



02 Oct 2026

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## Headteacher's insight

As we approach the end of September, I wanted to share another important part of how we start each school day and ensure that every child feels happy, safe and ready to learn.

Last year, we introduced daily wellbeing check-ins, encouraging children to rate how they were feeling on a scale of 1–5. This simple routine has helped us understand how our children are feeling as they arrive at school, recognise when someone might need a little extra support and create opportunities for meaningful conversations.

This year, as we embed The Good Morning Club (TGMC) across our schools, we have built on this established practice by introducing TGMC's wellbeing rating visuals. These provide children with a clear, accessible way to communicate how they are feeling, helping them develop the language to recognise and express their emotions. Importantly, they also help our adults notice changes, respond with care and make intentional connections with children who may need a little extra reassurance or encouragement.

Our 1–5 wellbeing rating isn't just for the children! We also use it as part of our staff briefings, giving colleagues an opportunity to share how they are feeling and helping us look out for one another. It is a simple approach that can easily be transferred into family life too. Why not try asking everyone at home to share their wellbeing rating over dinner or on the journey to school? Sometimes, a simple number can open the door to a really important conversation.

Alongside our Say Hey Your Way greetings, these daily check-ins are helping us create a positive and purposeful start to every day. We know that children (and adults!) do not always arrive at school feeling their best, and that is absolutely fine. What matters is that they know there is someone who notices, listens and cares.



It is another example of our belief in action: when children feel seen, heard and connected, they are in a much stronger position to be ready to learn.

I hope you have a positive first weekend of October and find some time to take actions that support your wellbeing ratings to be 1s and 2s!

*Mrs Thompson*

Mrs Emily Thompson  
**Executive Headteacher**





## What's happening next week...

### Book Fair

From **Wednesday 7 Oct - Monday 12 Oct** you can browse a fantastic selection of books for sale at our popular after school book fair. Open **from 3:15pm** daily in the foyer by the office. Payments can be made via QR code, no cash accepted.



### Harvest Festival

Please bring donations to the office for the Harvest Festival, Abbey People Foodbank will collect on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Oct**.

- **Tinned Goods:** Meat, fish, vegetables, tomatoes, beans, soups
- **Boxed & Dry Foods:** Pasta, rice, cereals, and long-life items
- **Sauces & Spreads:** Cooking sauces and jars



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## Class Assembly Dates

Take a note of your child's class assembly, it will start at **9am** so please come to the entrance by the office after drop-off to ensure a timely start.

|                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Badgers</b>   | Wednesday 11 November |
| <b>Owls</b>      | Wednesday 18 November |
| <b>Hedgehogs</b> | Wednesday 25 November |
| <b>Squirrels</b> | Wednesday 2 December  |





## Christmas Cards

As we have done in previous years, the children will be creating beautiful winter designs in school and you will then be able to choose to turn their artwork in to Christmas cards to send to your family and friends. This year we are using a new company which promises to make the experience easier with less administrative burden as well as offering a broader range of printing options to families beyond just cards.

The children will bring their art work home to you by **next Friday (9th October)**. You will then have **2 weeks** to place your order with the company. The ordering instructions will be with the art work. If you choose to place an order you must then return your child's art work to your child's class teacher by **Friday 23rd October**.

Art work will be picked up from school when school reopens after the half term break so the printers can work their magic with your child's art work. All profits will go towards enhancing your children's experiences in school and for that we thank you in advance for your support.

## Punctuality matters

**Our lesson timetable starts immediately at 08:50.**

When children arrive late, they miss the start of lessons, important instructions and valuable learning time.

**1 minute**  
late each day



**1 minute**  
late each day

Over an academic year  
(190 school days) that's...

**190 MINUTES**  
(3 hours 10 minutes)

**3 minutes**  
late each day



**3 minutes**  
late each day

Over an academic year  
(190 school days) that's...

**570 MINUTES**  
(9 hours 30 minutes)

**5 minutes**  
late each day



**5 minutes**  
late each day

Over an academic year  
(190 school days) that's...

**950 MINUTES**  
(15 hours 50 minutes)

A prompt start helps every child make the most of their day.  
Thank you for your support.



## Spaghetti Maths returns

Book your place today, every **Thursday from 3:15pm** starting **5 November**.

**BOOK EARLY**  
**LIMITED PLACES!**

**THE MOST AMAZING MATHS CLUB FOR YEARS 1-6...**  
**...IT'S MATHS, BUT NOT AS YOU KNOW IT!**

Embark on a journey to learn the wonder of maths. You'll perform astonishing tricks, create fantastic shapes, play thought-provoking games and enjoy fun challenges!

**WE LOVE MATHS - YOU WILL TOO**

**SPAGHETTI MATHS**

To book your place, and for more information, please visit our website:  
**WWW.SPAGHETTIMATHS.CO.UK**

**SPAGHETTI MATHS**  
*untangling numbers*

**HELLO,**

Your child has been inspired by our amazing maths assembly. The clubs are creative, active and educational and are designed to boost engagement with maths.

There are limited places, so please book early to avoid missing out. Booking is via our website, where you can also find more information.

**FUN CLASSES**

- Tetra-Pop
- Giant Numbers
- Hopping Hoops
- Hexi-Flexi
- Make it Move
- Spaghetti Towers

Each class includes a great take-home item, to continue their learning at home.

**EXCITING MATHS CLUB**

**NOW AT YOUR SCHOOL!**

## Catch up on the latest news...



### SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT: CURIOUS MINDS AT WORK!

1st October 2026

Science is all about being curious about the world around us, and across our school we want our [...]

[READ MORE](#)



### RECEPTION OPEN DAYS 2027

18th September 2026

We are delighted to invite families of children starting Reception in September 2027 to visit our school and [...]

[READ MORE](#)

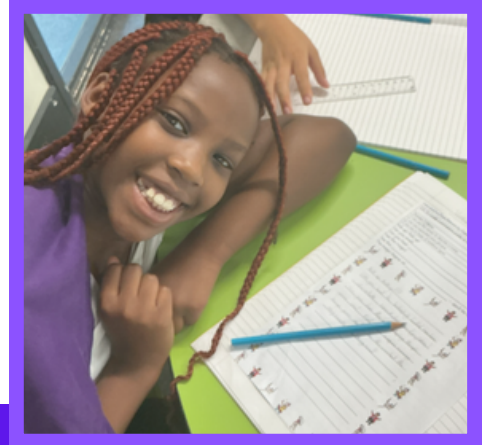


### YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL TRIP

17th September 2026

Year 6 Residential Trip to the Grafham Water Centre, Huntingdon. Monday 7 June - Wednesday 9 June 2027 [...]

[READ MORE](#)



## Squirrels Class

In English, Squirrels Class have been inspired by the book 'Leon and the Place Between'. There was great excitement when we discovered that our English lesson was taking us to the circus! We received our very own personal invitation to the circus before becoming writers ourselves and creating our own fantastic invitations. We also took part in some roleplay by deciding whether Leon should or should not go through the door to the Place Between.

In maths, we have been working on place value. We have looked at the value of each digit in 3-digit numbers, as well as ordering them and partitioning them in different ways. We are becoming confident in our understanding of number all the way from zero to one thousand!

In computing, we are exploring the theme 'Networks'. We looked at what it would be like if we could see our network by passing string between us. We soon realised so many networks overlap!

In science, we have been learning the names of the bones in our body. Did you know that the smallest bones are in our ear? So far, we have created our own skeletons from paper and used split pins for the joints. We have also compared the length of our bones with each other.

In history, we are investigating the question 'Would you have preferred to live in the Stone Age, Bronze Age or Iron Age?' We learnt about the Amesbury Archer - a Bronze Age man who was found buried with lots of artefacts such as flint arrowheads and copper knives. We looked at the differences between the Stone Age and the Bronze Age and how farming changed how people made and ate food.

In RE, we have had several lively discussions about 'What Makes Us Human?'. This has linked to our Art project where we are exploring and creating our own symbols to represent us as unique and special people.

We have also enjoyed starting our French topic! Ask us how to say hello and goodbye in French! We may also be able to tell you how to introduce yourself and ask someone else what their name is in French!



## Hedgehogs Class

Welcome to our first Hedgehogs newsletter of the year! It has been a busy start to Year 4, and the children have been settling into new routines, building friendships and getting used to the expectations of their new year group.

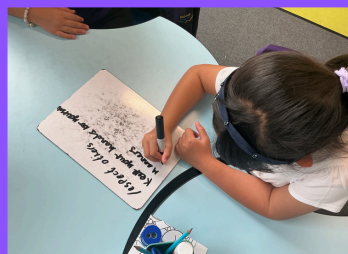
We have been working hard on becoming more confident and independent learners, taking pride in our work and being willing to have a go when something feels challenging. It has been lovely to see the children sharing their ideas, supporting one another and contributing to class discussions.



In English, Journey and The Lion and the Unicorn have inspired imaginative writing and thoughtful conversations. In Maths, we have been exploring place value and building confidence with our times tables. Our wider learning has included children's lives through history, plants in Science and identity in Art.

The children have also been getting active in PE through our fundamentals and football units, developing their skills and learning to work together as a team. Throughout these first few weeks, we have been thinking about what it means to be an "Expected Hedgehog". Our values of Respect, Reaching High and Resilience have helped us explore how we can make our classroom a kind, calm and encouraging place where everyone feels ready to learn.

Thank you for your support as we begin the year, particularly with reading, homework and Times Tables Rock Stars. We are looking forward to seeing Hedgehogs continue to grow in confidence and sharing more of our learning with you!



# Take 10 to Read

## Whole-School Reading Event

Our school will be taking part in the National Literacy Trust's  
Take 10 to Read campaign on  
**Thursday 8 October!**

### What is it?

The National Literacy Trust, in partnership with the British Council, are attempting to set a new GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title for the most people reading online in 12 hours. We are excited to be joining thousands of other readers from around the world!



### What will we be doing?

On Thursday 8 October, our whole school will join an online reading session. Each session includes a **10-minute reading period**, which is the part that will count towards the world record attempt.



### What can children read?

Children can choose any age-appropriate reading material that interests them, such as:

- a book or story
- a magazine or comic
- an article or match report
- a recipe book (or anything else!)



### Session times

The event runs online from 9:00am to 9:00pm, with different sessions for different age groups. Our school will take part in one of the following:

**5 – 8 years** 9:00am or 1:00pm

**8 – 11 years** 10:00am or 2:00pm

### Why is it important?

This is a wonderful opportunity for our school to come together and celebrate the joy and importance of reading, while also being part of a potential GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title!





## PTFA Halloween Trail

**Do you live on Marleigh?**



**Are you willing to display one of our Halloween trail posters in your front window?**

**Please fill out a few details by scanning the QR code or following the link to get your halloween poster**



**Help us to run a fun activity over half term for the children and raise funds for the school!**

**Volunteer now!**



<https://forms.gle/ztkJ6mWU7E6JcwYB7>

Helping your children fly



# Key dates 2026-27

|                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Weds 7 - Mon 12 Oct            | Book Fair, browse books after school                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Thur, 8 Oct                    | Harvest Festival. Donations to be brought in on 8th and will be donated to Abbey People foodbank                                                                                                                      |
| Thur, 8 Oct                    | Individual and sibling photos                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Mon, 19 Oct                    | Parent and Child Workshop Reception and Year 1 - Phonics 3:15-3:45pm                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Half term (26 - 30 Oct)</b> | <b>Halloween Trail</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Mon, 2 Nov</b>              | <b>INSET Day - School closed for children</b><br>Book Advent Calendar Raffle tickets go on sale                                                                                                                       |
| Tue, 3 Nov                     | Tea towel order deadline for parents and carers                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Mon 9 - Fri 13                 | Learner Review meetings for each pupil and parent/carer from Nursery to Year 6. Each family will make a 10 minute appointment and attend in person or online to review their child's learning with the class teacher. |
| Wed, 11 Nov                    | Year 6 Badgers Class assembly to parents and carers 9:00am                                                                                                                                                            |
| Fri, 13 Nov                    | Non uniform day - donations welcomed to support the Christmas Fair                                                                                                                                                    |
| Mon, 16 Nov                    | Flu vaccination, 12:30-3pm                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Wed, 18 Nov                    | Year 5 Owls Class assembly to parents and carers 9:00am                                                                                                                                                               |
| Wed, 25 Nov                    | Year 4 Hedgehogs Class assembly to parents and carers 9:00am                                                                                                                                                          |

## ...continued

|              |                                                                                                      |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun, 29 Nov  | Deadline for Book Advent Calendar Raffle tickets                                                     |
| Mon, 30 Nov  | Winners of Book Advent Calendar Raffle announced and prizes given                                    |
| Wed, 2 Dec   | Year 3 Squirrels Class assembly to parents and carers 9:00am                                         |
| Thurs, 3 Dec | Christmas fair, 3:15-4:30pm<br>Second session flu vaccination, 10:30 -12pm                           |
| Wed, 9 Dec   | Parent & Child Workshop Y3&4. Times Tables 3:15-3:45pm<br>Christmas Dinner                           |
| Fri, 11 Dec  | Reception (Butterflies) Christmas performance to parents and carers - 9:15am<br>Christmas Jumper Day |
| Mon, 14 Dec  | KS2 (Squirrels, Hedgehogs, Owls and Badgers) Church service - parents and carers welcome - 2pm       |
| Tues, 15 Dec | KS1 (Ladybirds and Dragonflies) Christmas performance to parents and carers - 2:30pm                 |
| Wed, 16 Dec  | Nursery Christmas Celebration with Parents and Carers 2:30-3pm                                       |
| Thur, 17 Dec | <b>Last Day of Term - School closes for Christmas</b>                                                |



Elevating Expectations



# Reception Open Day 2027

We invite you to visit **Marleigh Primary Academy**, register today for a group tour.

## Group Tour Dates & Times

Monday, 5 Oct, 2pm - 2:45pm

Monday, 12 Oct, 11am - 11:45

Monday, 9 Nov, 2pm - 2:45pm

Monday, 16 Nov, 11am - 11:45am

Monday, 23 Nov, 4pm - 4:45pm



**REGISTER NOW**



If your child was born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023 you need to apply for Reception for September 2027.

**Deadline for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2027**