



NOVEMBER 2023 MARYPORT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome back to the start of the second half term. Traditionally this is a very busy term with lots going on in the run up to Christmas so please make sure you check out the diary dates section. Unfortunately due to the Sands Centre being temporarily closed we are unable to go to the annual pantomime. We are however looking at an alternative Christmas event - stay posted for updates!

Last half term we were delighted to receive the outcome of a Local Authority Health and Safety Audit which concluded

'that the level of assurance identified at Maryport CofE Primary School is Substantial. This means there is a sound system of H&S controls in place to achieve health and safety objectives and minimise risk. The controls tested are being consistently applied and no significant weaknesses were identified.

You have a lovely school and it is clear that you take your health and safety responsibilities very seriously.'

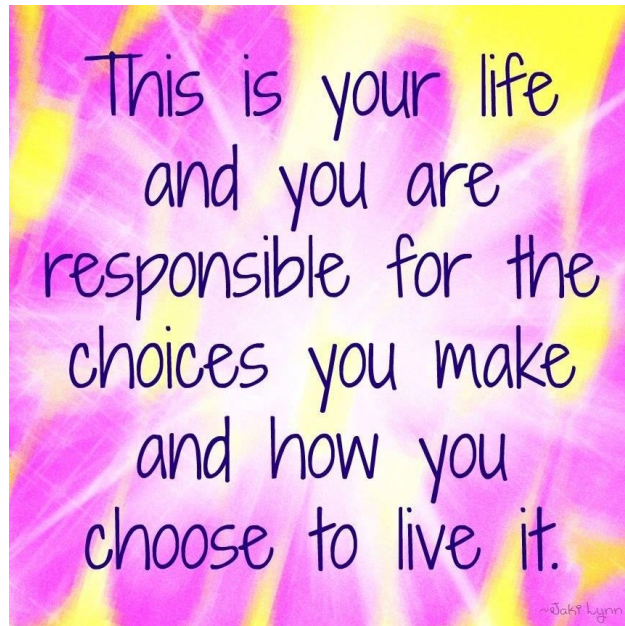
Thank you to both Mrs Penn and Mr Ross who work on a day to day basis to ensure we meet, and exceed, our H&S responsibilities.

Christian Values

Each half term we focus on a particular Christian value which feeds into our school vision of "Teach children to choose the right path and when they are older they will remain upon it" (Proverbs 22:6)

Our focus Christian value for the coming half term is RESPONSIBILITY. The bible teaches us that life is a gift from God and it is our responsibility to use our talents and abilities in the best way we can. We will share Bible stories from Matthew and James and reflect on our words and actions.

Please see our website using the link below, for a family activity sheet based on this value which you can share at home <https://www.maryport.cumbria.sch.uk/about-us/vision-aims-values/christian-values>



STAFFING UPDATE

We are delighted to welcome a new teacher to our team - Miss Megan Scott is starting this week working in Year 2 alongside Mrs Holliday as well as covering one afternoon in Year 1 too. Miss Lockwood will now be the permanent class share teacher for Maple class alongside Mrs Hurst.

LITTLE ACORNS 2 YEAR OLD PROVISION

Following parental feedback, after the Christmas break we will be moving our 2 year old provision to morning sessions. The session length will be the same - 3 hours, but will run from 8.45-11.45 each day. The sessions are available to all children once they have turned 2 and application forms are available from the office. Parents may be entitled to 15 hours of funded provision - please speak to Mrs Penn for further details.

PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance target is 96%. Unfortunately, last half term we fell just short of this with 95.2%. Well done to Elm class who had the overall highest attendance figure in September and October.

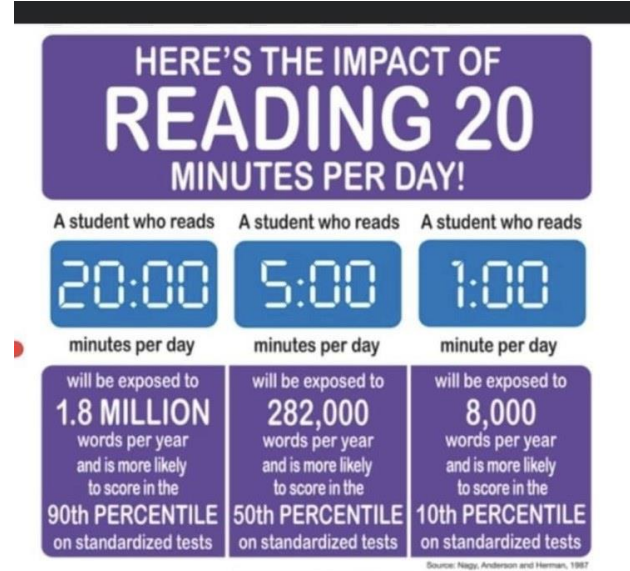
We have received a number of requests from parents wishing to take their children out of school for term time holidays. Please note that unless the absence is an exceptional circumstance (eg. parent wedding, family funeral etc) this will be recorded as unauthorised. Forms are available from the office for parents to submit a term time leave request. Please see the attached letter regarding attendance from the Local Authority -

Mark Lambert Letterhead 01 10 16 (govdelivery.com)

Please be reminded that all children need to be in class for registration at 8.45. Doors open at 8.35 to allow for 10 minutes 'settling'. Any child who is late needs to report to the office and a text message will be sent out informing parents how many minutes late they were.

CLASS	ATTENDANCE
WILLOW	93.4%
ASH	92.4%
BIRCH	94.8%
ELM	98.6%
LIME	95%
PINE	95.1%
ROWAN	95.7%
JUNIPER	97.9%
MAPLE	92.3%
BEECH	94.5%
OAK	96.7

HOME READING



From our 2 year olds to our Year 6s, reading at home is vitally important for every child. For our little ones, sharing a book is about the pictures, textures and the 'tune' of a story. Shared books then become about rhyme, repeated phrases and imagination. Once children become aware of sound-letter correspondence and learn to blend sounds together to form words, they want to share their reading and 'show off' what they can achieve. This doesn't mean they no longer want to be read to - reading to your child opens up their wonder at how stories can come alive and also helps to develop their ideas and vocabulary.

Throughout school we have an expectation that parents and carers will both share books with their child as well as listen to them read (as age appropriate). Children in the infants will bring home weekly a book to share with a family member. These high quality books have been carefully selected for each year group with the aim that by the end of the year, everyone in the class will have had at least 30 books read to them at home.

Thank you so much for your support in this.

For our early readers in Reception and Year 1, it is also important to support them at home to practice the sounds the children have been learning at home. Links to some resources you can use can be found below. Please see class teachers to find out which sounds your child has been learning.

Sounds To Learn At Home!



Set 3 sounds
(Special Friends)



Set 3 sounds
(Special Friends)



Sounds To Learn At Home!



Set 3 sounds
(Special Friends)



Set 3 sounds
(Special Friends)



Vaping information for parents

It has been brought to our attention that some of our older children may be vaping. Cumbria Youth Substance Misuse have produced a booklet for parents and carers giving information and advice on how to talk to children about this worrying trend. The booklet can be accessed [here](#)



Friends of Maryport CE Primary School

Our PTA group will now have a regular slot on the monthly newsletter to keep everyone up to date with what they have planned. They have also set up a Facebook page which will give lots of information of the things they have been doing -

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551765161620&locale=en_GB



On Saturday 2nd December, the PTA are holding a Christmas event. If you are a small business and would like a stall at the event, please contact the school where Miss Dover or Miss Pape will provide you with further details.

If you have any old toys at home that could be used for our pre-loved toys stall, please drop them off at the school office. Thank you.

FOREST SCHOOL

Each Friday we hold Forest School session in our woodland led by Mrs Rowland-Jones. For these sessions, children will need old long sleeved tops and trousers along with their wellies.

Our Forest School timetable for this half term is as follows -

3 Nov - Y3/4 Rowan

10 Nov - Y5 Maple

17 Nov - Y5 Juniper

24 Nov - Y6 Beech

1 Dec - Y6 Oak







OPAL Play

Our OPAL play provision has recently been commended and we have been asked to be a showcase school in the summer term. A massive thank you and well done to Mrs Bell, Mrs Bethwaite, Miss Pape and the rest of the play team for working so hard to put play at the heart of our break times.

Wellies are now part of our uniform so every child can have access to all the play zones regardless of the weather conditions. Please make sure your child's wellies have their name in.

Our OPAL play team are looking to further extend and enhance our different play zones and are asking for donations of the following items -

- *kitchen utensils - pots, pans, spoons, sieves etc*
- *small world resources eg diggers, trucks, cars etc*

- *scooters*
 - *garden or camping chairs*
 - *Spades and trowels for the digging areas*
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MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

Mrs Mandy Penn is our Business Manager and Mrs Chris Freeland is our administrator. Both ladies work incredibly hard in the office to ensure the smooth running of the school. To help them out, please ensure the following -

- If you have changed your phone number, address or email, please let us know so we can update our contact details. We are required to hold a minimum of 2 emergency contacts for every child.*
 - All absences must be reported to the office by 8.30 on each day of the absence. The easiest way to do this is to leave a message on the answerphone. Where we have not had notification of an absence, this will be followed up by a text message, phone call or home visit.*
 - Dinners need to be ordered before 9am on the School Hub app. It is helpful if you order a weeks worth of dinners before each Monday. If your child is going to be absent, the dinner needs to be cancelled before 9am or you may still be charged.*
 - Breakfast club can be booked using the School money app. This costs £2 per day but is offered free of charge for those children who receive benefit related free meal provision.*
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Please ensure your child comes to school in PE uniform on the following days -

Monday - Year 1 & Year 2

Tuesday - Nursery, Y3/4 Lime & Y3/4 Pine

Wednesday - Reception, Y3/4 Rowan & Y5

Thursday - all of Y3/4, Y1 & Y2

Friday - Y5, Reception & Y6

PE will begin on Thursday 7th September

ALL JEWELLERY, INCLUDING SMART WATCHES, MUST BE REMOVED FOR PE SESSIONS

PE is an important part of the school curriculum. Recent findings from the DfE found that-

'where schools provide high quality PE and pupils play sport, they equip pupils to continue that participation into their later lives. This goes beyond the immediate benefits of improved attainment, mental well-being and personal development.'

DIARY DATES

This is what we already have planned and confirmed for the coming half term. Please look out for more events still to be finalised.

3 Nov- Y5 visit to Carlisle Cathedral

3 Nov - Happy Ninjas visit to Riverside Residential Home

6-10 Nov - Y5 Cyclewise training

8 Nov - Y3/4 Quick Sticks hockey at Netherhall

9 Nov - Y4 Bikeability training

10 Nov - Disney inspired art exhibition in the hall 2-4pm

17 Nov - Happy Ninjas visit to Riverside Residential Home

17 Nov - Children In Need day - come in your pjs for £1

21 Nov - Y2 visit to Senhouse Roman Museum

22 Nov - KS2 Boccia event at Netherhall

29 Nov - Y1/2 Dodgeball event at Netherhall

30 Nov - photos for anyone who was absent in October & family Xmas shoots (contact office to book)

1 Dec - Y3/4 visit to Stockwood

6 Dec - Y3/4 visit to Stockwood

8 Dec - Y3/4 visit to Stockwood

8 Dec - Xmas craft open afternoon from 2pm

12 Dec - Choir at Riverside Residential Home

13 Dec - Xmas dinner and Xmas jumper day

14 Dec - Infant Nativity performance afternoon and evening

15 Dec - Xmas party day

18 Dec - Christmas service in St Mary's church

19 Dec - school finishes for the Christmas break

