

17th December 2025

NEWSLETTER

Issue 6

Term Value
THANKFULNESS



With God, all things are possible Matthew 19:26



Marden Vale
CE Academy

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are days away from the end of term. It has been a long and tiring term for both the children and staff. We have all suffered the symptoms of the seasonal viruses but have continued to carry on with a big smile on our faces. Thank you to all staff for their continued hard work and perseverance in organising events such as lantern parade, the Nativity, Christmas events, decorating the school, organising trips, running free afterschool clubs, Magic Breakfast and much more.



The Children's Book Project is a charity that have donated books for the children to read at breakfast club. If children attend breakfast club they can take a book home for Christmas.

Cake sale

We will be having a cake sale afterschool on Wednesday and Thursday. This will take place in main reception. Please come along and grab some Christmas cakes!

Lost property

All lost property will be displayed in our DEN afterschool on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Any lost property left in school on Friday will be donated to Calne uniform exchange.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mrs Scrivens
Headteacher



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
17 th / 18 th December	KS1 Nativity @ 2pm	
22 nd December – 2 nd January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS 	
5 th January	Start of Term 3	
15 th January	Young Voices Year 5/6	Birmingham
16 th January	Walk Safe	Years 1, 3, 6
February (Date TBC)	FOMs Valentine's Disco	3.45pm – 5:00pm (Whole School)
13 th February	TD Day	Children not in school
16 th – 20 th February	HALF TERM	
TBC	Year 6 Residential Information Evening	
23 rd – 25 th March	Year 6 Residential	Grittleton House
April	Chocolate Tombola	Non-school uniform date TBC
13 th April	TD Day	Children not in school
1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd June	Year 6 Bikeability Group 1	
8 th , 9 th , 10 th June	Year 6 Bikeability Group 2	
11 th June	Year 6 Leavers' Service	Salisbury Cathedral
26 th June	TD Day	Children not in school
6 th – 9 th July	Year 6 Swimming	Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/ Thursday
8 th July	Year 5 Taster Day @ KGA	
13 th – 16 th July	Year 6 Swimming	Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/ Thursday
TBC	EYFS/Year 6 NCMP	Height, Weight, Vision



SPOTLIGHT ON ATTENDANCE

WEEKLY CLASS ATTENDANCE

	TADPOLE	BUTTERFLY	OTTER	DRAGONFLY	FOX	KINGFISHER	HIVE
W/E 5 TH DECEMBER	89.4%	69.3%	86.9%	92.3%	90.5%	90%	89.4%
W/E 12 TH DECEMBER	89.4%	77.9%	92.2%	94.1%	86.5%	83.7%	90%

STARS OF THE WEEK

5th December: Leighton, Maisie, Arthur, Ella, Aisha, Freddie B

12th December:

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ATTENDANCE...

As we progress through this academic year, we all know and experience the circulation of germs especially through the Autumn and Winter terms. Being in school is vitally important and just a few days off can make a massive impact on their progress in school. We send out termly attendance letters, these come in many forms e.g. congratulating those with =>95% attendance, 'monitoring' letters as attendance is between 90-94.9%, or those that will require meetings with the Headteacher and our Pastoral Lead as attendance is below 90%. We understand that every family circumstances are unique, this allows us to work with you in a personalise manner to help your child thrive in school. The following link will take you to the Department of Education Guidelines on attendance. Please take the time to read this.

[DfE external document template](#)

For parents/carers that have children with mental health concerns e.g. anxiety, wellbeing, feelings and behaviour, bullying, Autism, there are resources on the link below and charities that can help support you.

[Resources for families | Children's Commissioner for England](#)

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

DRESSING THE TREE

We had 'Dressing of the Tree' on Monday 1st December. Thank you to all the parents that shared this moment with us as this makes such occasion really special.

The children's decorations are now on sale. Please come to the office to pay for your child's decoration. They will be sent home with your child on Friday.

MARDEN VALE CHOIR VISIT TO GOATACRE MANOR CARE CENTRE

Our Marden Vale Choir visited Goatacre Manor Care Home on Wednesday 10th December to sing Christmas songs to the residents. They did amazing and we had some very emotional residents. There is nothing better than voices of angels at Christmas time.

Thank you to Stagecoach for funding our transportation.

Thank you Goatacre Manor Care Centre for having us and a massive thank you to Mrs Bathurst for all her efforts in building a spectacular choir.



The Bumblebee Class had a special visit from the Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance team, who taught them essential first aid skills. The children learned how to perform CPR, place someone in the recovery position, and help a person who is choking. They found the session incredibly interesting and had lots of fun practising their new skills!



SPRING TERM 1 EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

The following free after-school clubs for the Spring term are below. Letters will be sent home in due course but are also available on our website.



Monday: Tag Rugby – Years 4/5/6 with Mr Hemmings



Tuesday: Yoga – Years 4/5 with Miss Lewis



Tuesday: Photography – Years 1/2/3 with Miss Weare

Tuesday: **Y6 SATS** Club with Miss Templeton

CLEANER REQUIRED

We're looking for a School Cleaner to join our team in Calne! The role is term-time only (Monday–Friday, 3:30–6:30 pm) with extra deep-cleaning during holidays, and pays £12.21 per hour. Full training, uniform, and support are provided—no experience needed, just a positive attitude and attention to detail. If you'd like to help keep our school sparkling and safe, visit <https://careers.atlasfm.com/vacancies/39956/school-cleaner.html> for more details and to apply.



Raising awareness of e-scooter safety this Christmas

With Christmas fast approaching, we're reminding parents, carers and guardians about the laws and safety concerns surrounding e-scooters, particularly as they are becoming increasingly popular gifts for young people.

Key points for parents, carers and guardians:

- **Privately owned e-scooters are not legal to use on public roads, pavements, cycle lanes or parks.** They can only be used on private land with permission.
- **Police can seize e-scooters being used illegally.** Riders may also receive warnings, fines, points on a future driving licence or prosecution.
- **There are real safety risks.** Some e-scooters can travel at speeds of 30mph or more. Without helmets, road awareness or proper supervision, the risk of serious injury is high.

This winter, Wiltshire Police will be taking proactive steps to tackle illegal and unsafe use of e-scooters.

We have already seized more than 140 vehicles, and we want to prevent that number from increasing.

We appreciate that many families may be unaware of the rules when purchasing e-scooters as gifts. By sharing this information, we can help young people stay safe and avoid costly mistakes.

For further information, please visit our dedicated webpage on e-scooter law and safety:

www.wiltshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/advice-escooters/

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Wiltshire Police Neighbourhood Policing Teams and Roads Policing Unit

Family and Community Learning

Discover Opportunities - Develop Skills - Achieve Ambitions



Helping My Child with Anxiety and Worry Online Course

Thursday 8 January 10:00-12:00



Book by
1 January

- Understand how to support emotional wellbeing at home
- Suggestions shared to manage anxiety together
- Positive and realistic help for the family

For bookings scan the QR code or contact: 01225 770478
familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk
<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>



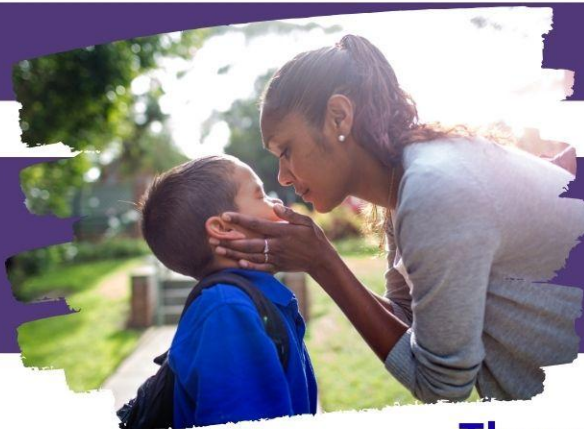
Eligibility Criteria

Courses are no cost to learners who meet our eligibility criteria. Learners must be aged 19+ on 31 August this academic year; they must have a Wiltshire postcode and meet certain residency requirements. Learners must also be able to tick one of the following criteria: individual income less than £25,750 a year; in receipt of benefits (other than child benefit); be a care leaver, foster carer or carer; be a military family or ex-armed forces personnel; have refugee status; have a learning difficulty or disability; be looking to go into work, now or in the future.



Understanding School Anxiety

Early Signs of Emotionally Based School Avoidance



Online Course

Book by
8 January

Thursday 15 January 10am - 12pm

- What is Emotionally Based School Avoidance?
- Strategies to support with anxiety and worry
- Strategies to support attendance
- Advice on reasonable adjustments that schools can make
- Group discussion with education psychologist

**For bookings and enquiries:
call the FaCL team on 01225 770478 or contact
familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk
or scan the QR code**



Courses are no cost to learners who meet our eligibility criteria. Learners must be aged 19+ on 31 August 2025; they must have a Wiltshire postcode and meet certain residency requirements. Learners must also be able to tick one of the following criteria: on a lower income, individual income less than £25,750 a year; in receipt of benefits (other than child benefit); be a care leaver, foster carer or carer; be a military family or ex-armed forces personnel; have refugee status; have a learning difficulty or disability; be looking to go into work, now or in the future.