

The Marlborough News

The
Marlborough



Pottery Road, Hoo, ME3 9BS



office@themarlborough.org.uk

Term 2 2025-26 (Issue 23)



01634 338080

A Message from Mrs Kennett

Mrs Kennett would like to share a Christmas poem and wish you all a joyous and peaceful Christmas.

Christmas Stars

The golden Christmas stars shine down
With a cheerful Christmas glow,
And twinkle a Yuletide message
To the busy world below;
They tell of the peace and good will
The Christmas time brings to earth,
The peace and good will all should feel
At this season of joy and mirth

by Marie Irish

A Message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

I hope you are all keeping well and managed to avoid the 'bugs' that are going around, especially as Christmas is just around the corner!

Term 2 with all Christmas festivities taking place is always a busy time. Letters being written and sent to Santa are the top priority in many homes. Writing Christmas cards, shopping for gifts, planning the food all take time. Also, the arrival of mischievous elves and their antics cause hilarious reactions from our little ones. It truly is a magical time for many of us.

How lovely that throughout this term some of our children took part in the 2 minutes silence on Remembrance Day; enjoyed a tag day supporting Children In Need, their bright clothing was amazing including the wearing of Pudsey tops.

A trip to The Royal Opera House was a highlight for the lucky staff and children selected to go. Every single one of them loved the experience of watching The Nutcracker and the excitement of journeying on the train.

Thank you so much for your support with the Christmas gift shop where your children had the opportunity to pick gifts for their families and loved ones. I'm sure you will love the gifts your children chose.

Staff and children all dressed up as Elves, creating another day of fun whilst supporting Elf Day for Alzheimers UK. Thank you for supporting this charity. Santa visiting the school was a delight for the children, with all the staff enjoying a memorable day watching all the children's individual reactions. I understand the Christmas lunch went well on Wednesday and everyone ate together.

Watching the Nativity on Thursday was a real pleasure to see. The children performed amazingly, I know you were so proud of your children who were able to take part. The staff worked so hard to produce this for us all to enjoy.

I would like to thank you so much for your continued support of the whole Marlborough team who provide such wonderful and exciting learning opportunities for your children. I know you will join me in thanking them for all they do. Your children are at the heart of everything they plan.

On behalf of our Governors, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very healthy and happy 2026. Please take time to enjoy the Christmas break with your family, friends and loved ones.



See you next term!
Take care and keep safe!
Anne Costidell
Chair of HSW/Marlborough LAB





Seahorse have worked so wonderfully hard this term, we are incredibly proud of them. We have explored forces in science and have particularly enjoyed finding out which items we can push and pull. We have been to different continents and our favourite part was trying all their food.....plantain was a hit....seaweed not so much!! The children have got down on the dancefloor in our dance sessions and it has been wonderful to see their personalities shine through as they gave the moves their all.

Of course we are in the process of wrapping up the term with some festive activities, the children have worked hard to learn their songs and we were so excited to share these with you during our nativity. Next term sees us explore the topic 'Shine' and we will be off to the forest during Term 2. Until then, all of the Seahorse team wish all of our families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



This term Starfish class have explored our whole-school Journey, Faith! We have shared experiences associated with a range of religious festivals. A class favourite was preparing Latke's when learning about The Jewish festival- Hanukkah! It's been wonderful to see pupils demonstrate curiosity and wonder whilst engaging with the various religious artefacts and experiences.

We have had exciting weekly adventures to horse riding! All pupils showed courage whilst at the riding school, encountering the different animals and riding the horses.

Our festive celebrations continued with a delicious Christmas dinner. It was a joyful moment to share as a class with the whole-school. And finally, they made us so proud during their performance in our Christmas production!

It's been a term full of learning, fun, and faith. We wish all our families a peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year!





Another busy term for Whale Class!

We've had lots of exciting things happening, but we particularly enjoyed our toothbrushing work shop and seeing Santa!

Our focus this term was Faith. We have tried different foods from around the world, explored religions from different countries and have listened to different music from different faiths!

We have been working hard on practicing for our Christmas nativity and can't wait for you all to see!!

Merry Christmas and a happy new year! From Mrs Marchant & The Whale class team!!



This term the children have been exploring different faiths as part of their RE Topic foci, the children have focused on Islam, Sikhism, Christianity, Buddhism and Judaism. The children have been able to explore artefacts from the religions, listen to religious fables, engage with cultural musical instruments and religious songs. In Geography the children have been engaging in sensory based exploration linked to the continents and have engaged with matching and comparative terms. In Science the children have focused on forces, exploring in practical ways. Octopus class has been extremely lucky to have both horse riding and Forest School on our enrichment and physical development time table this term and the children have shown developing confidence during these off site experiences. In PSHE this term we have focused on kindness, identifying kind and unkind behaviours and developing our social and emotional skills.

Octopus Class have worked extremely hard this term and are starting preparations for Christmas celebrations and our school Nativity. We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year! Enjoy the festive season with loved ones!





In Term 2, Lobster Class have been busy exploring the theme Faith. The children learned about a variety of celebrations from different cultures and religions, including Diwali, Hanukkah, Christmas, and Bodhi Day. Through stories, crafts, and sensory exploration, the children discovered the values and traditions that make each festival unique, while also noticing the similarities that connect them. As part of our enrichment, the class enjoyed sessions at Forest School, where they developed teamwork, resilience, and a love of the outdoors.

Our Year 6 pupils also had some special experiences this term: some attended a residential trip, building independence and confidence away from home, while others enjoyed a visit to the Fenn Bell Zoo and the cinema. It has been a term full of curiosity, reflection, and joyful learning.



In Jellyfish Class, we've been on a delicious adventure tasting foods from all seven continents. Each week, we explored a new place by trying something special from its culture.

- We crunched on seaweed and slurped up noodles.
- We enjoyed tropical fruits like papaya, pineapple, and plantain crisps.
- We got creative in the kitchen by making fresh salsa and even tried a treat called beaver tails.
- We twirled our forks into pasta, spread Vegemite on toast, and cooled down with ice cream.

Every bite gave us a taste of life in another part of the world. Now it's your turn: Can you match each food to the continent it comes from?

In Forest School, we have been learning about the artist Andy Goldsworthy, who is famous for creating beautiful works of art using natural materials such as leaves, stones, sticks, and flowers. His artwork shows us how nature itself can be used to make patterns, shapes, and sculptures. After exploring his ideas, we set out to design and create some of our own pieces of art using the natural resources around us. We experimented with arranging leaves into spirals, stacking sticks into towers, and making colourful patterns with autumn leaves. Each design was unique and reflected our creativity as well as the environment we were working in.





This term Pufferfish have been on the journey of Faith! We have been exploring geography, science, RE and music as well as enjoying yoga in our enrichment sessions. This term we have explored Fun With Food where each week the children get to explore a different food! Children are encouraged to touch, play, smell and even taste the food, this is an amazing session which the children have thoroughly enjoyed.

In geography we have explored different countries and cultures and looking at the human and physical features. The children especially enjoyed tasting the food from different countries. In RE we have explored different religions and the celebrations which happen around the faith. For science the children have been exploring different forces and how different surfaces can change the force this is needed to move an object. In music we have been exploring different instruments and how we can use them to make different tunes, we have also been working extremely hard learning our Nativity songs!

Myself and the Pufferfish Team wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We can't wait to see you for term 3!!!



What a brilliant Term 2 it has been for the Turtles!

We've enjoyed exploring a range of world faiths, with meaningful experiences linked to Islam, Christianity, Buddhism and Hinduism. Our creativity has been shining too; transforming our classroom into a giant canvas, investigating artefacts from around the globe, and beginning our festive fun with Elf Day and practising safe walking to Main School as part of our nativity transition. Our focus this term has been communication, and we are so proud of how confidently the children are now making requests and expressing their needs. We've also continued to develop our signing skills! Beyond the classroom, we've ventured into the forest, used robots during computing sessions, and enjoyed learning about pushing and pulling in science with Mrs Uden. In PE, the children have been building their confidence through climbing as part of our gymnastics learning. Well done to all our wonderful Turtles this term! Wishing you all a joyful and restful break; enjoy lots of tasty treats and have plenty of fun!





Coral Class have been busy on their learning journey this term. The children enjoyed a whole day dedicated to cooking foods from different continents. After preparing a variety of dishes, they took part in a taste testing session, matching each recipe to its continent of origin. It was a delicious way to explore global cultures.

In science our focus has been on forces, which we brought to life during forest school. Using planks of wood, pupils compared what happens when climbing up and down slopes and some even designed their own parachutes to test how air resistance works.

To finish the term with some Christmas cheer we welcomed a special visitor, Pixie! Pixie set the children fun tasks to complete, rewarding them with tokens linked to our school values. It was a joyful way to celebrate the season together and end the term on a festive note.



Year 6 Residential



It was wonderful to see so many of our Year 6 children being bold and brave to attend this years residential trip alongside the children from Hoo St Werburgh Primary School. The whole experience was a huge success!

The children spent their time taking part in a range of activities involving lots of fun, laughter and many moments of teamwork and friendship.

For the staff they got to see all of the children's confidence grow as they learnt new skills and formed bonds that will last far beyond this trip.

Term 2..



On Remembrance Day some of our children joined an assembly and took part in the 2 minute silence.

For Children In Need our children loved taking part in a tag day and enjoyed lots of Pudsey themed activities. We raised an amazing £59.55.



We were incredibly lucky and Mrs Currie entered a ballot for tickets to The Nutcracker at the Royal Opera House and won some! It was a wonderful day out for the children and staff who got to go on the train to London to watch the performance. A truly special day for all.



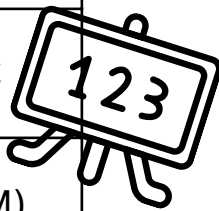
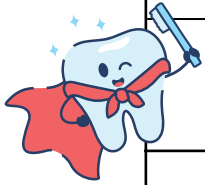
Once again we supported Elf Day for Alzheimers UK. The staff and children got into the true Elf spirit and we raised £30.10

It was magical to be joined by so many of our parents and carers for the amazing nativity performance. We are sure you all agree that the children were super stars!



Key Dates for Term 3 & 4

Monday 5 th January 2026	First Day of Term 3
Friday 23 rd January	Learn with Me - Shine (PM)
Thursday 29 th January	Parent Workshop - Teeth (PM)
Wednesday 4 th February	Bedtime Stories Event (PM)
Friday 6 th February	Number Day for NSPCC
Wednesday 11 th February	Count With Me event (PM)
Friday 13 th February	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 23 rd February	First day of Term 4
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
w/c Monday 9 th March	Mothers Day Gift Shop
Friday 20 th March	Red Nose Day
Thursday 26 th March	Learn with Me - Roar (PM)
w/c Monday 30 th March	Easter competition
Friday 2 nd April	Last day of Term 4



Further information for all events will be sent out closer to the date of the event.

Marlborough on a Mission

Thank you to everyone for the support with our Christmas fundraising (with an extra big thank you to our parents (and grandparent) who volunteered their time to come in and wrap all the gifts for Santa's grotto and the gift shop.

Our gift shop raised £160.10

And our raffle raised an amazing £367!!

Well done to all of our winners and to everyone who took part to help support MOAM!



THANK
YOU

School Lunches

It was lovely to all share Christmas lunch together. It is the one lunch of the year where all of our staff and children join together and is always a wonderful time to celebrate together.

In Term 3, our food journey continues:
On Tuesday 27th January, we'll be trying foods from China.



These themed lunch days are designed to be inclusive and engaging, helping children build confidence with food and learn about different cultures in a fun and accessible way.

Thank you for your continued support in making mealtimes a positive and enriching part of the school day.

Term Dates for 2025/26

Term 3

Monday 5th January 2026 to
Friday 13th February 2026

Term 4

Monday 23rd February 2026 to
Thursday 2nd April 2026

Term 5

Monday 20th April 2026 to
Wednesday 22nd May 2026

Term 6

Monday 1st June 2026 to
Wednesday 22nd July 2026

Term Dates for 2026/27

Term 1

Wednesday 2nd September 2026 to
Friday 23rd October 2026

Rivermead Inclusive Trust

The Rivermead Inclusive Trust is very proud of all of our schools and the wonderful work undertaken by pupils and staff and we regularly celebrate this via our social media channels and Trust website.

We would like to ensure that parents and carers are aware of our content and invite you to like and follow us at:

Facebook - @Rivermead Inclusive Trust

Twitter - @RivermeadTrust

Website - www.rivermeadinclusivetrust.co.uk



Staff News

We would like to welcome Ms Devlin to The Marlborough. She has joined us as our new Lead DSL / Family Welfare Officer.



We also say goodbye to Miss Ogier and Miss Barnett and we wish them both well for the future.

We are sure you will all join us in wishing Mrs Holder all the best as she leaves us to start her Maternity leave. We will ensure to share with you all when we have news of her new arrival.



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