



September 2023

Much Marcle CE Primary
 Much Marcle
 Ledbury
 Herefordshire
 HR8 2LY

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Our Christian Value of the
 Month is:

RESPECT

*People of God, have respect
 for the Lord. Those who re-
 spect him have everything
 they need.*

Psalms 34:9

Key Dates

29th September: Mac-
 Millan Coffee Morning
2nd October: Class 4
 swimming begins
3rd October: Whole
 School Photographs
20th October: Whole
 School Nasal Flu Spray
26th October: Parents
 Evening 3.30 –6.00pm



Welcome

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a great summer break. The term started for staff on Monday 4th September where we spent the day focusing on curriculum development and looking back and celebrating our successes from the previous year. We also spent time focusing on safeguarding, personal development, behaviour and welfare. We have also had lots of work completed in school during the summer break to ensure the children have the best possible setting for them to learn and flourish.

It was really fantastic to welcome children in Years R - 6 back to school on Tuesday morning. Seeing happy and excited parents and children at Early Birds and walking through the gates from 8.45am was a wonderful sight. It was brilliant to see our children actively engaged in their learning and generally delighted to be back to business.

Back to School tips from the NSPCC

It's common for children to feel nervous about going back to school after the summer holiday or at the start of a new term. To help calm their nerves and make sure they are prepared for the school day, you could try:

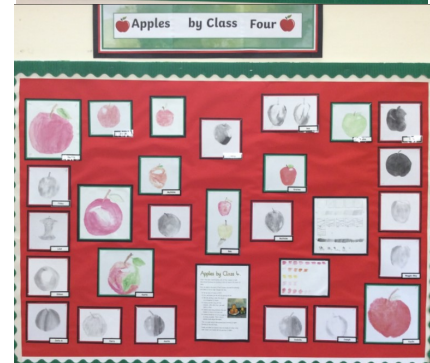
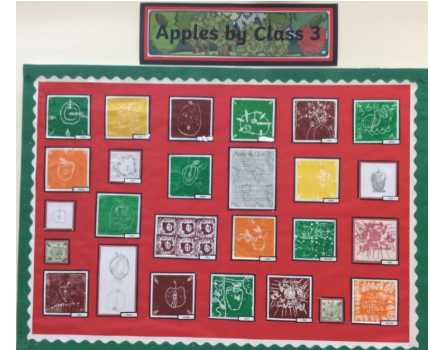
- Readjusting bedtimes to get into a healthy routine
- Making sure they aren't bringing their mobiles, tablets, or any devices to bed that might stop them sleeping
- Helping them get their uniform ready the night before
- Making sure they eat breakfast every morning

Tesco's School Grant

We applied for a Tesco's School Grant and our application has been successful. Please keep your eyes peeled and tell your friends and family to vote for us in the Ledbury store using their token voting system.

Arts Week

We begin every year with a whole school Art Week. This year our theme was based upon apples to celebrate our new school Houses which have been named after the Herefordshire grown apples: Pearmain, Pomeroy, Pippin and Russet. Each class explored different mediums and artists and we could not be prouder of their stunning artwork.





Online Safety Information for Parents

It's really important that we all have a wider awareness of online safety. It is not safe to just hand your young child your mobile phone.

These are some key points to think about:

- Ensure you know what your children can access online – monitor what they are watching and using;
- Talk to them about what they are doing online and so that you are aware of any problems;
- Encourage them to come to you if they are unsure – don't just leave them to it!
- Ensure children understand the importance of not giving personal information to anyone they do not know;
- Tell your children no-one has the right to make them do anything they do not want to do;
- Use parental controls to keep children safe.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

Times Tables Rock Stars



Here at Much Marcle Primary School, we are introducing a fantastic online way to develop knowledge of times tables and division facts for all pupils from Y3-Y6.

Times Table Rock Stars is a fun and challenging programme designed to help pupils master the times tables!

Your child's teacher in Class 3 & 4 has introduced them to how Times Tables Rock Stars works and the appropriate times tables to practise on a weekly basis will be allocated.

This programme can be accessed online via the web address on the letter sent home - your child has their own login and password. You may also download an App for the Iphone/Ipad or Android App through which your child may practise.

Please encourage your children to log on at home to practise their recall of times table facts.

Sleep and Routine

Like everyone, children need sleep and it's really important they get it (both for them and for you). Sometimes getting them to sleep is tricky, but a predictable routine can help. It's pretty obvious that a child who is getting enough sleep is more likely to be happy and alert than a child who isn't.

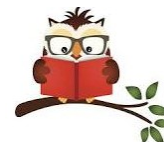
How much sleep? As a rough guide, children need:

- 3-5 year olds: 11 - 14 hours of sleep
- 6-12 year olds: 10 - 13 hours of sleep

Top tip: Turn off screens an hour before bedtime. Audiobooks or good old-fashioned paper books are a good alternative to eBooks. Light from screens stops the production of the sleep hormone melatonin.



Reading with your child



It might seem like everything has gone digital, but books still play a very important part in school life. As well as giving your child a head start, developing a love of reading can be really enjoyable.

Make books and stories part of everyday life:

- Build a reading story into a routine, e.g. a story at bedtime.
 - Stick your feet up and let your child see you reading a book.
 - Go to the library so your child can choose some books to borrow for free.
 - Read in fun places, e.g. a den made from blankets.
 - Give books as birthday presents - this will show you value them.
 - Keep books in your bag or the car.
- For further tips and support check out:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zbxb9q>

Reading Diaries Expectations

"Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures."

"In fact, reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background." (Pearson 2021)

At Much Marcle, we place high importance on daily reading. Each child is provided with a reading record and books to take home. Reading daily to an adult is encouraged, especially in the early stages of a child's reading journey, however each child should have a minimum of three signatures a week. **This is a non-negotiable expectation.**





Attendance

Attendance will be a continued focus this year as we have a 96% target to achieve. This only allows up to 5 days of absence in the school year. A big thank you to our parents/carers who make sure their children attend school regularly. Attendance has been off to a good start with a wonderful 95.71% in the first two weeks. Keep-up the great work and ensure that children are not missing out on learning opportunities.

Music Project with Hellens House

The children are extremely excited to be taking part in a wonderful music project with Hellens House. On Monday 11th, we met the fabulous Daniela Hathaway who will be leading the whole school project and teaching the children to sing a range of songs. The children had great fun playing a variety of games to learn about musical beats before Daniela introduced them to the songs they will be learning over the next few months.



Reading Buddies

It was wonderful to see our reading buddies start again on Friday: the children always look forward to spending quality time with their buddy reading and listening to stories.

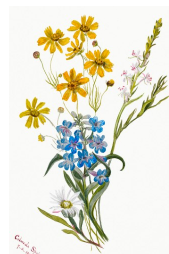


End of Day Collections

Please try to make every effort to pick-up your children at the correct time every day. The school day ends at **3.20pm**. We understand that on the odd occasion collecting your child on time may not be possible and in these unlikely circumstances (which shouldn't be regular), a phone call to the office should be made with an explanation. If your child is not collect at 3.20pm they will be booked into after school club which will incur a cost.

Meadow Restoration Project with Homme House

We are delighted to have been invited to help with a meadow restoration project with Herefordshire Meadows through Homme House on Thursday 21st September. The children in class 4 will be helping to spread seeds such as Ox-Eye Daisies whilst also learning about the importance of meadows to biodiversity. Once the meadow is fully grown, our school will then be able to use it to study plant life and insects which will further enhance our science curriculum by giving the children tangible experiences.



Church Service Dates

Sunday 1 st October Yatton 0930	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 8 th October Much Marcle 0930	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion
Thursday 12 th October Yatton 1930	Yatton Harvest Festival
Sunday 15 th October Much Marcle 0930	Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity Big Apple Weekend Holy Communion (BCP) Said Service
Sunday 22 nd October Much Marcle 0930	Twentieth Sunday after Trinity Much Marcle Harvest Festival Morning Prayer
Sunday 29 th October Much Marcle 0930	Last Sunday after Trinity 5 th Sunday Benefice Service?
Sunday 5 th November Yatton 0930	All Saints Yatton Patronal Festival Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 5 th November Much Marcle 1630	All Souls/Festival of Light
Sunday 12 th November Much Marcle 10.30 Hall	Third Sunday before Advent Remembrance Sunday



New Toilets

Our Key Stage 1 and 2 toilets, which were in need of modernisation, have been completely refurbished during the summer holidays. There were lots of smiles on the children's faces when they saw their new bright and beautiful facilities. Each of the rooms have been fitted with cubicles, sinks with automated taps, soap dispensers and hand dryers.

