



27 Feb 2026

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Headteacher's insight

It has been a lovely start to Spring 2, with the sun making a welcome appearance this week and offering a small but uplifting reminder that spring is on its way. I hope everyone managed to enjoy the half term break, despite the rather wet weather we experienced.

This week has been a busy and positive return to school. Our Reception children thoroughly enjoyed their recent sports event, demonstrating fantastic enthusiasm and teamwork, while assessment activities have begun across the school and will continue into next week. Alongside this, staff have been preparing for upcoming learner reviews, and there is already growing excitement around our virtual duck race.

Looking ahead, next week promises to be another full and exciting one, including World Book Day celebrations, the virtual duck race, a swimming gala, a Year 6 visit to a careers fair, and a girls' football fixture. With so much to look forward to, we are hopeful that the sunshine will continue to join us as we move through the weeks ahead.



Mrs Thompson

Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Eibhlinn - Ladybirds
Lucas - Ladybirds
Lily - Caterpillars



Governor update

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a great half term and your children have settled back into school. As we reach the halfway point of this academic year we would like to take a moment to reflect on the successes and achievements across our school community.

With Mrs Thompson joining our schools as the Executive Headteacher last academic year we were already seeing many benefits for both Fen Ditton Primary and Marleigh Primary Academy from having a shared leadership team. This year it's great to see the relationship between the two schools growing even stronger, not just within the staff but also with more joint events held where the children from both schools can all get involved.

We'd like to extend our appreciation to all the staff at both schools for the work they do day-to-day in order to provide the best educational setting for our children. In addition it's important to also recognise the role our parents and carers play in making our schools as successful as possible. Thank you for your continued support.

I (Ben) would also like to take a moment to introduce myself as I take the reins from Xav to Co-Chair the governing body alongside Dom. I am a parent at Marleigh and having studied Computer Science at university I now work as a software developer, and have a particular passion for supporting the schools in the STEM space. Moreover, I'd like to continue working with other Governors, Mrs Thompson and the Executive Team to build on the strong foundations already fostered between Fen Ditton Primary and Marleigh Primary Academy and see this partnership flourish to give the best possible experience for the children. As the saying goes, "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts", and this is already evident between our two schools. We would like to thank Xav for his time as Co-Chair of the governing body, and we are pleased that he has agreed to continue on as a governor. On a personal note, it has been great working alongside him and I am thankful he will still be a member of the governing body.

On a final note, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all governors for their dedication and sustained support. Their work is invaluable and is fundamental to the success of our schools, and we deeply appreciate the considerable time and energy they dedicate to maintaining a safe and inspiring environment for our students.

We are always keen to talk about our work as well as hear from our parents. If you have any specific issues or questions please feel free to reach out to us.

Best wishes,

Ben + Dom

Co-chairs of the Local Governing Body

Marleigh Primary Academy and Fen Ditton Primary

broberts@anglianlearning.org
dvicinanza@anglianlearning.org



House Point Totals



The Duck Race starts next week! GET A DUCK!

You have to be in it to win it.. a **£50 Amazon voucher** plus runner-up prizes!

- Race runs: **Monday 2 March – Friday 6 March**. Ducks to be purchased by **Sunday 1 March**.
- Ducks move randomly every hour – it really is anyone's race!
- Track your duck all the way to the finish line!

Enter here and buy your duck: <https://www.balloonrace.net/mpax>

**With over 130 ducks already entered,
we're really excited for
our Virtual Duck Race!**

**The race starts on Monday 2nd so all ducks must
be purchased ahead of Sunday 1st March!**

The race ends at midday on Friday 6th March.

**Click here to buy your duck for £3:
[https://www.balloonrace.net/mpax/
/registerduck](https://www.balloonrace.net/mpax/registerduck)**



Butterflies Class

This week in Butterflies Class we have been focusing on PSED (Personal, Social and Emotional Development) as we settle back into our routines after the break. The children have done a wonderful job of readjusting, showing kindness to their friends and remembering our class expectations.

We have been enjoying reading *The Bad-Tempered Ladybird* by Eric Carle. The story has helped us talk about feelings, especially anger, and how we can manage big emotions. The children have been reminding each other about the techniques we learned in PSHE last term — such as taking deep breaths, counting to ten, and using our words to explain how we feel. We are very proud of how they are beginning to regulate their emotions more independently.

On Monday, we visited our forest area to look for signs of Spring. The children were fantastic explorers! We spotted beautiful snowdrops beginning to grow and were very excited to find some real ladybirds too — linking perfectly to our class story.

We also discussed how to care for nature, remembering to be gentle with plants and minibeasts and to leave things as we find them. The children showed great respect for the environment.

In Maths, we have continued exploring weight. This week, we used balance scales and cubes to measure how much different objects weigh. The children worked out how many cubes were needed to balance everyday items and began using language such as heavier, lighter, and equal. Fantastic investigative skills were on display!

In Phonics, we have been learning the digraphs 'ch' and 'sh'. The children have enjoyed practising reading and writing words containing these sounds and spotting them in books and around the classroom. Keep an eye out for these digraphs when reading at home! We are incredibly proud of our wonderfully behaved Butterflies during our visit to Fen Ditton on Wednesday for a Sports Event. The children showed fantastic listening skills and resilience throughout the activities. Even more special was hearing the lovely feedback from the teachers there, who commented on how friendly our Butterflies were and how much they enjoyed chatting with them.





Dragonflies Class

This week in Dragonflies we've made a lovely start to the new half term. In maths we began learning about measuring, focusing on length and height. Our science lessons introduced life cycles as we explored how living things grow and change.

We have also been learning about famous UK landmarks and where they are located. PE has included dance and team-building activities, helping us work together and build confidence. In DT we started our food technology unit, which the children were very excited about! It's been a busy and positive start to the half term.





Owls Class



Owls class have had an exciting first week back with our trip to the Sedgwick Museum. Last term, we learnt about rocks and fossils in science so it was wonderful to see a very historic collection of rocks and fossils up close. We even shared our learnt knowledge of Mary Anning and fossilisation which impressed the museum educator.

We have started our new focus text in English: *The Witches* by Roald Dahl. We have enjoyed reading the first chapters as a class and are looking forward to the rest of this classic story.

In maths, we have moved onto decimals. We used our existing knowledge of fractions to turn tenths into decimals and also ordered and compared them. Next up, hundredths!

This week has gone by in a flash and soon we will be preparing for our Y3,4,5 end of term production with Squirrels class.





News and information

Learner Reviews ready to book

Teachers are very much looking forward to meeting with you during the Learner Review meetings, where we can share successes, discuss progress in more detail and continue working together to support every child to thrive. Please refer to the table below to see what day your child's class reviews are taking place.

Please log into your MCAS account and navigate to the Parents Evening section to book your slot. All slots are allocated 10 minutes. If you have any issues, please contact the school office.

Date	Class	Times
Mon, 16 March	Dragonflies	08:15 - 16:50
Tues, 17 March	Owls	08:15 - 16:50
Weds, 18 March	Badgers Ladybirds	08:15 - 16:50
Thurs, 19 March	Butterflies Squirrels	08:15 - 16:50
Thurs, 26 March	Caterpillars	08:15 - 16:50



Words Come Alive – World Book Day!

We are thrilled to be celebrating World Book Day this year with our exciting theme: *“Words Come Alive!”*

Children are invited to dress up as a word of their choice – whether it’s a powerful adjective, an ambitious verb or an imaginative noun. Throughout the day, pupils will share their chosen words, explore their meanings and discover new vocabulary together, helping to develop a rich love of language across the school.

As part of our English lessons, each key stage will also take part in a **live author workshop**, giving children the opportunity to hear from a published writer about their creative journey, storytelling techniques and inspiration. It promises to be a truly inspiring experience.

We can’t wait to see our classrooms filled with creativity, colour and vocabulary as our words come alive! 📖

Some ideas could be:

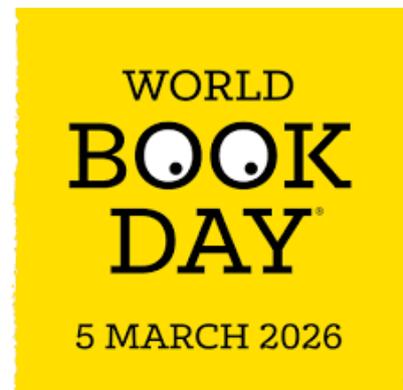
Athletic – dress in sports wear.

Scientist – dress in a white coat.

Detective – have a magnifying glass.

Sleepy – wear your pyjamas.

You could even make a board to wear that has your word on it!





Presents

Primary Platform Exhibition 26

an exhibition of artwork from Anglian Learning
Primary Schools

7 & 8 March 2026
10 am to 3 pm

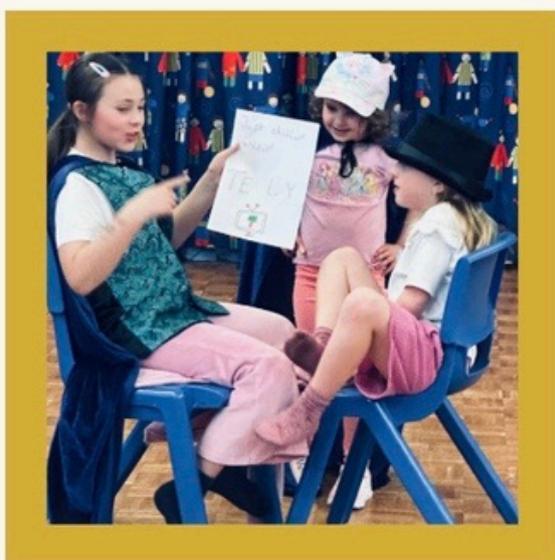
The Marven Centre, New
Road, Sawston Village College

All welcome



Drama Club

Build confidence, creativity and communication through fun, high-energy drama games. Children will make new friends, grow in self-belief and explore acting, movement and imagination in a supportive, playful environment.



Book Here

- Reception - Year 6

Fridays after February half term: 15:20-16:20

- **Cost: £10 per session (booked termly)**

Marleigh Primary School

WWW.WORLDOFPERFORMING.CO.UK

07927206108

info@worldofperforming.co.uk

MUSICAL THEATRE CLUB

Where every child steps into the spotlight! Each term we explore a new hit musical through fun drama games, singing, dancing, and acting. Children build confidence, learn new skills, and have loads of fun with friends!



Book Here

Reception - Year 6

Wednesdays after February Half Term: 3:20-4:20

• **Cost: £10 per session (booked termly)**

Marleigh Primary School

WWW.WORLDOFPERFORMING.CO.UK

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FOLLOW US

Term Dates 2025/26

[For key upcoming dates see our website](#)

[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