



Dear Parents / Carers

Our Expectations	Our Values
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat other people how you would want to be treated • Listen carefully to others and respond politely • Wear the correct uniform with pride • Keep the school clean, tidy and safe • Always be the best you can be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect • Tolerance • Good Manners • Being supportive • Being motivated • Being responsible • Forgiveness



Issues

Extended Leave

All schools are monitored for their attendance records. The National figure for attendance is 97%. We rely on our learners to be in school in order for us to be in line with National. When you take your children out of school this affects our attendance and the schools reputation.

My concern, as your child's Headteacher, is that as soon as your child is absent from school then they are missing out on their learning and will struggle to catch up. Please see below:

<h3><u>School Attendance</u></h3> <p>At Marsden, we expect children to attend school every day, as long as they are fit and healthy enough to do so.</p> <p>We feel that the most important way to promote good attendance is to ensure that both learners and parents understand the importance of school attendance.</p> <p>Research shows that pupils who attend school regularly are more likely to do well in the future. Regular attendance helps children to develop their confidence and to make and keep lasting friendships.</p>  	<h3><u>What is 'good' attendance?</u></h3> <p>Anything less than 100% attendance means that your child is missing out on their education.</p> <p>For example, 90% attendance is the same as missing half a day each week, or one whole month a year off school.</p> <p>Punctuality is also very important. School starts at 8.55 am each morning.</p> <p>Did you know, that being just 15 minutes late each morning means your child would miss the equivalent of 10 days from school each year.</p> <h3><u>If your child is absent</u></h3> <p>If you know your child is going to be absent from school, you should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible, ring school at the earliest opportunity to let them know. • Send a note to school explaining the reason for the absence (in advance if possible—for example if your child has a doctors appointment) <p>School will contact parents if they are in any doubt as to the whereabouts of a child.</p>  	<h3><u>Leave in term time</u></h3> <p>Leave in term time is not a 'right'. Absence from school can have a serious impact on your child's education.</p> <p>All requests for leave in term time must be made in advance of confirming any arrangements and may be granted at the Headteacher's discretion dependant on the circumstances.</p> <p>Changes to the Regulations mean that schools can only authorise leave in term time if the circumstances surrounding the request are considered to be exceptional.</p> <h3><u>The next step:</u></h3> <p>If the attendance of a pupil is low, the parents will be contacted and asked to meet with school staff to see how this can be improved. Support will be offered to both parents and pupils as required.</p> <p>If concerns remain, school may have to consider referral to external agencies, such as the Local Authority Pupil Attendance Support Team.</p> <p>Penalty Notices will be used where leave is taken without agreement.</p> 
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Parents, please note, that the Lancashire Policy (which can be found on our website) states:

Any period of leave taken without the agreement of the school, or in excess of that agreed, will be classed as unauthorised and may attract sanctions such as a penalty notice.

In certain circumstances, where leave has been agreed, parents risk losing their child's place at the school if the pupil does not return to school on the agreed return date and readmission cannot be guaranteed.

Attendance so far this term is : 96.6%

Class Attendance for November is :

RM	1M	2M	3M	4M	5M	6M
						
95.7%	95.2%	95.7%	96.7%	97.4%	97.9%	96.8%
RS	1S	2S	3S	4S	5S	6S
						
93.1%	95.7%	99.0%	97.3%	95.6%	96.3%	96.9%

Events



Steps Towards Achieving our School Vision

Thank you to those parents who completed the questionnaire in support of us creating a new vision for our school. As a staff, we have started to use your views to build our vision. We will be sharing this vision with you very soon.

Below is a sample of some of your responses:

How can you tell that your child's teacher encourages their learning and motivates them to grow their brain?

If they don't know English, they get lots of help. Kids talk about teacher support

My son is very knowledgeable on the subject area he is studying and tells me what his teacher tells him about his progress

Pick up time is great to get information on a day to day basis. The Home Learning pack is very informative and gives me an understanding of the level of learning my child is at

My children are always striving to do well so they can get marbles

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How does the school keep your child safe?

Teachers care. We can talk to teachers if we have a problem. My child knows about areas of safety. Safeguarding has had a big impact on parents and the school provides regular feedback

Gates locked. I always get a phone call if my child is not in school

Children know how to treat others

Teachers care about pupils

Do you feel welcome into school? Which workshops do you partake in?

I come if possible and there is always a translator present.

When our children go on visits positive comments about behaviour are always given.

Why do you think behaviour at Marsden is good?

Children have been given clear expectations and they know that following them gives them rewards and breaking the rules means they have to deal with the consequences

Children know that the school's reputation matters

Issues are dealt with quickly. Children follow the rules and they are respectful

Do you feel that your child's needs are being met?

More able learners are given help to improve rather than leaving them at the level they are at. Friday assemblies are enjoyed by all families

What works well at Marsden?

Parents know that the Headteacher and her team are dedicated in providing the best possible education

Ethos is good. Very colourful school. Teachers and parents work together. Children visit schools that are different.

Highlights

Na'ats:

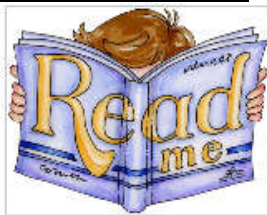
Well done to Mrs Butt for organising an amazing evening of Na'ats. Na'ats are a form of poetry – read with rhythm and sometimes accompanied by music. Na'ats are recited in a number of languages and are read to celebrate the life and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). This year, after weeks of practice and with the help of dedicated staff and supportive parents, the children delivered an amazing performance to an audience of over 150 people. We are very proud of the Year 6 children who took part in this event.

**Our School Website:**

We are very pleased to welcome Mr Russell Hawkes to our school. He is responsible for updating the website so please have a look at what's on, especially if your child has been a learner/writer of the week. There are some super videos!

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The Reading Café:



It has been lovely seeing all the parent's reading with their children in the library. The children have really enjoyed this special time. Please continue to come into school on a Wednesday morning at 8.30am for our weekly **Reading Breakfast**.



Class Assemblies:

Class Assemblies for parents are being continued this year to celebrate the learning that is being covered in class. They will take place on a Thursday from 2.30pm. Below are the dates for when your child's class assembly will be:

Date	Class
06.12.18	3M
10.01.19	2S
24.01.19	5M
07.02.19	RM
07.03.19	5S
21.03.19	4S
04.04.19	RS
02.05.19	1M
23.05.19	3S
20.06.19	6S
27.06.19	1S

Teacher Governor – Ms Schofield:



Mrs Schofield has been a Teacher Governor for several years. This is an important role as the Teacher Governor represents the staff within the Governing Body meetings. The role is for a set number of years and Mrs Schofield has decided not to stand again but to hand this role over to another member of staff. The Governors would like to thank her for her positive contributions over the years.

Your Charitable Donations

DiABETES UK

Thank you so much for your kind donations in support of Diabetes UK and in particular the support of Type 1 Diabetes. This is a condition that begins in childhood and lasts a lifetime. Your kind donations will go towards research into finding a cure. We raised over £300.

Over the next three weeks, the School Council has elected to make up Christmas shoeboxes for the RSPCA as they did last year. Each class has a shoebox to fill with cat and / or dog toys. Any contributions from the Marsden children and parents would be gratefully received. We would like to thank Acorn's Healthy Option Pet Food Store near Colne Asda for their generous donation in response to the letter that the School Council wrote. If anyone knows

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of any other companies or local shops that would be willing to make a donation please contact Miss Charlesworth.

The Book Fair

£780 was raised from the sale of 100 books. From the sale of the books we received £300 commission and so we now have an even better selection of books for our learners to enjoy.

Reminders

The School Day



Start of School	8.55am (doors open 8.45am)
Break	10.30am to 10.45am
Lunch	12.15pm to 1.15pm (bell rings at 1.10pm)
End of School	3.20pm

School Shoes



Please make sure that girls wear sensible school shoes and not slip on shoes. Please note that girls can wear boots to walk to school in but, for health and safety reasons, they must wear school shoes when in the school building.

Thank you for your continued support!

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