



MARSHBROOK NEWSLETTER

School contacts:

Head Teacher: Mrs. D. Spiers at school or by e-mail ✉:

headteacher@marshbrook.staffs.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.marshbrook.staffs.sch.uk>

Diary Dates:

October

Wednesday 6th – Nursery and School Photos

Monday 11th – Year 2 visit to Stafford Castle

Friday 22nd – INSET day (school closed for all pupils)

25th – 29th – Half term

November

Tuesday 23rd – Hindu workshop for Year 3 (more info to follow)

Tuesday 23rd – Year 4 visit to Potteries Museum & Art Gallery

Pupil Photos

If you have siblings that do not attend school or nursery yet, or your nursery child does not attend on a Wednesday, please arrive at 8.30am. The other children will all have their photographs taken during the morning. The photographer will also be here at the beginning of the afternoon nursery session for anybody whose child attend nursery only in the afternoon on a Wednesday.

School Lunch Golden Ticket Prize Day - Thursday 7th October

The Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme is the Government Scheme whereby all infant school age children (Rec-Year 2) are eligible for a free school meal whilst they are at school. The amount we receive each year from this grant is a significant figure for us, which we then use to the educational benefit of all the children at school. The amount we receive each year depends upon the number of children that take up a meal on the school census days. **We are therefore appealing to all parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to book their children a school dinner on Thursday 7th October.** To encourage the children, we will be holding a Golden Ticket Competition – one lunch bag or meal tray in each class will have a golden ticket stuck on the bottom. Whoever finds the ticket on the bottom of their bag or tray will win a prize!

Cross Country

Due to high numbers of COVID in some of the other schools, the **Year 3 & 4 inter school cross country competition has been postponed.** We will let those who are competing know when an alternative date has been arranged.

Communications

Although the vast majority of our parents engage positively with the school, I wanted to take this opportunity to remind some parents/carers about expected conduct so that we can continue to create a positive environment for students and staff. Teaching staff, have a range of commitments including teaching all day and therefore, will not always be able to give an immediate response to queries. Staff will return your message or call as soon as they are able to.

From time to time you may have an issue, a question or a problem that needs dealing with. Please can you talk to just 1 member of staff, rather than talking to multiple members of staff about the same issue at the same time, as this complicates matters and can result in delayed communication.

In most cases the teacher, or office, depending on the query, will be your first point of contact.

Thank you for your continued support.

Changes to club days after half term

Due to an increase in traffic on the roads, our sports coaches are struggling to get to the clubs they run after the ones at Marshbrook, so have had to have a bit of a juggle round with the days. Clubs **after half term** are as follows. All clubs will restart the first week back after half term.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Year Groups</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Teacher/Coach</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Monday	Football	All	3.15pm-4.15pm	TC Sports	£3.50 per session. Please register directly with the coach – letters will be out first few days back
Tuesday	Multi-sports	All years (Y3 & Y4 will be outside)	3.15pm-4.15pm	TC Sports	Free
Wednesday	Games	Y3 & Y4	3.15pm-4.15pm	Mrs Howell	Free
Wednesday	Spanish	All years	Lunchtime	Mrs Fowler	£2.50/session
Thursday	Music	Y2,3 & 4	3.15pm-3.45pm	Mrs Parkes (Staffordshire Music Hub)	£2.00 per session Register and pay via Parent Pay
Friday					

- *Contact the school office for a letter to register your child in Spanish club*

If you qualify for Pupil Premium your child can attend one of the paid after school clubs for free (please speak to the office staff)

COVID Update

Whilst cases in Staffordshire remain very high, I'm pleased to say that we do not currently have any cases in school. If we do get cases, we take advice from the Staffordshire Local Outbreak Team and may put in additional measures, such as keeping 1 or more classes in bubbles, stopping whole school events e.g. assemblies etc

We will continue to:

Maintain regular hand washing/gelling
 Encourage good respiratory hygiene (catch it, bin it, kill it)
 Have a regular and enhanced cleaning schedule
 Ensure ventilation is good

If your child or anybody in your household has any of the following symptoms:

A high temperature
 A new, continuous cough
 A loss or change to sense of smell or taste
 then please get a test and remain at home until you receive the results (usually the next day).

Actions to take if you or your child tests positive for COVID-19 on a lateral flow device

they should self-isolate straightaway and [report their test result](#)
 they should book a confirmatory PCR test as soon as possible, either [online](#), through the NHS COVID-19 app, or by calling 119 and continue to self-isolate whilst awaiting results of the PCR test
 any unvaccinated adults in their household should self-isolate whilst awaiting their PCR result, unless they are [exempt](#)

We Need You!

Parent Teachers Association (grandparents are extremely welcome too!) Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be on 10th November at 1.30pm in school.

This is an opportunity for all parents or grandparents to come along and find out more about the PTA. It is also the time when we elect our new Committee. The committee consists of a Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Vice-Treasurer and Secretary, plus ordinary committee members.

The PTA committee play an important role in the life of the school, organising discos, Easter egg hunts, summer fairs and other social events, not to mention the many thousands of pounds the PTA raise, which is spent on enhancing our children's education and the facilities in school in general.

Please come along. You do not have to have any particular skills and your help and support, no matter how big or small, is truly appreciated. It's also a good way to meet other parents and families too.

Birthday Treats

If you would like to send in a class treat for your child's birthday, we ask that you please send a special book to add to the class book box or school library or an outdoor toy to add to the class playtime toys bag.

A label will be stuck on the inside front cover of a book to say who gave the book and what birthday he or she is celebrating. The child or teacher will read the book to the class (or a favourite part if it is a long book).

Outdoor toys will have a message written on them to say who they are from.

We are a healthy school and so are trying to encourage children to cut down on the amount of sugar they consume, we also have a number of children in school with allergies who cannot consume sweets and cakes.

Thank you!

Thank you to Penkridge Arboriculture for the logs for our Forest School seating area.

Please apply for Pupil Premium if you are entitled – it really helps our school

Pupil Premium is funding which is used by schools to help pupils and raise achievement levels. This includes free meals if your child is in Year 3 and 4, but even if you don't want your child to have the meals, claiming will help the school and your child in other ways. For example, **the money can be used for Teaching Assistant targeted support for Literacy and Numeracy lessons, purchase of school milk and breakfast biscuits, support for educational visits and after school clubs.** The more eligible parents who claim meals, the more funding the school and ultimately the children receive, so please apply if you are entitled to.

You can claim Pupil Premium (free school meals) for your children if you are in receipt of any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- eligible for Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and the household income (as used by HMRC to assess tax credits) is not more than £16,190. Please note: anyone eligible for Working Tax Credit, or if you have a partner and they receive it, regardless of Income, you will not qualify
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit (from 30th April 2005)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- In receipt of the 4-week run on of working tax credit (this is where someone becomes unemployed or reduces their hours and so is no longer entitled to working tax credit but will continue to receive it for a further 4 weeks and is entitled to free meals during that time)
- Universal credit

Please visit <http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/educationalawardsbenefits/home.aspx> to apply or check eligibility. There is now an **Early Years Pupil Premium** available to support **three and four-year-old children** who are eligible. To apply or for more details please visit:

<http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/childcare/childcare/Early-Years-Pupil-Premium/Home.aspx>

Family Support Service by SCTSP in Partnership with Staffordshire County Council
South Staffordshire

FREE ONLINE BEHAVIOUR & WELLBEING WORKSHOPS/PROGRAMMES

Programme for Parents

4- week Programme Understanding and Managing

Defiant Behaviours and Anger in Children and Young people

Start Date: Wednesday 3rd November: 1.30pm-2.30pm

Workshops for Parents: October –December 2021

Parent Wellbeing session

Topics covered: Understanding emotions, building confidence & feeling more positive

Date: Monday 18th October: 1.30pm-2.30pm

Helping children to develop a Positive attitude and Growth Mind-set

Date: Monday 15th November: 1.30pm-2.30pm

Helping children manage anxiety and worries

Date: Wednesday 8th December: 1.30pm-2.30pm

To book your place please email your **name, date of programme and phone number** to raminderdhalwal.fss@sctsp.org.uk or

text/phone with your **name, date of programme and email address** to [07741645691](tel:07741645691).

Once you have booked onto you will be sent instructions on how to access the

Workshop/Programme.





RAINBOW'S
Parent / Carer and Toddler Group

Come and join us, meet new friends and have fun

A friendly stay and play group with lots of toys and activities

Available to children of all ages (from birth)

We meet every **Wednesday** (in term time) between **9.30am**
and 11.00am at the Scout's Hut, Goods Station Lane,
Penkridge ST19 5AU

£2.50 per family, which includes snacks and drinks

Join us on Facebook for latest news and activities
(Search groups for "Penkridge Rainbow Group")

Tel:

07989803364
07896959047

For more details

We look forward to seeing you soon!

*** OPENING WEDNESDAY 6TH OCTOBER ***