



Live To Learn. Learn To Grow

Newsletter
December 2019

I cannot believe that we have already reached the end of the Autumn Term. This has been a very busy term and a great deal of learning has taken place. It was lovely to see at the Parent / Teacher meetings how your children were showing you their books and talking about their learning. We are very proud of all our learners.

Areas Covered

- Feedback from Parent Questionnaires
- Celebrating our Readers and their Achievements
- Careers Week
- Attendance
- After School Clubs
- Key Dates
- Farewell

Parent Teacher Meeting Feedback

A very big thank you to all who attended the meeting to discuss their child's progress. In most classes, a hundred percent of parents attended and I thank you for this. 46 parents completed the questionnaire and below is the outcome.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
My child is happy at this school	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%
My child feels safe at school	89%	13%	0%	0%	0%
The school makes sure it pupils are well behaved	83%	17%	0%	0%	0%
My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively/my child has not been bullied:	48% said their child had not been bullied. 22% said they didn't know. 17% strongly agreed that the school dealt with the incident and 13% said they agreed.				
The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	76%	20%	0%	0%	4%
When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly	63%	26%	0%	0%	11%
6 parents said their child was receiving SEND support and 100% strongly agreed the school gives their child the support they need					
The school has high expectations of my child	74%	24%	0%	0%	2%
My child is doing well at this school	78%	22%	0%	0%	0%
The school lets me know how my child is doing	85%	15%	0%	0%	0%

There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school	80%	17%	0%	0%	2%
My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school:	80%	13%		7%	
The school supports my child's wider personal development	87%	11%	2% more support with homework		
100% of parents would recommend this school.					

We also asked parents the following questions and you provided the responses below:



Q: What do you like about Marsden Primary School?

- A's:**
- "It is making improvements and there is good communication".
 - "The school works very closely with parents and provides a great deal of information".
 - "Nice staff members/teachers and good level of teaching".
 - "They help my child to achieve his full potential".
 - "Staff are encouraging and supportive".
 - "The school always takes the concerns of parents seriously".
 - "It allows children to freely explore their creative side and to have high ambitions. The support from teachers is always wonderful".
 - "Children are excited to come into school to learn new things".
 - "The School has high expectations for children, the staff are excellent and supportive and deliver a high standard of education".
 - "The school is effective, efficient and I am proud of the school overall".
 - "The staff are very friendly and understanding".
 - "The education and safety of children is taken seriously".
 - "The staff are amazing and the children are well behaved".
 - "Support given to us for safe access to the internet at home and to access TT rockstars and AR quizzes is excellent".
 - "The way teachers interact with learners to do their best at all times is wonderful".
 - "Rest assured my child is safe in this school".
 - "Good communication between home and school".

Q: What would you like us to do better at School?

- A's:**
- "More clubs to help children with homework".
 - "More variety of activities and clubs at dinner time and after school".
 - "Keep a better eye on children at lunchtimes because my child has bumped his head".
 - "Excellent, keep developing further".
 - "School dinner – sometimes they run out of choices".
 - "More rewards for children who are doing well"
 - "Security at the gates, safer parking and parents should be fined for unsafe parking".

Super Readers:

We are very proud of our learners, especially when they support each other. One group of learners, who have stood out this term, have been the Reading Ambassadors. These learners have been reading with others who have needed support. It is through their support that progress has been made. The Reading Ambassadors have also motivated their peers to enjoy reading independently for pleasure.

The progress some of the children have made in **one term** has been incredible. Keep up the good work!

Here are some of the children who have made incredible progress:



Child 1 has made **27 months** progress from a reading age of 7 years and 2 months to 9 years and 5 months

Child 2 has made **28 months** progress from a reading age of 6 years and 8 months to 9 years and 7

Child 3 has made **13 months** progress from a reading age of 10 years and 3 months to 11 years and 4 months

Child 4 has made **29 months** progress from a reading age of 7 years to 9 years and 5 months.

Please over the December break ensure that your child reads every day and that you monitor this by filling in their Reading Record Book.

Careers Week:

Monday 9th December saw the beginning of Marsden's Careers week. It was in conjunction with Nelson and Colne College and was a huge success. The children from years 5 and 6 were able to take part in a range of activities such as Hair and Beauty, P.E., Health and Social Care and Digital Literacy. Staff from Nelson and Colne College led the sessions and gave the children a taster of what careers each subject could lead to. Our children were, as always, exemplary and staff from the college were very impressed by not only their behaviour but also their enthusiasm. We hope this marks the start of an annual Careers Week at Marsden.



After School Clubs:

At the beginning of the Spring Term, we will be reviewing the clubs that will be on offer to children. We will be producing a Club Overview and will send this out to you within the second week of term. Gareth and Ayub's clubs, as well as the Home Learning clubs, will continue to run as normal as well as those already running during Lunchtime.

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 there will be a referral to the Lancashire Attendance Service 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:















Your child brought home a leaflet on Friday 6th December, which had been written in conjunction with Headteachers across Pendle and leaders from the local Mosques. This leaflet details an Attendance Charter, that schools and Mosques have signed up to, with the aim of improving attendance and therefore improving the life chances for your children.

Across six Pendle schools, 31 years of learning was lost due to leave in 2018/2019 and Marsden is included in this statistic.

Leave of absence requests from school, of five days or more, will result in a fine being issued to each parent. However, more importantly, we are asking families to consider the real cost of taking your child out of school, which is that it could affect their long-term life chances.

Whole School Attendance so far 96.1%

Class Attendance December 2019

RM	1M	2M	3M	4M	5M	6M
						
90.1%	95.3%	94.8%	94.1%	95.3%	95.6%	97.0%
RS	1S	2S	3S	4S	5S	6S
						
92.2%	88.9%	95.0%	93.8%	90.2%	94.6%	94.6%

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:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Theme</u>
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

A reminder Bank Holiday:

Back in June, the Government announced that 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.

Poppy Appeal

The children at Marsden have raised £84.21 for The Royal British Legion. Thank you to all parents for sending in contributions.

Farewell:

This term we say farewell to Mrs Saira Rashid who has been a member of the Marsden School Community for 15 years. We wish her good luck as she pursues a new career path as a PCSO.

Finally:

On behalf of all the staff at Marsden I wish you an enjoyable rest and Merry Christmas to those celebrating.

