



21 Nov 2025

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Headteacher's insight

As we move further into the second half of November, there's no doubt that the colder weather has arrived. Coats, hats and scarves are now daily essentials, and the crisp mornings remind us that winter is just around the corner. The darker evenings have brought with them a cosy atmosphere in school, as classrooms feel especially warm and inviting while children focus on their learning and enjoy the routines of this busy term.

Our PTFA are working hard behind the scenes on preparations for the upcoming **Christmas Fair on 4th Dec**. This is always such a highlight of our school year — a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together, share in the festive spirit, and celebrate the season with fun, food and friendship. We are so grateful to the PTFA volunteers for the time and energy they give to make this event such a success each year, and we can't wait to welcome families to join us.

This week, I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed advent calendars for the local foodbank. The generosity shown by our families has been truly touching. Our collective donation will be delivered soon, and we know it will make a difference to local children who might otherwise go without. This simple act of kindness reflects the compassion and community values that sit at the heart of our school.

Tickets for our **Book Advent Calendar** are also still available to purchase via [MCAS](#) for **£1.50** each, with sales continuing for one more week only. This initiative is a lovely way to promote reading for pleasure and bring a little extra excitement to the countdown to Christmas.

We have been particularly proud of the children's engagement with home learning this term. Across all year groups, teachers have shared how impressed they are by the enthusiasm, creativity, and commitment pupils are showing. We recognise the vital role that parents and carers play in supporting this — whether it's listening to reading, helping with a project, or simply showing an interest in what your child is learning. Thank you for your continued encouragement; it truly makes a difference.



...continued

As we look ahead to the final week of November, I hope you are able to enjoy a peaceful and cosy weekend — a chance to pause, recharge, and prepare for the sparkle, excitement, and busyness that December always brings. December will demand high energy levels from us all so taking this time in the lead up to prepare for this is something I plan to prioritise this weekend for sure.



Mrs Thompson

Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher



Butterflies Class



This week in Butterflies, we have been learning all about animal habitats. The children enjoyed sorting a range of animals into where they live — the desert, polar regions, woodland, or the sea — and are beginning to talk about why each habitat is suitable for different animals.

In maths, we have been recognising and identifying different representations of the numbers 4 and 5. The children are growing in confidence when explaining how they know a group shows these numbers.

In PSHE, the children loved sharing their family photos with the class. We talked about the special people in our lives and why they are important to us.

In phonics this week, we have been learning all about the sound's 'u' and 'r'. The children have enjoyed practising these sounds and applying their growing phonics knowledge in their phonics books.

On Wednesday afternoon, the children enjoyed a visit from their Year 6 buddies. The Year 6 pupils listened to Reception read their reading books and joined in with their independent play. It was a lovely opportunity for the children to build confidence and share their learning.

We have also been busy practising songs for our class nativity which will be held on Monday 8th December. A letter will be coming home shortly to let you know what part your child has in the performance.





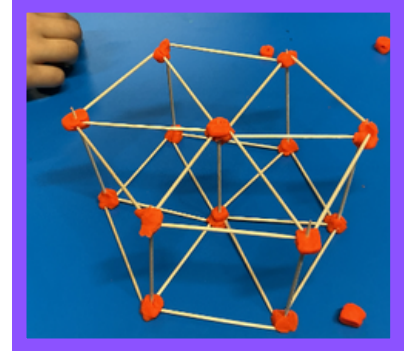
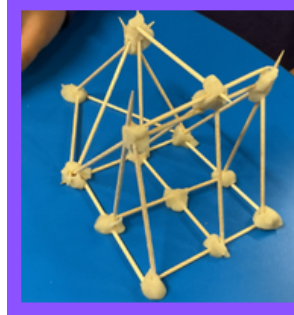
Dragonflies Class

This week in Dragonflies we've enjoyed lots of hands-on learning. We made our own wormery in science, which the children loved observing and talking about. Maths has taken us into shapes and symmetry, where we've been spotting patterns and identifying different shapes.

Our geography work led us to the polar regions as we explored what these icy places are really like. In PSHE we had a very active session, thinking about how our bodies feel when we're moving and exercising.

We've also begun rehearsals for our school Christmas show, and the children are already very excited. It's been another lovely week in the classroom.



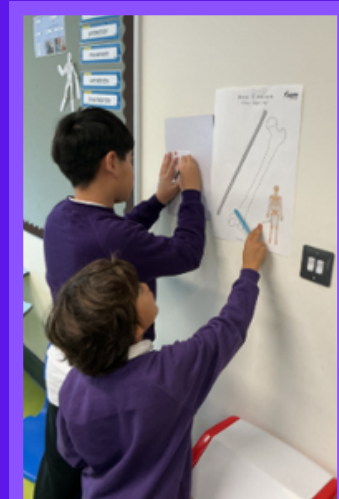


Owls Class

We had busy week of learning in Owls Class! In DT, we began by exploring different types of structures inspired by real-life pavilions. Working in teams, the children experimented with modelling dough and toothpicks to design and build their own mini structures.

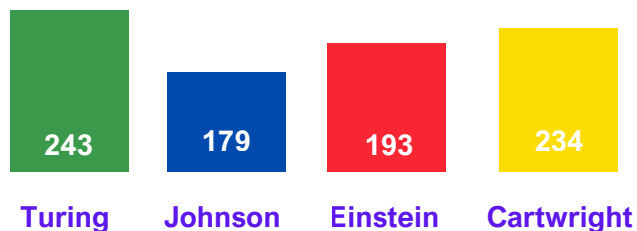
In science, we learned about the important bones that support our bodies, including the cranium, mandible and femur. We even investigated the classroom to measure different “bones” and discovered which were the longest and shortest.

Another highlight of our week was our class assembly—Owls Class were incredibly proud of their performance, and it was wonderful to see so many parents in the audience supporting them.





House Point Totals



Your Guide to the Festive Season



We've put everything together on 1 page to make keeping track of festive events and activities easier: <https://marleighprimary.org/2025/11/14/your-guide-to-our-christmas-events-fundraisers>

Next **Friday 28th Nov** is non-uniform day in return for prizes for the Christmas Fair raffle and tombola. For the tombola please donate any of the following:

- Bottles e.g wine, beer, fizz, spirits (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic)
- Wellbeing/pampering items (body stuff, scented candles, diffusers etc)

New Marleigh Raincoats

New showproof rain coats with our school logo are available in our [uniform shop](#)!



Marleigh Primary School Showerproof Coat
£20.00

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Leon - Caterpillars
Theo - Butterflies
Oscar - Butterflies
Teddy - Butterflies
Ameen - Owls





Pupil Premium – Could Your Child Be Eligible?

We encourage all families to check whether their child may qualify for Pupil Premium funding. This government funding helps us provide additional learning support, resources, and enrichment opportunities for pupils.

Even if your child already receives free school meals, applying helps the school access extra funding.

You can find full details and apply via the [Cambridgeshire County Council website](#).

If you would like help with the application process, please [contact the school office](#). Thank you for your continued support.

Ho ho ho!



Marleigh
Primary Academy

PTFA

Presents:

Festive fair

Thursday 4th December

3.30-5pm

Tickets Includes 10 tokens

to use at festive stalls:

(extra tokens available to buy on the day)

- * Name the Xmas gonk * x1 token
- * Guess the sweets in the jar * x1 token
- * Make a reindeer headband * x2 tokens
- * Splat the sprout * x1 token
- * Make reindeer food * x1 token
- * Lucky dip * x2 tokens
- * Bean bag toss * x1 token
- * Tombola * x1 token



Buy your tickets now!



£5

Save time !

Collect your pre-paid tickets and buy extra tokens ahead of time.

When and where?

By the office entrance
at morning drop off:

Mon 24th

Tues 25th

Wed 26th

Thurs 27th

Fri 28th

afternoon pick up:

Fri 28th

Other activities:

* Santa's Grotto *

Sold out!

* Letters to Santa *

* Raffle *

* Bake sale *

* Tattoos *

* Story corner *

<https://buytickets.at/marleighprimaryptfa/1939485>

Helping your children fly



Ho ho ho!



Festive Raffle

Drawn at 4.45pm

at the Christmas Fair

Over £1,000 worth of prizes to be won!

Flight experience for two: Cambridge Aero Club (£246)

30 day spa pass for two: Quy Mill Hotel & Spa (£200)

Family photoshoot: Dion Gallichan (£120) x2

Family ice skating session: Cambridge Ice Arena (£66)

Football match family ticket: Cambridge United (£66)

Christmas hamper: Hill group (£45)

Express massage: R3vive (£30)

Family soft play ticket: Partyman (£30)

2 free whole pizzas: Salento (£28) x2

Drop-in class: R3form (£22) x2

Indoor climbing session: Clip n Climb (£17.50)

Gift card: Scotsdales (£5)

Free ice cream: Salento (£2.50) x5

£1

Buy raffle tickets on the day or in advance:

By the office entrance at morning drop off:

Mon 24th

Tues 25th

Wed 26th

Thurs 27th

Fri 28th

afternoon pick up:

Fri 28th

R3FORM
TO THE CORE



quy mill hotel &

Dion Gallichan
Photography
Luxury Wall Art Specialists





R3VIVE
RELAX - RESTORE

Hill
Created for Living



SCOTSDALES





JOIN US FOR

Angel Making

LET'S GET READY TO
CELEBRATE

Workshop

DROP-IN

3.30-5PM

NOVEMBER

26

Free

MARLEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Wreath Making

Workshop

£20
Booking essential

7.30-9.30PM

BOOK BY EMAIL OR PHONE BELOW

CATRIN@BARNWELLBAPTISTCHURCH.ORG.UK

07732 752989



Barnwell Baptist Church at

Marleigh

Loving God • Loving People

Joue.Play



The Scandi Soft Play Hire Company

FREE

Stay and Play session for under 6's
at Marleigh Community Centre

Tuesday 9th December

9.30am - 10.15am



@joue.play



scan here
to book



provided by



The
Land Trust

Greenspaces | Community | Environment

Key Dates for Autumn 2025/26

Wed 26th Nov	Squirrels Year 3/4 class assembly - all parents and carers welcome 9:05-9:20 Year 5 - Astra Zeneca trip
Wed 26th Nov	Butterflies Reception sporting experience - all children, during school day
Wed 3rd Dec	Yoga festival - 12 Year 3 and 4 children will be invited to attend - during school day
Thu 4th Dec	PTFA Christmas Fair - 3:30-5pm - all parents, carers and family welcome
Mon 8th Dec	Butterflies Reception Nativity - all parents and carers welcome 2:15
Wed 10th Dec	Year 5 and 6 sporting experience - all children, during school day Butterflies library trip
Thu 11th Dec	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Concert - all parents and carers welcome 2:15pm
Fri 12th Dec	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Concert - all parents and carers welcome 9:15am
Fri 12th Dec	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day - All children invited to attend school wearing non uniform that includes a Christmas or Winter jumper - Families invited to make a donation through our JustGiving page
Mon 15th Dec	KS2 (Year 3,4,5 and 6) Church carol concert - all parents and carers welcome 2pm
Wed 17th Dec	Nursery Christmas sing a long with parents and carers 2:30pm
Wed 17th Dec	Year 3 and 4 sporting experience - all children, during school day
Wed 17th Dec	Christmas dinner for children
Thu 18th Dec	Christmas sing a long with parents and carers 3pm
Fri 19th Dec	Last day of Autumn 2 half term



FOLLOW US

Term Dates 2025/26

[For 2026/27 dates see our website](#)

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