



To be inspired and be inspiring

MARSHGATE Newsletter

Christmas Special

www.marshgate.richmond.sch.uk

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As 2024 draws to a close and we take a break from school for the Christmas period, we want to share with you some of the highlights of the last few festive-themed weeks. We have created a collection of photographs giving a glimpse into the performances and happy activities the children (and staff) have entered into recently.

Christmas is a time when families spend time together and we hope all the Marshgate families have a very restful, peaceful and enjoyable time and that 2025 brings joy and enthusiasm for another year. The entire Marshgate staff send the warmest of wishes to all our families for a great Christmas. Thank you all very much for all your support during 2024. We will be ready and waiting to welcome the children back to school on 7th January.

Happy Christmas everyone!
Dermot and all the Marshgate team



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Reception and Year 1

Nativities



We were delighted to watch the children perform in the wonderful Christmas Nativities. Here is a small selection of photos from the performances, many more are on the Photo Gallery on the Marshgate website.



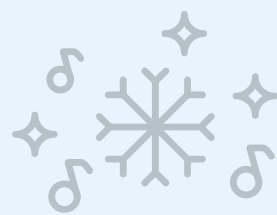
Year Two Nativity





The Year 3 and 4 Carol Concert

at Holy Trinity Church





The Year 5 and 6 Carol Concert *at Holy Trinity Church*



CHRISTMAS lunch



Thank you to our families for sending crackers into school. The children (and grown ups!) love this tradition.



The excitement builds as the children 'line up' for Christmas lunch.



Our school cook, Oksana and her team put on a festive spread for the children and staff. Thank you!



CHRISTMAS lunch



Mr Gentry is always on hand when a Christmas cracker is required.



PSA NEWS

We have reached the end of the first term of the current PSA and activity has been ramping up! All activities and fundraising undertaken this year will contribute towards the funding of interactive screens for all the classrooms, a potential library project, and other discretionary funding for the school including sporting equipment.



The children and adults are benefiting from the wonderful new panels

There were three events in the second half of the winter term, which kicked off with our autumn book and bake sale organised by our brilliant co-ordinator David Dinnan. Helped by our amazing volunteers across the school, this was a great start to the year making over £500 for the school.

Despite lack of cooperation from the weather, the Winter Fair went off with a bang in November! The PSA introduced the popular Marshgate Marketplace - inviting parents and local businesses to buy a stall and share their goods with the school community. Accompanied by our (now) resident DJ, this was a fun and festive addition to the Marshgate calendar.

Party

The lively stalls manned by our volunteers were all a huge success - none more so than the epic wheel of fortune (hand whittled by our very own PSA Co-Chair Andrew Keesing). We were also delighted to welcome back Majestic Fitness who were delighted to be part of the festivities again this year. Santa's grotto was another popular attraction - did you guess who our Marshgate Santa (s) were this year?

And last, but not least, the Marshgate Winter Party was back! A crowd of eighty parents and staff descended upon Old Deer Park rugby ground for an evening of dinner, drinks, dancing.... And of course, karaoke! It was a roaring success, and we hope to bring this back again in 2025.

We are looking forward to a busy spring and summer term - plans include a movie and wine tasting evening, return of our popular Bingo Night plus a Marshgate Easter Egg hunt. Thanks again to all of you who contributed to the success of the events this term - we have loved seeing the community come together to fundraise and most of all have fun! Most importantly, the PSA is delighted to have been able to support the purchase of interactive screens for all of the classrooms, and hope to support ongoing IT projects and plans to develop the library in 2025.

Happy Christmas!

From Helen Lancaster and Andrew Keesing, Co-Chairs of the PSA