

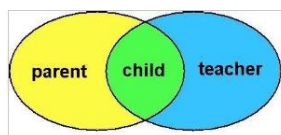


Live To Learn. Learn To Grow

Newsletter
October 2019

Areas Covered

- Parent Teacher Meetings
- Communication with the School
- Celebrating our Progress
- Classroom Names and Displays
- School Uniform
- Road Safety
- Attendance
- Key Dates



Parent Teacher Meetings

On November the 14th we will be having our Autumn Term Parent Teacher meeting. This is a perfect opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher. We value your support and expect every parent to attend a scheduled meeting on this day which is why we will once again be starting at 1.40pm. Please fill in a time slot which is suitable for you on the letter that was sent home on Wednesday 30th October and return it to school ASAP. We will make every effort to accommodate you at your requested time. However, if you do not fill in the form, we will allocate a time slot for you.

School will finish at 1.30pm for all learners on Parents Evening. Please ensure your child is collected at 1.30pm prompt for meetings to commence at 1.40pm.

Communication with the School

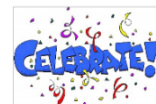
As a School we are continuously revising our practices in order to improve our systems and we value your input with regards to this. As a result of this communication, here are some of the improvements we have made following your suggested ideas:

- Home Learning focuses on learners practicing specific skills.
- Parent Workshops are held to support parents so that they can help their children with their learning.
- Parents are invited into school for Sharing Assemblies / Work Celebrations and Learner of the Week assemblies.
- The Library opens at the beginning of the day for both parents and learners to visit.
- Parents volunteer in school to support learning by listening to readers.
- If a teacher needs to speak to a parent about a confidential issue, the Office Staff phone the parent and ask them to come into school to speak to the teacher at the end of the day. This stops any parent being spoken to about a confidential matter in the playground.



Celebrating our Progress

I am so proud to, once again, report that our learners have done well in their end of Key Stage assessments. A big thank you goes out to the Marsden staff who dedicate their time to ensuring all learners' needs are taken into account so that they can make progress. In addition, well done to all parents who work with their children in ensuring that Home Learning is always completed and that their children are reading on a daily basis. Most of all, thank you to all the children for having a Growth Mindset and believing in themselves.



In KS1

70% of our learners achieved Age Related Expectation in Reading
68.3% of our learners achieved Age Related Expectation in Writing
80% of our learners achieved Age Related Expectation in Maths

In KS2 progress is measured from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2. Our children make very good progress from year 2 to year 6.

Average Scaled score for Reading is 100.0 which is in line with National average

Average Scaled score for SPAG is 106.2 which is well above National average

Average Scaled score for Maths is 103.5 which is well above National average

In EYFS

71.2% achieved Early Learning Goals

Phonics

84% of the learners in year 1 passed the phonics test



We Are Learners

As you walk through the school you will see that all the displays are focusing on a “learning word”. Each class is named after a “learning word” and, during the term, all lessons have focused on how learners have used this word to approach their learning. Please take your time to look at these displays since a lot of effort has gone into bringing the word to life through various learning activities. Ask your child what their classroom name is and then see if you can find the display around school.

The Lancashire Advisor for Health and Safety visited our School on Tuesday 29th October and she commented on our learners excellent behaviour and engagement with their learning. She stated “In every classroom, the children were engaged in their learning and they all looked so happy”.

School Uniform

Our Governors, especially Mrs Abbass, have worked tirelessly to source a cotton version of our school jumper. I am pleased to say that Whittakers - at Pendle Village Mill - are now stocking these jumpers at a cost of £14.00 per item.

All learners are now required to wear the full school uniform which consists of:

- The Marsden School jumper or cardigan with logo
- White shirt with rigid collar
- School tie (only available from school)
- Black skirt/trousers/pinafore
- White/black socks or tights – **no leggings/no coloured socks**
- Black school shoes – **no trainers/ no ballet pumps/boots**
- **Please note there will be no summer dress.**
- School bag with the new logo (only available from school – not compulsory)

Road Safety

Please speak with your children about basic road safety.

- Remind them to stop, look and listen when they get to a kerb and then look both ways whilst they are crossing the road.
- Ensure that they know never to run when crossing a road. Ensure that all young children are holding hands with someone responsible as they walk beside roads and when crossing roads. We see a number of young children leaving school daily without walking next to the adult who picked them up.
- Please stick to the rules of the road. This includes not stopping on the solid yellow lines or the zigzags for ANY period of time - doing so restricts the view of children crossing the road.
- Children must get in and out of cars on the side of the pavement and NEVER in the middle of the road.

Attendance

The school's attendance target is 97% for every pupil. Please ensure you make every effort to bring your child to school every day. We understand that children do get poorly. However, it is the parents' responsibility to contact the school on the first day of absence. Proof of sickness must also be provided in order for the absence to be authorised. We consider proof to be a doctor's note or pharmaceutical prescription which is dated for the day of absence. If attendance declines; a referral to Lancashire Attendance service will be made and they may issue a fine. If you have any concerns over your child's attendance, please speak to Mrs Arif.















Extended Leave During School Time

It is the school's responsibility to provide the best education possible. We can only do this if your child / children attend regularly.

The law gives no entitlement to parents to take their child on holiday during term time. Any application for leave must only be made in exceptional circumstances and I must be satisfied that the circumstances are exceptional and warrant the granting of leave. I am not expected to deem any term time holiday as exceptional. Parents will be fined by the Local Authority for taking their child on holiday during term time without consent from school.

Whole School Attendance so far 96.9%

Class Attendance September 2019

RM	1M	2M	3M	4M	5M	6M
						
95.4%	98.4%	96.9%	93.2%	98.0%	97.1%	97.8%
RS	1S	2S	3S	4S	5S	6S
						
93.5%	97.8%	95.4%	97.1%	98.3%	98.0%	98.4%

Key Dates:**Class Assemblies:**

Class Assemblies for parents are being continued this year to celebrate the learning that is being covered in class. Thank you again for attending these assemblies – the children love to share their learning with you! They take place on a Thursday from 2.30pm. Below are the dates for when your child's class assembly will be:

Date	Class	Theme
17.10.19	6M	Biography
7.11.19	5S	Myths and Legends
21.11.19	3M	Healthy Humans
5.12.19	6S	Classic Fiction
16.1.20	5M	Victorians
30.1.20	1M	Toys
13.2.20	RM	TBD
5.3.20	4M	Healthy Eating
19.3.20	1S	Plants & Growth
2.4.20	3S	Light
30.4.20	RS	TBD
21.5.20	4S	Greece
18.6.20	2M	Persuasion
2.7.20	2S	Meer cat Mail

Bank Holiday:

Back in June, the Government announced the early **May Bank Holiday** in 2020, originally set for **Monday 4th May**, would **be changed** to **Friday 8th May**. The reason for this unusual **change** in calendar dates is for a special reason. The **Bank Holiday** will now mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.