



# Marist Mail

Friday 12th December 2025



With Christ as our guide, we learn,  
we love, we achieve together...

Dear Marist families,



"Are you the one who is to come or shall we look for another?"

This Sunday we celebrate Gaudete Sunday which reminds us to rejoice as we draw closer to the birth of Jesus. The Gospel this week calls us to prepare our hearts and live with hope and joy. It is a beautiful reminder that even with how busy every day life is, we need to pause and reflect on the light that Christ brings.

## Marist Learners

What a joy it was to see our Year 1 and Year 2 children in their nativity plays. They were absolutely wonderful and it was a pleasure to watch them share the story of Jesus' birth with such confidence and enthusiasm. A huge well done to all the children and staff who worked so hard to make these performances so special.

## Next week...

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December - KS2 walking to the Church for Advent rehearsal

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December - KS2 Show and Share

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December - KS2 Advent Service at Our Lady's - 5pm

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper mufti

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - EYFS and KS1 Show and Share

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Festive Disco  
EYFS and KS1 - 4pm, KS2 5.05pm

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Advent Mass led by 5J - 9am

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December - End of Term 1.15pm



[info@marist.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@marist.surrey.sch.uk)



01932 344477



[Our School Website](#)



continued...

## Staff News

As families know, Mrs Morreale will be retiring at the end of January. On Friday 9th January at 9am, we will have a Mass which will give thanks for everything Mrs Morreale has done for us. This will take place at school as usual and families are welcome to attend.

## A Busy Last Week of Term!

Next week, will be a busy but lovely week for Team Marist.

On Monday, we have the panto in for the children, which they always look forward to. KS2 will also be going to the church to rehearse for their Advent service.

On Tuesday, we have the KS2 Show and Share followed by the Advent Service at the church at 5pm.

On Wednesday, it is Christmas mufti for the children's Christmas lunch. A big thank you to all the parents who have offered their help to the PTA. It is also Show and Share for KS1 after school.

On Thursday, the PTA have kindly organised festive discos for the children- we are very excited!

Finally, we will come together at 9am on Friday for our Advent Mass before breaking up for the holidays.

What a busy week but a truly lovely way to end the term together.

With every blessing,  
Mrs Fanzo



## Contacting Us

[EYFSTeam@marist.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:EYFSTeam@marist.surrey.sch.uk) – please use for emails to EYFS teachers

[KS1Team@marist.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:KS1Team@marist.surrey.sch.uk) – please use for emails to KS1 teachers

[KS2Team@marist.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:KS2Team@marist.surrey.sch.uk) – please use for emails to KS2 teachers

[office@marist.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@marist.surrey.sch.uk) - Mrs Morreale - Attendance, Appointments, for reporting absences on a daily basis, please use the absence line 01932 339150, rather than via email)

[admin@marist.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:admin@marist.surrey.sch.uk) - Extended Schools, Trips & Events, Lettings, SCOPAY

[info@marist.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@marist.surrey.sch.uk) - Mrs Sergent - General

## School Gate Timings



Thank you for ensuring your child arrives at school on time. Being ready to start the day is so very important for each child's learning.

**Please ensure your child is not on site unsupervised before 8.30 AM.**

All the teachers have an activity for the children to complete when they enter the classroom. This means learning starts as soon as the children sit down at their desks.



Mornings:

**Front gate: 8.30 AM**

**Side gates open 8.35 AM**

Doors open 8.35 AM

Gates and doors close 8.45AM

Registers taken 8.45 AM



Afternoons:

Gates open 3:00 PM

Doors open 3:15 PM

# School Attendance

Every day counts...



## Good attendance helps with...



### Academic Achievement

Regular attendance helps children stay on track with the curriculum and achieve stronger academic results.



### Social Skills

Being in school every day helps children make friends, develop important social skills and feel part of the school community.



### Routine & Responsibility

Attending school regularly teaches the importance of commitment, routine and responsibility, helping children build valuable life skills.



### Focus & Engagement

Children who attend school regularly are more likely to stay engaged in their learning and develop a positive attitude towards education.



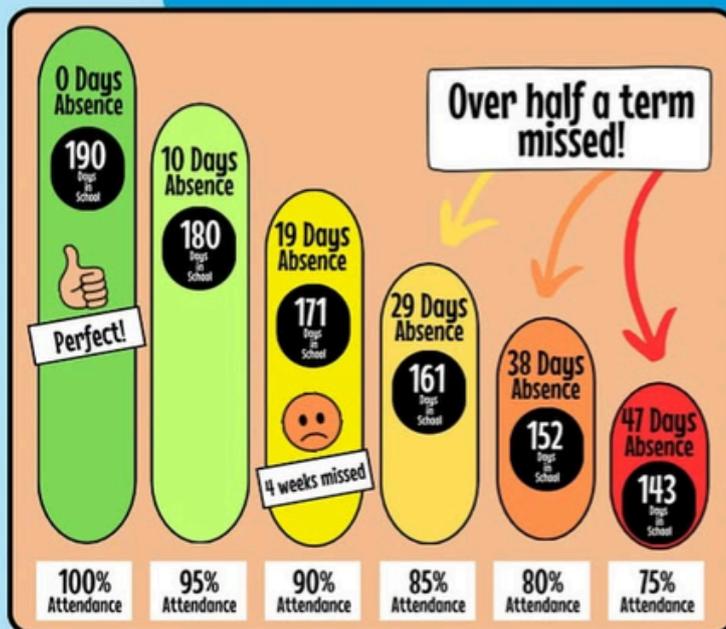
### Building Confidence

Regular attendance can boost a child's self-esteem and confidence, as they see their progress and achievements over time.



### Enhanced Learning Opportunities

School offers more than academic learning - it provides clubs, activities and enrichment opportunities that help children discover new interests and talents.



## Did you know there are...

- 365 Days in a Year
- 190 School Days
- 175 Non School Days

Having 90% over 5 school years, is half a school year's work missed!

## Tips for Supporting Good Attendance...

### Set a regular routine

A consistent bedtime and morning routine helps children feel ready for school and reduces last-minute stress.

### Aim for every day

Try to make school attendance the default. Only keep your child off if they are genuinely unwell.

### Plan appointments carefully

Where possible, book medical or dental appointments outside school hours so your child doesn't miss lessons.

### Talk positively about school

Ask about your child's day and celebrate the little things they enjoy. Your positivity helps them look forward to school.

### Stay in touch

When a child is struggling, early communication with the school helps everyone find solutions and makes things easier for the child.

### Prepare the night before

Pack bags, lay out uniforms and check homework in the evening to make mornings smoother and less stressful.





# Attendance Matters



Today our our whole school attendance was 97.4%.



If your child is unwell and needs to be kept at home, you must call the school to inform us each day they are absent by 9am.



If your child is late for school you must accompany them to the school office to sign them in.

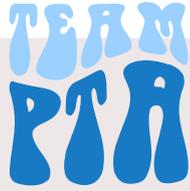
## Attendance Ladder



Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/ carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.



## PTA News

Well done years 1 & 2 for a fantastic rendition of Christmas with the aliens – it really was out of this world and got us all in the Christmas spirit!

### **Festive Disco**

Ticket sales for the Festive disco are going well – don't forget you get yours if your child would like to go! The disco is on the 18th December and tickets are £6 each plus a booking fee.

EYFS & KS1 4pm – 5pm

KS2 5pm – 6pm

This covers the disco, some pom bears and lots of games and music for the children. Tickets can be bought by following this [link](#):

### **Doughnuts for the last day of term**

Thanks for everyone who ordered doughnuts for the last day of term. The order has now been submitted and the doughnuts will be available under the canopy from 1pm on the 19th for distribution to your classes. If you are lucky enough to have spares on the day don't forget the teaching staff!

### **Fundraising ideas**

If anyone has any fundraising ideas that they would like to spearhead, please feel free to email [pta@marist.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:pta@marist.surrey.sch.uk) or come along to one of our meetings.

Please share with  
friends and  
families! We've  
saved them a seat!



# The Marist Catholic Primary School

With Christ as our guide, we learn,  
we love, we achieve together.

## Reception 2026 Applications open!

Application deadline:  
Thursday, 15 January  
2026

Contact our office to  
arrange a tour – we'd  
love to welcome you!

We were graded 'outstanding'  
in our Catholic Schools  
Inspectorate in February 2025

"This is a warm and welcoming  
community where everyone is known and  
loved. Across the school, pupils are  
confident to share their opinions and  
ideas, knowing that these are highly valued  
by the adults who look after them."

01932 344477 info@marist.surrey.sch.uk www.marist.surrey.sch.uk  
The Marist Catholic Primary School, Old Woking Road, West Byfleet,  
Surrey, KT14 6HS

PART OF THE





## BEFORE SCHOOL ACROBATICS



WHAT:



**Wednesday | 7:45-8:30am**

LMC teaches an acrobatic syllabus which is based on safe and effective progressions throughout five specific divisions of AcroDance: Flexibility, Strength, Balancing, Limbering and Tumbling. AcroDance is the beautiful fusion of dance technique and the precision and athleticism of acrobatic elements.

Spring Term 2026 | £99.00

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January - Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March (11 weeks)

Half Term: Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February (1 week)

 FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM @lmcdanceandacrobatics

To secure your place, please email Miss Lauren:

admin@lmchouseofdance.co.uk | www.lmchouseofdance.co.uk



**DANCEBITES.COM  
PRESENTS**

**STREET DANCE  
CLASSES WITH SAM  
@ THE MARIST**

**FREE TRIAL**

**THURSDAY**

**15<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**7.45 -8.40AM**

**STREET DANCE**

**(Reception - Year 6)**

**22/1/26-26/3/26**

**Post Trial Term Fee: £117**

**(9 further weeks)**

**Sign up here:**

**<https://www.dancebites.com/child-classes/>**

**Call for more info: 07956 244 939**



# AFTER-SCHOOL COOKERY CLUB SPRING TERM

The Marist Catholic Primary  
School, Tuesdays, 3:20 - 4:30  
YR2 to YR6



## WHAT WE DO:

- Hands-on classes
- Sweet and savoury dishes
- Prep only cooking club
- Working together with peers
- Creative in the kitchen
- New ingredients and flavours
- Clearing up together
- Learn a valuable life skill
- Have fun in the kitchen, gain confidence
- Independence

Scan to book:

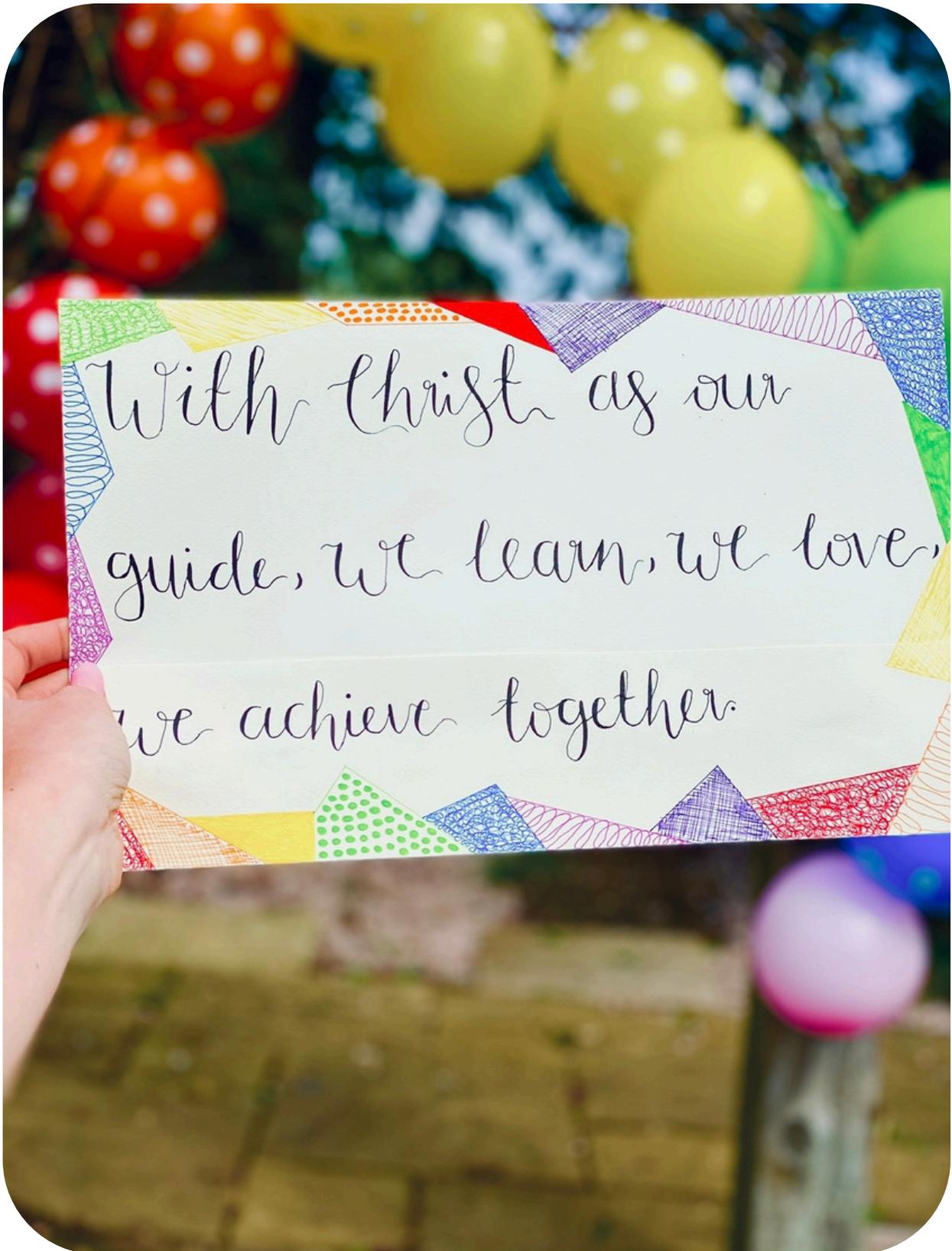


Club dates: 13 Jan to 24 Mar

[www.totallytangerinecookery.co.uk/book-a-class/](http://www.totallytangerinecookery.co.uk/book-a-class/)

[contact@totallytangerinecookery.co.uk](mailto:contact@totallytangerinecookery.co.uk)

07974 320678



@THEMARIST\_WB

Follow us on  
Instagram to keep up  
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Marist