



## Outstanding Achievement and Leadership' (Ofsted)

Marus Bridge Primary School,  
Kelvin Grove,  
Marus Bridge,  
Wigan.  
WN3 6SP  
[Headteacher: Mr M Gaskill - M.Ed](#)



### NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Carers

02/10/2017

Well, where did September go? Even though it is warm we are most definitely in the Autumn season. We have had a great start to the school year. Thank you to all the staff and parents, including the home bakers, for making a great success of our MacMillan Coffee Morning on Friday. We raised over £500!

Last week, Mr. Aldridge and I spent four days looking in children's books, watching lessons and chatting with pupils about their school experience. We saw brilliant teaching, happy children who tell us they enjoy their lessons, and some real progress in the children's work (and it's still only September as I write!). The behaviour and attitude of your children in lessons is fantastic. Of course, we have one or two things we intend to improve on as well. It will be in our School Development Plan which will be published after half term.

One thing I must mention is the quality of our school meals: oh my word, they are amazing! I had cottage pie the other day and it was delicious. This **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October** we are having a special promotion: **The Fabulous Italian Feast!** Any child can try a dinner on that day but you need to let us know, of course. For Early Years and KS1 children school dinners are FREE!!!! I don't get why people make sandwiches-the food is delicious, nutritious and free. Give it a try this Thursday. Anyone who tries a dinner on Thursday will be entered into a prize draw to win a £10 gift voucher.

Here are some dates for your diary and messages from my colleagues:

### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MATTERS

At Marus Bridge Primary School we believe that good school attendance gives children the opportunity of success and helps develop skills for life. We believe it is vital that all children attend school every day unless there is an unavoidable cause like illness. Every child should end the year with attendance above 97%. [97% is the overall School Attendance Target for this year.](#) This school year we are introducing attendance certificates ensuring parent/carers have accurate information with regard to their child's attendance and punctuality. The system is as follows: Gold (100%), Green (99.9% to 97%), Amber (96.9% to 94.1%) and Red (94% and below). The first certificates are to be given out at Parents Evening in November.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT IF YOUR CHILD MISSES SCHOOL ON A REGULAR BASIS IT MAY:**

Learn, Enjoy, Achieve!

Email: [enquiries@marusbridge.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@marusbridge.co.uk)

Tel: 01942 248129/ Fax: 01942 821588

[DCFS No: 359/2015](#)





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- Seriously hinder your child’s learning and their ability to do well and achieve their potential
- Affect their confidence to attempt new learning and their ability to work alongside others in general and as a result develop reluctance or indeed refuse to attend school
- Disrupt your child’s routines and make them feel vulnerable on their return to school
- Cause disruption to teaching routines (if teachers need to revisit previous learning) and as a result affect the learning of other children in your child’s class
- Affect their ability to make and sustain friendship groups. Children who are regularly absent from school often feel excluded from play-time games and activities and feel they have little in common with their peers
- Lead to your child becoming disillusioned with school and education school as they get older
- Lead to you, as the parent/carer, being called in to school to discuss the situation as well as face legal and financial consequences. Please remember that you have a legal duty to ensure your child attends school on a regular basis
- You can demonstrate your commitment to your child’s education by **not** taking holidays **during term time**. Any child or young person who is absent from school due to a holiday will miss out on important learning and will fall behind with their school work. In each Academic Year there are only a maximum of 190 statutory school days – this allows plenty of time for holidays to be arranged outside term time. Holidays taken during term time will be categorised as an unauthorised absence. For some parents, 90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss half a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year – that’s nearly 4 school weeks

If you are experiencing difficulty in getting your child to school on a daily basis it is important that you tell us. Come to the school office and ask for the Pastoral Manager. We will always try to help.

### KEY DATES 2017

<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Tesco... Miss Thornley YR1 a.m.
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Tesco.... Mrs Riley YR1 a.m.
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Chester trip YR4 Miss Bibby & Mr Hutton

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<b>Wednesday 01<sup>st</sup> November</b>	FOMBA Halloween disco Reception and Year1 4.00pm to 5.00pm Year 2 to Year 6 5.00pm to 7.00pm
<b>Friday November 10th</b>	Year 6 Assembly
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Class Assembly .... Mrs Bower
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	Christmas Fayre 3.30pm to 5.30pm
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Year 3 Dance Festival Mrs Myerscough
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Southport Theatre Pantomime
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Church Xmas Performance LKS2 at St Pauls (YR3 and YR4) 6.30pm to 8.30pm <b>PLEASE NOTE: CHURCH VISITS LKS2 REHEARSALS WILL TAKE PLACE 5<sup>TH</sup> 6<sup>TH</sup> 12<sup>TH</sup> AND 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER (YR 3 and YR4)</b>
<b>FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	<b>REMINDER....</b> Yr3 Mrs Myerscough Class Assembly 9.10am

### OTHER NEWS/INFORMATION

**Leave of Absence.** Can you please ensure any requests for a child's leave of absence is requested at least 6 weeks before the due dates? Thank you for your co-operation with this.

### Multiplication Tables

Please continue to encourage your child to learn their times table facts. Strong knowledge of multiplication facts results in a greater fluency, efficiency and confidence when tackling new concepts or trickier problems year on year. We celebrate learning of times table facts by handing out white, red and blue wristbands in assembly every Friday. Please see your child's class teacher for top tips!

### Walk To School

The children have enjoyed an assembly presentation from the Living Streets charity whose aim is to get everyone walking.

As a school we are taking on the Walk to School Challenge.

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All children are being encouraged to walk to school at least once a week, this can also include biking, scooting and stride and ride (parking a distance away and walking the last part of your journey).

More details will be posted on the website and all children will be bringing home a leaflet explaining the campaign.

### **CLASS ASSEMBLIES 2017-2018**

ASSEMBLY DATE	CLASS
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Y3 GM
20 <sup>th</sup> October	Y4/5 DH
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Y6 AA/SC
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Y5 LB
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Y1 GT
2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Y2 JL
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Y4 CB
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Y2 VW
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Y3 AT
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Y1 PR

### **HALF TERM**

**Break up Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October - Return to school Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October.**

That's it for our October letter. Check the website and your child's planner for further information.

See you on the gate!

Best Wishes

Mr Gaskill

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