



# MARLFIELDS NEWSLETTER

21<sup>st</sup> October 2022



## HALF TERM HOLIDAY



Don't forget that school closes today (Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October) for the Autumn half term holiday. We re-open on **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October**.

Please also remember that the clocks go back 1 hour at 2:00am on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

## HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND –

### **Changes to food voucher distribution for those eligible for free school meals**

We have been asked this week by parents who have previously received food vouchers for the school holidays if they are to be issued again this holiday. The short answer is no, they are not.

The Department for Work and Pensions have recently notified local authorities that the [Household Support Fund](#) has been extended to March 2023, meaning that families can continue to get help by providing them with food vouchers to cover school holidays.

Following this news, a survey conducted by the DWP of eligible families told them that parents would prefer to have one larger payment of supermarket vouchers rather than several smaller voucher payments between now and March 2023.

The local authority is now busy getting this single larger voucher payment ready to send to all schools to distribute to the children who are in receipt of income related free school meals.

**The vouchers will therefore be sent to you in December in advance of the Christmas 2022 school holidays to cover all holidays from now until March 2023.**

## DOUBLE CELEBRATION

Mr. Price has given us permission to share with you his 'wedding' picture. Mr. & Mrs. Price married last year when only a few guests were allowed to attend the ceremony; they since decided to celebrate their marriage in front of all their family and friends which they did last Saturday, they also celebrated the christening of their daughter Lydia at the same time.



When members of staff get married the school always gives the happy couple one of these Sea of Love vases as one of their gifts. Mrs Daley and Mrs Blagg were also recipients of the vase upon their weddings.

This is what was presented to Mr Price last Friday, along with a Christening gift for his daughter Lydia.



Congratulations to the three of you – it looks like you all had a wonderful day!

## CAR PARK

We again need to re-iterate that the car park is not for the use of parents' cars at drop-off or pick-up times. There is plenty of parking in the surrounding streets (providing you park considerately) as well as the big car park off West Street. We also ask, that for the safety of your children, the driveway should not be used as a thoroughfare. The walking gate to get to the playground is a few paces further up the road, there is also the entrance on the lane between The Crescent and The Westlands.

Thank you in anticipation of your co-operation in this matter.

## **PUNCTUALITY**

Punctuality of a number of children is becoming a cause for concern. **Lessons commence at 9:00am** and many children are not arriving until much later which means that they are missing out on the start of the school day, not to mention the embarrassment of walking into a class full of children who are all on task and the latecomer doesn't know what he or she should be doing. We appreciate that sometimes being late is unavoidable, but every day, especially when it is the same children, is inexcusable.

We are closely monitoring the attendance levels throughout school and if we don't see an improvement, persistent offenders will be referred on to the Education Welfare Service which may result in parental fines.

## **Every Minute Counts**

<b>Lateness = Lost Learning</b> <b>(Figures below are calculated over the school year)</b>	
<b>5 minutes late each day</b>	<b>3 school days lost!</b>
<b>10 minutes late each day</b>	<b>6.5 school days lost!</b>
<b>15 minutes late each day</b>	<b>10 school days lost!</b>
<b>20 minutes late each day</b>	<b>13 school days lost!</b>
<b>30 minutes late each day</b>	<b>19 school days lost!</b>

## **CHILDREN REVIEWS** (Parents Evening)

This term the meetings will take place on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November** between **3:30 – 5:30pm** and **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November** between **5:00 – 7:00pm**, each phone call will last for a **maximum of 10 minutes**.

**Please e-mail the office with a preferred time as soon as possible** to enable us to arrange the appointments. Obviously, we will endeavour to give you the time slot of your choice, but on occasion when multiple people want the same time for the same teacher this is not always possible, but we will aim to be as close to that time as possible.

Your appointment will be sent to you during the first week back after half term.

## **COOKING CLUB**

Last week there was an exciting surprise being cooked up in the kitchens by both the KS 1 and KS2 Cooking Clubs, with the gentle smell of pizza drifting through the corridors, making us all hungry!

The groups of children carefully spread the tomato purée around their bases. Gently adding a sprinkle of cheese along with options of sausage, tomato or both. The pizzas were then cooked and within minutes were ready to eat.

We worked out that these yummy pizzas only cost us 80p to create.

There were many chances for the children to say "CHEESE!" as you can see from the pictures below.



## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Academic Year 2022 – 2023		
	SCHOOL OPENS FOR CHILDREN	SCHOOL CLOSES FOR CHILDREN
Autumn 1	<del>06.09.2022</del>	21.10.2022
Half Term		
Autumn 2	31.10.2022	16.12.2022
Christmas Holidays		
Spring 1 2023	03.01.2023	16.02.2023
Half Term		
Spring 2	27.02.2023	04.04.2023
Easter Holidays		
Summer 1	17.04.2023	25.05.2023
Bank Holiday	Monday 01.05.2023	
Half Term		
Summer 2	06.06.2023	21.07.2023
<u>INSET DAYS</u>		
05.09.2022    17.02.2023    31.03.2023, 26.05.2023    05.06.2023		



Hopefully the nice weather that has been forecast for next week will materialise.

Regardless of that, have a great week, and we will see you back in school suitably refreshed on **MONDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER.**

Many Congleton schools have this date as an INSET Day – we haven't, so, see you on the 31<sup>st</sup>!