



Marine Academy Primary Newsletter February 2022

'Where Stars Shine Brighter.'

...providing an outstanding education that ensures all pupils reach their greatest potential and live by life's highest values.

Dear Parents/Carers of Marine Academy Primary pupils,

I hope that you all had a fabulous half term break! The Marine Academy Primary team were all very excited to return for Term 4 and are looking forward to all of the character building activities and curriculum enrichment that is taking place in this latter part of the Spring Term. Throughout the first two weeks of Term 4, teachers will be hosting Children's Progress Meetings. Thank you to all of the Parents/Carers who have signed up to attend their child's Progress Meeting; the teachers all thoroughly enjoy having the opportunity to share your child's progress with you. Please do contact us if you were unable to book an appointment and would like to speak to your child's teacher about their progress.

At Marine Academy Primary, our mission is to provide an outstanding education that ensures all pupils reach their greatest potential and live by life's highest values. Our own Marine Curriculum, which is comprehensive, has a clear process of learning with specific learning goals for every National Curriculum subject, for personal learning and for international mindedness. Our curriculum sets out clear progression and application of skills across all areas. Another way that we try to keep you informed about your children's learning is by emailing out Curriculum Letters to you at the end of each half term. This letter shares lots of information about what your children will be learning the following half term. If you have not had a chance to read the Curriculum Letter for your child/ren for Term 4 then please follow this [link](#). Years 1 to 6 are all focusing on Geography, Music and Design Technology this term and we cannot wait to see the fabulous outcomes that they, and our younger children in Early Years, achieve this term!

Yours sincerely,
Mrs. Siobhan Meredith

FORTHCOMING EVENTS...

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 28th February – First Day of Term 4
- Week Beginning 28th February & 7th March – Children's Progress Meetings
- 1st March – Academy Parliament to visit the Lord Mayor's Parlour for a Q&A session with the Lord and Deputy Lord Mayors
- 3rd March – World Book Day
- 7th March – Year 4 Faith Trail Trip
- 8th March – Year 5 Geography Fieldwork Trip to Bellever Forest
- 9th March – #thisgirlcan Football Activities throughout the day
- 9th March – 30 children from Year 3 and 4 to watch 'Bedknobs and Broomsticks' at the Theatre Royal Plymouth
- 14th March – Year 1 Geography Open Bus Tour of Plymouth
- 14th March – Year 4, 5 and 6 Girls Football Tournament at Manadon Sports Hub
- 15th March – Reception Trip to the National Marine Aquarium
- 17th March – 30 children from Years 2 to 6 to watch Birmingham Royal Ballet's Don Quixote at the Theatre Royal Plymouth
- 18th March – Red Nose Day
- 21st March – Year 5 Swimming Lessons begin
- 21st March – Christian Storytelling Workshop for Reception Classes
- 21st March – Academy Parliament Virtual Meeting on Law and Debates
- 22nd March – Spectacular Science Day for all Classes!

Year 6 – Year 6 have had a fabulous term and February has been filled with awesome learning. We completed our History based topic, 'Civil Rights' and as a result, informative and fabulous essays were written, where the children created a balanced argument, explaining the important of civil disobedience and legal changes in the 1950's. Our English learning came to an end with a workshop with Josephine's Stories. The children were taught how to create their own stories using words and props given. They then did a fabulous job of acting their stories out to the rest of the group! It's been a great term and we look forward to the wonderful Geography topic, 'Population' next term, amongst all the other amazing lessons that will take place. Have a great half term break!

Year 4 – What an amazing term Year 4 have had! In English, the children have enjoyed innovating a traditional tale. To promote creativity in their writing, Year 4 were lucky enough to visit Plymouth's capital and participate in a creative writing workshop with some talented writers. We had a fantastic day, and the children were so well behaved that members of the public stopped to complement their impeccable behaviour. The children have particularly enjoyed their Science topic this term 'States of Matter'. This has been a great opportunity for the children to fully immerse themselves in a range of experiments. In Maths, the children have been challenged with their multiplication and division unit but the Year 4 team have been blown away with their perseverance. The children were thrilled to master a new technique in Art, where they were able to tie dye. This term concluded with completing the Anglo-Saxon essays and it has been a pleasure to read such amazingly constructed essays. The children have not only been able to recall amazing facts but they have used their oracy skills to produce beautifully written essay. Well done everyone!

Reception – Reception have had a fantastic term learning all about pirates in their topic 'Shiver M'Timbers!' The children were superstars on their trip to Mount Edgcumbe, sailing the seven seas on board their ship.



Nursery – This term The Nursery children have continued their theme of 'Little Bo Peep' and have been amazing at learning the Nursery Rhyme.

The children have also been practising their colours through songs and matching games and they have really impressed us, hopefully lots of you will be able to see this in their learning journeys online. We hope you all have a lovely half term and look forward to seeing you all, ready to start our new topic 'Humpty Dumpty'.

The children went on a treasure hunt and enjoyed exploring the beach. This term we have been super impressed with the children's reading progress. They are learning to read longer words as well as writing captions. The children have learnt all about floating and sinking and have even had an opportunity to make pirate pizzas. It has been brilliant to see the children become so independent with their learning and wanting to impress adults. We cannot wait for next term!

Pre-School – In Pre-School we have continued to enjoy activities from our topic 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', such as painting with mud, making paper plate bears, and talking about where the bear is using positional language. The children have loved this topic and can retell the story with great expression and Makaton. We have continued to enjoy Maths using the Numberblocks, and explored different sounds in Phonics. Penguins and Puffins loved dressing up to 'Express Ourselves' for Children's Mental Health Week, there were lots of different cool outfits. After Half Term, the children are excited to learn all about their new topic 'Helpful Heroes', role-play with their friends in our very own 'Hospital' and learn our Topic book 'Emergency' by Margret Mayo. We hope you have a lovely Half Term and thank you for all your support.

Year 3 – This term, Year 3 have been very busy! They have learnt all about The Shang Dynasty and had a special visitor come into school to teach them all about life during The Shang Dynasty. The children have learnt so much and have written some in-depth factual History essays! They have also been lucky enough to have a Music Teacher teach them Samba every Friday and they have explored a range of different musical instruments. They have written and performed some great poetry in English with help from the poet Simon Mole.



Year 5 – This month, Year 5 have continued to show resilience and persistence in their learning, completing new personal bests and rising to the challenges expected of them. In their History topic Medieval Monarchs, they learnt about the most influential monarchs of the Medieval period and showed off their super learning in their end of topic piece of writing; a timeline showing all the 'great' and 'terrible' actions of each monarch. Their timelines were factual and creative and the opinions they expressed were insightful and considered. In Maths, the children have extended their multiplication and division knowledge, working extremely hard to grasp new concepts and strategies. In English, they have studied the plays of Shakespeare and written their own play-scripts for the Battle of Hastings, which they had learnt about in their History topic. They also studied the poems of many significant poets, including Edward Lear and Michael Rosen, using these as inspiration to create their own poetry. In Computing, the children have enjoyed planning and building their own computer games. They enjoyed this so much that they have continued to work on them in their free time on the Chromebooks! In Science, Year 5 have learnt about the lifecycles of different animals and plants, explaining their differences and why reproduction is needed to avoid extinction. All of Year 5 should be very proud of the learning they have produced this month and we look forward to them building on this knowledge in their upcoming topics!

Year 2 – The Year 2 children loved their History topic in Term 3 which concluded with an incredible 'Great Fire of London' experience on the last day of term. The children created their own mini pudding lane, 'burnt it down' and even blew it up! We had to be very quiet when making gunpowder, so we didn't get on a warning for destroying the school! During their Maths learning this term, the children started their Statistic unit, practicing making tally charts and pictograms. In Phonics, the children have shown incredible blending skills and are able to quickly chunk longer words so they can build on their reading fluency. During English, the children have focused on expanded noun phrases and are able to use exciting adjectives. We have even used conjunction and subordinate conjunctions - wow Year 2! We are really looking forward to the next term and can't wait to start our new Geography topic 'Let's go to China'. We can't wait to hear about your Chinese research and see your flags so we can decorate the classroom.

Year 1 – Year 1 have had a fantastic term. In Maths the children have been focusing on adding and subtracting using the resources to help them. We will look to continue this learning after half-term. In English, the children have been writing their own set of instructions focusing on the importance of ordinal phrases. The children have been thoroughly enjoying their phonics and reading practice sessions. We have seen such an improvement in their expression, decoding and comprehension skills. They are all superstars! We have enjoyed learning all about the Ancient Egyptians in History. Learning how the River Nile was important, how Ancient Egyptians lived in comparison to us today and all about the most famous Pharaoh in Egypt. All children produced some wonderful essays to show off their new knowledge. Well done Year 1!

Upper Key Stage Two Residential to London

We were very excited for 54 of our Year 5 and 6 children to go on their Residential to London at the end of Term 3. The children visited the Tower of London, took part in the London Bridge Experience, went on the London Eye and the River Thames cruise as well as watching *The Lion King* at the Theatre and eating at London's Hard Rock Café. The children were excellent role models throughout the trip and engaged brilliantly with all of the wonderful opportunities and activities on offer to them.



In July, there is another opportunity for the Year 5 and 6 children to stay away from home by this time going to Forest and Beach in Beesands.



GREAT LEARNING OUTSIDE OF THE ACADEMY

We really enjoy seeing and celebrating all of the great learning that the children complete outside of the Academy – don't forget to bring in any certificates or trophies on a Friday so we can share them during the weekly Starfish of the Week Assembly!

**ARE YOU
ONLINE SAFETY
AWARE?**

Online Safety

Each month, we will continue to share with you some advice to further support your child to be safe online. If you have any questions or queries then please do contact a member of the Primary Admin Team or email primary@marineacademy.org.uk to arrange a time to virtually meet about Computing and Online Safety. We are always more than happy to help you out!



TOP TIPS

**BBC
OWN IT**

DO YOUR RESEARCH

Finding out more about the games your child plays can help. It's worth knowing how to block and report other users.

**OWN IT'S TOP FIVE
TIPS TO HELP
YOUR CHILD STAY
SAFE AND HAPPY
WHILE GAMING**

**BBC
OWN IT**

PLAY GAMES TOGETHER

Playing games with your child helps to create a connection and open a dialogue between you and them about gaming.

**BBC
OWN IT**

TEACH RESPECT

Talk to your kids about treating others how they would like to be treated while playing. This will help them recognise when to ask for help if another gamer is overstepping the line.

**BBC
OWN IT**

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Communication with your child helps them to avoid risks online. Being open with your child will help them to open up to you about any gaming issues they face.

**BBC
OWN IT**

SHOW ENCOURAGEMENT

Winning or losing, it doesn't matter. Encouraging your child can lead to a stronger understanding of emotional reactions and prepare them for situations outside of games.



It's a Girl!

At the start of February, Mrs Viant gave birth to a beautiful baby girl called Ella. Ella weighed 6lb 8oz and is doing really well.

A huge congratulations to Mr and Mrs Viant from all of the Marine Academy Primary community.



Swiggle – Child-Friendly Search Engine

Swiggle.org.uk is a friendly search engine aimed at children in Key Stage 2. It has been designed and developed by South-west Grid for Learning, a charity dedicated to empowering the safe and secure use of technology.

Swiggle.org.uk gives children a great start in encouraging responsible online searching. The internet is a vast resource, and some content is not appropriate for children, SWGfL recommends adding Swiggle to your browser or put the Screen Cover link on your bookmark bar. Swiggle is powered by Google Custom Search, the results are filtered using Google SafeSearch, and SWGfL has configured the results to prioritise educational resources. Swiggle also filters the search terms to check that it is not being used to search for inappropriate content. Consider encouraging your children to use Swiggle, when on devices at home, as an alternative for Google and other search engines.

The Swiggle search page is here: <https://swiggle.org.uk/>



In the Year 1 to 6 PSHE lessons, the children have been discussing the NSPCC's Underwear Rule. This will be revisited during lessons throughout the rest of the academic year. This is designed to teach pupils how to stay safe from sexual abuse, without giving explicit information or telling scary stories or even using the term "sexual abuse."

Children learn the 'PANTS' acrostic, which stands for:



More information about the Underwear Rule, including a short film and a parent guide can be found at



Fancy Learning Different Dances?

Oti Mabuse from Strictly Come Dancing has created different dance themed lessons for children and adults on her YouTube page.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/OtiMabuseOfficial/playlists>



It's time to take a stand, to make a difference for girls to play football – one simple message #LetGirlsPlay.

On Wednesday 9th March 2022, England Football and Barclays want to put on the biggest EVER football session for girls in school.

We are looking forward to sharing with you what girls at Marine Academy Primary get up to for #LetGirlsPlay!

Do you play football outside of school? If you do, send a picture of you taking part in football outside of school to your class teacher that week for us to celebrate!

Football is the most popular team sport for children in England...

BUT ONLY...

1/3 OF GIRLS
AGED 5-18 PARTICIPATE EVERY WEEK
and what's more,

91%
OF GIRLS WITHOUT ACCESS TO FOOTBALL IN PE WANT IT

GIRLS TELL US THEY PLAY TO...

88%
KEEP FIT & HEALTHY
PHYSICAL BENEFIT

78%
LEARN & DEVELOP SOCIAL SKILLS
SOCIAL BENEFIT

BARCLAYS GIRLS' FOOTBALL SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS
BY ENGLAND FOOTBALL



Here are some sporting events that have happened around the world this term...

- ★ Winter Games
- ★ Super Bowl
- ★ Winter Military World Games Six Nations Rugby
- ★ ODI World Cup for Women Cricket
- ★ African Cup of Nations Football
- ★ Australian Open Tennis

Term 4 sees the following:

- ★ Golf Masters
- ★ Women's Cricket World Cup
- ★ Winter Paralympics

FIXTURES 2022

ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3
SATURDAY 5 FEBRUARY IRELAND v WALES SCOTLAND v ENGLAND	SATURDAY 12 FEBRUARY WALES v SCOTLAND FRANCE v IRELAND	SATURDAY 26 FEBRUARY SCOTLAND v FRANCE ENGLAND v WALES
SUNDAY 6 FEBRUARY FRANCE v ITALY	SUNDAY 13 FEBRUARY ITALY v ENGLAND	SUNDAY 27 FEBRUARY IRELAND v ITALY
ROUND 4	ROUND 5	
FRIDAY 11 MARCH WALES v FRANCE	SATURDAY 19 MARCH WALES v ITALY	
SATURDAY 12 MARCH ITALY v SCOTLAND	SATURDAY 19 MARCH FRANCE v ENGLAND	
ENGLAND v IRELAND		

KICK-OFF TIMES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN DUE COURSE

Nut Free Zone

Please remember that Marine Academy Primary is a Nut Free Zone.

Allergies to nuts can be mild but can also be severe and require additional medicine and hospital support. At Marine Academy Primary, we have children in school with severe nut allergies and need an EpiPen because of this.

Some children react as a result of direct contact with the allergen e.g. eating a nut but for others just being in the same room as someone with nuts is enough to have a reaction. Because of this it is important that no nuts are brought into school, please.

Although sesame is not a nut, it can cause a nut allergy reaction so please can we ask that no sesame, oil or seeds, be brought into school.

More information about allergies can be found at <https://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk/>





TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS



It's also available to download on the App Store!

If your child is in Year 1 upwards then don't forget to help them with their times tables fluency by using Times Tables Rock Stars! Every child has their own log in; please ask your class teacher if you are not sure what your one is!



National Trust

Sounds of nature bingo!

Whether you're a town mouse or a country mouse, you're bound to have lots of noisy neighbours. We're talking about cooing pigeons, crying seagulls, buzzing bees and hooting owls. If you listen carefully you may also hear the wind in the trees or the patter of rain. You can play Sounds of nature at home, in your local area or at a National Trust place.

Tick off the sounds you hear

Tapping of a woodpecker	A buzzing bee	Quack of a duck	Rustling bushes
A cow's moo	Patter of rain	Bird singing	Scuttling squirrel
Flying insect bumping into a window	Wind in the trees	Bleating sheep	Trickle of water
Coo of a pigeon	Cry of a seagull	Owl hooting	A surprising sound in nature

The more that you read,
The more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
The more places you'll go.
-Dr. Seuss

We Are Readers



TOP
10

Number of Words Read This Month:

1	Silun (4AV) 221,907
2	Jessica (4AV) 204,361
3	Joshua (5LI) 190,519
4	Jacob (6AW) 182,979
5	Ralphy (4LG) 159,388
6	Chloe (5LI) 157,552
7	Aashna (5LI) 130,376
8	Harry (5AD) 113,149
9	Ava (5AD) 100,573
10	Lennon (4LG) 98,461

The total number of books and words read by children on Accelerated Reader so far this year currently stands at...

7,380 books and 31,308,695 words so far this year!

WOW!

★ SUPER READER ★ SHOUT OUTS!

It has been another amazing month for reading and quizzing! Well done to these superstars who have been reading lots!

Evelyn (RHR), Opie (RAF), Alex (1MM), Victor (1SA), Isabella (2CW), Olivia (2TG), Elsie (3CC), Emily (3JN), Harley (4AV), Poppy (4LG), Isabella (5AD), Damon (5LI), Jake (6AW) and Katy (6DK)!

Big congratulations go to Joshua in 5LI for becoming our latest Word Millionaire and also to Aleasha in 5AD who has become a Word Multi-Millionaire! Well done to both of them, what amazing achievements!



Reading aloud to children: 7 steps to making it magical



There is no blueprint for reading aloud, but these simple steps from Professor Teresa Cremin will help you relax and enjoy the special time that is sharing a book with your child. She says: "Reading aloud not only nurtures children's pleasure in reading, it offers them models of how a book should sound and feel, helping them develop expressive reading in their own heads. Reading aloud to young children prompts them to listen actively and process more challenging texts and vocabulary than they could possibly achieve on their own".

So settle down with your child, find a great book and take your time exploring it together. Here's seven steps you can take to make reading aloud a really valuable experience:

1. Find a brilliant book

Quality picture books lend themselves to reading aloud to young children. They often have rich rhythms and rhymes, stunning illustrations and engaging characters with whom we can all connect. It's worth the hunt – at school, the library or local bookshop and involving your child in choosing too. If there's time try and read it to yourself first so you know how it flows.

Some of my favourites to read aloud to young children are:

- Shark in the Park, by Nick Sharratt
- We're Going on a Bear Hunt, by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury
- Oi Dog! by Kes and Claire Gray
- There's a Bear on my Chair, by Ross Collins
- Dogger, by Shirley Hughes
- Can't you Sleep Little Bear, by Martin Waddell

2. Choose a comfy spot

Turn off the TV and your phone and settle down together, perhaps with your child's favourite cuddly toy to listen in too! It is often said readers are raised on their parents' laps, so get comfortable and hold the book so you can both see it. This is your special time together.

3. Begin the journey

Read the title aloud and the author's name and spend some time just looking together at the cover together, you might point things out, wonder aloud what's going to happen to a particular character but let your child comment too. If you wish read the back cover blurb too, tempting your child with the snippets offered and chatting about what the book appears to be about.

4. Read, relax and respond

Open it up unhurriedly and begin to read the first few pages of the text, reading slowly and expressively before you pause, so you've begun to tempt your child in to the tale. Relax; there is no right way to do this! Being responsive to your child's reactions is important. If they comment, ask questions or are looking closely at a picture, pause and respond, their relaxed attentive involvement is a joy to see and deserves your encouragement.

5. Blether about the book

Informal book blether is key to enjoying a story. Pause between reading it aloud and take the time to chat about what's happening, the behaviour of the characters, what might happen next and so on. Make connections to people and events in your child's life as this will help them make personal sense of the story.

Far from being a one-sided experience, reading aloud should be interactive – packed with young children's observations, responses to the text and significant book blether.

6. Bring the book to life

Don't rush, but do keep the flow of the story going (there will be plenty of time to examine it further on a 2nd/3rd reading!), so whilst at times you'll stop to chat, at others, hold the telling space and have fun! Add in noises, emphasis, intonation and colour by using your voice to bring the book to life. No-one is watching and your child will enjoy it more and join in with your actions, facial expressions and any repeating lines.

7. Finish with space to think

As you reach the last page, slow down and let the story reach its end with emphasis. Then pause, looking intently at the page yourself to think about the tale, don't rush to asking questions, allow some thinking space and let your child guide you. They may choose to look back through it, may demand it 'again!' or may scramble down in search of another. There's no need to discuss it, but if they're looking through it they may want to talk more about it.



LEARN TO FLOAT

If you get in trouble in the water, don't panic - follow these steps:



1 Keep calm. Don't swim hard. Hold onto anything that floats.



2 Lean back to keep your mouth and nose out of the water.



3 Push your belly up and stretch out your arms and legs into a star shape.



4 Gently move your hands and feet to help you float.



5 Do this until you feel more relaxed.



6 When you're calm, raise your arm and shout for help. Swim to safety if you can.

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea
 Royal National Lifeboat Institution, a charity registered in England and Wales (209603), Scotland (SC037736),
 the Republic of Ireland (20050320), the Bailiwick of Jersey (74), the Isle of Man, the Bailiwick of Guernsey and Alderney



SPOT THE DANGERS ON THE BEACH SCENE BELOW...

