



*With God, all things are possible* Matthew 19:26

**This Term's value is PERSERVERANCE**



*Message from our Headteacher*



Dear Parents / Carers,

We are at the end of Term 3 already! May I take this opportunity to thank you for ensuring your children are in school on time and have all they need for the day ahead. This makes a real difference to each child – thank you!

Staffing updates:

Mrs Bicknell's last day is today, Ms Shima will be covering the class until Easter.

Due to personal reasons, Miss Mackie has decided to leave. Miss Jones will be taking the class until the end of the academic year.

It is also Miss Marshall's last day today, we are in the process of recruiting for her replacement, once this process has ended, I will update you.

Ms Saracu (Resource Base TA), is also leaving. I will update you when we have finished the recruitment process.

May I take this opportunity of thanking the staff for all their hard work and wish them well in their new adventures. I am sure you will join me in warmly welcoming Ms Shima and Miss Jones to the Marden Vale family.

Have a restful and peaceful half term break.

Mrs Louise Scrivens

Headteacher

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14th February: TD Day—Children not in school

**17th-21st February: HALF TERM**

27th February: Year 5/6 Young Voices

4th April: TD Day—Children not in school

**7th-21st April: EASTER HOLIDAY**

22nd April: Back to School

7th May: Year 5 trip to Ramsbury Manor

**26th-30th May: HALF TERM**

3rd June: Class Photos

12th June: Year 6 Leavers' Service

18th-20th June: Year 6 Residential

23rd-26th June: Year 6 Bikeability

28th June: Carnival

2nd July: Year 6 Transition day KGA

4th July: Thrive Fest

9th July: Year 5 Taster Day KGA

7th-10th July: Year 6 Swimming

14th-17th July: Year 6 Swimming

21st-25th July: Year 6 KGA Summer School

24th July: Last day of Term

**25th July: SUMMER HOLIDAY'S BEGINS**



## Stars of the week

### 7th February



TADPOLE	George S
BUTTERFLY	Tommy S
OTTER	Joshua B
DRAGONFLY	Rueban W
FOX	Theo R
KINGFISHER	Harry C
THE HIVE	Lorenzo T   LC

### 13th February



TADPOLE	Daniel G
BUTTERFLY	Kaiden H
OTTER	Renaë B
DRAGONFLY	Charlie M
FOX	Scarlett F
KINGFISHER	Lucy M
THE HIVE	Whole Class



**On Time, All Day, Every Day**

## **ATTENDANCE COUNTS**

### Weekly Attendance Winners

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

#### Winners of week ending 7th February

1st — Tadpole 96.6%

2nd— Otter 94.4%

3rd— Butterfly 94.2%

#### Winners of week ending 13th February

1st — Otter 99.4%

2nd— Kingfisher 98.1%

3rd — Butterfly 96.6%

## Absences

If your child is unwell, please call the school on 01249 813505 or email [admin@mardenvale.dsat.org.uk](mailto:admin@mardenvale.dsat.org.uk). You can speak to the office directly or leave a message on our voicemail. Please state the name of your child, class and reason for absence e.g. symptoms of illness. Please make sure you contact the school for everyday your child is absent.

For any hospital appointments, please send a copy of the letter to [admin@mardenvale.dsat.org.uk](mailto:admin@mardenvale.dsat.org.uk).

For any other absences e.g. religious, holidays, bereavement, please complete a Leave of Absence form. This can be collected from the school office.

## Year 5 Taster Days

Sheldon School are inviting our Year 5 pupils to an opt-in Taster day. These days involve six lessons from across different faculties, a free lunch and an opportunity to meet other year 5 pupils from different schools. They are very popular and help Year 5 pupils to experience a 'Year 7' day at Sheldon School!

The dates are: 11th June, 25th June, 2nd July.

The days start with pupils being dropped off at reception at 9.00am and collected at 2.30pm. Lessons include Science, PE, Art, Performing Arts and a Library session.

To book a place you will need to do so by emailing [tasterdays@sheldonschool.co.uk](mailto:tasterdays@sheldonschool.co.uk)

More information can be found on their website <https://www.sheldonschool.co.uk/home/admissions/opt-in-taster-days/>

## Road Safety Message

At a recent meeting of the Porte Marsh Working Group, concerns were raised about parents/carers walking their children through Porte Marsh Estate whilst en-route to school.

People were fearful when seeing children running ahead of parents and playing and hiding in hedges alongside roads where large vehicles are travelling up and down.

Although parents/carers and children were on the pavements, there were fears of children not being seen by lorry drivers or tripping/falling into the road.

## Year 6 KGA Summer School

Kingsbury Green Academy are having their Summer School Monday 21st-Friday 25th July. More information will be provided by them in an Admissions email in March.

## Hamper Winners

Congratulations to our winners:

1st Prize: Jessica N

4th Prize: Mrs Bowden

2nd Prize: Mrs Scrivens

5th Prize: Alina M

3rd Prize: Leigh R

6th Prize: Erin S

Dyson Hairdryer: Mrs Bicknell

Thank you to everyone that donated gifts and bought tickets. Your support is very much appreciated.

## Forest School

Otter class have been enjoying Forest School every Tuesday this term. They have been getting very muddy and learning key skills e.g. sawing and using a saw safely. They have been exploring the mud kitchen and enjoying hammock and swings, building habitats for woodland animals and working together as a team. Spending time outside can have a significant impact on both our physical and mental health. Being in nature has been shown to reduce stress levels, improve mood, and even reduce the risk of chronic diseases.



The Wiltshire Parent Carer Council's PINS Project Team is delighted to announce online practitioner-led sessions for parent/carers via Microsoft TEAMS. These sessions are for any parents with primary school aged children. As your school is taking part in the PINS project, we are inviting you to join us in these free sessions.

We have listened to all our parent/carers across the 20 schools we are working with in Wiltshire; through our parent/carer engagement sessions, we have highlighted key themes and topics that parent/carers have said they would find most useful. All our sessions will be led by experienced practitioners in their field, delivering practical information and advice, as well as answering questions. We are delighted to be offering this opportunity through the PINS project, and we are excited to share information about the upcoming sessions with you.

The next session in our free support sessions, will be **'Exploring sensory needs'** and will be run by Wiltshire Council SSENs team.

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025 from 1pm to 2.30pm.**

If you would like to attend either or both of these sessions, please contact the Wiltshire Parent/Carer Council (WPCC) on 01225 764647 (option 1) to pre-register. Everyone who has booked to attend will be sent a joining link for their session the day before the session.

We look forward to you joining us, we will contact you with details of further sessions soon. If you cannot access Teams, please make us aware and we will do our best to accommodate you through your school.



## Online Course (2hrs)

Wiltshire Council

### Helping My Child with Anxiety and Worry

#### Available dates

- Friday 28 February 10:00-12:00
- Wednesday 19 March 12:15-14:15

Join this course for practical ideas to help you support your child.



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

Please sign up at least 7 days before course start date

For bookings and enquiries scan the QR code  
or  
call the FaCL team on 01225 770478  
or email

Familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk



Website: <https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>

Our courses are free, if you are 19+ years old, resident in the UK/EU for over three years (some immigration status exempt), have a Wiltshire postcode and meet any of the following criteria: earn less than £25,000 pa, in receipt of benefits, military family, foster carer/care leaver/carer, have a disability.



## Online Course

Wiltshire Council

### Understanding School Anxiety Early Signs of Emotionally Based School Avoidance

Friday 7 March 10am - 12pm

Booking closes Friday 28 February



- 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



Our courses are free, if you are 19+ years old, resident in the UK/EU for over three years (some immigration status exempt), have a Wiltshire postcode and meet any of the following criteria: earn less than £25,000 pa, in receipt of benefits, military family, foster carer/care leaver/carer, have a disability.

Please see our website or contact us for more information

Upcoming **FOM** Events

Spring 2



**Easter raffle:** We will be running a colouring competition. There is a £1 entry fee with the prize being a chocolate hamper. Templates will be given to your child(ren) via the class teacher in March to be returned by 22nd April. These will be judged and winners will be announced on 23rd April. More copies will be available in the school office. Please return your entry with the £1 fee. There will be a EYFS/KS1 and KS2 competition.

We will be having a non-school uniform day on 14th March. Please bring in a chocolate donation for our tombola which will be drawn on 26th March.

Summer 1



**Carnival** – 28th June. Theme ‘The Greatest Marden Show’

Summer 2



**Marden Vale Rocks**

Summer Fair date tbc