



Dear Parents/carers

Working Together



I would like to say a special thank you to all parents who attended the Parent Vision Evening on the 6th of February. Your contributions were all valued and below is updated feedback on some of your suggestions and questions

Suggestion/Question from Parents	Response from School
Can I attend the phonics workshop for my own professional development even though my child is in year five?	Yes of course, all training that is put on by the school can be attended by anyone.
Examples of how to complete Home Learning tasks need to be provided, especially in maths, so that parents can support learning at home.	In addition to providing examples of written methods, staff will be working on putting together short video clips, which will be placed on the website, to demonstrate the methods used.
What were the key priorities for improvement from the last Ofsted and what actions are being taken to address them?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>"Increase parental involvement and increase communication about pupils' progress, their targets and how some basic skills are taught"</i>. Long term targets are discussed with parents at Parent Teacher Meetings. Home Learning provides opportunities for pupils to practise basic skills. Reading and Phonic workshops provide parents with skills necessary to support their children. 2. <i>"Provide more challenge for the more able"</i> More Able pupils are identified by the teacher and work is differentiated to meet their needs. 3. <i>"Pupils need to be aware of their targets"</i> All pupils are provided with targets that they work on during lessons. The majority of pupils in all classes know their targets.
Can teachers please inform parents of any concerns with a child's learning and not wait for parent's evening?	Parents can make an appointment with the class teacher at any time to discuss their child's progress and concerns they have.
Why are you not rewarding individual children for their hard work – the children said they just get marbles for a class treat.	All pupils do contribute towards a class reward and when a target number of marbles have been collected the class receive a reward. Daily, pupils are provided with praise for effort, achievement and other successes. Very good work is shown to the Deputy and Headteacher and a certificate is given. Pupils are also nominated to be Learner of the Week. We are trying to instil in pupils a love of learning where the rewards are intrinsic rather than material.
If Home Learning is not handed in - it is never chased up.	Home Learning tasks are set and children know what they must complete. Parents should be working with their children to complete tasks at home. The completion of Home Learning tasks, especially in year 6 is always chased up.
Why has there been so many changes to staff?	As a school we are striving to have good permanent teachers in every class. It is my aim to achieve this by September 2017.

In addition to gathering the above questions and ideas, the schools mission vision and expectations were also shared.

Our Mission	Our Expectations	Our Values
At Marsden Primary School we promote an educationally sound, safe and challenging environment in which everyone is actively engaged in learning	<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 	Respect Tolerance Good Manners Being supportive Being motivated Being responsible Forgiveness

World Book Day

On **Thursday 2nd March** as part of book week celebrations, children dressed up as their favourite book character. We also had a successful “drop everything and read” in the afternoon.

Anti-bullying Day

On Friday 24th February 2017, we celebrated Anti-Bullying Day. Children in Year 5, who were elected to be Safety Buddies, presented an Anti-Bullying assembly. During this they acted out different scenarios relating to bullying as well as possible solutions.

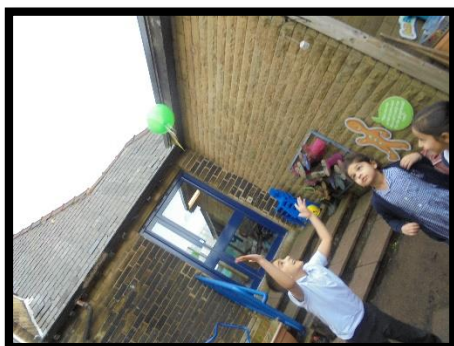


The highlight of the afternoon was when each class stepped outside into the yard to release a balloon. Each balloon had a kindness slogan attached to it. Some of the slogans were:

“We will promise to support each other, no matter how different we are”.

“A good friend is kind and will care for you”.

“Turn your frown upside down and be a buddy not a bully”.



Together We Can Discover, Create and Succeed

What is happening in the world of sport at Marsden?

- Well done to the Year 5/6 football team who competed in the competition at Pendle Vale College last Wednesday. They played really well in cold, wet and windy conditions and managed to win 2 games against Barrowford and Park. Hopefully we have done enough to make it through to the finals!



- The 'Lunchtime Leaders' activities are up and running in the KS1 and KS2 yards. A group of children have been practising their leadership and communication skills so that they can deliver a variety of fun and exciting games at lunchtimes.



“Lets play, traffic lights” (Year 4 play leaders teaching Yr1 how to play the game)

- The Year 5/6 athletics team were given the exciting opportunity to use the climbing wall at Pendle Vale College this week, as a reward for their outstanding performance in the recent competition.
- Year 4/5 golf club will start after school this week. A coach from the Sports Partnership will be coming in and delivering 4 after school sessions for a group of 16 children.
- A big thank you to all the children that attended Holiday Club during the February half term. We had a fantastic time and it was brilliant to see so many children from Marsden coming along and having so much fun. We are already busy planning for an action-packed Easter holiday club with lots of fun and exciting activities - watch this space! Thank you to Jake and his team for the effort they put into making this a success.

Together We Can Discover, Create and Succeed



Reasons to be proud of our children

Our website is now full of exciting learning that our children are doing. There are year group “blogs”, photographs as well as children talking about their learning. Please go on line to find out about all the exciting things that are happening at Marsden. In addition, you will find a list of school events and the dates that they are happening on.



The Spring Fayre

The Spring Fayre will be taking place on Thursday, the 9th of March from 3.30pm to 6pm. There will be stalls, a range of activities as well as food and refreshments. Please come along to support the school.

Chocolate Tombola

I've been told that this is the highlight of the Spring Fayre. As in the past, all children are being asked to bring a bar of chocolate into school on Wednesday 8th March 2017.















E- Safety

The children have now had their first E-safety Day. Attached to this newsletter is a very important Acceptable Use Agreement (to read the full Acceptable Use policy, please refer to the website) – **It is VITAL that you read this Agreement with your children, sign it and then return it to School.**

We are also holding a very important E-safety training day for parents on Thursday 9th of March at 9.00am till 9.45am in the upper hall. Please do attend as the training will cover all elements related to keeping your child safe while they are on-line at home.

Attendance

The winning class for the Month of February is 2S in KS1 and 4S in KS2.

RM  90.5	1M  92.1	2M  96.9	3M  94.5	4M  94.1	5M  94.9	6M  97.6
RS  92.6	1S  95.0	2S  98.1	3S  91.6	4S  99.0	5S  94.1	6S  92.3