Marden Vale CE Academy

Newsletter

Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust

Issue 7 17th January 2025

With God, all things are possible Matthew 19:26

This Term's value is PERSERVERANCE

Message from our Headteacher

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to Term 3. As always, there is lots going on so please take time to read this or listen to the recording (details of how to access this is in the newsletter).

Staff update: Sadly Mrs Bicknell is leaving us. Her family have decided to emigrate to Australia. I would like to thank Mrs Bicknell for all her hard work and dedication to the pupils at Marden Vale. We wish her the very best with the move to Australia. We are in the process of recruiting , I will update you once this process has ended.

Miss Marshall (Year 4 TA) is also leaving and off to Australia. We are currently advertising for a class TA.

Doors open at 8.40am for prompt registration at 8.55am. Children have early morning tasks to complete so please ensure they arrive promptly.

Mrs Louise Scrivens

Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TERM 3

17th January: Yr 3 Walk Safe Practical

20th January: Year 6 Mini Police

13th February: FOM's Valentine Disco

14th February: TD Day—Children not in school

27th February: Year 5/6 Young Voices

FUTURE DATES

4th April: TD Day—Children not in school

7th May: Year 5 Ramsbury Manor

3rd June: Class Photos

12th June: Year 6 Leavers' Service

18th-20th June: Year 6 Residential

23rd-26th June: Year 6 Bikeability

2nd July: Year 6 Transition day KGA

3rd-4th July: Year 6 Bikeability

9th July: Year 5 Taster Day KGA

7th-10th July: Year 6 Swimming

14th-17th July: Year 6 Swimming

24th July: Last day of Term

Stars of the week

10th January

TADPOLE	Alfie B
BUTTERFLY	Marika M
OTTER	Ava K
DRAGONFLY	Ibrahim M
FOX	Imogen B
KINGFISHER	Erin S
THE HIVE	William A | Millie H

17th January

TADPOLE	Louis B
BUTTERFLY	Chloe P
OTTER	Bobby P
DRAGONFLY	Jake E
FOX	Archie C
KINGFISHER	Keyshia A
THE HIVE	Freddie B | James W

Be Here!

On Time, All Day, Every Day

ATTENDANCE COUNTS

Weekly Attendance Winners

In additional to individual attendance, we like to celebrate class attendance on a weekly basis.

Winners of week ending 10th January

1st — Fox 98.6%

2nd— Tadpole 98.5%

3rd— Butterfly 98.4%

Winners of week ending 17th January

1st — Fox 100%

2nd— Otter 97.5%

3rd — Butterfly 95.1%

Newsletter—Voice recorded

Our children have taken the time to produce a video and voice recording of our newsletter. This can be accessed via our website—News and Events—Newsletters. If you scan the QR code this will take you to the desired newsletter. The children work really hard in making these voice recordings in the hope that it makes it easier for our parents and carers.

Otter Class

Otter Class will be participating in Forest School every Tuesday afternoon until the end of term. Please ensure your child has weather appropriate footwear and clothing in order to participate. They will get very muddy so wellies are preferable, waterproofs, coats, hats and gloves. If your child does not own any of those listed, please supply a change of clothes e.g. joggers, jumper and footwear that you don't mind getting really muddy.

Head Lice

We have had reports of head lice in school. As many children have siblings in other classes, we are asking that everyone check your child's hair and treat as necessary. Working together will mean we have a better chance of eliminating the problem.

Walk Safe

Walk Safe programme started last week for Year 1, 3 and 6 and the children began focusing on walking more often and more safely.

With help from Sandie from Wiltshire Council, they have learned a lot about:

- Different types of traffic
- Walking safely on footways and holding hands with an adult
- The Green Cross Code: Stop, Look, Listen
- Safer places to cross the road
- Assessing risks and taking personal responsibility
- Judging speed and distances
- Using different types of road crossings

Year 6 also focused on secondary school transitions, including route planning.

The children showed fantastic knowledge and put their news skills into practice beautifully!

Donations for Hamper

We are raising funds for our Year 5 & 6 to represent Marden Vale at Young Voices in Birmingham in February. Young Voices is the largest school choir concert in the world with over 200,000 children participating. Our children are very excited to be taking part.

To raise funds for transportation, we are holding a Valentine Hamper Raffle. If you would like to donate anything to the raffle or donate towards our fundraising we would be most grateful. The raffle is all about Love, Joy and Hope, which are really important to us as they are our Academy Values.

We would like to say huge thank you to Tesco and to Marden Vale staff for their kind donations.

Phunky Foods

This week, our incredible Phunky Food Ambassadors presented an engaging assemble to the whole school about making healthy lunchbox choices. They led a fun workshop with Otter class , helping them explore the importance of healthy food and drink. We are proud of their dedication and the positive impact they are having on our school community.

Free Dinners

We currently have a number of child size frozen meals at school that we would like to offer to families. If are interested, please contact the school office/Mrs Eugene Gooch who will organise this for you.

NHS Pharmacy First Service

NHS Pharmacy First Service

Did you know that the NHS Pharmacy First Service enables children and adults to get convenient access to healthcare advice and treatment where appropriate, for seven common conditions without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment? Accessing the service may mean that can help children feel better and back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better if they are unwell with one of the conditions covered under the service.

There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can pop into their local Boots pharmacy with their child and ask for help under the service. Support for the following conditions can be accessed under the service, free of charge (unless NHS prescription charges apply):

Common condition	Patient eligibility
Earache	1 to 17 years
Impetigo	1 year and over
Infected insect bites and stings	1 year and over
Sore throats	5 years and over
Sinusitis	12 years and over
Uncomplicated urinary tract	Women 16 to 64 years
Shingles	18 years and over

Chippenham Uniform Exchange

If you are in need of school uniform, the Chippenham Uniform Exchange is a great place to go. They provide good quality pre-loved uniform. All they ask is for a donation.

They have a Facebook page 'Chippenham Uniform Exchange'. Opening hours published weekly on their Facebook page.

Website: www.chippenhamuniformexchange.org.uk

Address: Unit 5 (First Floor) The Granary, Station Yard, Union Road, Chippenham, SN15 1HW. There is free parking available.

PERSEVERANCE

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value PERSEVERANCE. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

This Term's value is PERSERVERANCE

Perseverance is the continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failure, or opposition. It is the ability to persist in the face of challenges, setbacks, and obstacles, requiring a strong will, resilience, and the ability to maintain focus and motivation.

THINK TOGETHER ABOUT WORDS OF WISDOM

"If at first you don't succeed try, try and try again."

W.E. Hickson

TALK ABOUT PERSEVERANCE TOGETHER...

Teachers often say that **perseverance** is something that many children find difficult.

Very little that is really worthwhile in life can be achieved without **perseverance**. An athlete may train for years before they are ready to compete at the highest level. A musician must practice every day, sometimes for hours at a time, if they are to really master their instrument.

- How would each family member rate themselves on a scale of 1 - 10 at **perseverance**?
- Can you give an example of something you have achieved by determined **perseverance**?
- Is there a skill that you think you could improve with **perseverance**?

READ TOGETHER...

The Widow Who Never Gave Up

There was once a judge living in a town just like this one, said Jesus to the crowd of people who were listening to him and hanging on his every word.

This judge did not care much about God or justice. The crowd muttered to one another and smiled knowingly, they all knew judges like him! A poor widow, called Sarah, lived in the same town. She was being treated badly by her neighbour who was making her life very difficult indeed.
Sarah went to the judge to ask him to hear her case and give her justice.

At first the judge tried to ignore her. Silly old woman he thought. Why won't she leave me alone. Doesn't she realise that I have more important things to deal with?

But Sarah **persevered**. You are my only hope she told the judge. You must help me. Day after day she went to see him.

In the end, the judge was so exasperated that he thought to himself I will never get a minutes peace unless I help this old woman.

Finally he let her explain to him the problems that she was facing and agreed that Sarah's neighbour was indeed behaving very badly and must be made to stop at once. Sarah's **perseverance** paid off and eventually she got the justice she deserved.

So keep **persevering** and keep praying said Jesus to the crowd.

Parental Relationship and Parenting Programmes

Email: parenting@wiltshire.gov.uk

Being a parent can be amazing, but we all need some help, advice, and practical tips at times. Parenting programmes can provide just that, whether its from our trained facilitators or other parents and carers. We offer courses that are suitable from pregnancy all the way up to age 18.

Parenting Courses:

- PREGNANCY TO PARENTHOOD
- BEING A PARENT
- TIME OUT FOR PARENTS (children with additional needs)
- TRIPLE P (positive parenting programme)
- SWAPP (autism parenting programme)
- STOP (pre-teen and teen parenting)

Parental Relationship Courses:

- OnePlusOne
- TRIPLE P FAMILY TRANSITIONS
- WITHIN MY REACH

"I feel so much more confident as a parent, and understand my child"

"It has changed my whole approach to parenting"

"I understand my special needs child better also my own special needs and how to manage better as a parent."

"I felt so lost and alone, but this course helped with more than just my parenting"

"How to communicate and have a calm conversation when times are stressful"

"I have skills to cope better."

Wiltshire Council

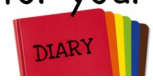
FACL Family Skills Course in Calne: Helping My Child Build

Booking closes on Tuesday 28 January. New learners need to complete a booking form with us to join the course, which you can do either on the phone (01225 770 478) or online (Enrolment - Work Wiltshire).

Derry Hill United FC are looking to expand their 'Hotshots' football team, which is for girls and boys currently in Reception or Year 1, to give more young children the experience of playing football with a club, as part of a team, with a view to entering a local league and playing matches. For more information and to register: joinus@dhufc.org.uk

FRIENDS OF MARDEN VALE

Dates for your



Upcoming FOM Events

13th February – Valentines Disco

Spring 2 – Easter Disco date and Easter raffle date tbc

Summer 1 – Carnival – 28th June

Summer 2 – Summer Fair date tbc

EM&J's Bakery will be coming to school on Friday 31st January. The cakes will be on sale after school. They accept cash and card so why not treat yourself and family to a little bit of naughty goodness!

Request for donations

Friends of Marden Vale is newly founded PTA who work hard to enable all children to maximise their potential. Like every school we are feeling the pinch! We are seeking to improve lots of areas including:

- Painting/Varnishing wooden play equipment
- Developing our Forest School area and surrounding children play gardens
- Enabling more families to take part in school trips
- Enabling more children to learn how to swim
- Enabling our year 6 students to have an end of year trip
- Purchasing outdoor play equipment
- Enabling our children to have music lessons

We have a number of planned events for the year which include discos, Easter Egg Hunt, Summer Fair and the Calne Carnival.

We are asking local businesses if they might be able to support us with either a monetary gift, physical gift or the gift of their time. In exchange we would willingly advertise their support.

If you are able to offer support, please email the school office on admin@mardenvale.dsat.org.uk

to let us know how you can help.