



The Acorn Partnership

Marston Montgomery Primary School

Long Lane C of E Primary School

Newsletter – April 2025

Dear Parents,

As we welcome spring, I want to take a moment to celebrate the hard work and dedication our children have shown over the term. We were all in need of the longer days and warmer weather to provide a refreshing boost of energy!

As we approach the Easter holiday, I hope you enjoy some well-deserved time with family and friends. Wishing you and your family a lovely and restful Easter break!

School Uniform

Over this half term we have noticed that school uniform is starting to slip, please see the information below as a reminder of our expectations. Thank you to all parents who ensure their children are always in the correct school uniform.

Long Lane Church of England Primary School

- White shirt or blouse
- For summer a white polo shirt (with optional school logo for summer)
- Grey cardigan, V-necked jumper or V-necked sweatshirt (with optional school logo)
- Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress
- Gold and black school tie
- Yellow gingham dress
- Grey or white socks
- Appropriate school shoes

Marston Montgomery Primary School

- White / red shirt or polo shirt
- Red sweatshirt or cardigan (with optional Marston Montgomery logo)
- Grey/Black trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress
- Red gingham dress
- Grey or white socks
- Appropriate school shoes

The Acorn Partnership PE Kit

Our PE kit is shared across the Partnership so that when we attend sports events we are all in the same kit. PE kits should be in school at all times in case the day that PE is taught is changed.

- Plain navy-blue t-shirt, no buttons as these cause problems during gym (with Acorn Partnership Logo)
- Navy jumper (jumper with Acorn Partnership Logo)
- Navy Shorts
- Navy jogging bottoms
- Navy sun cap (with optional Acorn Partnership Logo)
- Optional PE bag (with optional Acorn Partnership Logo)
- Trainers for outdoor PE
- Black pumps for indoor PE and gym

Attendance

As attendance continues to be a high priority for many schools I wanted to celebrate attendance at our two schools. The table below shows our average attendance for the academic year so far compared to the national average. We aim for attendance at or above 96% which we have achieved, well done everyone!!

	National Average (taken from FFT)	LLPS	MMPS
2nd September 2024 to 21st March 2025	94.7%	97.2%	96.0%

The majority of our children have attendance above 95% which is great.

Absence

This is a reminder of the impact of absence and the link between the percentage of days absent and the number of days this equates to.

Days Absent	Percentage Attendance
0	100%
1	
2	
3	
4	98%
5	
6	
7	96%
8	
9	95%
10	
11	94%
12	
13	
14	
15	92%
16	
17	
18	
19	90%

Reporting Absence

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please contact school by phone or email before 9.10am and inform us of the reason for their absence and when you expect them to return to school. **If emailing, please include Mrs Lovett, Mrs Murby, Mrs Bosley and the class teacher.** If telephoning please leave a message if no-one answers as it is not always possible for someone to answer the phone. Thank you.

Holidays during term time – a reminder

New guidance is in place regarding holidays taken in term time. Holidays are in no circumstances authorised by this school. Unauthorised absence due to holidays will result in a fine being issued, this is the case from one day of absence.

I'll go on holiday and pay the fine – Education Penalty Notices have now been capped nationally at **two fines** within any three-year period. After this, other action like a parenting order or prosecution has to be considered and this could mean a fine of up to £2500.

What is an unauthorised absence – A child being kept off school unnecessarily or without good reason. Term time holiday is not a justified reason to take your child out of school.

In the May 2024 newsletter we gave prior warning that from 1st September 2024 any unauthorised holidays (for 1 day or longer) will be passed on to Derbyshire County Council and a fine may be issued.

There is a form that **MUST** be completed prior to children being absent from school during term time for a holiday. These must be completed at least two weeks before the holiday and should be completed before the holiday is booked so that you know before you book whether or not the holiday will be approved. Parents who take their children on holiday without permission will incur an unauthorised absence for their child.

Break Time Snacks and Packed Lunches

Here is a reminder of our guidelines for break time snacks and packed lunches.

Snacking

Both schools understand that snacks can be an important part of the diet of young people and can contribute positively towards a balanced diet. The school discourages the consumption of snacks high in fat and sugar at break-time. Pupils in the Garden Class (YR, Y1, Y2) are provided with a piece of free fruit every day and pupils in the Meadow Class (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6) may bring in a piece of fruit or other healthy snack.




Packed Lunches

The school encourages parents and carers to provide children with packed lunches that are healthy.

School Improvement Plan

Each year we choose three or four areas that we will work on to improve provision for all our children. So that parents are aware of what we are doing I will now include an update on one of these areas in our newsletter.

This academic year one of the areas we are developing is our children's knowledge and understanding of world faiths. Our starting point for this was to ensure children could link a religion to the name of worshippers, the symbol for the religion, the place of worship and the holy book. We did this by including this in Collective Worship / Assemblys. For example Judaism, -

Religion	Worshippers	Symbol	Place of Worship	Holy Book
Judaism	Jewish		 Synagogue	 Torah

The majority of our children can now confidently do this for Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Islam.

Our whole Partnership trip to the Open Center in Derby will support this learning and children will visit some of these places of worship, therefore bringing this to life.

In our Religious Education lessons children learn different things about each religion and previous learning is built on to support children's knowledge and understanding.

Easter Dance Club



WEDNESDAY 16TH APRIL

8.30/9am drop off
3.30/4pm pick up

£20

The Venue, Ashbourne
Ages: Reception - Year 6

- A fun filled, WICKED, day filled with dance, musical theatre, crafts, activities and challenges!
- Lead by fully qualified Dance Instructor (LIDTA) & fully qualified PE Teacher
- Other qualifications – Level 2 sports coach, fitness instructor, first aid & safeguard trained, enhanced DBS checked, fully insured.

WHATSAPP

**07977
045766**

BOOK NOW

EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB

Kiddiactiv at Marston Montgomery Village Hall

We are pleased to announce that Primary Stars are starting a new Kiddiactiv Session in collaboration with us. Sessions will commence after the Easter holidays and are open to all children under 5. Please share with all your friends with under 5s. These sessions are free to attend.



The poster is for KiddiActiv Pre-School Provision. It features a large yellow star logo with the text 'KiddiActiv' and 'PRE-SCHOOL PROVISION' below it. The text '4 SESSIONS AT MARSTON MONTGOMERY' is prominently displayed. Below this, the dates '24/04, 08/05, 15/05 & 22/05' are listed, followed by 'BOOKINGS NOW OPEN' in large yellow letters. The sessions are held 'THURSDAYS 9.15-10.15AM' and are a 'GYMNASTICS & MOVEMENT TODDLER GROUP, FOR CHILDREN UP TO 5 YEARS OLD'. A booking requirement is stated: 'BOOKING REQUIRED - CONTACT MARSTON MONTGOMERY PRIMARY SCHOOL OFFICE'. Contact information is provided at the bottom: a phone number '01889 590373' and an email 'info@marstonmontgomery.derbyshire.sch.uk'. Two circular inset photos show children participating in activities. A Marston Montgomery Primary School logo is in the bottom right corner.

KiddiActiv
PRE-SCHOOL PROVISION

**4 SESSIONS AT
MARSTON MONTGOMERY**

24/04, 08/05, 15/05 & 22/05

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

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Marston Montgomery
Primary School

Partnership – Events in Spring 2025

Garden Class RDSSP – FUNDamentals 24/01/24



The children enjoyed a fun morning of Sports Hall Athletics at the Rural Derbyshire School Sport Partnership event.

They took part in a Thai Chi session as well as practicing their balancing skills and enjoying a range of games.

DT Day 1 and 2 - 13/02/25 and 14/02/25

The children worked across both schools to create their DT projects.

EYFS: Our EYFS DT days were themed around the story Dear Zoo through which we explored animal focussed activities. These included making banana milkshakes (for the monkeys), developing our scissor control making curly snakes, making a simple lift the flap book, constructing paper chain snakes, sorting and grouping animals according to their habitats and identifying differences between animal skins.



Year 1 and 2: Years 1 and 2 learnt about levers and sliders which they then used to design and create their own moving pictures linked to the story of 'The 3 Little Pigs'. The children really embraced this unit of work and created some amazing moving pictures.



Year 3 and 4:

Year 3/4 designed and created a Jack-in-the Box in pairs using the woodworking skills they learned over the two days, measuring, sawing and hammering in nails to create the box. They used pneumatics to make the pop-up mechanism. Mr Lovett was very impressed with the woodworking skills the children showed in creating the box and the sensible way in which they used the tools involved.



Year 5 and 6:

Years 5 and 6 enjoyed two DT days where they designed and created a moving toy using cams to move the toy. They called on their previously learned woodworking skills to cut and assemble the toy.



Primary Arts Festival: 26/02/2025

The Meadow classes enjoyed a day at QEGS where they participated in "Around the World" themed events and finished the day with an amazing performance of their dance – Well done everyone!

Parents' Evening - 26/02/25

Thank you to everyone who attended parents' evening. It was great to share how well the children are doing, the progress they are making and their next steps.

World Down's Syndrome Day- 26/02/2025

The children and staff wore odd socks to represent our differences for World Down's Syndrome day today.



Joint Day – Sports Focus - 28/02/25



The children all enjoyed a joint Sports Day in the village hall at Marston Montgomery, learning boxing and circus skills!

Primary Stars – Team Challenge - 25/03/25



Garden Class went to Ashbourne Rec to join with many other local schools. We took part in lots of sports activities and showed amazing team work and throwing techniques.

Wishing you all a Holy and Happy Easter
Warm regards

Teresa Bosley
Executive Head Teacher



Long Lane – Events in Spring 2025

Forest School – January and March 2025 – Meadow Class

This last half term we have had a lot of fun building dens, making fires and having a go at whittling. The children have played with the mud kitchen and also made some impressive mud slides!

We have roasted marshmallows, played games and undertook the coke and Mentos science experiment which we all got very excited by and it didn't disappoint us.

FOLL: Coffee and Cake - 17/01/25

Thank you to everyone who baked, contributed, and bought cakes and sweet treats for the first fundraiser of the term, on Thursday 17th January. The event raised a fantastic £126.25 which was a great fundraiser to kick off the new calendar year.



Little Monkeys – Chinese New Year Theme - 07/02/25

For Chinese New Year Little Monkeys we celebrated the year of the snake and made wool snakes. We also created Chinese lanterns, and made playdough snakes.

Animal ASC - 12/02/25

The children thoroughly enjoyed seeing Jungle Jo again and meeting all her animals. Thank you to those parents who organised this and attended the event.

Celebration Assembly - 21/02/25

It was lovely to welcome our families to join us in celebrating the many achievements we have had within our school community this term. Well done to all the children for their hard work and the progress they have made this term.

World Book Day - 27/02/25

It was lovely for to spend the morning with so many of our family members and to see many of you dressed up too! The children took part in many activities including making a bookmark and creating a scene from a book in Lego.

FOLL Meeting – 17/03/25

Thank you to everyone who attends, organises and supports FOLL in raising funds for the school. We now have some lovely new equipment in our EYFS area funded by FOLL.

Mother's Day Service - 28/03/25

It was lovely to see so many of you in church for our first Mother's Day service. We do hope the children all spoiled you on Mother's Day.

Little Monkeys – Easter Theme – 02/04/25

Our theme for our Little Monkeys session was Easter and we were lucky to have some glorious spring weather so we could explore our new equipment in our outdoor learning area. During the afternoon we also had great fun hunting for eggs, making chocolate nests, playing with eggs in the sand, decorating Easter eggs and making chicks.

Easter Service - 04/04/25

Thank you to everyone who attended our Easter service, this was a lovely way to end the Spring Term.

Long Lane – Events in Summer 2025

Date	Event	Time	Where / Who
Tuesday 22/04/25	School reopens to children	8:55am	Whole school
Wednesday 23/04/25	QEGS to visit those Y6 children going to QEGS	2:30pm	Year Six
Wednesday 23/04/25 07/05/25 21/05/25	Garden Class Forest School at LLPS	PM	Garden Class
Thursday 01/05/25	FOLL: Coffee and Cake	3:30pm	Meadow Class / Outside?
Monday 05/05/25	Bank Holiday – school closed	Whole school	
12/05/25 to 15/05/25	KS2 SATS	AM	Year 6
Friday 16/05/25	RDSSP: Y6 Celebration Event	10:00am – 3:00pm	Whitworth Park, Matlock
Tuesday 20/05/25	Primary Stars: Fundamentals	9:30am – 11:30am	Ashbourne Rec
Wednesday 21/05/25	Celebration Assembly	9:00am – 9:30am	Whole school
Friday 23/05/25	Joint Day – Sports Focus	All day	Whole Partnership
Half Term – 26/05/25 to 30/05/25			
Monday 02/06/25	School reopens to children	8:55am	Whole school
Tuesday 03/06/25	RDSSP: KS2 Primary Athletics North	9:30am – 2:30pm	EIS Sheffield
Friday 06/06/25	Little Monkeys – Summer Theme	1:30pm – 3:15pm	Garden Class
Tuesday 10/06/25	Primary Stars: Sports Day	9:30am – 11:30am	Ashbourne Rec – Garden Class
Wednesday 11/06/25	Bike Ability Level 2	9:00am – 3:30pm	Marston Year 6
Wednesday 11/06/25 25/06/25 16/07/25	Garden Class Forest School at LLPS	PM	Garden Class
Thursday 12/06/25	Garden Class trip to Haddon Hall	All day	Garden Class
Friday 13/06/25	Father's Day Breakfast	9:00am – 9:45am	Whole school
Wednesday 18/06/25	English Workshop	9:00am – 9:45am	Whole school
Friday 20/06/25	FOLL: Summer Fair	5:00pm – 7:00pm	Whole school
Tuesday 24/06/25	RDSSP: KS1 Athletics	9:30am – 11:30am	Ashbourne Rec Garden Class
Thursday 26/06/25	RDSSP: Orienteering Festival	10:00am – 11:30am	Meadow Class

Thursday 02/07/25	Meadow Class trip to the Space Centre	All day	Meadow Class
Friday 04/07/25	INSET Day – School closed to children	All day	Whole Partnership
Tuesday 08/07/25 Wednesday 09/07/25	Year 6 transition to QEGS Transition days in school for new children and children moving class	All day AM	All children
Friday 11/07/25	Joint Day – Sports Day	1:30pm	Long Lane Whole Partnership
Monday 14/07/25	Open Centre Trip	All day	Whole Partnership
Tuesday 15/07/25	RDSSP: Dance Festival AM	9:30am – 12:00pm	Anthony Gel: Whole school
Friday 18/07/25	FOLL: End of Year Party	3:30pm – 5:00pm	Dalbury Lees Village Hall Whole school
Monday 21/07/25	DT Day 1	All day	Whole Partnership
Tuesday 22/07/25	DT Day 2	All day	Whole Partnership
Thursday 24/07/25	Celebration and Leavers' Assembly	9:00am – 9:45am	Church Whole school
Summer Holiday – 25/07/25 to 03/09/25			
Thursday 04/09/25	INSET Day – School closed to children		Whole Partnership
Friday 05/09/25	School reopens to children	8:55am	Whole school