

Issue 129
May 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.

11 - 14 May	Year 6 SATs week
15 May	PSA Bake Sale
20 May 11am	Year 3 and 4 Choir at the Almshouses
22 May	KS1 & KS2 Sports Day on Christ's School field KS2 - am KS1 - pm
25 - 29 May	Half term holiday
1 June	School closed - staff training day
2 June	School opens - children return to school
3 June	Borough sports
3 June 9am	Christ's School Head Teacher talk for Year 4 and 5 parents/carers and pupils
5 June	Butterfly and Caterpillar class Sports Morning
8 June am	Year 6 to The Alligator's Mouth bookshop

Dear families,

What a wonderful few weeks it has been at Marshgate!

Our pupils have had a number of opportunities to learn beyond the classroom through a fantastic range of trips, residentials and sporting fixtures. Whether it's been exploring new places, challenging themselves outdoors or representing our school with pride on the sports field, our children have shown such enthusiasm and resilience. A huge thank you to all the staff who have organised and accompanied these visits – your dedication makes these experiences possible. A huge thank you also to the parents and carers who have given up their time to attend these trips alongside us. We couldn't do it without you all.

Tomorrow is The Richmond May Fair and we'd love to see as many of you there as possible! With huge thanks to the PSA, Marshgate will again be hosting the Pimm's Tent, please do come along to support us and enjoy the festivities. It's a brilliant community event and a chance for us all to come together.

To our wonderful Year 6 pupils: you have worked so hard this year and next week is SATs week. This weekend, please rest, relax and recharge. You are ready, and we believe in every single one of you. Good luck!

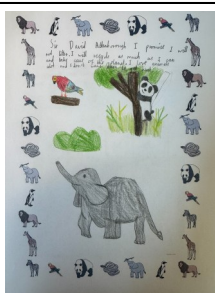
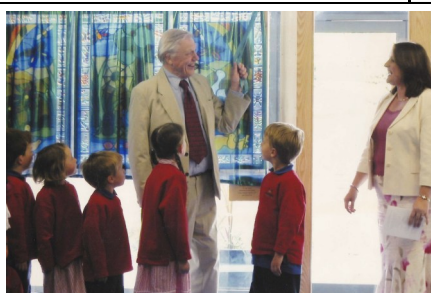
A quick reminder to everyone: as the weather continues to change, please make sure your children are wearing appropriate footwear for school each day – trainers are only to be worn on PE days.

Finally, thank you all for your continued support. Your partnership makes such a difference to our children's learning and wellbeing.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Ms Brooks

Interim Headteacher



This week in class the children have been focusing on **Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday which is today, Friday, 8th May**. The staff and children have been taking part in activities and talking about his legacy. For example Year 3 pupils designed posters for Sir David with their promises on what they will do to look after the planet. In the afternoon some of the children watched a special live Picture News assembly which celebrated his life and legacy.

Our first pupils joined Marshgate in September 2002. We were incredibly fortunate that Sir David officially opened the school on **7th May 2004** on what was a wonderfully special day. He's pictured here cutting the ribbon and by our beautiful stained glass windows in the school office area.

For more photos and information about this please take a look at the **History of Marshgate** pages on our school website. We also have a display in the front office reception area which celebrates that special day.

Music news from Mrs Valero

Both Caterpillar and Butterfly Reception classes were treated to a performance by the Marshgate Violin Group on Tuesday, 5th May.

All the group's hard work practising culminated in a brilliant performance and they enjoyed answering questions on both how the violin works and how it is played. Well done to Niyayesh, Layli, Billie, Riley O, Bertie, Elizabeth, Aryana, Riley T and Max.



This half term, **Year 3** have been writing their own imaginative stories inspired by **The Marvellous Rapid Writing Boy/Girl**. They worked hard to plan, draft and publish their writing, showing great creativity throughout.

To celebrate, the children shared their stories with Year 1, reading aloud with confidence and enthusiasm. In return, Year 1 shared some of their favourite stories from their classroom. It was a lovely experience for all, and we are very proud of our fantastic young writers!



Readathon success by Miss Brewster

A huge thank you to all of our families for your support during this year's Readathon. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who donated, as well as those who simply took the time to enjoy a little extra reading at home.

It has been a wonderful month across Marshgate, filled with children exploring a wide range of genres and making more time for reading.

We are delighted to share that we raised a total of **£520.30**! As a result, the school will receive a book voucher worth **20% of the total amount raised (£104.06)**, which will be used to purchase new books for our children to enjoy.

Thank you again for your continued support in fostering a love of reading.



On the 30th of April, **Year 2** enjoyed an exciting school trip to London Zoo. We spent the day walking around the zoo and seeing lots of amazing animals, including penguins, monkeys, tigers, mini beasts and wild pigs.

The children had lots of fun exploring and learning about the different animals. We were also very lucky to have such lovely weather, which made the day even more enjoyable for everyone!





Year 3 Trip to Ramses & the Pharaohs' Gold exhibition

Year 3 had a fantastic time visiting the *Ramses & the Pharaohs' Gold* exhibition at Battersea Power Station as part of our Ancient Egypt topic.

The children greatly enjoyed learning more about the life and achievements of Ramses II and were fascinated to see a range of artefacts up close.

It was a wonderful opportunity to bring their classroom learning to life and deepen their understanding of Ancient Egyptian civilisation.



On Wednesday, 6th May, a group of **Year 1** children represented Marshgate in their very first football tournament! Their teamwork was incredible and they showcased how fantastic Marshgate children are.

The team demonstrated great communication and resilience and they scored lots of goals too! We are extremely proud of the team and how hard they worked throughout the day.

Year 5 fun on the Thames by Miss Beck and Mr Banks

Year 5 had an exciting and action-packed trip to Thames Young Mariners this week, where the children took part in kayaking and stand-up paddle boarding activities on the reservoir.



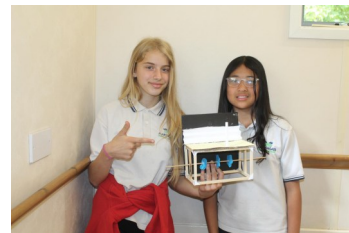
The children showed fantastic teamwork, resilience, and confidence as they developed their paddling skills and took part in a range of fun water-based games and challenges. The children enjoyed learning how to control their individual kayaks and balance on the paddle boards, approaching every activity with enthusiasm and determination.

A huge well done to all of Year 5 for their excellent behaviour and positive attitude, they represented the school with pride and many smiling faces!



Year 6 news

As part of our lessons in Science, we made periscopes and learnt about light and how we see. In our DT lessons we made automata toys. These are hand-cranked, mechanical sculpture or model that use gears, cams and linkages to create intricate, lifelike, or repetitive movements. Pictured here are some of the amazing creations by the children.



Hamptons
THE HOME EXPERTS

The **PSA** is delighted to announce that Hamptons will be the Principal Sponsor of the PSA for the next twelve months. Their support includes an upfront sponsorship contribution, a referral scheme*, and support for both the Summer and Winter Fairs.

We thank Hamptons for their continued longstanding partnership with the school and are pleased to welcome them back into the school community.

* For every property sold or let through Hamptons by parents of Marshgate Primary School, or their family and friends, Hamptons will donate £500 per completed sale or £250 per completed let to the school.

Year 4's residential trip to Sayers Croft



Year 4 had an amazing time at their residential trip to Sayers Croft Outdoor Learning Centre. The children enjoyed taking part in exciting outdoor activities, working together as a team and challenging themselves to try new things. From adventurous walks to fun problem-solving tasks, every day was filled with laughter, learning and memorable experiences. The trip helped the children build confidence, independence and friendships, and they returned home with lots of happy memories to share.

Thank you to **Mr Harrison, Mrs Macpherson, Mr Jeffrey, Mrs Duckworth, Miss Bennett and Mrs Jasper** for taking the children on this wonderful trip.

