

Issue 127
February 2026

Diary dates

Here are key dates for the next few weeks, assemblies start at 9.10am

Please keep an eye on the website calendar.

23 February	School opens - children back to school
23 February 9.30am	Tour for prospective parents and carers
25 February 11am to the evening	Years 5 & 6 Choir at the O2 for the Young Voices event
26 February 8am - 6pm	Year 6 Teacher and Parent/Carer meetings
26 February am	Orchestra at the RMT School Ensemble Day
26 February 2.45pm	Talk for Rec parents and carers helping on trip to Richmond Library
27 February 9am	Class Reps meeting in the Art Room with Ms Brooks
2 March	Readathon starts today
2 March 1.30pm	Fire brigade and engine visit for the Reception children
3 & 4 March Am	Reception trip to Richmond Library
5 March All day	Borough netball tournament at Barn Elms
5 March	World Book Day
5 March From 3pm	World Book Day book bazaar and second hand toy sale run by the Year 6 classes
6 March 9.10am	Tadpole class assembly
9 - 11 March	Year 3 Safer walking with the Safety Education Team at Richmond

Dear families,

I can't quite believe the half term holiday is upon us and we are now officially halfway through the academic year! I also can't quite believe we have endured such a wet start to the year. Here's hoping the rain lets off soon!

Nevertheless, the wet weather hasn't dampened our spirits here at Marshgate and we have still grown, flourished and achieved great things. From sports fixtures to local visits and from musical performances to class assemblies, there has been much to celebrate. With celebrations in mind, I would like to thank all families for making International Week so special. The school was alive with food, festivities, fabrics, facts and fun, celebrating the impressive range of cultures and languages that make up our fantastic community. We hope you all enjoy the photos below and on the next page.

When we return after the half term holiday, we are going to have a whole-school focus on uniform. Love it or hate it, school uniform helps to foster a sense of pride and belonging – and it means that the children are instantly recognisable when we are out and about. Please do support us with this drive.

Thank you to all families who joined us for parent/carers meetings. We love having the dedicated time and space to share successes and set out next steps, and working closely with families helps us to really get to know the children.

As we head into the break, I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half term with your families. Take time to recharge and spend quality time together and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday, 23rd February ready for an exciting second half of the spring term. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school community.

Laura Brooks Interim Headteacher



International Week

This is one of our highlights of the Marshgate calendar where we take the opportunity to celebrate our diverse community of languages and cultures. International Week took place at the end of January and beginning of February this year. Our first International Week was back in the summer of 2006, you can see a press clipping from the day on our History of Marshgate page on our school website.

Each class focused on a different country with parents and carers coming to read stories and share traditions. Thank you to everyone who offered their time to come to the school to talk to the children.

The children were welcome to wear clothing or colours from either the country they were learning about in class or their own country/culture relevant to them and their family.

The International Food Market was a fantastic sight to see. So many countries were represented with food stalls from around the world. The children and staff took turns to visit the hall and sample the food from the different countries. The PSA team were in the school for a meeting and were delighted to visit the hall and see the event in action. We were also happy to see our school meals team from Harrisons sampling the delights of the food stalls. Thank you to everyone who made or brought food along for the market. In particular, thanks to the wonderful staff team at school for all their work organising the week.



Vehicle and Pedestrian safety petition

You may remember we sent a Parent Mail to the whole school regarding road safety on the Queens Road, Manor Road and Sheen Road junction, one we all use every school day! The petition is to urge the Council and TfL to review the existing road layout and signal phasing/timings at the junction to make it safer for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians. If the petition gains 1,000 signatures it will be formally presented to Council where Councillors will hold a debate about it, but they need more...

If you haven't signed the petition yet and would like to then please visit the www.richmond.gov.uk Have your say / Petitions / ePetitions - Thank you.

Tag Rugby Tournament by Yanki Yel

On Thursday, 5th February the school year 5 and 6 tag rugby squad had a tournament at Holy Trinity School. There were five teams including us, Holy Trinity, Sheen Mount, Darell and Thomson House.

We played really well with great performances all round. It was the first tournament for some of us. The squad for the tournament was **Jacob, Billie, Riley, Christian, Yanki, Cristopher, Emir, Philly, Leon, Mihail, Salim, Alex and Eva.**

Swimming success

Children at Marshgate have taken part in Swimming Galas at Pools on the Park recently. Mr Healy has reported that as a squad, this was one of Marshgate's strongest in years and they should all be proud of their efforts and achievement. This squad were **Rayanne, Mihail, Liam, Jeana, Jessie, Benita, Cinar, Maxim, Elizabeth and Fiona.** The squad missed Luna who was unable to join in due to a previous injury.

Also pictured here is **Charlie Goodwin** who represented Marshgate in the RISE Swimming Gala earlier in the month. Charlie took part in the back stroke and free style races and won gold medals for both. Well done Charlie!



Football sport reports by Joao Santos and Casper Nazeriha

Squad and coaches

Goal keeper: Theo

Left back: Sasha

Right back: Liam/Maxim

Centre midfielder: Theodore

Left winger: Casper

Right winger: Ryan

Striker: Joao/Otto

Coaches

Johnny Byamungu and Mr Harrison

Football in January and February

Firstly, we played a match against Vineyard Primary School, it was an extremely close match. We drew 2-2 with a tap-in from Theodore and a last-minute saver from Joao.

Later on in February we played against St Stephens. It was a good game and we won 3-1.

In the first three seconds Joao tackled the centre back with spectacular pressing and scored a top bins wonder goal. We also had Sasha and Ryan who scored sensational finishes.

Training days

In the last few weeks, we have been focusing on overlaps which we don't use in matches, so we have been training hard in the mornings so we can correct our mistakes.

Our training days are on Wednesdays from 8:00am to 8:45am.

In conclusion, our football in Marshgate has improved in every second of our journey as we are flooded with excellent football players and coaches.

