Reception Forest School 2pm Leavers service in Church 3:15 End of Term	Children return to school on Thursday 5th September 2024	

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