



# **Marlfields Newsletter**

**2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022**



## **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance levels throughout school are increasingly becoming a worry with many children having numerous unauthorised marks on the register.

This may be because parents have not rung in to report the absence or school does not agree with the reason, the child arrived late after close of registration, or an unauthorised holiday has been taken.

The levels are now so high that we have **reluctantly** taken the decision to start **issuing fines** for persistent offenders.

**Regular attendance at school is a legal requirement.** "The Education Act" 1996 makes it a criminal offence for a parent/carers to fail to secure their Child's regular attendance at school.

- Parent/carers/guardians have a legal duty as well as a moral obligation to ensure that children of compulsory school age **attend on time**, on a **regular and full-time** basis.
- **Good attendance** and punctuality **is essential** if pupils are to take full advantage of School and gain the appropriate skills which will equip them for life.
- Safeguarding each child is everyone's responsibility and a child may be at risk if they do not attend school regularly. Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning.

**Children** or young people **are expected** to attend school for the full **190 days** of the academic year, unless there is a good reason for absence.

There are two types of absence: Authorised (where the school approves pupil absence)  
Unauthorised (where the school will not approve absence)

- It is expected that parent(s)/carer(s), guardian(s) will provide an explanation if the child or young person is absent on the **first day** the absence occurs. This can be by telephone, email or personally at the office.
- If contact, explaining the child or young person's absence, fails to be made by parent(s)/carer(s)/guardian(s), then the **school will contact** the home by telephone on the initial day and on each day thereafter until the unexplained absence is clarified.
- The attendance coordinator will regularly remind parent(s)/carer(s)/guardian(s) of the importance of good attendance and punctuality.
- If your child is absent from school please contact the school **before 9:30am** (prior to the close of morning registration) **on the day of absence** so that we know your child is safe.

If your child is likely to be absent for any length of time, (e.g. due to illness) please keep us informed, **a medical note may be required if the absence is over a week.**

The register will be marked using the symbols advised by DfE and CEC.

## **SNOW**

As we get deeper into the Winter months, the inevitable is going to happen – **SNOW!** In the event that snow does fall, as always we will do our utmost to keep school open. Should we need to **close** during the school day **we will text/e-mail** out asking you to collect your child(ren) early. *(Please ensure that all of your contact details are up to date, especially if you have changed your phone number).*

If there is a heavy snowfall during the night and we are unable to open because staff are unable to get into school safely we will **text** and make an announcement on local radio. **SIGNAL RADIO 96.4 FM / SILK RADIO 106.9FM / RADIO STOKE 94.6FM.**

Please ensure that your child has a warm, waterproof coat with them each day for outdoor play. The children should also wear sturdy sensible shoes to keep feet dry and to provide a decent grip on potentially icy pathways to and from school. We also urge you all to keep to the Gritting Plan, a copy of which is on each gate. This shows you the routes around school that have been gritted.

## **CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS**

Rehearsals are well underway, preparing for the Christmas productions for all Key Stages.

To get tickets, simply e-mail the office with your child's name, class, how many tickets for the performance and if available any extra tickets you may need.

**The deadline for ticket applications is noon on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December.**

Applications after this time may be refused.

**No ticket, no entry due to safety requirements.**

As a reminder the dates of the shows are as follows:

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Years 1 & 2 at 9:30am**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – EYFS 1 & 2 at 9:30am**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 at 6:30pm**

## **CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**

We will be joining in with the Save The Children fund-raiser **Christmas Jumper Day** on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December**. The suggested donation is £2 which you can pay on SCOPAY, and we will forward all money raised on to the charity. This year will be TWICE as good as before. **Every time £2 is donated, the UK government has promised to give £2 to Save the Children too!**



## **READING CHALLENGE**

Apologies for the lateness in rewarding the children who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge during the Summer holidays. If your child took part in the challenge they should receive their reward next week. Thank you for your patience.

## **PARKING**

Please park considerately when dropping children off for school and again at pick-up time. Last week we had a few complaints about parents blocking driveways by the Waggs Road and The Westlands entrances in particular.

The Highways Department have been informed by neighbours about the parking situation, and they will be sending round traffic enforcements agents who will be giving out tickets to anyone parked illegally.

## **SPORTS ROUNDUP**

### **NETBALL**

We took some Year 3 and 4 children to a netball festival at the High School last week where they moved round a carousel of activities developing their skills. They all had a great fun and even got a medal too!



### **FOOTBALL**



Our Year 5 and 6 football team took part in their first night of league matches at Eaton Bank last week. They played very well together as a team and there were some super skills on display. Keep up the good work!

### **BASKETBALL**

On Wednesday this week, Year 5 took part in a Basketball Tournament with 9 teams from other Congleton schools.

Our children did really well, winning two out of their three matches with style; this got them through to the semi-finals. We finished 4<sup>th</sup> overall.

The whole team worked exceptionally well together and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



## **POETRY**

Year 6 have been studying and writing about war-time poetry. One of the pupil's, Daisy, brought in some poetry books written by her Great-Grandmother Marian Cook to share with the class, and with you all too.

Here is one of Mrs Cook's poems, one by Daisy and two by her classmates:

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>A Taste of War</u></b></p> <p><i>During the war when pleasures were few Most of our time was spent in a queue The Butcher would pass the word along And a line would form a hundred strong. One chop, two sausage, perhaps some ham Then the old favourite, two slices of Spam Off we'd go to the shop next door Queue again, the same as before. This time it's apples grown locally We couldn't get much from                     over the sea. Yes, those were the days We enjoyed them all We can honestly say That we had a ball.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">By Marian Cook</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>The Blackout</u></b></p> <p><i>Bombs fell like pessimistic hail rocks on irritated rooftops of precious homes Loving hearts have been killed by this HORRIBLE war. All the worried folks praying quietly that it will soon be over. Callow soldiers fear the unknown of dark Killing the souls of the enemies. Over and over again the blackout repeats like raging seas smashing against the heavy rocks.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">By Daisy Lawton</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Blackout</u></b></p> <p><i>As the cold darkness surrounds me, The thick curtains close and block out all hope. The grey moon is so bright, yet so fragile. My eyes see nothing but delicate stars in the sky. As I run into the safety of the shelter, the sadness hits me like a dagger. Then the long nights begin ..... again. The wail of sirens, children whimpering, the sound of buildings crumbling to the ground. The blackout starts again.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">By Haylee Porcheret</p>	<p><i>Night comes without hesitation. The darkness is like a ring of death, The empty soul and rotten heart of the enemy. The assertion of routine of cardboard shutter and rattle of curtain seemed gentle And all earthly sound, which the mind must keep Although it is night, we never sleep.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">By Dylan Wilde</p>

# *Christmas Cracker*

Cross Street Church

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December,

4:00 – 5:30 p.m.



The Christmas story, singing,  
games and lots of craft  
activities for all the family.

**Free event**

Further Information:

[andrew@crossstreetchurch.co.uk](mailto:andrew@crossstreetchurch.co.uk)

