



Friday 12th December 2025

# Newsletter

## A Message From Our Head Teacher

This week I had the privilege of watching the Christmas production 'Ralph the Reindeer'. The pupils performed brilliantly and it was so lovely to see them enjoy the acting, singing and dancing. We value and promote the academic achievements of our pupils, but this is always balanced with a chance for our students to take part in activities like this - it is excellent for boosting confidence and wellbeing! Well done to all the children involved, and thanks to the staff team for supporting our students so well!

You may have seen in the news that our current school meal provider, CATERed, will no longer be providing its services after the end of this academic year.

Unfortunately, due to continually rising costs of food and staffing, the company is no longer able to continue. However, a support package has been provided by the Council to make sure that CATERed can continue to operate until the end of July 2026 which means there will not be any immediate changes.

We are now working on our plans to arrange for a new school meals service, which will either be an alternative provider or run directly by us. Please be reassured that the closure of CATERed next July will not affect your children receiving school lunches as a service will always be provided.

All of the staff working in our kitchen will also be able to transfer over to the new provider, so we hope to keep our brilliant school meals staff and minimise any change for the children.

We'll share more information about future changes in due course.

Have the best of weekends,  
Steph Macdonald





# Winter Fair

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December

3PM

FREE  
ENTRY

Join us for lots of fun including  
Tombola, Cakes, Games, Raffle,  
Stalls and much much more!



MARLBOROUGH ACADEMY PRIMARY SCHOOL  
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL 01752

567681

We have been donated some amazing prizes for our Winter raffle on Wednesday.

2 x Super Tramp voucher

£15 Entertainer Voucher

£20 Wild things Voucher

3 free toboggan rides

£50 Continue Voucher

1 Paint balling voucher

2 x hair 26 voucher

2 x £10 tattoo vouchers

5 X house of pretzel

Line dancing

Family swim voucher

And much, much more



A big thank you for all your donations so far for the tombola. We are overwhelmed with all the support you give to our lovely little school.

Thank you!

# Recognition Awards

## Attendance

This week's attendance winner  
are: Sycamore with 96.43%

Whole school: 93.47%  
this is below the national  
average of 96.87%



## Achiever of the week

Willows - Skyler L  
Maple - Elodie  
Sycamore - Neto  
Beech - Abigail  
Oaks - Kai



# Willows

The children have been incredible this week. They performed brilliantly in the school show and should be very proud.

The children have also been amazing in class. They have been looking at the story 'Lost and Found', being able to retell it and create their own characters. They have explored making paper boats, painted penguin pictures, fed the penguin with phonic fish and made their own stick puppets for the story.

During our outdoor learning afternoon, the children collected leaves, sticks, grass and plants, to create their own natural tuff tray.

In maths, foundation have been learning the composition of numbers to 5, whilst the Year children have been consolidating their knowledge of number bonds to 10 and 20.

What a great week and only one more week to go this term! Where has the time gone?



# Maple

A brilliant Winter Performance, enjoyed by all children. I'm sure many of the staff will be hearing the songs for a little bit longer.

We have been learning the following this week:

English: Our new text this term is Poetry - This week have started to look at what is needed in a Poetry. The poems are based on a woodland theme.

Maths: Shape We have been identifying and naming 2D and 3D shapes. By recognising their properties the shapes are easier to recognise.

Science: Everyday Materials. This week we have been thinking about how to make the best houses out of wood, paper and stones.

Reading masters ( overview) Focusing on the following aspects in each piece of text - reading, analyse, retrieve, inference and justify.

Geography: Our wonderful world. We have revised what we have learnt in this unit. Many children believed at this moment in time, there is no place like home. Although, many of them would like to travel near and far away when they are older to experience opportunities in different countries.

PE. Gymnastics: Point of contact. Using our bodies to balance and move in sequenced movements.

Art: Andy Warhol We have created a picture of our favourite endangered creature. which will then be transferred onto a foam tile, ready to use the print and press method.

PSHE. How behaviour affects others: being polite and respectful.

Music. Tempo: snail and mouse.

Computing: Computer systems and networks. Improving mouse skills.

RE: Who do Christians say made the world?

Homework – Given out on Friday please return the following Wednesday.

Don't forget to use your Times Tables Rock Stars log ins.

ED shed is now up and running – these enable your child to practice their spellings for each week linked to their homework sheet.

# Oaks

What a great week in Oaks!

In maths we have continued with our multiplication and division unit. This week we have focused on the 3- and 4-times table. The children have been working so hard and using their multiplication skills every day! They all have their TTRS log ins in the front of their homework books which they can use to log on at home!

In English, we have been working hard on our final write, a diary entry written by the main character in our book Leon and the place between. Everyone has done an incredible job!

In topic and science, we completed our Prove Its! This week your child decided if 'Teeth are the most important stage of digestion for all animals' and 'The Roman invasion ruined Britain'. They then back up their decision with evidence from their learning!

On Thursday, our last day of term, please can your child come into school in their pajamas. They may bring a blanket and teddy, and they can bring slippers to wear in the classroom only. We have a very exciting day planned!



# Sycamore

What a terrific week!

Our cheeky elf has played lots of pranks and we are always excited to see what he will do next!

On Thursday, our last day of term, please can your child come into school in their pajamas. They may bring a blanket and teddy, and they can bring slippers to wear in the classroom only. We have a very exciting day planned!

In maths, we have finished our multiplication and division unit! We have been working hard this week on our reasoning and problem-solving skills. These are tricky questions because we have to look for clues in the text to work out what operation we need for our equations.

In English, we have been planning our final writes! We created our plan and then we began writing our diaries. We are imagining that we are Leon and thinking about his time in The Place Between!

In topic and science, we completed our Prove Its! This week your child decided if 'Teeth are the most important stage of digestion for all animals' and 'The Roman invasion ruined Britain'. They then back up their decision with evidence from their learning!

Your talk time words this week are:

Astonishment – to be shocked, normally for a good reason.

Impatient – wanting something to happen now.

Annotate – to add notes to a picture.

Please ensure your child is doing:

TT Rock Stars and Ed shed please.

Please log any reading you are doing using the Boom Reader App

# Beech

A busy week in Beech this week! We have been learning how to add and subtract fractions with different denominators, boosting our arithmetic skills, and have been learning all about how amazing the Amazon rainforest is. In English, we have been preparing to write a non-chronological report about the importance of the Amazon rainforest, including how it is used for jobs, agriculture, mining and to make medicines to cure cancer.

In science, we have been learning about the adaptations of various organisms, and Darwin's theory of natural selection. In DT, we have been making our final piece – woven baskets.

TTRS top users: Spencer, Nordean and Brian  
Edshed top users: Spencer, Shona and Amanda



# Menu

CATERed

## WEEK 1

W/C: MONDAY 3RD NOV, 24TH NOV, 15TH DEC, 19TH JAN, 9TH FEB, 9TH MARCH, 30TH MARCH

MONDAY

CHOICE 1 - H, V

Macaroni cheese with garlic bread and veg

Allergens: Glu, Wh, Mu, Mi m/c Se

TUESDAY

CHOICE 1 - H

Potato topped chicken pie served with veg

Allergens: Glu Wh Ce Mi m/c Bar

WEDNESDAY

CHOICE 1 - H

Sausage and mashed potato served with veg and gravy

Allergens: Glu Wh

THURSDAY

Choice 1  
Beef Burgers

FRIDAY

Choice 2  
Quorn Hotdogs

No Jackets  
Potatoes or  
Paninis available

CHOICE 2 - H, W, V, VE

Vegan chilli with rice and veg

Allergens: So

CHOICE 2 - H, V

Broccoli and potato bake served with veg

Allergens: Glu Wh Mi

CHOICE 2 - H, W, V, VE

Vegan meatballs in a tomato sauce with pasta and veg

Allergens: Glu Wh So

SELECTION OF JACKET POTATOES ARE AVAILABLE EACH DAY: BEANS / CHICKEN / HAM / HOT PANINI: CHOOSE FROM CHEESE & TOMATO OR HAM & TOMATO SAUCE  
(For the full allergy information, please refer to our webpage)

DESSERT - H, V

Pear flapjack

Allergens: Glu, O

DESSERT - H, V

Chocolate shortbread

Allergens: Glu Wh Mi m/c Bar

DESSERT - H, V, VE

Fruit platter

AVAILABLE EVERY DAY: FRESH SALAD / FRESH FRUIT AND YOGHURT

Fresh fruit, local Wiltshire yoghurt available daily. Fresh drinking water is available throughout the lunch time period. All meals served with seasonal vegetables. Chicken alternatives to meat and pork upon request. One meat free day. H = HOME-MADE IN THE KITCHEN, W = WHEAT, WHEAT INGREDIENTS, VE = VEGAN DISH, V = VEGETARIAN.

Allergen Key: Gluten (Glu), Soy (Soy), Wheat (Wh), Dairy (D), Egg (E), Nuts (Nu), Sesame (Se), Sulphites (Su), Sausages (Sas), Peanuts (P), Mustard (Mu), Milk (M), Fish (F), Eggs (E), Crustaceans (C), Cereals (Ce), Fish (F), Super (S), Mince (M), May Contain

Climate Friendly

DID YOU KNOW  
You can have mixed or brown rice instead of potatoes!  
Tilda

Thank you to Dani and PJ for the amazing Christmas Dinner. It was delicious!



## Absence

If your child is off school please call the school number 01752 567681 and press 2 to report the absence. Can this be done first thing in the morning

## Absence Request

We have had a lot of Absence Request and students being taken out of school for holidays. Absence request forms must be filled in 20 school days in advance. In exceptional circumstances will this be authorised. Please see the link below for further information from PCC website

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence-and-penalty-notice>

## Clubs

Breakfast club - starts at 7:45am and cost £2 session. You must book through the Arbor app by 11:00 pm the day before.

After school club - Monday to Friday 3:15pm to 5pm, session are £5 per student. You must book through the Arbor app by 11:00 am on the day.



## Contact

If you need to contact Phone number:

01752 567681

Website address:

[www.marlboroughacademy.org](http://www.marlboroughacademy.org)

Email address:

[reception@marlboroughacademy.org](mailto:reception@marlboroughacademy.org)

# Dates for Diary

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Winter Fayre

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Break up

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December - INSET Day closed to pupils

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 - INSET Day closed to pupils

Tuesday January 6<sup>th</sup> 2026 - Back to school

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January - Reception Class - Vision Screening

## MARLBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL 2025-26 TERM DATES

	September 25					October 25					November 25				December 25				
Monday	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	
Wednesday	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31
Thursday	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	
Friday	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	

  

	January 26					February 26				March 26					April 26				
Monday		5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27
Tuesday		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Wednesday		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Friday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	

  

	May 26					June 26					July 26					August 26				
Monday		4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31
Tuesday		5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	
Wednesday		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	
Thursday		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	
Friday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	