**MARLFIELDS NEWSLETTER**

**3RD SEPTEMBER 2021**

**Welcome back to Marlfields for the new academic year to all of our children, especially all of the new children (and parents) who have joined us this week. We hope that you enjoy being a part of the Marlfields’ family.**

We hope that you have all had a marvellous summer whether you stayed at home or managed to get away on holiday. We have only been back to school for 3 days and already it feels like we were never away! Apologies for the long Newsletter.

**SWIMMING POOL**

You should all have had a letter via e-mail yesterday, but we will also show it below too, explaining what is to happen and when.

**Swimming Lessons in our on site pool.**

We have been excited over these last two days to see the pool being filled – it has been estimated to take over 40 hours to fill it completely! There is a picture of the pool towards the end of the Newsletter whilst it’s being filled.

We have been told we are ready to start using it from **Monday 6th September,** and now write with further information.

**Year groups 1-6.** It is our intention that **Years 1/2/3** will swim in the **mornings** and Year **4/5/6** in the **afternoons**.

**Foundation Stage 2** (old name being **Reception**. We are giving the children in this part of school an opportunity to swim either on **Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday** **afternoo**n from **3:00 – 3:30pm** (Miss Barber will tell you which day) and we are asking, as we do not know the children fully as yet, that parents come to school for **3:00pm** to support their child.  The children will be put into smaller groups and be having one session during the week. Please let us know if you cannot support our child’s given session for next week.    We will need to be flexible with Foundation Stage depending on their confidence as you will appreciate.

Unfortunately, Nursery children will not be swimming in this pool; it is far too deep for them to start experiencing swimming.

Children will need to come to school beach ready (this is with trunks or costumes on already like if you were going to a pool at present).  **If you consider that your child (particularly the girls) will find visiting the toilet during the day whilst wearing a costume a problem, please consider putting their costumes on to the waist and fold it over and when it is their turn to swim they then just have to pull the top part up.** Please send in a **towel, swimming hat** and **underwear** in a small bag so that they can change after the session.  These are **30 minutes a day** for each group with a **maximum of 15 children** in the pool at one time.  The pool comes with a teacher and lifeguard and our staff will be supporting as well.  **For Foundation Stage children please put their swimwear in their bags and they will have time to change – they will only swim at the very end of the day.**

As you are aware, water can be dangerous if not respected; and we will be talking to the children about behavioural expectations. However, if the pool staff feel that a child is endangering themselves or others with their behaviour they will not be allowed to continue to swim.  Please therefore support us by talking to them about this wonderful opportunity during these three weeks and remind them - **the rules are** – **no shouting or talking to others while in the pool area, always listen to the adults and respond to the instruction given immediately, manage the space around yourself so that you are not too close to others and wait your turn when getting into and out of the pool using the steps.**

We appreciate that swimming everyday means you have the swimwear to dry each night but we are sure that you will want to use this unique opportunity to get your child more confident in the water and improve swimming skills.  Having said that, swimming gear does dry quite quickly, and certainly should overnight. Those children who may be assessed as good swimmers already will have the opportunity to do water safety badges or lifeguarding skills too.

We may have the opportunity to open the pool on Saturday mornings for lessons which again will be 15 swimmers maximum for 30 minutes and will do so if there is interest.

The session times for this will be: **10:00 -10:30am, 10:30 -11:00am, 11:00 – 11:30am and 11:30-12noon**. Please e-mail us back with a 1st and 2nd choice of time slot.

Thank you for your support on this and again we thank our sponsors who have paid for our children to have this opportunity at no cost to yourselves as parents.   Any questions please email or phone and we can answer them.

**DINNERS**

Please note that we are a ‘nut free’ school, due to a number of our children having serious nut allergies. Please ensure that you do not include any nuts or nut based products when preparing your child’s packed lunch or snack.

**SNACKS**

Children may bring in their own healthy snack each day or school can provide them with one. The cost of this is £2.50 per week, payable on SCOPAY. Payment for school snack **must** be received by 10:00am each Monday; payments after this time will not be processed until the following Monday. If you are new and haven’t been given a SCOPAY account already, please let us know and we will sort it as soon as possible.

**PUPIL DETAILS**

If any details for your child have changed since you completed the Registration Pack last year e.g. house move, telephone number or emergency contact please let us know as a matter of urgency so that all of our records are kept up to date.

**SAFEGUARDING**

***If someone other than yourself should come to school to collect your child at the end of the day, please inform the class teacher or the office of who will be collecting.***

If we have not been notified we will not allow your child to leave school with that person until we have contacted you for verification which can cause consternation for whoever is collecting your child, yourself and indeed us, so please help us to help you by letting us know in advance. Similarly, if you wish to allow your child to walk home on his/her own we need to have a letter from you indicating your wishes.

**NON-ATTENDANCE**

The Government desire all children to be back to and regularly attending school; if they are not we need to remind you that they may fine you if your child is not in school. Each day we have to provide absence figures to the government, so they are monitoring the situation.

**ABSENCES during term time**:

The Governing Board are following Government guidance have that authorisation **will NOT be given for ANY holidays taken in term time** unless there are extra-ordinary circumstances.

Requests for authorised absence must be made in writing in advance of the absence. Fixed Penalty Notices can and may be issued by the Local Authority for unauthorised absences. The school has a statutory duty to monitor and challenge absences, reporting these to Local Authority.

Absences for medical or dental appointments will only be authorised if an appointment card or letter, reminder text message or evidence from the doctor/dentist is provided, and then only ½ day absence will be approved.

**Absence means missed learning.**

**Illness**

**Please call 01260 633120 *before 10:00am* to report your child’s absence.**

School will contact you via text message or phone if a message has not been received by that time. Failure to inform school of a valid reason for your child’s absence may result in you being contacted by the Educational Welfare Officer, with the possibility of a Fixed Penalty Notice being served.

Following their illness, should your child be well enough to return to school, but still require antibiotics, please try to space the doses so that the medication can be given at home wherever possible.

**School Uniform**

Parents are reminded that Marlfields has a uniform and that children are expected to wear this at all times.

Uniform can be bought from DP Sportswear who are based at 50 Bromley Rd, Congleton CW12 1PT. [Phone](https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1CHBF_en-GBGB937GB937&q=d+p+sportswear+phone&ludocid=15398821626193055594&sa=X&sqi=2&ved=2ahUKEwjYlczYueLyAhXSVc0KHVLfAacQ6BMwJnoECDUQAg): [01260 274400](https://www.google.com/search?q=dp+sportswear&rlz=1C1CHBF_en-GBGB937GB937&oq=dp+sportswear&aqs=chrome..69i57j46i175i199i512j69i60.6032j0j15&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Uniform** Red sweatshirt with logoRed polo shirt with logoGrey tartan kilt for girlsDark grey trousers for boys/girls Grey tights/white socks for girlsSensible black school shoes (**no trainers**). |  | **P.E. Kit:** A red T-shirt with logo Dark, preferably Black shortsBlack pumps for indoors P.E. Trainers for outdoors P.E. School logo track suit for outdoorP.E.to be worn on P.E. days |

|  |
| --- |
| https://pe-wbcm.s3.amazonaws.com/media/1003/guests-virtual-logo-wall-background.jpg**OUR MACMILLAN FUND-RAISER THIS YEAR****WILL BE THE SAME AS LAST YEAR!****Supplies of our fantastic Afternoon Tea bags are limited; if you would like one or more get your order in quick, as they sold exceedingly fast last year.**  **Treat yourself or a friend to Afternoon Tea, or how about spoiling Granny and Grandpa? A neighbour? Why not buy one and give it as a treat to a random stranger to make their day?****Go on, surprise someone and help us raise as much as we can for a charity who support many, many people in their time of need. Everyone knows someone who has benefitted from the support of the Macmillan charity.** **We need to help them more than ever now, as like all charities, they too have suffered during the pandemic.****Payment for the Afternoon Tea should be made on your Scopay account - £5.00 per bag. Alternatively, if you don’t want to have the Afternoon Tea, you can make a donation of any amount against your child’s name on Scopay – Macmillan 2021.****There are other activities planned for Macmillan which will take place on FRIDAY 24th SEPTEMBER. More information to follow.** |

**MORRISONS IT’S GOOD TO GROW**

For every £10 you spend (in store or online) at Morrisons, you’ll get a Grow Token to help your school get everything they need to get growing. Download the MyMorrisons app today to start collecting Grow Tokens and choose the school you’d like to donate them to **(hopefully Marlfields!)**

Your chosen school will be able to exchange their Grow Tokens for FREE gardening equipment to get kids growing.

**What is It's Good to Grow?**

It’s Good to Grow is a school’s programme to inspire children to get outdoors, grow, learn and enjoy fresh produce.



**Why It's Good To Grow?**

As Britain’s biggest food maker, we want to enable the next generation to grow food themselves. Because the more kids know about how food’s grown and made, the better they’ll eat, now and in the future.

Download the **MyMorrisons app** to start collecting Grow Tokens and choose the school you’d like to donate them to.



[**Download on Apple App Store**](https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/morrisons-more/id919226668) **/** [**Download on Google Play /**](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.morrisons.matchandmore.app&hl=en_GB&gl=US) **QR Code**



Sign up to make your school a

Morrisons Growing School

Register your interest to make your

school a Morrisons Growing School.

**Register your interest today**

As you know here at Marlfields we have a marvellous allotment, and any extra equipment would be greatly appreciated and would enable more children to work on, to learn to grow food on the allotment. So, if you shop at Morrisons please bear us in mind for these tokens.

**SUMMER READING CHALLENGE**

If your child took part in the Summer Reading Challenge at Congleton Library please either send in their certificate, scan it through on an e-mail or send a photo of it, again via e-mail.

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

We want to make sure that we are providing your child with the best education and support we can. Healthy school food has obvious health benefits and can help pupils establish healthy habits for life. Healthy school food can also help to improve pupils’ readiness to learn.

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals.

Your child is eligible for free school meals if you’re in receipt of one of the following benefits:

* Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
* Income Support
* Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance
* Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
* Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
* The guarantee element of Pension Credit
* Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
* Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

Registering for free meals could also raise an extra **£1,320** for your child’s primary school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

To check if your child is eligible, we need information about you and your child. Please complete this form and return to your child’s school as soon as possible. Alternatively, you can call the Free School Meals Helpline on **0300 123 5012** and they will be able to assist you.

**ABOUT YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Child’s Last Name | Child’s First Name | Child’s Date of Birth | Name of School |
|  |  | D D | M M | Y Y Y Y |  |
|  |  | D D | M M | Y Y Y Y |  |
|  |  | D D | M M | Y Y Y Y |  |

 **PARENT/GUARDIAN DETAILS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Parent/Guardian 1 | Parent/Guardian 2 |
| Last name |  |  |
| First Name |  |  |
| Date of Birth | D D | M M | Y Y Y Y | D D | M M | Y Y Y Y |
| National Insurance Number\* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| National Asylum Support Service (NASS) Number\* |  |  | **/** |  |  | **/** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **/** |  |  | **/** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Daytime Telephone Number |  |  |
| Mobile Number |  |  |
| Address | Postcode: | Postcode: |

**FAMILY INCOME AND BENEFIT DETAILS**

If you receive any of the benefits listed below, please place an X in this box.

* Income Support
* Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
* Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
* Support from NASS under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
* the guarantee element of Pension Credit
* Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit)
* Working Tax Credit run-on
* Universal Credit.

**Universal Credit**

If you are in receipt of **Universal Credit**, is your net earned family income over £7,400 per year?

(Please place an X in the appropriate box).

Your net earned income is your household income after taxes and deductions.

It does **not** include income through Universal Credit or other benefits that you may receive.

Yes No Unsure

 **Child Tax Credit**

If you are in receipt of **Child Tax Credit,** is your joint gross annual income over £16,190 per year? (Please place an X in the appropriate box).

Your joint gross income is your household income before taxes are taken into account.

Yes No Unsure

If you’re not sure whether you receive one of the listed benefits, or what your household income is, but you would still like us to check whether your child is eligible for free school meals, please place an X in this box.

**DECLARATION**

The information I have given on this form is complete and accurate. I understand that my personal information is held securely and will be used only for local authority purposes. I agree to the local authority using this information to process my application for free school meals. I also agree to notify the local authority in writing of any change in my family’s financial circumstances as set out in this form.

Signature of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for completing this form and helping to make sure your child’s school is as well funded as possible.**

**How the information in this form will be used:**

The information you provide in this form will be used by the council to confirm receipt of one of the listed welfare benefits.

Once this is confirmed, this helps to decide how much money your child’s school will receive each year.

The information will also be used in relation to pupils in year 3 or above to decide whether they are eligible for free school meals.

You only need to complete this form once and it will last for the duration of your child’s time at their current school. You should contact the school or local authority if you have a change in financial circumstances.

We are committed to ensuring that the personal and sensitive information that we hold about you is protected and kept safe and secure, and we have measures in place to prevent the loss, misuse or alteration of your personal information.

We will use the information you provide to assess entitlement to free school meals. The information may also be shared with other Council departments to offer benefits and services.

**THE SWIMMING POOL – A WORK IN PROGRESS**

|  |
| --- |
| **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS****Academic Year 2021 – 2022** |
|  **School Opens School Closes**  |
| **Autumn 1**  | **01.09.2021** | **22.10.2021** |
| **Half Term** |
| **Autumn 2** | **02.11.2021** | **17.12.2021** |
| **Christmas Holidays** |
| **Spring 1**  | **04.01.2022** | **17.02.2022** |
| **Half Term** |
| **Spring 2** | **28.02.2022** | **31.03.2022** |
| **Easter Holidays** |
| **Summer 1** | **19.04.2022** | **26.05.2022** |
| **Bank Holiday - Monday 2nd May 2022** |
| **Half Term** |
| **Summer 2** | **07.06.2022** | **22.07.2022** |
| **INSET Days****01.11.21, 18.02.22, 01.04.22, 27.05.22 & 06.06.22** |



Now you’ve reached the end of this massive Newsletter, 