



**15 May 2026**

**Contents:**

- Headteacher's insight
- News from our classrooms
- Events and reminders

## **Headteacher's insight**

As we approach the final week of this half term, I would like to begin by congratulating our Year 6 children on the mature, positive and resilient way they have navigated SATs week. We are incredibly proud of the effort, determination and attitude they have shown throughout the week, and it was a real pleasure to celebrate with them today. They should leave the week knowing that their hard work, perseverance and growth matter far more than any set of tests. We now move into the final eight weeks of primary school for our Year 6 pupils, where our focus will shift towards ensuring a smooth, confident and positive transition to secondary school, while also creating opportunities for them to enjoy and celebrate the final stages of their primary journey together.

As introduced to parents and carers in last week's newsletter, our transition week will take place from **Monday 13th July to Friday 17th July**. As part of this, we are excited to share that the whole school will be visiting **Milton Country Park on Tuesday 14th July**. Children will travel by coach and we have hired several dedicated spaces within the park so that classes can take part in a range of activities together across the day. The aim of the visit is to provide enriching and memorable opportunities for children to connect as a class and as a wider school community as we approach the end of the academic year.

Please complete the consent form here: <https://forms.office.com/e/RR8x26cdFe>

To help make the trip viable, we are asking for a contribution of **£8 per child**, payable through MCAS. We recognise that circumstances vary for families and would welcome donations anywhere **between £4 and £20** where possible, as additional contributions will help support the overall cost of transport, venue hire and activities for all children.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership with the school.

*Mrs Thompson*

Mrs Emily Thompson  
**Executive Headteacher**





*Need inspiration? You might explore:*

Nature and the environment  
Space and planets  
Forces and motion  
Animals and habitats  
Materials and how they change  
Inventions and innovations

## Our science fair is back!

We are delighted to announce the return of our School Science Fair at Marleigh Primary Academy this summer! Following the success of last year's event, we are excited to once again celebrate curiosity, creativity, and scientific discovery across the school. This is a fantastic opportunity for our young scientists to explore the world around them, ask big questions, and showcase their brilliant ideas.

### What is the Science Fair?

The Science Fair is open to pupils from *all year groups*, who are invited to create and present their own science projects. Whether it's investigating how plants grow, testing materials, exploring space, or even asking fun questions like "Which biscuit is best for dunking?" – every idea is welcome!

Projects can take many forms, including experiments, investigations, models, or research presentations. The most important ingredients are curiosity, creativity, and enthusiasm. This year, pupils will first present their projects in school, with a selection chosen to represent Marleigh at our Science Fair Showcase event in July.

### Key Dates:

- Launch: Whole school assembly on Wednesday 20th May
- In-school presentations (for judging): Thursday 3rd July
- Science Fair Showcase: Friday 10th July

### How to Take Part:

- Think of a scientific question or idea you are curious about
- Plan and carry out your project
- Create a display (poster, model, or presentation)
- Bring your project into school and present it

All children who take part will receive a certificate, and there will be special commendations for creativity, scientific thinking, and presentation.

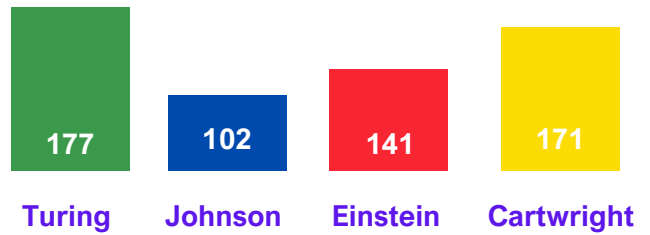
### Family Involvement:

We warmly encourage families to support children at home with their ideas and projects. This is a wonderful opportunity to explore science together and build excitement around learning. We can't wait to see the incredible ideas our pupils bring to life this year. Let's make our Science Fair 2026 even bigger and better!

If you have any questions, speak to Mrs McLachlan or your child's class teacher. Let the experiments begin!



## House Point Totals



## Year 6 Residential Trip

On Thursday 4 June, we invite parents of Year 6 children to attend a briefing for the upcoming residential trip. The session will be at 2pm, please come to the office entrance.

### Emotional resilience for the everyday

From understanding to thriving: For everyone

Ideas proven to make a difference for emotional wellbeing and build children's confidence and kindness.

Online learning pathways for your parenting journey and important relationships.

[togetherness.co.uk/learn](https://togetherness.co.uk/learn)

- Antenatal and postnatal learning pathways for the foundations of emotional health
- Children's early development and behaviour
- Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Adolescence and Young people's mental health
- Adult emotional health including trauma

Free access to residents of CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH  
Use access code: PARENT 24

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Anjali - Ladybirds  
Alexandra - Ladybirds  
Biagio - Butterflies  
Ayush - Owls  
Enea - Ladybirds  
Gene - Owls  
May - Owls



## Caterpillars Class



This week in Caterpillars Nursery, the children have been busy exploring, creating and learning through play. Our topic of trucks and cars inspired lots of exciting activities across the classroom and outdoor area.

Outside in the mud kitchen, the children enjoyed imaginative role play, mixing, pouring and creating “recipes” while developing their communication and teamwork skills. Water play also continued to be a favourite activity, with the children investigating floating and sinking using a variety of objects and containers. Outdoors, they practised their early writing skills through mark making with wet brushes, drawing patterns, shapes and pictures on walls and playground surfaces.



In maths, the children worked hard matching different shapes and talking about their properties. They showed great enthusiasm as they sorted and identified shapes during practical activities and games.



As part of our literacy learning, we read *Duck in a Truck* which supports the children to identify rhyme and spot rhyming words. This feeds into our phonics sessions where our older children are learning vowel digraphs (ee,oa,ai,or) and beginning to recognise that rhyming words share these sounds.

In Art and Design, the children created fantastic apple cars using apples for the car bodies and banana slices for the wheels. They were very proud of their creations and enjoyed eating them at the end!



It has been a wonderful week full of creativity, exploration and hands-on learning.



## Ladybirds Class



### Trip to Cambridge University Botanic Garden

We had a wonderful day exploring the beautiful Cambridge University Botanic Garden on Tuesday. During our visit, we took part in an exciting workshop led by members of the garden staff, where we learned all about seeds and plants.

As part of the workshop, we discovered that the biggest seed in the world comes from the coco de mer palm and were amazed by its enormous size! We also learned about some of the incredible plants growing in the garden, including the tallest tree and the oldest tree. During the day, we visited the glasshouses, where we spotted a wide variety of unusual plants from different climates around the world. The tropical house was very warm! As we explored the gardens, we used our senses to make observations about what we could see, hear, smell and feel. We also learned about the different parts of a tree and why each part is important.

The children were curious, enthusiastic and wonderfully behaved throughout the trip. We were so proud of the thoughtful questions they asked and the excitement they showed while learning outdoors.

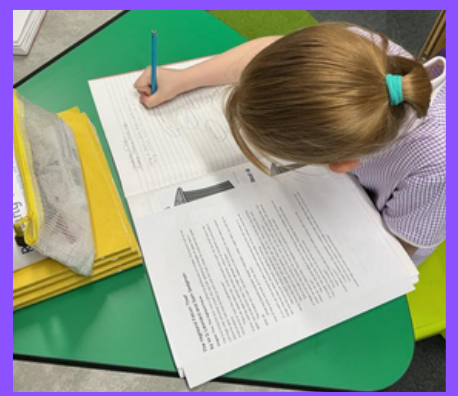
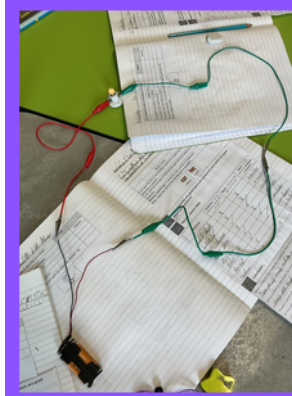
A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the trip possible, including the school office staff for organising everything behind the scenes, the fantastic staff at the Botanic Garden for leading such engaging activities, and our wonderful parent helpers who supported us throughout the day. We are very grateful for all of your help and support.







## Squirrels Class

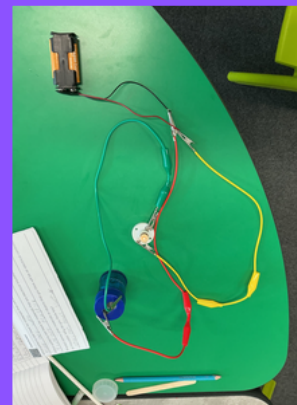
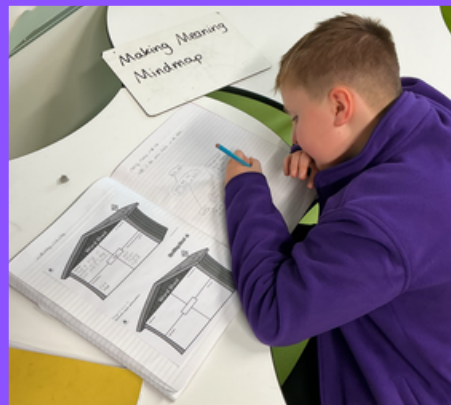
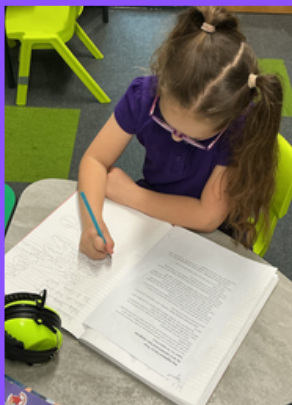


In Squirrels Class, we have been enjoying our science topic on electricity and circuits. This week, we learnt about materials that are conductors and insulators. In groups, we created simple circuits using batteries, wires and bulbs. We then added a range of objects to the circuit one at a time to test whether the material was a conductor or an insulator. We tested objects like lolly sticks, pipe cleaners, paper clips, straws and split pins. We then wrote up our discoveries into a results table to showcase our findings.

In history, we learnt about the Anglo-Saxon burial site, Sutton Hoo. We looked at photos of the artefacts found there and made predictions about who we thought was buried at Sutton Hoo based on the types of objects and the materials they were made from. After making our predictions and watching the investigation video, we thought it could have been King Raedwald, who was the king of East Anglia at the time of the Anglo Saxons.

In maths, we have been working hard on our fractions topic. As we are coming to the end of the unit, we have been applying the concepts and skills we have learnt to problem solving and reasoning questions, most of which have been multi-step problems, so this has been challenging! Squirrels have done well at presenting their working out and are showing an improved level of pride in their work.

In English, we completed our unit on diary entries. The children all independently wrote a diary entry about a trip to London, and showed off their writing skills that they have been learning over the past couple of weeks. Some children are really beginning to improve on their handwriting and presentation, and it has been fantastic to see them using vocabulary such as fronted adverbials and time conjunctions to up-level their work.





## Badgers Class



A huge congratulations to our fantastic Year 6 pupils, who successfully completed their SATs papers this week with incredible focus and resilience. We are immensely proud of how hard every single child worked throughout the testing period. To reward their effort, Friday was all about relaxation. The children enjoyed a lesson-free day, starting with a sunshine picnic at the park and rounding off the afternoon with a film and well-deserved treats.

Adding to our triumphs, the Year 6 netball team brought home the winner's trophy in the netball tournament this week! Our players showed outstanding perseverance, braving terrible weather and tough opposition to secure the victory on a very wet court. We are incredibly proud of their determination and brilliant sportsmanship. Thank you to all parents and carers for your brilliant support during this milestone week. Well done, Year 6—you have earned a fantastic weekend!



JUBILEE SQUARE



SATURDAY

20 June

10:30 am - 1:30 pm

# MARLEIGH SUMMER FAIR

BRING FAMILY & FRIENDS

Youth Connections Bus - Arts & Crafts  
- Ice Cream Van - Bouncy Castle -  
Food & Drink - Fun Games -  
Information Stalls - Clay Modelling -  
Seed Planting - Face Painting - And  
Much More

**No parking available on site;  
please walk or cycle.**

Event organised by Land Trust and South Cambs District Council with the support of:



# DO YOU NEED DIGITAL ASSISTANCE?



At the Marleigh Community Centre, our dedicated Digital Support Volunteer is here to help empower you with essential digital skills.



## They can help you with:

- Connecting your device to available Wifi
- Using the internet to find information or specific websites
- Downloading and setting up Apps
- Navigating the Library website
- Creating and managing an email account
- Creating your CV
- Negotiating AI ...and much more!



On the first  
Wednesday  
of the month:  
6 May  
3 June  
1 July



The Hangar,  
Marleigh Community  
Centre,  
Jubilee Square,  
Cambridge CB5 8BX



Drop in  
between  
3pm - 4pm

# Key dates 2025-26

## May

Wed, 20 May	Sports event for Years 1 and 2
Thurs, 21 May	Class photos
Mon 25 - Friday 29 May	HALF TERM

## June

Wed, 3 Jun	Sports event EYFS  Squirrels class assembly, parents & carers invited from 09:50
Mon 8 - Fri 12 Jun	Year 1 Phonics Screening Test
Thurs, 4 Jun	Year 6 Residential briefing children and parents/carers, 2pm
Wed, 10 Jun	Sports Alliance Year 3 and 4 Cricket fixture - selected teams  Dragonflies class assembly, parents & carers invited 09:50
Thurs, 11 Jun	Year 6 Bottisham Cup Sports event - all children
Wed, 17 Jun	Year 5 Sport Event afternoon - all children  Ladybirds class assembly, parents & carers invited 09:50  <u>Year 6 Residential Trip</u> (returning Friday 19 June)
Fri, 19 Jun	Fathers Day Gift Shop
Tues, 23 Jun	Caterpillars and Butterflies Teddy Bears Picnic. Bring a teddy!
Wed, 24 Jun	ALPSA Tournament Golf Years 5 and 6 (selected children)  Butterflies class assembly, parents & carers invited 09:50

## July

Wed, 1 Jul	Sports event Year 6  <u>Butterflies trip to South Angle Farm</u>
Fri, 3 Jul	Science Fair project presentations in school  Summer Fayre - after school
Wed, 8 Jul	ALPSA Festival Multi Skills Year 1 & 2 (selected children)
Thur, 9 Jul	Sports day (morning)
Fri, 10 Jul	Year 6 Play in a Week performance 9am  Science Fair event - 3:15-3:45pm - parents and carers invited to attend
Tues, 14 Jul	<u>Whole school trip to Milton Country Park</u>
Weds, 15 Jul	ALPSA Tournament Athletics Year 3 & 4 (selected children)
Thurs, 16 Jul	Year 6 Leavers assembly 9:15 - parents and carers invited to attend  End of Year Disco - after school
Fri, 17 Jul	Nursery Graduation Ceremony 2:30pm  Last day of the academic year

Autumn term 2026/27 begins 4 September 2026



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## **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