



2017-2018

Number 9

An Lester Trumach - The Packet Ship

13 November 2017

Dear Parents

Instead

I am writing this newsletter at the same time as preparing to take part in an Instead Inspection on Monday and Tuesday this week – part of the ‘deal’ in asking colleague headteachers to assist in our own Instead Review a month ago. The report is now with us ‘hot off the press’ and I have not yet shared it fully with staff, but wanted to share the key messages with parents, as the team do know these. The experience did not differ so much from the intensity of an Ofsted Inspection. It was rigorous and indeed, as we were working in partnership, it seemed at times to dig even deeper into the way we analyse issues and work to address them.

The purpose of the Instead review was to consider the evidence available and determine areas of strength and areas for development support of further school improvement and also to secure the school’s own self-evaluation of progress made towards its goals.

The Instead team was asked to take an overview of the school’s performance, concentrating on:

- *how the school’s approach to Learning to Learn is being embedded and how effective this is*
- *the extent to which feedback impacts on children’s progress*
- *the extent to which presentation in books demonstrates a positive application to learning*

Overall strengths of the school:

Learning and teaching: *The targeted questioning seen in some classes was very strong and clearly supported accelerated progress, particularly evident in the very best cases where SEND and PP pupils were concerned. This good practice needs sharing more widely.*

Pupils: *Pupils behaviour, resilience, confidence, enthusiasm and ability to contribute so sensibly to the life of the school, was impressive. Pupils have a very clear pride in being a part of the Marlborough School community and ‘Marlborough Manners’ were very evident.*

Community: *Parental support for their school and their engagement in its life was impressive.*

Leadership: *The appointment of the three assistant heads has lead to a more delegated structure of leadership and shows great promise... already impacting positively on the accountability of those staff responsible for children’s progress. Very evident was the ‘buy in’ that staff demonstrate for the vision of a learning school and one where every child’s progress matters.*

Recommendations

The school should:

prioritise - *deciding upon and embedding the agreed feedback policy*

develop - *in consultation, a clear approach for home learning*

maximise - *the reflective approach where priorities are regularly evaluated (hence the upturn in outcomes at ks2 in 2017 and a renewed and invigorated leadership structure)*

sustain: *the involvement of the pupils in the life of the school; they know their voice matters and leads to action in their best interests.*

<http://marlborough.eschools.co.uk>



The observation about homework came chiefly from discussions with the school parliament's cabinet. Admittedly this was a bit of a surprise, but probably particularly relevant alongside the current Learning to Learn project; the developing use of the Exploring Reading books and the new Feedback Policy. We have 'ticked off' the instead priority action, but will of course continue to monitor the effectiveness of the policy as we embed it over the coming weeks. We also know that we can continue to improve the quality of the communication of Reading learning at school and at home through the red books. Thank you everyone for using these and especially for ensuring that they do generally come home and are returned to school each day! We are eager to gather further and comprehensive views about the service Marlborough provides and I will write with details of how you can log on to a **Parent Survey**, provided by GL.

We need Infant parents' help in one particular way as we bring back an old favourite, targeted to complete the improvement of the outdoor area outside the reception and key stage 1 classrooms...



Mini Dig

New bedding plants have been purchased to complete borders and protect some of the different areas. We need help with preparing the beds (a morning task) and then planting the new shrubs and hedging etc with the children in the afternoon. We'll send a flyer shortly for anyone who would like to join us to sign up to help in this fun school community activity. And keep your eyes open for a further 'Mini-Dig' day later in the year, when we hope to relocate and renovate the Mud Kitchen.



Netball	Marlborough A	3 - 8	St Mary's B
	Marlborough B	1 - 5	St Francis B
Football	Marlborough	0 - 1	King Charles

Thank you again to all the parents and other family members who assisted with transport and came along to support the teams at these events.

Packet Points						
Last Week				Total		
1 st	Fox	24	7	1 st	Chichester	42
2 nd	Freeling	22	5	2 nd	Freeling	34
3 rd	Chichester	21	4	3 rd	Pelham	32
	Walsingham	21	4	4 th	Swiftsure	29
5 th	Swiftsure	20	2	5 th	Fox	28
6 th	Pelham	17	1	6 th	Walsingham	19

The Junior Sports leaders organised our annual inter-packet football tournament last Thursday. Thanks to their efforts and Liam's refereeing, the afternoon ran like clockwork and as well as recording scores they kept an eye out for good teamwork and fair play, awarding special certificates at our celebration assembly on Friday. The final results were...1st place Chichester winning 7 points; 2nd Freeling 5 points, 3rd Walsingham, 4 points; Switsure 3; Fox 2 and Pelham 1.

Applications for 2018 Reception Class Places – are now open. The whole school admissions process is managed by Cornwall Council. Please see the website at:

<http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/school-admissions/>

You will need to apply if you have a child born between 1 September 2013 - 31st August 2014, even if you have an older child or children at Marlborough already. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2018.

Please let the school office know if you are applying for a place as we otherwise have no idea of the number of sibling places involved. Thank you.

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Individual and Sibling Photographs ...

Tempest will be in school on **Thursday 16th November**

All children will be photographed individually and with a sibling if they have one at school. Pre-school children can join their siblings for a family photograph between 08:00 and 09:00

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Come to Marlborough's Book Fair this week from Wednesday 15th to Friday 17th November

All books for sale have been provided by **FALMOUTH BOOKSELLER**

CHILDREN'S

BOOK SALE!



On sale in the school hall before and after school ...

Wednesday to Friday 08:30-09:00

Wednesday & Thursday 15:20-16:00

Friday 14:00-14:30



10% of every book sold goes towards a new book for your child's class

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The children's fundraising committee have chosen to raise money for this year's 'Children in Need' appeal ... your donations would be very much appreciated in any of the following ways ...

-  Buy a Pudsey badge or keyring ~ on sale in the hall every morning this week
-  Come to school on **Friday 17th** with **hair as mad as you dare** and pay £1 fine!
-  Donate any old pound coins you have left into the Pudsey money box at the school office.

