



# Marlborough Primary School

Achievement for All

## Newsletter - 9th September 2016



*we are equal, we include everybody, we ask questions, we are creative, we are learners*

Dear Parents,

It has been very exciting to see everyone back at school this week and ready to start a new school year. We warmly welcome new staff and new families to our school community and hope you will all feel at home straight away.

There will be many exciting things happening this year and this newsletter outlines in brief some of the changes we have made for the year ahead.

We look forward to working in partnership with you for the benefit of your children.

*Jessica Finer*

**Headteacher**

### Staffing

Welcome to Mr Gingell, our new Deputy Headteacher, to Miss Byer, Reception teacher, Miss Matthews, Y1 teacher, Miss Conlan, Y3 teacher and Miss Efford Y4 teacher. We hope they will be very happy at Marlborough - please say hello to them when you see them and introduce yourself.

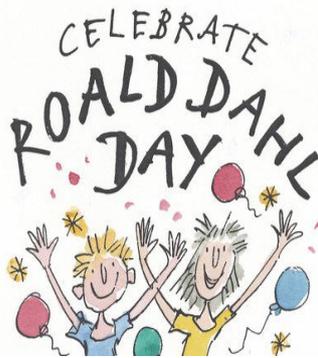
This year Mrs Howell is working three days a week and is here on a Monday afternoon, all day Tuesday and Wednesday and Thursday morning. Mr Marchington is now our Assistant Headteacher and teaches Y5 in partnership with Miss Okuefuna. Mr Maynard leads the Upper school (Y4, 5 and 6), Miss Dark leads the Lower school (Y1, 2 and 3) and Mrs Gauci leads the Foundation Stage (Reception and Nursery). Please see any of these leaders if you have any questions or issues that your child's class teacher is unable to help you with.



Wishing a Happy Eid to all our families who will be celebrating this festival.

### Roald Dahl Day

On Tuesday 13th September we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Roald Dahl, children's author. Children are invited to dress up for the day either in yellow (Roald Dahl's favourite colour) or as one of his book characters. We ask for £1 donation which will be shared between the Roald Dahl charity for sick children and buying more reading books for the school. Parents are invited to join their children in an extended soft start in their classroom from 8.50am until 9.15am where the children will be listening to and reading from *Revolting Rhymes* and *Dirty Beasts* by Roald Dahl.



### After School Clubs

We are in the process of finalising details of our after school clubs for the term. We will be running choir club on a Thursday which will be free and open to any child from Year 4 to Year 6. There will be three sports clubs for different ages of children as well as some additional sports activities such as netball and football.



### !Ola, We are learning Spanish!



This year we are teaching Spanish from Year 3 to 6. We will be learning about Spanish culture as well as learning the speak Spanish. Mr Arias-Prieto is leading on this and will be supported by Teresa Vidan and class teachers. We are very excited about this change and know that our Modern Foreign Language teaching will be energised and refreshed.

### PE Kits

This year children are allowed to come to school in their PE kit on their PE day and do not need to wear their school uniform on this day. The PE kit however must consist of: plain navy shorts or track suit bottoms, Marlborough navy T shirt and plain black or white trainers or plimsolls.

### Diary Dates

#### September

12th	Dance workshops for Y2 to 6
13th	Roald Dahl dress up day
19th	Meet the teacher Y1 & 2 - 2.50pm
20th	Meet the teacher Y 3 & 4 - 2.50pm
20th	Meet the teacher Reception - 3pm
21st	Meet the teacher Y5 - 2.50pm
	Meet the teacher Y6 & Secondary Transfer meeting - 2.50pm
29th	Parent Gym taster session (info to follow)

More dates to follow in next newsletter.  
See calendar on the school website for more dates.

### Meet the Teacher

Meet the teacher meetings take are listed in the diary dates. If you are unable to make this date you can always make an appointment to meet the teacher on another day. The meeting is a chance for you to meet the teacher, see your child's classroom, learn more about the expectations and learning in the class and gives you an opportunity to ask any questions.



### Fit For Sport

Fit for Sport are the new provider for our after school provision. You can find information on our website under School News. If you wish your child to attend you must register and payment is in advance only. Drop in sessions are available however you must still register to use this service. Please speak to the office for more information, look on our website or speak to the Fit for Sport staff at the end of the day.



### Breakfast club



Breakfast club now starts at 7.50am. The charge is £3 per day (for those who are registered) and payment must be made in advance or on the day. Drop ins are available at a cost of £4 (bookings should ideally be made before 4.30pm the evening before if known in advance). Please see the office if you wish to send your child to breakfast club.

**Spaces are available!**

### Secondary Transfer

Year 6 parents will be receiving information about secondary transfer next week and we will give you details of all the open days that we know about. If you have any questions please see Mrs Howell. Please note that closing dates for applications on Monday 31st October 2016. Applications are made online at: [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk)

### Assembly Times

In order to maximise learning time in the Mornings, when children are at their most alert we are changing our assembly times which are now at the end of the day rather than first thing. Except for Special Mentions assembly which is still on a Friday at 9.10am in the ground floor hall.

### Home Learning

We have reviewed our Home Learning and made some changes so that children continue to have the opportunity to practice the most important skills regularly. Just like last year, there are two types of home learning – Explore & Discover and Essential Skills. However, we have swapped the regularity with which these two types happen.

**Explore & Discover** learning will now be given at the start of each half term, to be returned at the beginning of the next half term. It will usually be something to make or build together with an optional writing task. Children will have an entire half term to complete their learning and we would like to see that children have put time and effort into their tasks.

**Essential Skills** home learning will be given out on a Tuesday and should be returned the following Tuesday. It will include practise of core maths and English skills for each year group and is designed to be short and manageable and easily achievable in a week. As always, we also expect children to be reading regularly at home throughout the week – preferably out loud to somebody else (a parent/sibling/friend/relative).

We hope that these new arrangements will make Home Learning more productive and less stressful for everyone involved throughout the academic year.

*Please speak to your child's class teacher if you would like any further information about Home Learning. We look forward to working with you to help your children learn new skills and develop their knowledge and interests. Thank you for your support.*