

Issue 128
March 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 March	Year 6 trip to Holly Lodge
12 March at 8:30am	Sayers Croft meeting for Year 4 parents and carers
13 March at 9:10am	Frog class assembly
13 March	Boys Football 'A' Team fixture v Sheen Mount (at Sheen Mount)
16 March at 9:30am	Tour for prospective parents and carers
17 March	Boys and Girls Football Fixture v Deer Park (at Christs)
18 March	Year 3/4 choir singing at The Almshouses
23-25 March	Year 4 Sayers Croft Residential trip
25 March	Full Governing Board Meeting
26 March	Year 6 Easter Bake Sale (3:00-4:00pm)
27 March	Last day of term—2pm finish
27 March	Readathon ends today
27 March	Reception Easter Bonnet Parade and Egg Hunt
13 April	School opens—children back to school
15 April at 9:30am	Tour for prospective parents and carers

Dear Families,

As we move into March and the weather begins to brighten, I wanted to take this opportunity to share some wonderful highlights from recent weeks.

What a fantastic World Book Day we had last week! It was wonderful to see so many creative costumes and the enthusiasm our pupils showed for reading. The excitement continues with our ongoing Readathon, which has been well-supported by children and families alike. Reading opens up new worlds for our pupils, and your encouragement at home helps to strengthen that message.

Our choir had an incredible experience performing at Young Voices at The O2 Arena. The children represented Marshgate Primary School with such pride and professionalism. It was a memorable evening that our young performers will treasure for years to come. Thank you to all the staff, parents and carers who supported this wonderful opportunity.

Our sporting success continues to grow! Our children have been showing tremendous dedication and teamwork across various sporting activities, and we're incredibly proud of their ongoing achievements both in school and in competitions.

Please remember that good attendance and punctuality are essential for your child's learning and development. Every minute of the school day counts and arriving on time ensures your child doesn't miss crucial learning at the start of the day. If your child is going to be absent, please let us know as soon as possible before 9:00am each day.

As the weather warms up, I want to remind families that school uniform must still be worn. It plays a vital role in creating a sense of belonging and community at Marshgate Primary School. When children wear their uniform with pride, it helps them feel part of our school family and removes unnecessary distractions from learning. Please ensure your child wears the correct uniform each day - including appropriate footwear. Whilst trainers are appropriate for PE lessons, children should wear school shoes for everyday wear. This is part of our uniform policy and helps maintain our high standards.

Can I finish with an impassioned plea to our parent/carers community to think about joining our PSA? I will send a separate communication around this but in the meantime, please do come forward and let us know if you would like more information. As school budgets become increasingly tight and school rolls continue to fall, we need the support of the PSA more than ever and at the moment, the core team is very much diminished. Without further parent/carers involvement, fundraising ventures and community events are in jeopardy. More information to follow.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Together, we continue to make Marshgate Primary School a wonderful place for your children to learn and thrive.

Laura Brooks

Headteacher



Year 6 Easter Bake Sale



Thursday 26th March, 3:00-4:00pm, in Reception and KS2 playground

Please come along and purchase a treat or two to support Year 6 with their fundraising event!



Fire Brigade visit in Reception

As part of our 'People Who Help Us' learning, Reception had an exciting visit from Richmond Fire Brigade. The children enjoyed sitting inside the fire truck and even had the opportunity to spray the hose!

Miss Cox and Miss Filby



Orchestra Visit to The Exchange, Twickenham

Our school orchestra recently enjoyed a fantastic trip to The Exchange where they took part in a special music workshop alongside other local primary schools. Over the course of just an hour and a half, the children worked incredibly hard to learn a brand new piece of music together.

At the end of the session, the combined orchestra performed the piece they had just learnt, followed by the piece they had prepared at school. It was wonderful to see so many friends and family members there to support them, and the children did a fantastic job performing with confidence and enthusiasm. Well done to all of our talented musicians and thank you to Tesia for organising this!

Miss Brewster



World Book Day

Marshgate had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day across the school this week! The children enjoyed a range of activities centred around their love of reading, including sharing favourite books, talking about much-loved characters and taking part in creative book-inspired tasks in their classrooms.

It was wonderful to see so much excitement about stories and reading throughout the day. World Book Day is always a lovely opportunity to celebrate the joy that books bring and to continue inspiring our pupils to develop a lifelong love of reading.

Readathon

Our school Readathon has got off to a brilliant start! Children have been enjoying spending extra time reading both at school and at home, and it has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm for books.

We are now halfway through the event, and we are already so grateful for the support from our school community. Every donation helps raise money for children in hospitals across the UK, while also encouraging our pupils to develop a love of reading.

As a reminder, the school receives 20% of the total raised as book vouchers, which will go towards purchasing new books for our classrooms and library.

If you need the donation link, please refer to the emails sent by Miss Brewster on 25/02/26 and 02/03/26, where you will find all the details to support our Readathon.

Miss Brewster



Young Voices at the O2 Arena by Alasdair, Daniel, Elise and Orinayo (Year 6)

Coach Journey

Last Wednesday, at 10:30, as we enthusiastically left school to go to the O2 Arena, excitement was in the air. We had just heard great news. Our seats would be in a VIP suite! It was the 4th year in a row Marshgate had got it, and we were very lucky to have it ourselves.

After an interesting journey through London, at long last, we caught a glimpse of the O2, standing in all its glory. Getting off, we set towards it with our partners, passing other schools before taking a quick picture in front of the entrance. Then we went up the escalator, towards our luxury box. We were finally inside.

Lunch

The second we got in, we all dropped our bags on the floor and devoured our lunches in two pieces - we were hungrier than a pack of wolves. Some of us sat at the barstools, looking at the other schools around us, while others ate on the couches.

The Practice

After lunch, we immediately started with our rehearsal. We first practiced our technical things, and learnt the chorus to "It Must be Love." We were split into two sides, each doing different dance moves and lyrics for some of the songs. Our first song was "All Over the World" then "Move Towards the Light" all while David the conductor gave us tips along the way. The next song was "Shackles (Praise You)" and many more songs like the "Wicked Medley", "Pop Medley" and "Disco Fever." At this point, many stopped singing so loudly, as we were afraid to lose our voices during the real performance.

The Break

After the rehearsal we had a break. The audience was starting to come in and we were trying to spot our parents. It was incredibly difficult to see through all of the lights! The noise at some points would be extremely loud, especially when controllers kept illuminating all of the children: raising cheers which could be heard from a mile away.

The Concert

It was time for the big show: the concert! The Marshgate choir sang their hearts out; there were lights, speakers and the beautiful voices of the Young Voices choir. On to the stage came Urban Strides and their captain Andy Instone moving rhythmically to the beat of the music. There was dancing, singing and the sound of children cheering and having fun. There were many guest artists, including Ruti, Alex Spencer and Emma Kingston. We sang along with them, grinning forever. It was AMAZING!!!



Boys' Football Team

The Year 5 and 6 boys' football team have had an outstanding season, winning their league and progressing to the Round of 16 in the Borough of Richmond competition. The team remained unbeaten throughout the league campaign, showing fantastic teamwork, determination and sportsmanship in every match.

We are incredibly proud of their achievement and the way they have represented our school. Congratulations to all the players on a brilliant season so far, and best of luck in the next round!

Mr Harrison and Coach Johnny



Karate Championships by Maxim, Liam, Salim (Year 5) and Jack (Year 3)

On Sunday 1st March, the four of us went to Clacton-on-Sea for the English Championships in Karate.

We managed to get first place in team fighting for a trophy. Hanshi, a local Karate team cheered us on to victory and every child there had a great time.

Every Hanshi team member also got a medal.



Swimming Gala report by Jeana (Year 6)

On the 12th February, Marshgate Primary School participated in the Schools Swimming Gala. It was extremely fun and we came third out of twelve schools.

These are the races and medals that Marshgate students have achieved:

- Year 5 Boys Freestyle: Mihail (Silver medal)
- Year 5 Girls Freestyle: Benita (Gold medal)
- Year 4 Girls Freestyle: Jessie (Bronze medal)
- Butterfly Boys: Cinar (Silver medal)
- Medley Relay Boys: Liam, Mihail and Cinar (Gold medals)
- Backstroke Boys: Mihail (Silver medal)
- 4x1 Freestyle Relay Girls: Elizabeth, Fiona, Jeana and Benita (Gold medals)
- Breaststroke Boys: Liam (Bronze medal)
- Year 6 Freestyle Girls: Jeana (Gold medal)

It was an awesome experience and I wish next years' participants lots of luck in their gala!

Year 5 and 6 Netball Tournament

Yesterday, our Year 5 and 6 Netball Squad took part in an exciting netball tournament, showing fantastic teamwork and determination and throughout the afternoon. The children played a series of competitive matches against other schools at Barn Elms Sports Centre and represented our school brilliantly both on and off the court.

Every player demonstrated great effort and resilience, with some excellent passing, shooting and defensive play on display. It was wonderful to see the students encouraging one another and growing in confidence as the tournament progressed.

Miss Beck and Miss Rule

