



09 Oct 2026

Contents:

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

Headteacher's insight

This week, we have been celebrating the wonderful world of reading! On Thursday 8th October, our children took part in the National Literacy Trust's **Take 10 to Read campaign**, joining thousands of children across the country in a celebration of books, stories and the joy of reading.

Throughout the day, children participated in online reading sessions, each including 10 minutes dedicated to simply enjoying a book. We also logged our reading as part of an exciting Guinness World Records™ attempt for the most people reading online in 12 hours!

We know that reading is so much more than learning to recognise words on a page. It develops imagination, builds vocabulary, sparks curiosity and opens doors to new experiences. It also provides precious opportunities for children to slow down, relax and become immersed in another world.

The campaign was a lovely reminder that **just 10 minutes of reading a day can make a real difference**. Whether it is sharing a bedtime story, reading together on the sofa or enjoying a favourite book independently, these small moments help to build positive habits and a lifelong love of reading. After all, **10 minutes of reading can take you anywhere!**

I would also like to say a heartfelt **thank you to all our parents and carers who supported our Harvest Festival collection** by donating items for our local foodbank. Your generosity and kindness are greatly appreciated, and it has been lovely to see our school community coming together to support families who may be experiencing difficult times. This is a wonderful example of our school values in action, particularly kindness and respect, and an important reminder to our children of the difference we can make when we look out for one another.

Finally, our **school photographs were taken this week**, and all children should have brought home a slip of paper containing a QR code which you can use to view and order their photographs online. Please do look out for this in your child's belongings if you haven't already seen it.





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Tomorrow, Saturday 10th October, is **World Mental Health Day**, an important reminder that looking after our mental health is just as important as looking after our physical health. In our busy lives, it can be easy to overlook how we are feeling or to assume that those around us are doing okay. This weekend, I would encourage everyone to take a moment to check in with a friend, family member or neighbour. A simple conversation, a kind message or taking the time to really listen can make a meaningful difference. Equally, please make some time for your own wellbeing, whether that means getting outside for some fresh air, enjoying a favourite activity, spending time with loved ones or simply giving yourself permission to rest.

Looking after ourselves and looking out for one another are small but powerful ways of strengthening our sense of connection and belonging.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school community. Wishing you all a lovely weekend.



Mrs Thompson

Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher





PTFA self - guided Halloween Trail



Buy your trail map!

Maps cost **£2.00** per child



Buy maps at the school main entrance on:

Mon 19th:	drop off (am)
Tues 20th:	drop off (am)
Wed 21st:	drop off (am)
Thurs 22nd:	drop off (am)
Fri 23rd:	drop off (am) pick up (pm)

**TRICK
OR
TREAT**



When to complete the trail:

24th - 31st October

10 prizes to be won!

Submit your answers online
using the QR code on the
map for your chance to win





Learner reviews

You can now log into your MCAS (My Child At School) account and book a 10 minute meeting with your child's teacher to discuss their progress. If you have any issues logging into your account please [email the office](#).

Monday 9 Nov	Badgers Year 6, 08:30-11:30 Ladybirds Year 1 , 08:30-16:00
Tuesday 10 Nov	Hedgehogs Year 4, 08:30-11:30 Owls Year 5, 08:30-16:00 Squirrels Year 3, 08:30-11:30
Wednesday 11 Nov	Squirrels Year 3, 13:00-16:00
Thursday 12 Nov	Caterpillars Nursery, 08:30-12:00 Dragonflies Year 2, 08:30-16:00
Friday 13 Nov	Butterflies Reception, 08:30-16:00

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.

Badgers	Wednesday 11 November
Owls	Wednesday 18 November
Hedgehogs	Wednesday 25 November
Squirrels	Wednesday 2 December





Lost property: Please claim any lost property before the half term, unclaimed items will be disposed of.

New Choir Club

Bookings are open for a new choir club held at Marleigh on **Thursday mornings** before school (07:45 - 08:30) from **5 November**. Spaces are free to children in receipt of Pupil Premium and £15 to everyone else. If you're not sure, you can check the cost of the club in your app or email the office.



Catch up on the latest news...



TAKE 10 TO READ: CELEBRATING THE JOY OF READING AT MARLEIGH!



CELEBRATING HARVEST: A TIME FOR GRATITUDE, KINDNESS AND COMMUNITY



SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT: CURIOUS MINDS AT WORK!



Owls Class



We have really got stuck into our learning this term! In Science, we have continued our work on mixtures and have now completed four practical investigations, including sieving, filtering and exploring how to make different concentrations of solutions.

In Maths, we have had lots of fun learning about common factors, prime numbers and square numbers. The Owls have enjoyed tackling challenges and spotting patterns in numbers. We have had lots of active maths opportunities too such as mathematical treasure hunts and relay maths challenges to make learning memorable.

We have particularly enjoyed our creative subjects. In Music, we have been composing melodies to match different nature settings, thinking carefully about how music can create a mood and atmosphere. In Art, we have been creating our artist pages based on the work of David Hockney, exploring his style and influences. We are now ready to start creating our final piece with the theme of belonging.

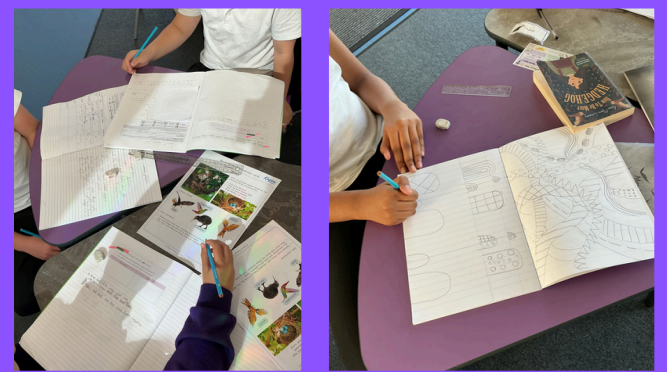
In English and Reading, we have already explored five different books this half term. We are currently reading about the inspiring story of the Hidden Figures and learning about the brilliant African American women mathematicians, engineers and scientists who worked at NACA/NASA and played a crucial role in advancing space exploration.

We are very proud of the enthusiasm and effort Year 5 Owls have shown across all areas of the curriculum! 🦉





Badgers Class



Year 6 News – What a Busy Few Weeks!

It has been a wonderfully busy few weeks in Year 6, with lots of exciting opportunities, fantastic learning and memorable experiences for our Badgers!

🌟 Learning Beyond the Classroom

We have been lucky enough to enjoy two exciting trips recently! Our visit to St John's Innovation Park in Cambridge gave us the opportunity to take part in a public art workshop, exploring creativity and art in a real-world setting. We also enjoyed travelling together, sharing lunch and experiencing something a little different from our usual school day. It was a valuable opportunity to work collaboratively and try something new!

👉 English – Lights, Camera, Writing!

In English, we have been developing our writing skills through our The Invention of Hugo Cabret unit. We have been exploring the features of film reviews, thinking carefully about how to engage an audience, express opinions and justify our views using evidence. The children have been working hard to develop their vocabulary, sentence structure and use of language to create engaging pieces of writing. We have also continued to build our reading skills through regular reading lessons, developing our inference, retrieval and comprehension skills.

📖 Celebrating Our Love of Reading

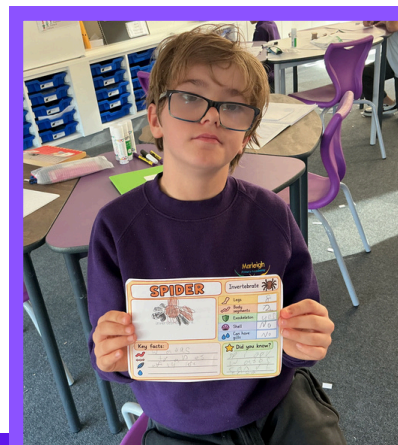
Reading has been a big focus, and we were delighted to take part in the National Literacy Trust's Take 10 to Read campaign. We joined online webinars throughout the day, logged our reading and celebrated the importance of making time to enjoy a good book. It was fantastic to be part of a wider reading community and share our love of stories!

🏛️ History – Exploring the Past

Our history learning has encouraged us to think carefully about the past, the experiences of different groups of people and the events that have shaped our world. We have been developing our historical vocabulary, considering cause and consequence, and using evidence to deepen our understanding. The children have been asking thoughtful questions and making connections between historical events and the lives of the people who experienced them.



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Maths – Building Our Confidence

In maths, we have been strengthening our arithmetic and calculation skills as we continue our Year 6 learning journey. We have revisited key methods, including long multiplication and division, while developing our confidence with number and tackling increasingly challenging problems. We are encouraging everyone to explain their thinking, check their answers and persevere when faced with a challenge.

Science – Fantastic Feathers!

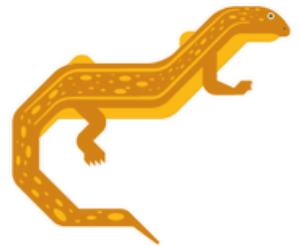
Science has also been full of discovery as we have explored warm-blooded vertebrates, particularly birds. We have been investigating how birds are adapted to their environments, learning about features such as feathers, beaks, wings and eggs. The children have been using research to develop their understanding and communicate their scientific knowledge creatively.

What a fantastic start to the year! The children have shown resilience, curiosity and a real willingness to challenge themselves across the curriculum. We are incredibly proud of the way they are embracing their learning, making memories and continuing to grow as confident, independent learners. We are looking forward to seeing what the next few weeks bring for our Badgers! 





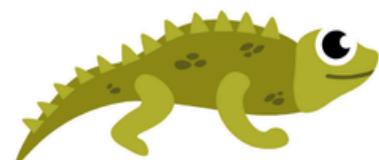
**Come along and meet
the animals**



Tuesday 20th October at 3-5pm

Marleigh Community Centre

All welcome - free entry



Key dates 2026-27

Weds 7 - Mon 12 Oct	Book Fair, browse books after school
Thur, 8 Oct	Individual and sibling photos
Mon, 19 Oct	Parent and Child Workshop Reception and Year 1 - Phonics 3:15-3:45pm
Half term (26 - 30 Oct)	Halloween Trail
Mon, 2 Nov	INSET Day - School closed for children 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

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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 Second session flu vaccination, 10:30 -12pm
Wed, 9 Dec	Parent & Child Workshop Y3&4. Times Tables 3:15-3:45pm Christmas Dinner
Fri, 11 Dec	Reception (Butterflies) Christmas performance to parents and carers - 9:15am 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	Last Day of Term - School closes for Christmas



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 15th January 2027