



Newsletter

December 2023

Much Marcle CE Primary
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Our Christian Value of the
Month is:

Generosity

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Luke 6:38

Generosity Prayer

Dear Lord,

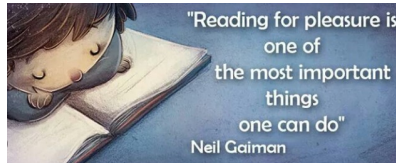
Help us to be generous and
Do all the good we can,
By all the means we can,
In all the ways we can,
In all the places we can,
At all the times we can,
To all the people we can,
As long as ever we can.

Amen



Spotlight on Reading

Creating a life long love of reading and books at Much Marcle is our aim for every child who walks through our doors. It is our belief that every child should want to read for pleasure, not only while they are with us, but far beyond the school gates.



Reading for pleasure

Reading for pleasure opens up new worlds for children. It gives them the opportunity to use their imagination to explore new ideas, visit new places and meet new characters. Interestingly, reading for pleasure also improves children's well-being and empathy. It helps them to understand their own identity, and gives them an insight into the world and the views of others.

Each week, the children can visit our school library where they can choose a book to read for pleasure from a wide range of genres including fiction, non-fiction, picture books, poetry, and topic books.

Every classroom has a well organised and inviting book corner where there is a further range of reading material such newspapers, magazines, comics and topic books.

Reading Bookmarks

Children are encouraged to read a minimum of 3 times a week. Every time you / or another adult hear your child read, you must sign and date their reading record and write a short comment, if possible. Every week – your child's class teacher or teaching assistant will check the record. In Year 3 - 6, if they have read at least 3 times that week – they will be awarded with a tick on their bookmark. If they fill a term they will receive a reading reward.



Reading Buddies

Every Friday the children sit down with their reading buddy to enjoy a good book to help to promote a love of reading and act as reading role models to our younger pupils. It also helps to promote confidence in our older pupils.

This term's class readers

Class 1 - You Choose
by Pippa Goodhart

Class 2 - The Lorax
by Dr Seuss

Class 3 - Stig of the Dump
by Clive King

Class 4 - Secrets of a Sun King
by Emma Carroll



Reading at home

Want to promote a love of reading more at home? Book talk is one of the easiest ways to do this! Reading with your child for just 10 minutes a day can improve their vocabulary, encourage them to read independently, and be a special time together. Sometimes children love to just sit and listen to a story which is valuable, but sometimes, informal "book talk" can be a fantastic way to discuss what has been read.

Book talk can happen in the following way:

1. Make connections - Do the characters/settings remind you of anyone/anywhere? Have you been in a similar situation? Have you learnt about this from TV/School?
2. Make predictions - Can you guess what the story is about? What will happen next?
3. Discuss/ introduce vocabulary - If there is a tricky word, can you explain what it means? Use other words to describe a character, words that a child of their age may not be familiar with (they might then try to use it in their writing)
4. Discuss emotions - How does the story make you feel? Some children find it hard to articulate their feelings, so if it is modelled for them by adults, it can help them understand their own feelings.



Advice

Is my child too ill for school?
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Every Little Helps!

With the cost of living increases we are all experiencing, free school meals could make a significant difference to a family. To apply online use this link:

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schools-education/free-school-meals>

Staying safe on a PlayStation

Internet Matters have teamed up with Sony Interactive Entertainment to create a quiz that you can play with your child to see who knows more about the safety options available on a PlayStation. Play the quiz here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/press-start-for-playstation-safety/>

Multicultural Day

The children had a very exciting start to their new term during our multi cultural day.

It began with a collective worship, where children who speak an additional language, were invited to talk about their home countries and share knowledge of their cultures.

The children then gathered in their Houses and rotated around the school where they explored Canada, China, Australia and Ireland.

There was lots of excitement as the children sampled different food, listened to music, played instruments and found out lots of interesting facts about each country.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable day and we are very much looking forward to our next House event.

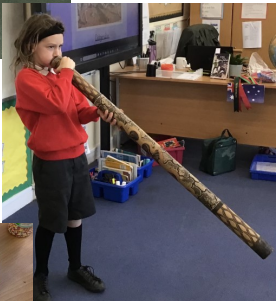
Here are some comments from the children about what they enjoyed.

"It was really interesting learning about Canada because we found out where Maple syrup comes from and we got to taste some on biscuits. There is a really cool waterfall there called Niagara Falls." Bella YR6

"I enjoyed learning about Ireland because the crisps and apple drink were really good. I liked watching the Riverdance and making the Shamrocks." Maggie YR5

"I liked eating the prawn crackers and I enjoyed making the paper dragons." Alyssa YR2

"I liked trying the Fairy bread and Vegemite and making Boomerangs out of card" Bruce YR2



Church Dates

Sunday 3rd December Yatton 0930	First Sunday of Advent Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 10th December Much Marcle 0930	Second Sunday of Advent Holy Communion
Sunday 10th December Much Marcle 1630	Second Sunday of Advent Christingle Service
Sunday 17th December Much Marcle 1630	Third Sunday of Advent Carols, Candles and Cider
Sunday 24th December Yatton 1830	Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve Carols by Candlelight
Monday 25th December Much Marcle 0930	Christmas Day Holy Communion
Sunday 31st December Much Marcle 1030	First Sunday of Christmas Songs of Praise Carol Service
Sunday 7th January Yatton 0930	Second Sunday of Christmas Holy Communion (BCP)

Children in Need and Anti Bullying Week - Make Some Noise!



On Monday 13th, the children arrived into school wearing odd socks to raise awareness about bullying and to show their support for Children in Need. The children quickly headed into assembly as we had a very special visitor: he's big, he's yellow and he goes by the name of Pudsey! There was lots of excitement as Pudsey greeted the children who couldn't wait to ask him questions. With the help of our Chair of Governors, Mr Robbins, Pudsey told the children all about Children in Need and how any money raised by the school would go to charities which help improve the lives of disadvantaged young people.



Throughout the week our wonderful school council ran a Pudsey shop where children could buy bears, ears and pens. We are very proud to share that we raised **£213.50**. It is a fantastic contribution to the worthy charities this cause supports; thank you again for your support.

Class 3 trip to St Fagans

As part of our topic on the Stone Age through to the Iron Age, Class 3 visited a roundhouse at St Fagan's museum in Cardiff. We learnt all about everyday life during this period of history and it really brought the topic to life for us.



Herefordshire School Games Outdoor Adventurous Activities

A big thank you to 'Stride Active' for organising an Outdoor activity event on Tuesday. 12 of our Year 5 and Year 6 children had a fantastic day at Longtown Outdoor Centre. It was brilliant watching their teamwork and problem solving skills develop throughout the day.



Poppy Appeal

A huge thank you to everyone for supporting the British Legion Poppy Appeal this year. Throughout the week our brilliant Year 6's sold poppies to the children and staff. We raised £39.80.



Reminders



We still have a number of children coming to school without a **winter coat**. Please ensure that your child brings one in daily.

The children also need a pair of **wellies** for the inevitable rainy days. We have welly racks in school for the children to store them on.