

Principal's Greeting



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new term—Spring Term is here and hopefully longer days and promises of warmer weather are now just around the corner—if we can avoid any snow days and icy disruption before then! We would all like to wish you a happy new year and we hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break.

The children have had a great first week back and they have been very busy with all of their new learning. Year 3 had the launch of their new project with a trip to the Mendip Snowsports Centre for a tobogganing session, and Year 2 launched their project with a special 'toy' day on the first day back. Next week Reception are inviting in a very special visitor for their launch, and Year 1 are off to Bristol Aerospace Museum to begin their learning on Space!

As I'm sure you are aware, our English curriculum is based on high quality literature and the outcomes that the children produce are all based on that text. The wider project curriculum is also based on the same text. The children absolutely love their class books, why not take the time this weekend to ask them about the book that they are working on this term? We know how important discussion about books, characters and storylines are to developing confident and competent readers and writers! I bet they will be able to tell you lots about their class book!

We have had an amazing week of attendance this week—thank you so much to everyone who has managed to get their children in even if they have been feeling a little under the weather! Being here as often as possible really does mean that the children are getting the full range of experiences and learning that is on offer at Marksbury Road! We have a special event happening on Thursday—our first of many attendance boosting events that we have planned! On Thursday the class with the highest attendance will be getting a very special one-off top secret afternoon treat... Make sure you are here to be in with a chance of winning! Have a lovely weekend!



Dates for your diary...

Wed 16th Jan—Reception project launch day (in the academy)

Thu 17th Jan—'Bee here' launch day! Special attendance treat for the class with the highest attendance in the academy!

Thu 17th Jan—Year 3 information session for children and parents— 3:45pm

Sat 19th Jan—Bedminster Lantern Parade (re-scheduled date)

Week beginning Mon 4th Feb—'Bee here' week! - More information to follow

Thu 14th Feb—RE Day

Thu 14th Feb—Principal's Questions and Answers 2:30pm

Fri 15th Feb—INSET Day—school closed to children

School Dinners—Event Day

There will be a special event taking place on Thursday 17th January with an 'Under the Sea' theme!

The kitchen are putting on Fish Fingers as our firm academy favourite and there will be special themed decorations, competitions and other fun activities! If your child is in Reception to Year 2 then they are entitled to a free school meal on this day. If your child is in Year 3 then this meal will be charged for—but your child can simply choose 'school dinners' on that morning and you can pay the office or online.

Today Heather has sent out the dinner menus for the forthcoming weeks—remember, each day your child has the option of two main meals, a jacket potato or a salad bar choice. Please take the time to talk to them about what is on offer each day.

Save the Children

Thanks to your generous donations we raised a grand total of £191 for Save the Children on our Christmas Jumper Day! Thank you for your ongoing generosity in helping us support the charities that we really believe in!

Principal's Questions and Answers—14.02.19—2:30pm

We wanted to let you know about this event with plenty of notice. Principal's Questions and Answers runs once each half term and it provides an opportunity for you to come into school to ask any questions you might have. Last term we discussed a wide range of issues from how to discourage parents and carers from smoking outside the academy, how we can continue to address parking issues, how we teach times tables, whether the children would be going on residential trips as the academy grows and the format of our Monday assemblies—. It really is an open agenda so you can ask anything and a great opportunity for you to come along and have a hot drink and a biscuit. We will also be hearing about the benefit of reading at home, with and to your children!

Tom McLaughlin

We are really excited to announce that author and illustrator Tom McLaughlin will be joining us at some point this term (date to be confirmed) to launch our first ever whole academy writing week! This will be an ongoing annual celebration that we are going to hold and we can't wait!

Tom will spend the day at the academy. He will do an assembly for all children and will then spend time writing and illustrating with each class. He will then be around at the end of the day to do a book signing for our children and families. Tom's website is brilliant! Find out more about him and his work at :

<https://tomclaughlin.co.uk/>

Contact us anytime...



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