



Live To Learn. Learn To Grow

**Newsletter
September 2021**



Start of the new Academic Year

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the new School year. It is an absolute pleasure to see our learners back at school. They are full of enthusiasm for learning and pleased to see their friends. Hopefully now that 'bubbles' and various restrictions have been lifted we can look forward to a year of exciting curriculum and learning experiences.

A huge welcome to all the new learners joining us in Nursery and Reception. We have had a very successful first few weeks (hardly any tears) and we look forward to observing their learning journey with us over the coming months.

PE Kits and School Uniform

I thank you all so much for sending your children into school smart and ready to learn. Just a few reminders:

- Please can all girls tie their hair up with a hair fastening that matches the school colours.
- Trainers **must only** be worn on PE days and school shoes must be worn instead of boots.
- A school tie is compulsory for all learners from Reception to Year 6
- White and / or black sock/tights/leggings must only be worn
- Learners should only wear stud ear-rings (no hoops). The wearing of necklaces, rings and bracelets are not allowed. Please contact school if this expectation is of personal concern to you and your child.
- Boys must not cut tram lines into their hair.

Please remember that you can contact School if you need any support as we can either help you directly or sign post you to where help can be found. Contact the Inclusion team by phoning school or email support@marsden.lancs.sch.uk.



Medical appointments

Parents should avoid taking children out of school for medical appointments. If a daytime appointment is unavoidable, please inform the School Office in advance, rather than on the day. We will need to see evidence (letter or a medical card) of the appointment. Children are not permitted to return during their lunch break and parents / carers will be asked to remain with their child during the duration of the lunch period if they return before afternoon school begins.

Attendance



As parents will be aware school attendance is compulsory and it is important that you inform us if your child is going to be absent and for what reason.

I know that the past 18 months have been difficult and even more so for families who have family in other countries but I urge you not to take your children out of school for an extended period of time to visit abroad. Our children have already missed out on the experience of being in school during periods of Lockdown and isolation– any additional time taken will result in your child falling even further behind and perhaps never being able to catch up.

Teachers are working very hard to assess all learners and to teach according to the needs of the class within a given time frame. If your child is absent because you have taken them out of school the teacher will not have time to teach them what they have missed as the class will have moved on in their learning.

Getting back to Normal!



We are working hard to resume a normal school day for our learners and as a result the delivery of the wider curriculum has begun in all year groups. All children will receive home learning as usual - this will continue to be accessed via Google Classroom. Each year group has prepared an online video to explain the expectations and these can be found on our website. There is an expectation that home learning is completed by all learners. This will be monitored by their class teachers and you will be

informed if your child is not completing their home learning as directed. Please do not hesitate to speak with your child's class teacher if accessing home learning online is proving to be difficult.

Visits outside of school and within the local area will be kept to a minimum until further guidance is received. We will continue to enrich our curriculum with visitors coming to the school where and when appropriate.

School Meals: We have been notified by Lancashire County Council that they are having to make a temporary change to the current published menu. This temporary menu will be a simple, healthy alternative. The change has had to be made due to the ongoing difficulties being encountered with food availability and delivery as a result of the national shortage of drivers and workers within the food industry.

The changes will take effect from Monday the 4th of October and will be in place for a three week period. The School Kitchen is run by LCC who have to adhere to strict rules which means that the school kitchen can only use products supplied to them by LCC.

On their behalf, I apologise for this unavoidable situation.

Covid Updates

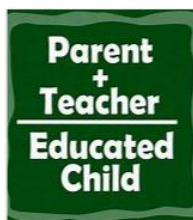
Whilst most restrictions have been lifted we will continue to do our utmost to ensure the health and safety of all learners, parents and everyone visiting our school site. Please ensure that if you or your child feels unwell you stay at home, ensure that you take a lateral flow test and receive a negative result prior to coming onto the school site. ***If your child tests positive for the coronavirus it is important that you contact the School Office to let us know. We will then arrange for your child to access learning online.***

When picking up in the afternoon it is important that only one adult comes onto the yard to pick up a child. This will become even more important as the weather gets worse because we cannot ensure safety if there are additional adults in the yard who do not need to be there.



Celebrating Success

As we are still imposing some Covid restrictions within school we are not at present inviting parents into school for assemblies. Within school we are holding celebration assemblies remotely with all classes logging on at once through Google Classroom. The names of the winners can be found on the Website. In Autumn 2 we will be inviting the parents of the winners to join in remotely.



Parent Teacher Meeting

The Governors and staff at Marsden have agreed that we will once again, due to its success, hold our meetings remotely. **Thursday the 11th of November** will be dedicated to these important meetings. The learners will not be in school on this day but will be provided with learning to complete on Google Classroom at home. You will receive your time and invite to this meeting via an email which will be sent out via the class teacher within the next four weeks.

Resources for EYFS

Nursery and Reception are developing their outdoor learning areas and to do this they require a variety of resources. Please could parents look at home or in their work place if they have any of the following that they could donate:

- cardboard boxes
- large cardboard tubing
- fabric
- pieces of wood eg old skirting board
- tyres
- buckets
- cable reels
- barrels
- baskets
- metal pots and pans
- curtain rings
- plastic plant pots
- cotton reels
- plastic milk bottle lids
- photo frames
- milk crates
- plastic / metal kitchen tubs / jars / buckets



Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Mrs Marsden on the birth of her baby girl and to Miss Ormerod on the birth of her little boy. We wish both families all the very best.

Finally

Please remember we are always here to support you and your child/children. As a school it is most important that we work together so we can provide the best opportunities for all our learners. May this academic year be one filled with happiness and success for us all.