



North Marston Church of England School

Shining our Light to be our Best Selves!

24.04.2026



Welcome to the Summer Term!

Although this is a long term, there is always so much to pack in. The PTA have events planned throughout the term which started with the chaos-inducing 'Break the Rules' Day yesterday! The children loved it and stuck to the spirit of the day, ensuring that they still got on with their lessons and behaved as beautifully as they usually do. We also have school trips and exciting class activities going on, including Science Week.

And then of course, we have our statutory assessments this term, starting with Year 6 SATs in a few weeks and then Y4 Multiplication Check and Y1 phonics, both after half term.

Have a great weekend everyone,

Sarah

Staffing Update

It is with a very heavy heart that I write to tell you that Karen Avery has decided to take retirement at the end of this school year. Karen has done a fabulous job of welcoming our Gems into North Marston to start their school journey, and she has transformed the Reception classroom so it is a space that we can all be proud of. As well as her class teacher role, Karen also has responsibility for phonics, ensuring that early reading is taught effectively across the school, and our Phonics Screening results evidence the great work she has done in ensuring that is happening. Karen has also led RE with a passion that has ensured it has a central role within our curriculum and is now a subject that teachers love teaching and children love being involved in. Karen's legacy is the model she designed of Prayer Space sessions which lead to the creation of meaningful church services each term. The children join in with enthusiasm and respect and are always keen to be involved with the church service. I am so grateful to Karen for her hard work and dedication to our school, and she will be truly missed.

Wrap Around Care Update

Having analysed the responses we received to the questionnaire, we are now looking into options of what after school provision might look like at North Marston. Once we have explored the various options, I will write to you again to give all the necessary details so you can decide if it is something you would like to make use of.

Fostering Independence

You'll be delighted to know that this is a plea to ask you to do less!
In school, we are always encouraging the children to do things for themselves and work towards independence. However, every day, I watch children come out of class, beautifully managing their own belongings, only to offload them straight onto you as soon as they see you! In the mornings, I see you traipse up the hill with book bags, lunch bags, guitars, letters etc. and then have to transfer it all onto your child at the school gate. I'm not suggesting you load them up at the bottom of the hill and send them on their way, but what I am asking is for you to support us in working towards independence, starting with, what can they carry for themselves?

Toys in School

Headteacher: Miss Sarah Brew

Safeguarding Leads: Sarah Brew, Chris Armstead, Tom Onan-Read

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We have had an increase in the number of children bringing in toys and objects from home. This has caused some upset when things have been lost or broken and takes up valuable time to sort out issues. Please encourage your child to leave their toys at home to be played with on their return from school.

If your child has a specific need, and bringing a particular toy or object to school supports them in some way, then please discuss this with the class teacher so we can make this reasonable adjustment.

Keeping our Children Safe

Please take a look at the attached Wake up Wednesday flyer which gives parents and carers top tips and guidance of the use of YouTube. By keeping informed with the latest information, we can support our children's use of technology and help to keep them safe while online as well as in the real world.

Summer Term Clubs

You should have received confirmation of the clubs your child has been allocated. There are still a few spaces in some clubs, so please speak to Katie if you would like your child to join a club. Please remember to let the office know if your child won't be attending their club on a particular day.

Freshstart – Secondary Transition Days

Many Year 6 pupils will be attending secondary school transition days on various dates over the coming term. As different groups of children are attending different secondary schools on different days, this creates a complex and varied schedule across all schools.

We kindly ask that all Year 6 parents/carers **DO NOT** book school meals on days when their child will be attending a transition day at their secondary school. On these days, pupils should be provided with a packed lunch from home.

Forest School Resources

Karen Hunter has plans for some very exciting activities for Forest School but really needs some extra resources to make this possible. Please see the list attached to the newsletter and drop an email to Katie if you are able to support by donating any of the items. Thank you in advance.

Free Child Car Seat Checks June 2026

Buckinghamshire Council will be holding FREE car seat checks at Broadfields Retail Park near Smyths Toys, Aylesbury on Tuesday 2nd June and at Asda Superstore Cressex, High Wycombe on Wednesday 3rd June, between 10 am and 3 pm. Anyone driving children—even occasionally—must use the correct car seat for their age, height, and weight. It can prevent serious injury and reduce risk by up to 70%.

Let's help keep our children safe on every journey.

Please see the attached flyers.

Spring Term 2026 Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>Monday 27th April</u>	<u>Tuesday 28th April</u>	<u>Wednesday 29th April</u>	<u>Thursday 30th April</u>	<u>Friday 1st May</u>
Clubs start this week		Diamonds Swimming Lesson (2)		

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<u>Monday 4th May</u> <u>BANK HOLIDAY</u>	<u>Tuesday 5th May</u>	<u>Wednesday 6th May</u> Diamonds Swimming Lesson (3)	<u>Thursday 7th May</u> Diamonds visit to Oakridge School (SLN)	<u>Friday 8th May</u>
<u>Monday 11th May</u> <u>KS2 SATS week</u>	<u>Tuesday 12th May</u>	<u>Wednesday 13th May</u> Diamonds Swimming Lesson (4)	<u>Thursday 14th May</u>	<u>Friday 15th May</u> PTA Disco
<u>Monday 18th May</u>	<u>Tuesday 19th May</u>	<u>Wednesday 20th May</u> Diamonds Swimming Lesson (5)	<u>Thursday 21st May</u>	<u>Friday 22nd May</u> Children break up for Half Term

Summer 2 dates for your diary

Week beginning 1st June – Science Week
 Week beginning 1st June – 12th June – MTC Window for Year 4
 Thursday 4th June – F1 in School – KS2
 Friday 5th June – Great School Science Share (Parents Welcome 2:15pm)
 Week beginning 8th June – KS1 Phonics Screening
 Thursday 11th June – Oakridge School to visit Diamonds Class
 Thursday 18th June – Sports Day and Summer Fair
 Thursday 23rd June – After school Charity sale for Parkinsons
 Monday 29th June – Diamonds & Sapphires Class Trip to Earth Trust (TBC)
 Tuesday 30th June – Group/Class Photographs
 Tuesday 7th & Wednesday 8th – Transition Days
 Wednesday 8th July afternoon – Sapphire production
 Thursday 9th July evening – Sapphire production
 Friday 10th July – PTA treat Friday
 Monday 13th July & Wednesday 15th July – Parents Evening
 Monday 20th July am – Y6 leaver's assembly
 Monday 20th July evening - Y6 Leaver's Fest
 Tuesday 21st July – Leaver's Service

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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

Term Dates 2026/2027

Term	Start at 8:40 on:	Finish at 3:10 on:
Autumn 1	Thursday 3 rd September	Friday 23 rd October
Autumn 2	Tuesday 3 rd November	Friday 18 th December
Spring 1	Tuesday 5 th January 2027	Friday 12 th February 2027
Spring 2	Monday 22 nd February 2027	Thursday 25 th March 2027
Summer 1	Monday 12 th April 2027	Friday 28 th May 2027
Summer 2	Tuesday 8 th June 2027	Wednesday 21 st July 2027

INSET days (for staff only): Tuesday 1st September & Wednesday 2nd September; Monday 2nd November; Monday 4th January; Monday 7th June

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