



## 21st March 2025

### Contents:

- Headteacher's insight
- News from our classrooms
- Upcoming events
- Reminders

## Headteacher's insight

We have continued our exciting celebration of **British Science Week** this week, and there has been much to look forward to! On Monday, every child received a small envelope containing **sunflower seeds** and planting instructions to take part in our **Sunflower Growing Competition**. We can't wait to see how tall your child's sunflower grows! Prizes will be awarded for the **tallest sunflower** as well as for the **best poster** showcasing observations made during the growing process. The competition will run until **19th May**, and we ask that all entries for the tallest sunflower are photographed and are emailed to the school office with the sunflower's height included. Poster submissions can be handed to the children's teacher. We are excited to see everyone's hard work and creativity!

This week, we were delighted to welcome parents and carers into school on Wednesday for a series of fun and engaging science workshops with the children. It was fantastic to see so many of you taking part, sharing your enthusiasm for science, and helping to inspire the next generation of scientists!

As a STEM school, we are especially passionate about science and are looking forward to our next STEM Day on **Wednesday, 2nd April** on the theme of **flight**. This will be another opportunity for students to explore exciting scientific concepts. Following that, we are thrilled to announce the launch of our **Science Project** after the Easter holidays, which will culminate in our first ever **Science Fair!** We can't wait to showcase all of the wonderful projects our students will create. Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to celebrate science, exploration, and creativity here at school!

Thank you for your support of **Easter egg** and **hamper prize donations**. We are open to accepting these donations until the end of next week. We will then create our Easter raffle prizes from these and we are confident there will be an array of wonderful prizes to be won! **Tickets** for the raffle can be purchased at **parents evening** and in the lead up to the end of term on some occasions on the playground at drop off and pick up. Don't forget the **Easter hunt and bake sale event** on **Thursday 3rd April** straight after school. Maps for the hunt can be purchased in advance at parents evening for £3 and also on the day. It looks set to be a great community event. We are looking forward to enjoying it with you all.

*Mrs Thompson*



Mrs Emily Thompson  
**Executive Headteacher**



## News from our classrooms

### Comets Class

This week Comet Class have continued to show our **Marleigh values** in lots of areas of learning. The children have all been **respectful** of one another, they have been resilient when taking on new challenges and have been reaching high and trying their best in all activities this week.



In **Literacy** this week we read **Lunch on a Pirate Ship**. We discovered that this story had rhyming words in it and so we explored this and found rhyming pairs and even made up our own rhyming words! The children became pirates and made their own pirate ship using large wooden blocks and have been busy working together and mark making on large pieces of paper to make their own treasure maps. They remembered to add features like arrows; to show directions and the all-important X marks the spot. When building and working on their treasure maps the children have been respectful when working together. They have been listening to each other's ideas, building on their ideas and sharing resources. It has been lovely to see what Comet Class can achieve when they work together.

In **Science** we have been learning about the different habitats that animals live in. Some children decided to make a Zoo for the wild animals. They used resources from the construction area and then drew a map of the zoo.



We have been focusing on our writing this week and in **Phonics** the children in Comet Class have shown resilience and have reached high in their independent work. We have been writing sentence using the sounds we learnt (ch and sh). Even when some children found it tricky, they said "I will try my best".



## Spitfires Class



We are thrilled to see more sunshine and are excited to be spending more time outdoors, making the most of our outdoor area! ☀️

In **PSED (Personal, Social, and Emotional Development)**, we've been exploring feelings, tying them to our theme of Growing through stories like Billy's Sunflower. These books help us understand how to manage emotions and identify strategies to calm ourselves when feeling overwhelmed—like using counting techniques. We're also focusing on kindness and discussing ways we can be kind to others, both in and out of the classroom.

In **Phonics**, we've been learning the sounds 'i' and 'e'. The children are making great progress and enjoying discovering new words that start with these sounds.

In **Maths**, we are building on our subitising skills—recognizing small groups of objects (1 to 3) without the need to count them. This week, we are formally introducing regular dot patterns, such as those on dice and dominoes, to help the children become more confident in identifying quantities. Thank you for your continued support. It's wonderful to see the children growing and developing each day!

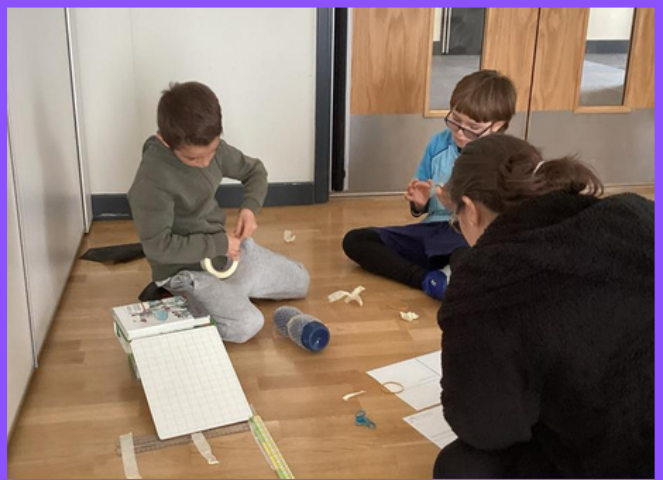
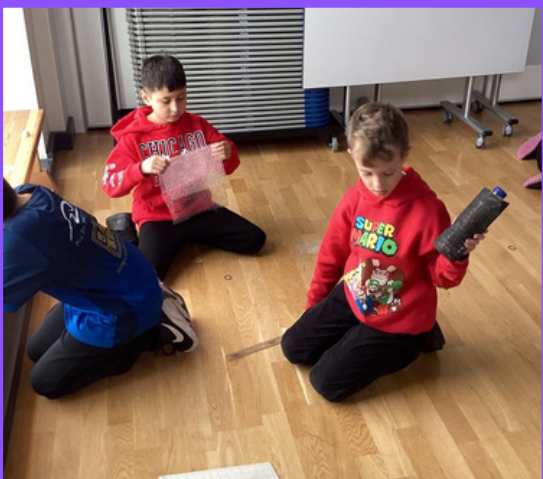
### Some useful reminders:

- Please remember to book your child's dinners in advance if they are having a school meal or milk if they would like to have milk through [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)
- If you are applying for the working entitlement expanded/extended hours of up to 30 hours funding for the Summer Term, the deadline for this is 31st March 2025.
- Don't forget to reconfirm your details with HMRC if you have 30 funded hours when required. You should receive emails to prompt you to do this.
- We appreciate you trying to be on time for your child's session as this supports us being able to lock the main door for the safety of all children, promptly.
- We are looking forward to seeing many of you for Parent's Evening on either Wednesday 26th or Thursday 27th March. If you have not yet booked a session for your child, please see a member of Nursery staff.
- As it is sunnier, please apply sunscreen to your child before nursery and send your child with a sun hat.



## Blackbirds Class

Blackbirds had a great time during **science day**. They investigated the best material for a bicycle tyre by using **water bottles** and **ramps** to test the speed of different materials wrapped around the bottles. The children made clear and considered **predictions** and carried out their **experiments** effectively. Bubble wrap was found to be the most successful material. They worked well in their teams showing good communication and cooperation.





## Hurricanes Class

On Wednesday 19th we had an incredible opportunity to visit **Cambridge Science Park** to explore the fascinating world of sensory science. We engaged in a variety of hands-on workshops designed to help us discover how our senses work and how they shape our understanding of the world. The activities were both engaging and informative, allowing us to conduct experiments and interact with experts in **sensory science**. Some of the activities included:

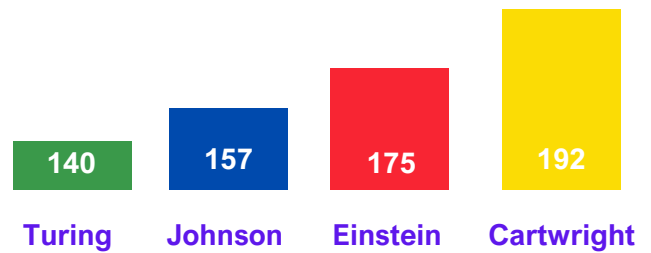
- **Taste and Smell:** Understanding how our senses of taste and smell work together, with some surprising results!
- **Touch and Texture:** Experiencing different textures and learning how our sense of touch helps us navigate our environment.
- **Sight and Sound:** Exploring how our brains process sight and sound, and how they impact our perception of the world.

The visit was not only educational but also incredibly fun! It sparked curiosity among the children and provided them with a deeper appreciation for the science behind everyday experiences.

We also had fun preparing and presenting a special assembly on Thursday 20th to share everything we have learned this term so far. This was a fantastic opportunity for the children to showcase their learning. We can't wait to share more of our adventures with you in the upcoming weeks!



## House Point Totals



## Upcoming events and reminders

### Science Week Competition - Grow a Sunflower! 🌻

As part of our Science Week celebrations exploring the theme of **change**, we launched a **Sunflower Growing Competition** in assembly on Monday. All the children will have come home with some sunflower seeds and some instructions of how to grow their sunflower and how to enter the competition. The details are below. We are really excited to see how the seeds grow and what changes occur! Happy Growing!

#### How to Enter:

1. **Plant Your Sunflower** – Follow the instructions to plant a sunflower seed and watch it grow over the next 9 weeks.
2. **Track the Changes** – Observe and record how your sunflower grows and changes over time.

#### Prizes & How to Submit Your Entry:

##### 🏆 **Tallest Sunflower Prize**

- Measure your sunflower at the end of 9 weeks.
- Take a clear photo showing your sunflower with the measurement visible.
- Submit your photo by the deadline.

##### 🎨 **Best Poster Prize**

- Create a poster (maximum size A3) showing the **process of growing your sunflower** and the **changes** that happened.
- Use pictures, drawings, and descriptions to explain what you observed.
- Submit your poster by the deadline.

Entries should be sent to [enquiries@marleighprimary.org](mailto:enquiries@marleighprimary.org) with the subject "Science" or handed to your class teacher by **3.30pm on Monday 19th May.**

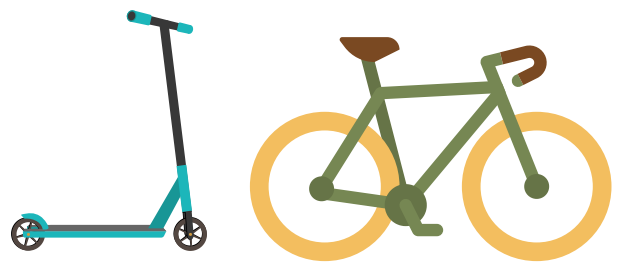




## After school clubs - Children with bikes/scooters



If your child attends an after school club and comes to school with a bike or a scooter, please ensure they leave their bike or scooter in the bike sheds by the car park at drop-off. This makes collection easier after the club has finished. Thank you for your cooperation.



## Year 6 trip to Grafham Water Centre

A reminder to parents and carers of Year 6 children who wish to go on the trip to Grafham Water Centre that we will need your consent and payment before the deadline.

All information and the consent form **can be found on our website.**





## Term Dates 2024/25

### Spring term

Monday 6th January to Friday 4th April

Half term: Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February

Monday 24th February to Friday 4th April

Easter holidays: Monday 7 April – Friday 18th April

### Summer term

Tuesday 22nd April to Wednesday 23rd July

Back to school Wednesday 23rd April

Bank holiday Monday 5th May (school closed)

Half term: Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May

Back to school Tuesday 3rd June

Last day of term 23rd July

### INSET Days (closed to pupils)

Tuesday 22 April

Monday 2 June

## Term Dates 2025/26

### Autumn term 2025

Thursday 4th September to Friday 24th October

Half term: Monday 27th October – 3rd November

Tuesday 4th November to Friday 19th December

Christmas holidays: Monday 22nd December to Tuesday 6th Jan

### Spring term 2026

Tuesday 6th January to Friday 13th February

Half Term: Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February

Monday 23rd February to Friday 27th March

Easter Holidays: Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April

### Summer term 2026

Monday 13th April to Friday 22nd May

Half Term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

Monday 1st June to Friday 17th July

Summer Holiday: Monday 20th July onwards

### INSET Days (closed to pupils)

Monday 1st September

Tuesday 2nd September

Wednesday 3rd September

Monday 3rd November

Monday 5th January

Monday 20th July





EASTER  
HOLIDAYS

# PREMIER HOLIDAY CAMPS



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Education

INSPIRING  
ACTIVITY



SCAN HERE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION

or visit [premier-education.com/holiday-camps](https://premier-education.com/holiday-camps)



Trustpilot



Based on over 20,000 reviews



# YOUR NEAREST MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

**Venue:** Marleigh Primary Academy, CB5 8BG

**Dates:** 7th - 10th April & 14th - 17th April (Daily)

**Times:** 8.45am till 3.45pm

**Price:**

**Ages:** 4 - 11 year olds

**Additional info:** Book now to secure attendance!

Our 5\* Holiday Camps are the perfect place to keep your kids entertained over the Easter holidays.

Our camps are a fantastic place for children to meet new friends, have lots of fun, and create wonderful memories!

Every day is different, with a mix of fun activities that children may not have tried before – from dodgeball to cricket, basketball to archery.

**Book now** for a school holiday full of fun!

## CAMPS ARE BETTER WITH FRIENDS!



**TREAT YOUR FRIENDS  
TO 20% OFF...AND GET  
20% OFF TOO!**

\*Ts&Cs apply. Refer a Friend discount on new bookings only.

### PLEASE BRING

A packed lunch  
Plenty of water  
Suitable clothing  
Loads of energy!



Based on over 20,000 reviews

# *Is your child registered for* **SCHOOL MILK?**

## *Child* **UNDER 5**

Every child under the age of five is entitled to free school milk. Simply register your child online.



## *Child* **OVER 5**

Every child over the age of five is entitled to milk at a subsidised cost of around £20 per term. Register your child and pay online.

**Children in receipt of benefits-based free school meals are eligible for free school milk. Speak to the school for further information.**

Free milk for under 5s is funded by the Department of Health and milk for over 5s is subsidised by DEFRA.

# **REGISTER YOUR CHILD TODAY**

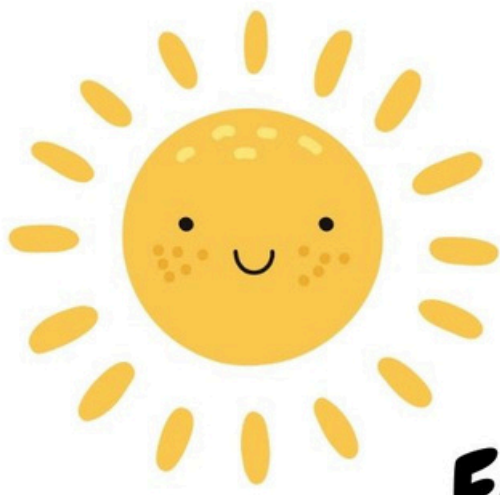
Register online  
[www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)



Need help?  
**Send us a message**  
at [www.coolmilk.com/contact](http://www.coolmilk.com/contact)  
or give us a call on **0800 321 3248**



FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA - SEARCH COOLMILKSCHEME



# SOW N GROW



## FAMILY EVENT

TUESDAY 8TH APRIL

10AM-12.30PM



GARDEN THEMED CRAFTS



BEE BOMBS



AND MORE!

EAST BARNWELL  
COMMUNITY CENTRE,  
NEWMARKET ROAD,  
CB5 8RS



PLANTING

**CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT  
BOOKING REQUIRED**

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/abbey-people-cio/t-eanagoz>



Kings Hedges Family Support Project