21st October 2026

Term Value
TRUST

NEWSLETTER

Issue 2

With God, all things are possible Matthew 19:26

Marden Vale CE Academy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow…Term 1 is now complete. The children have been amazing and adapted well to school routines and their new classes. We know the Autumn Term can be hard with viruses making their rounds so thank you for encouraging your child(ren) to come into school.
We take attendance seriously and we love to celebrate great attendance, individual and class. We record this every term so sending your child(ren) into school every day matters. Well done to DRAGONFLY Class who won this term's class attendance with 95.5%. Who will win next term?



Thank you to all of you that have signed up to DOJO. This platform allows great communication between guardians and staff. We have received positive praise from both parents/carers and staff. With this in mind, we have decided to do updates via DOJO and do a newsletter at the end of every term.



This is reminder that Tempest Photography will be in on Monday 2nd November to take individual and sibling photo's (sibling doesn't have to be at Marden Vale). Please arrive at the school office at 8.30am for families who have non-Marden Vale sibling's.

WEBSITE

LETTERS

INFORMATION

CALENDAR

NEWSLETTERS

We hope you have a lovely half term break. We look forward to hearing about all the amazing things you have been up to.

Mrs Louise Scrivens, Headteacher

Staffing in the office is:
Monday: Mrs Dade & Mrs Redford | Tuesday: Mrs Redford & Mrs Mearns
Wednesday: Mrs Dade | Thursday: Mrs Redford | Friday: Mrs Dade & Mrs Mearns.
Mrs Hamer will alternate between Wednesday & Thursday

DIARY DATES

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
8th September – 17th November	Year 5 Swimming	
21st October	iSingPop Year 4	
22nd – 30th October	HALF TERM	
2nd November	Individual/sibling photo's	Photos for Marden Vale children who have siblings at another school/nursery, please come into the office at 8.30am.
9th November	Flu Immunisations	
18th November	Butterfly trip	Please sign up on Arbor
18th & 19th November	Parents evening	
21st December	Christmas Holidays	
4th January	TD Day – not in school	
4th March	World Book Day	30th Anniversary
15th-17th March	Year 6 Residential	Grittleton House
26th March	Bank Holiday	
29th March – 9th April	EASTER BREAK	
12th April	TD Day – not in school	
3rd May	Bank Holiday	
31st May	Bank Holiday	
1st – 4th June	HALF TERM	
17th June	Year 6 leaver's Service	Salisbury Cathedral
25th & 28th June	TD Day – not in school	
30th June	Year 6 Transition Day a KGA	
7th July	Year 5 Taster Day at KGA	
15th July	Tadpole Trip	

PARENT ADMIN

PARENT ADMIN

Welcome back to school. With every new academic year comes admin.

As we gather together to start the academic year, illnesses start to increase, especially coughs/colds. You should try to bring your child into school and if they become too unwell we will send your child home. There is a 48hr isolation period from those suffering from diarrhoea and vomiting. If your child is unwell, please inform the school office by either email admin@mardenvale.dsat.org.uk or via phone/voicemail on 01249 813505. All absences should be reported by 9am. Failure to report an absence will result in your child being marked as unauthorised.

For all medical appointment absences (e.g. hospital, doctors, dentist), we will require a copy of the letter/SMS appointment confirmation.
We appreciate that getting a doctors appointment is hard to get, this is why the NHS provide a Pharmacy First service. They can help with the following conditions: UTI's, Shingles, Sinusitis, Impetigo, Ear infections, Insect bites, sore throats and more.



Please use Arbor to inform us of any changing circumstances or consent/decline things like: Walk Home alone (year 5 & 6 only), Calpol, allergies.
All school meals are to be booked via Arbor. There is a 2 week cut off for any orders. You can order up until February half term (change the term (top right) from Autumn to Winter).

Attendance will be closely monitored throughout each half term and meetings will be held for families where attendance shows signs of decreasing. This is to see how we can help you and your child improve as we continue throughout the year.

PARENT ADMIN

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FLU IMMUNISATION – 9TH NOVEMBER

Your child's annual flu vaccination is on Monday 9th November 2026. This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu. Please complete the consent form using the link below, whether you wish to **accept or decline** the vaccination for your child.

The link for Marden Vale CofE Academy is: https://www.bswschoolagedimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu?schoolcode=WT141988 It will take less than 5 minutes to complete.

How the vaccine is given: Most children are given the vaccine as a nasal spray. This is a quick and painless spray up the nose and offers the best protection against flu. The nasal spray contains a small amount of gelatine derived from pigs (porcine gelatine). If your child does not use gelatine products, or cannot have the nasal spray for medical reasons, you can choose an alternative injected vaccine that has no gelatine or any other animal product. You can request this within the consent form.

Find out more about the use of gelatine in the flu vaccine (including the views of faith communities): https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccines-and-porcine-gelatine



SCHOOL CAR PARK – 'DROP AND DRIVE'

We are noticing the school car park is getting very busy in the mornings, with cars parking up. The school operates a 'drop and drive' initiative in the mornings, so please do not park up unless you have a child in the resource base. This is to keep all children safe.

If you feel you need to park in the school car park due to any other reason, please speak to a member of the school leadership team.

Thank you for your support in making sure our car park is safe for everyone.

HAMPTON COURT







Year 5 & 6 had the opportunity to visit Hampton Court Palace on Wednesday 14th October. They walked the cobles of Henry VIII's home and learnt about the history from 500 years ago. We all learnt so much, with interactive sessions hosted by staff at Hampton Court. The children were well behaved and respectful of other guests. We would like to thank Miss Lewis, Miss Templeton, Miss Van Maris, Miss Burgess and Mrs Dade for making this trip possible for the children to have such an amazing experience.

We would like to thank Lee from Barnes coaches who got us there and back safely and for letting us have a little disco on the coach ride home.

ACTIVTIES


You're Invited
To Join The Fun
at 1st CALNE BBGA!
THE BOYS' BRIGADE
> the adventure begins here
Find out more about your local group . . .
SPACES NOW AVAILABLE for
boys & girls aged 5yrs to 11yrs
Every Thursday term-time:
5.30 to 6.30 (Anchors Group)
6.45 to 8.00 (Juniors Group)
To book a taster session or more info,
call/text: 07752 611277 or 07914 755134

SEND REFORM

Wiltshire Council

Wiltshire's SEND Reform Plan approved:
What happens next and how to find out more

Wiltshire's SEND Reform Plan has been approved by the Department for Education. We are writing to explain what this means and to invite parents and carers to join a webinar in early November where we will explain more.

The plan we sent to the Department for Education was shaped by the views of children and young people, families, schools, education settings and partner organisations. In it we set out how we will improve support for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) by making support clearer, more joined-up and available earlier when it is needed.
We know that many families have questions about what this means in practice.

What remains unchanged?
It is important to know that:
The current SEND legislation remains in place
Families continue to have the same rights relating to EHC needs assessments, Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and appeals
Existing provision delivered within EHCPs remain in place
Special schools, resource bases and specialist services remain an important part of Wiltshire's SEND system
Families remain central to discussions and decisions about support

The reforms are intended to improve support, not reduce it.
You can read about the SEND Reforms and what this means on our Wiltshire Council Local Offer pages **-** SEND Reform - what this means for you and your child - Wiltshire Council
You can watch Kathryn Davis Director of Education and Skills explain more here.

Join our parent and carer webinar to find out more
We will be holding an online webinar for parents and carers to provide an update on SEND Reform, key information for families and answer questions.

Tuesday 3 November 6pm to 7pm
You can register and submit a question here
https://surveys.wiltshire.gov.uk/s/k09vxw

We will continue to share updates and information as the programme develops and will keep working alongside families, schools and partners to ensure feedback helps shape the next stages of this work.

Yours sincerely,
Kathryn Davis Director of Education and Skills Wiltshire Council

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

For the attention of all parents

Will your child be transferring to a secondary school in September 2027?

You must apply for a secondary school place

Apply online at **wiltshire.gov.uk** or complete an application form, available at all Wiltshire Council offices.

The deadline for applications is

12 midnight, 31 October 2026

All forms must be returned to the school admissions team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

Contact customer services on **01225 713010** for more information or to request our guide to finding a secondary school place in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Council

It is essential that parents submit an on-time application, by midnight on 31 October 2026, to ensure that their child is in with the best possible chance of securing a place at one of their preferred schools.

Applications can be submitted using the Parent Portal using the following link https://parentportal.wiltshire.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home

FAMILY & COMMUNITY LEARNING

Understanding School Anxiety: Early Signs of Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)

Monday 12 October 2026, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Thursday 26 November 2026, 10:00am - 12:00pm

An opportunity for parents and carers to learn about the early signs of school anxiety, practical support strategies, and ask questions to an Educational Psychologist.

Bookings can be made via the QR codes on the attached posters, by emailing familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk, or by calling **01225 770478**.

Online Course

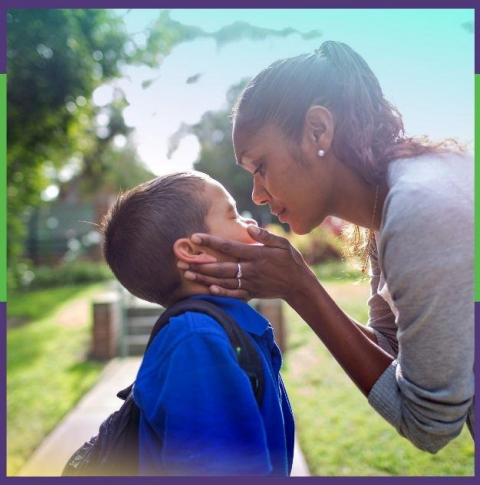
Understanding School Anxiety

Early Signs of Emotionally Based School Avoidance

Two Dates Available:

Monday 12 October 10:00-12:00

Thursday 26 November 10:00-12:00



Booking closes 7 days before course start date

- What is Emotionally Based School Avoidance?
- Strategies to support with school based anxiety and worry
- Practical ways to support school attendance
- Educational Psychologist available to answer questions

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

Courses are no cost to learners who meet our eligibility criteria. Learners must be aged 19+ years old on 31 August. 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.

Wiltshire Council