Marist Mail

Friday 22nd October 2026



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

Dear Marist Families,



'Blessed are the poor in spirit'

When we return after half term, we will celebrate All Saints' Day and reflect on the Gospel of the Beatitudes. In this Gospel, Jesus teaches us how he wants us to live, showing us that true happiness comes from being kind, merciful, peaceful and treating others with love and respect. The Beatitudes remind us that the saints were ordinary people who chose to follow Jesus' way of life, putting others before themselves and doing what was right. We will encourage our Marist Learners to follow the saints' example by treating others as we would like to be treated ourselves, showing kindness, forgiveness and compassion in our words and actions each day.

Week after half term…

- Tuesday 3rd November - School begins after half term
- Tuesday 3rd November - 3B Feet First
- Tuesday 3rd November - EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 Parent Meetings
- Wednesday 4th November - 3M Feet First
- Wednesday 4th November - Year 3 and 4 Parent Meetings
- Thursday 5th November - Individual School Photos
- Friday 6th November - 5C Class Worship 8.55 (Coffee and Tea avaliable)
- Friday 6th November - 4P to Mass

info@marist.surrey.sch.uk

01932 344477

Our School Website



continued...

Changes to the Front Gate

To further strengthen our safeguarding arrangements, from after half term the front gate will remain closed at all times during the school day. The only exceptions will be during the main drop-off and collection periods, when the gate will be open between 8:35am and 8:45am and approximately 3:10pm and 3:25pm, once families have left the site.

An intercom system is available at the front gate for visitors and families who need access outside of these times. This can be used to contact the school office, Breakfast Club or After School Club as required. Thank you for your support and cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and secure environment for all of our children.

PTA Quiz

The Quiz Night last Friday was a tremendous success, bringing together parents, staff and friends of the school for a fun and enjoyable evening. We are incredibly grateful to Mrs Snow and Mrs Checkley for all their hard work in organising such a fantastic event. Their time, energy and attention to detail ensured that everything ran smoothly and created a wonderful sense of community. Thank you also to everyone who attended and supported the evening. We should probably also mention that the staff team proudly came away with the wooden spoon! While this may not inspire confidence in us as quiz contestants, we hope it reassures you that your children are definitely the ones doing the learning in our classrooms. Most importantly, the evening was a great success and we are very grateful for the ongoing support of our school community.

Marist Learners

Year 3 had a fantastic time celebrating their Egyptian Day today and immersing themselves in the fascinating world of Ancient Egypt. The children arrived in an array



continued...

of fabulous costumes, with pharaohs, queens and priests all making an appearance! Throughout the day, they enjoyed a range of exciting activities that brought their learning to life and helped them develop a deeper understanding of this remarkable civilisation. A huge thank you to the Year 3 team for organising such a memorable experience.

I'd like to say how proud we are of our Sports Captains for running their cake sale and of our other Marist Learners who have also been raising money for charity the past couple of weeks. It is lovely to see the children taking initiative and using their leadership skills! Of course, thank you to their families for their support.

Half Term

As we reach the end of a busy and successful half term, we would like to wish all our families a restful and enjoyable break. Please remember that school will be closed on Friday 23 October and Monday 2 November, giving everyone an extended half-term holiday. We hope you have the opportunity to spend time with family and friends, relax and recharge, and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school refreshed and ready for another exciting half term.

Uniform

As the weather is getting colder, we ask that all children are in Winter uniform after half term. This means girls should now be in pinafores/skirts/trousers and for boys in Year 3 upwards means they should now start wearing their ties. Thank you!

With every blessing,
Mrs Fanzo



Uniform Reminders

As we enjoy outdoor play in all weathers, please ensure your child comes to school with a suitable coat each day so they can stay warm, dry and ready for learning and play.



Packed Lunch Reminders

We are committed to promoting healthy lifestyles and encouraging positive eating habits. A balanced packed lunch helps children stay energised and ready to learn throughout the day. Please remember to include healthy options such as fruit, vegetables and protein-based foods, while keeping sugary snacks and processed foods to a minimum.
As always, we kindly remind families that The Marist is a strictly nut-free school. Thank you for your support in keeping our children healthy, happy and safe.

For more information on school lunches please see our school website.

Key Calendar Dates for Autumn 2

Dates may be subject to change



Week beginning 9th November - Remembrance Week

Week beginning 9th November - Book Fair (after school)

Monday 9th November - Year 5 and 6 Parent Meetings

Tuesday 10th November - EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 Parent Meetings

Wednesday 11th November - Year 3 and 4 Parent Meetings

Thursday 12th November - Parent Tour 9.15am



Friday 13th November - Class 4P Worship (teas and coffees)

Saturday 14th November - Winter Fayre

Monday 16th November - Year 5 and 6 Parent Meetings



Friday 20th November - Year 5 Viking Day



Tuesday 24th November - Class 5C to Mass

Wednesday 25th November - Year 6 SJB Trip

Friday 27th November - EYFS Visit to the postbox



Sunday 29th November - First Sunday of Advent

Monday 30th November - St Francis Xavier Day - School closure



Friday 4th December - EYFS Advent Performance - 9.30am

Week beginning 7th December - Reindeer Run

Monday 7th December - Year 3 and 4 Show and Share

Wednesday 9th December - PTA Meeting - 9.00am

Wednesday 9th December - Year 5 and 6 Show and Share



Thursday 10th December - KS1 Advent Performance (Year 1 families)

Friday 11th December - KS1 Advent Performance (Year 2 families)

Monday 14th December - KS2 Rehearsal at the Church - 9-11am

Tuesday 15th December - KS2 Advent Performance - Our Lady's - 5pm

Wednesday 16th December - Christmas Lunch and Jumpers



Friday 18th December - Advent Mass led by 5J - 9am

Friday 18th December - End of Term - 1.15pm

News from the PTA

It was great to see so many visitor from Ancient Egypt on the school run this morning! Hope year 3 had an amazing time and have learnt how to "walk like an Egyptian". Hope everyone has a well-deserved rest – and don't forget that the clocks go back this weekend!

Thanks to everyone who attended the quiz night – and congratulations to the winning team of Dads "ChatGPT made me do it". You'll need to come back next year to defend your title! The quiz raised just over £800 towards our fundraising goal which is a great start to the academic year.

A few dates for your diary: Clothing collection

There will be a textile collection on Wednesday 4th November (remember, remember the 4th November!) after drop off so if you are having a clear out in half term (or know someone who is!) please keep clothing and bring it in bags to school on this date and leave under the canopy for collection.

Marist Market – 14th November

Tickets will be going "live" after half term for the Winter Market. This promises to be a great community event with food and drink and even a visit from some reindeer so please come along to get some early Christmas presents as we look towards advent. We will be putting out some very specific requests in weeks to come. For the moment if anyone is able to attend on Friday 13th to help put up Christmas lights to give the event atmosphere please make yourself known. The lights will be provided but we need some help (possibly a group of Dads) to get them up in time for the Marist Market.

If you have any unwanted and unopened toys that you would be happy to donate to the toy stall for the Marist Market we will be collecting donations from the 5th November. These can be left in the black bins under the canopy.

Fundraising ideas

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

THE LITTLE RECYCLERS

SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

More clothes - more funds for your organisation.
1 kg = £0.45

YOUR COLLECTION IS ARRANGED ON:

4 NOVEMBER
WEDNESDAY

FILL ANY BAGS WITH CLOTHING AND BRING THEM TO SCHOOL/ORGANISATION WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM

✓ WE ACCEPT

- Good quality clean clothing (adult's, children's, baby)
- Shoes (paired)
- Bags
- Hats & scarves
- Belts
- Fashion accessories
- Swimwear, lingerie
- Jewellery
- Perfumes

✗ WE DON'T ACCEPT

- Uniforms
- Dirty, wet, ripped, damaged clothing
- Traditional clothing
- Duvets & pillows
- Single shoes
- Toys, stationery
- Bric-a-brac & electrical items
- Books, CDs, DVDs
- Workwear
- Carpets, rugs, mats, curtains
- Hygiene items, diapers
- Linen & towels

PLEASE NO UNIFORMS & DUVETS!

RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL BY GIVING AWAY YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHES

hello@thelittlerecyclers.co.uk • 0330 043 0550 • thelittlerecyclers.co.uk

THE MARIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO THE MARIST WINTER MARKET

Join us for an afternoon of food, fun and shopping
at the Marist Catholic Primary School, West Byfleet, KT14 6HS
14th November 12-4 pm



COME AND FEED THE REINDEER

baked goods, meats and cheeses

wood crafts and jewellery

condiments and honey

natural soaps, candles and floral arrangements

games, crafts and activities for children

mulled wine, licensed bar and a selection of hot street food

Family tickets £7 (max 2 adults 2 children, only available when pre-booking) adults £3.50, children £2.

PRE-BOOKING ADVISED

Attendance Matters

- Yesterday our whole school attendance was 93.6%.
- If your child is unwell and needs to be kept at home, please use the log absence feature under attendance in your Arbor app.
- If your child is late for school you must accompany them to the school office to sign them in.



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.

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.

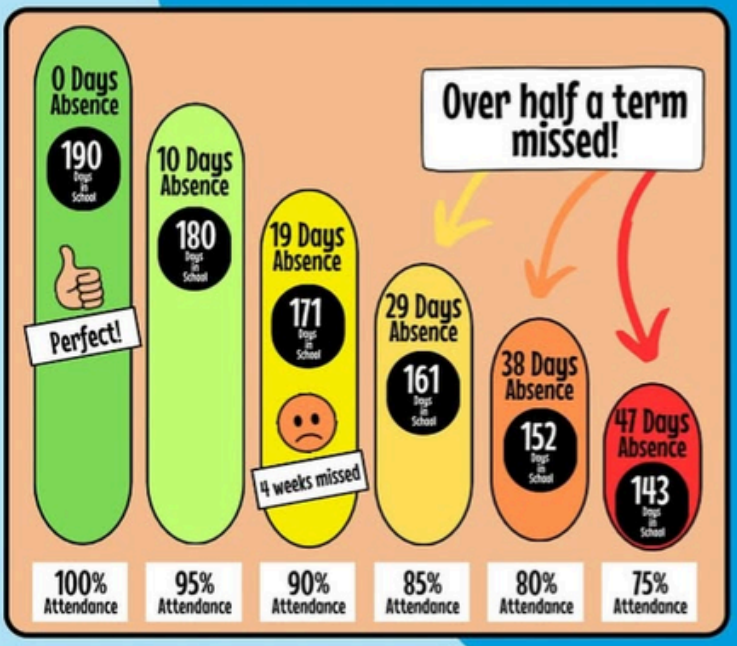
Social Skills
Being in school every day helps children make friends, develop important social skills and feel part of the school community.

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.

Silly School Education



Contacting Us

EYFSTeam@marist.surrey.sch.uk – please use for emails to EYFS teachers

KS1Team@marist.surrey.sch.uk – please use for emails to KS1 teachers

KS2Team@marist.surrey.sch.uk – please use for emails to KS2 teachers

office@marist.surrey.sch.uk - Mrs Gale- Attendance, Appointments, for reporting absences on a daily basis, **please use the log absence feature under attendance in your Arbor app**.

admin@marist.surrey.sch.uk - Extended Schools, Trips & Events, Lettings, SCOPAY

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

Saint Columba's House

Meditation at St Columba's

Led Christian meditations, reflections and discussion.



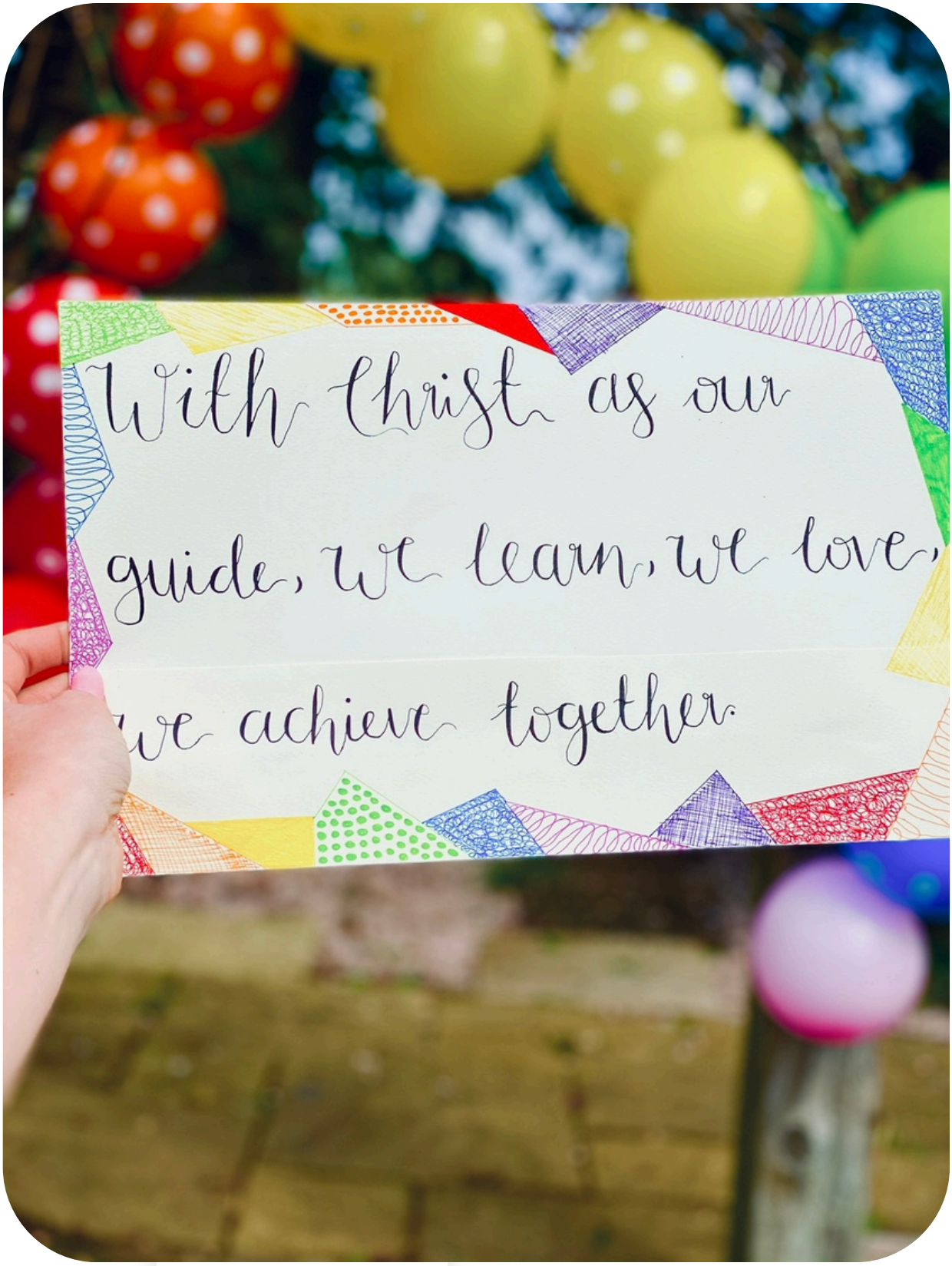


Midday sessions 12 – 1pm	Evening sessions 7 – 8pm
Thursday 21 January	Tuesday 12 January
Thursday 25 February	Tuesday 23 February
Thursday 18 March	Tuesday 16 March

Led by: Suzette Jones

'For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them'

Mathew 18:20



@THEMARIST_WB

Follow us on Instagram to keep up to date with life at The Marist