



## 24th January 2025

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## Headteacher's insight

This week, I am delighted to highlight the immense value of **music** within our school curriculum at Marleigh Primary Academy. Music is not only a universal language but also a powerful tool for developing creativity, confidence, and collaboration among our students. I personally benefitted greatly from developing an early appreciation of music in my own schooling and learning to play instruments, read music and have the opportunities to perform all had a profound impact on me. I am driven to ensure our children at Marleigh Primary Academy have the chances to fall in love with music too and to develop a deep appreciation for it that moves with them in to adulthood.

We are thrilled to see how our new **Kapow curriculum** has inspired children across both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. This thoughtfully designed program focuses on well-planned skills development and building on prior knowledge, enabling students to progress confidently and joyfully in their musical journey. It has been wonderful to witness the enthusiasm and engagement it has sparked in our classrooms this term.

A particular highlight of our week is the whole-school singing assembly, expertly led by Mrs McLachlan. These sessions have become a much-loved tradition, where students unite in song, fostering a sense of community and shared joy. The energy and passion during these assemblies are truly infectious, and it is heartening to see every child participating with such enthusiasm.

This week, our Key Stage 1 students demonstrated tremendous confidence in their music lessons. Each child was invited to sing a short solo, and their courage and budding musicality were remarkable to witness. It is these moments that underscore the transformative power of music in building self-assurance and expression.



Meanwhile, our Key Stage 2 students were captivated by a recent performance from the local Music Centre. The musicians' skill and artistry held the audience spellbound, igniting curiosity and I am hopeful that it inspired some of our children to further explore their own musical interests.

As parents and carers, your encouragement and support play an invaluable role in nurturing this enthusiasm for music. Whether by sharing music at home, attending performances, or encouraging your child's pursuit to play an instrument, you help reinforce the value of this important subject. If you would like to know more about the opportunities at school for your children to learn to play an instrument please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs Emily Thompson  
**Executive Headteacher**



### Comets Class - EYFS

This term, we have been exploring the fascinating topic of our bodies, with a special focus on our **teeth**! We've been reading the story "**Alan's Scary Teeth**", by Jarvis about a crocodile who loses his teeth, which has sparked lots of conversations about teeth and their care.

- **Storytime:** We loved reading Alan's Scary Teeth, acting out the story with puppets and discussing the importance of looking after our teeth. The children were excited to talk about their own teeth and whether they've ever lost one! They also write captions about the features of their faces.
- **Tuff Spot Exploration:** In our Tuff Spot, we set up a fun teeth-related activity, where the children explored a teeth model and practiced brushing them carefully. It was a great way for them to understand how to take care of their own teeth and pretend to be dentists.
- **Mirror Fun:** The children used mirrors to look at their own teeth and practice brushing the model teeth with toothbrushes. They loved seeing their reflections and checking how clean their teeth were.





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Both EYFS Classes from **Fen Ditton Community Primary** and **Marleigh Primary Academy** joined together for some fun sporting activities.

On Tuesday, children from EYFS Fen Ditton had an exciting visit to Marleigh Primary Academy, where they had the opportunity to work in mixed teams with children from both schools. Together, they enjoyed a fun-filled rotation of sporting activities!

The activities included rolling, catching, throwing, and passing balloons over the net, encouraging teamwork and physical development. It was wonderful to see the children collaborate, support one another, and most importantly, have great fun!

We are so proud of the children for showing excellent teamwork and enthusiasm during the session. The Year six children were brilliant leading the children around the activities. Looking forward to more exciting events in the future!





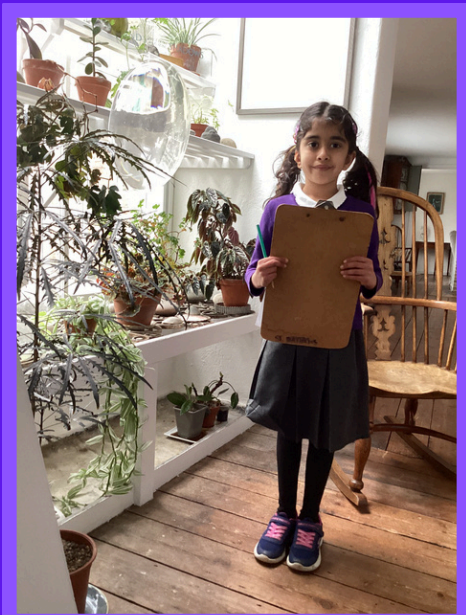


## Vulcan Class

### Trip to Kettle's Yard Art Gallery

On Wednesday this week, Vulcan Class had an exciting trip to **Kettle's Yard Art Gallery** in Cambridge, and what a fantastic time we had! The journey there was a lot of fun, with everyone chatting happily on the bus while spotting some familiar sights including Cambridge United.

Once at the gallery, we explored a wide range of **art**, from striking **sculptures** to beautiful **paintings** and fascinating **drawings**. One of the highlights was the clever use of a simple lemon on a plate, which got everyone thinking about how everyday objects can be transformed into art.



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We were inspired by many of the pieces we saw and chose our favourites to **sketch**. Afterward, we took part in a **workshop** where we learned how to turn our drawings into prints, adding an extra creative twist to our artwork.

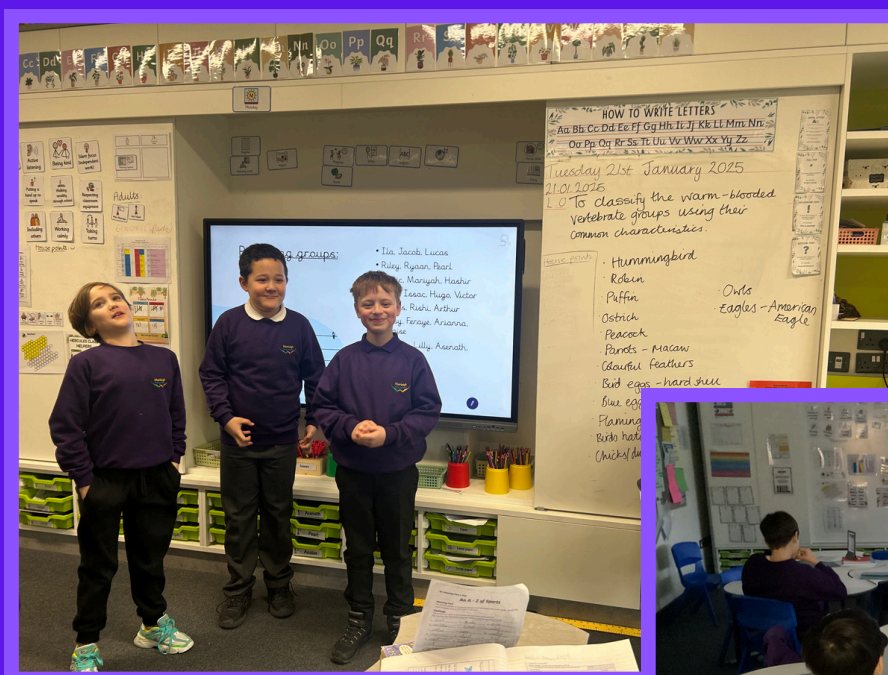
The day was full of learning and fun, and we all returned to school feeling inspired and proud of the art we'd created. Thank you to all of the adults who helped to make our trip a success and well done to Vulcan Class for being brilliant ambassadors for our school.





## Hercules Class

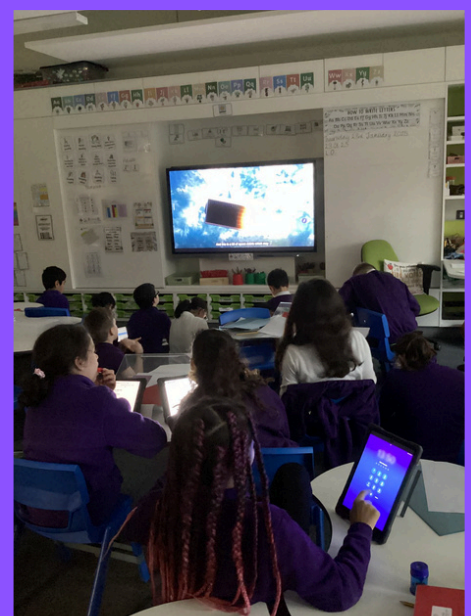
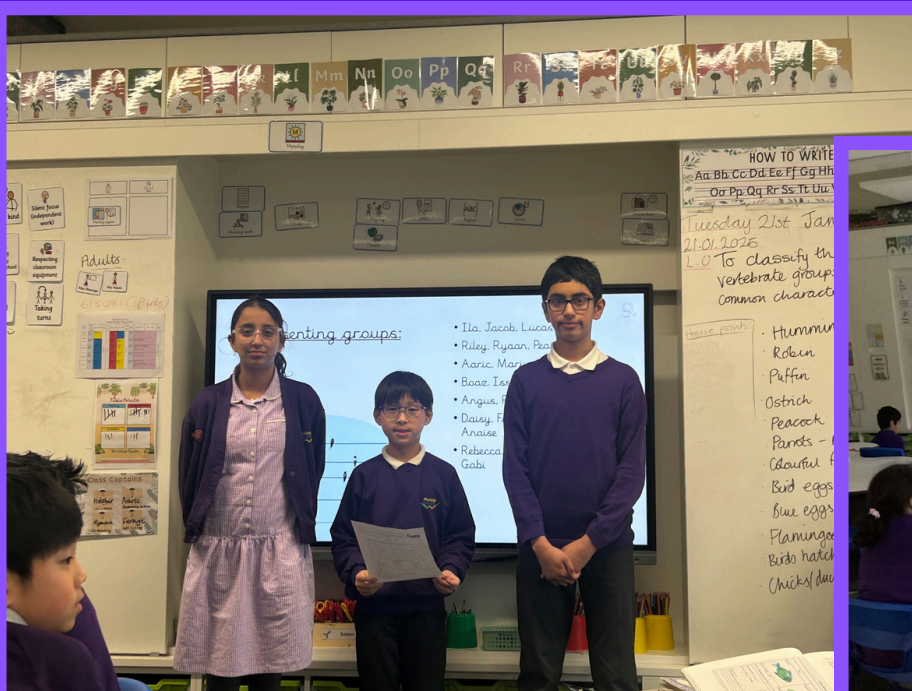
What an incredible busy week it's been in Hercules Class! In **Science**, we delved into the fascinating world of **warm-blooded vertebrates**, discovering what makes mammals and birds so well-adapted to their environments. Our learning journey continued with an exciting virtual Space lesson tied to our **Mars Rover** topic in **Computing**. This immersive session not only deepened our understanding of space exploration but also sparked plenty of curiosity and questions about the **Red Planet**.



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In **Art**, we explored different **sketching** techniques and experimented with **oil pastels** to create striking **space-age-inspired** pictures, resulting in some truly out-of-this-world masterpieces.

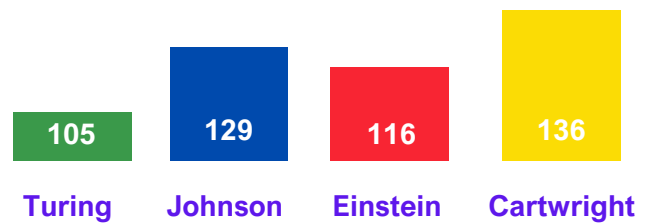
Meanwhile, in **English**, we stepped into the shoes of historical figures by acting out key moments from **Ernest Shackleton's** life—an engaging way to bring history to life. To cap it all off, we proudly completed our newspaper reports on the launch of the **Endurance** in 1914, honing our journalistic skills while commemorating this historic voyage.







## House Point Totals



## 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

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

Afzal - Blackbirds  
Roman - Blackbirds  
Olivia - Blackbirds



Being a parent can be hard. Sometimes it's really hard.

Join Hilary and Maria for

# Supporting Children



Fridays 9:30-11:30 am - starting 31st January, in Arbury



We'll find support and strategies  
Get an understanding of our children  
Think about the support we can get as a parent

Over 8 weekly sessions, we'll look at topics together like

- Challenging behaviour and communication
- Neurodivergence
- Positive use of gaming and online safety
- Emotional health and self-care
- Accessing support



Places are limited so please contact Hilary 07577 544 439 or Maria 07966 839 635 if you are interested in coming along