**Marlfields Newsletter**

**8th September 2023**

**We hope that you have all had an amazing summer,**

**and are ready for the year ahead.**

**Here is the first Newsletter of the year.**

**We would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new children and staff who have joined us this year and we hope you enjoy being a part of the Marlfields’ Family!**

# SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

If your child took part in and completed the ***‘Ready, Set, Read’’ Summer Reading Challenge*** at Congleton Library during the holidays, please send in their certificate or e-mail it to us so that we can photocopy them.

There will be a reward for all those children who completed the challenge.

Well done to everyone who took part.

 **DINNERS**

Please ensure that you order your child’s lunches in advance on the Dolce SchoolGrid site. For those new to the system we will shortly be sending you log-in details. If lunches are not pre-ordered your child may not get their preferred choice of what is on offer on any given day.

Please note that we are a **‘nut free’** school, due to some of our children having serious nut allergies. Please ensure that you **do not include** any **nuts** or **nut based products** eg. Nutella, when preparing your child’s **packed lunch or snack.** Chocolate/crisps are not a healthy snack for you to send in for break times, but are just about acceptable as part of their lunch. Thank you for your support on this.

# 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.

If you are new to the school and haven’t received a form, please contact the office and they will send you one to complete. 01260 633120

# SAFEGUARDING

***If someone other than yourself should come to school to collect your child at the end of the day, please inform 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 exceptionally extra-ordinary circumstances.

Requests for an authorised absence must be made in writing in advance of the absence. Fixed Penalty Notices can and will 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 always wear this.

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)

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| **Uniform** Red sweatshirt with logo Red polo shirt with logo Grey tartan kilt for girls Dark grey trousers for boys/girls Grey tights/white socks for girls Sensible black school shoes (**no**  |   | **P.E. Kit:** A red T-shirt with logo Dark, preferably Black shorts Black pumps for indoors P.E. Trainers for outdoors P.E. School logo track suit for outdoorP.E.  |

**trainers**).

# 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. You can apply even if your child receives Universal Infant Free Meals.

To check if your child is eligible, you can call the Free School Meals Helpline on **0300 123 5012** and they will be able to assist you.

**If your child has just moved from Year 2 into Year 3 you now need to pay for their school lunches, unless you are in receipt of any of the above benefits. If this is the case, you don’t automatically get Free School Meals, you have to apply for them.**

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| Put Thursday 28th September in your diary for our Coffee Morning supporting Macmillan. This year we thought we would change it up a little, and have a Breakfast theme – for example, croissants, pastries, bacon or sausage butties.However, we know that the children love to have a cake, so we will sell cakes to the children later in the day. |

# SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES

 