



Marist Mail

Friday 16th January 2026



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

Dear Marist families,



'Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the World'

Next week, we'll be diving into the beautiful Gospel story of Jesus' baptism, where the Holy Spirit appears as a dove. This moment reminds us of God's love and the peace the Spirit brings into our lives. We'll be helping the children think about what the Holy Spirit means for them and how they can share that love and peace with others- whether it's through a kind word, a helping hand or simply being a friend. It's a wonderful opportunity to nurture values that make our community stronger and more caring.

Catholic Life

A huge thank you to 3M for delivering such a fantastic class worship! Your confidence and clarity in speaking were truly impressive and it was wonderful to see how much you had memorised – it really showed your hard work. The way you expressed yourselves with such strong

Next week...

Monday 19th January - Y5 and 6 PE kits

Tuesday 20th January - Y3 and 4 PE kits

Tuesday 20th January - Y5 Young Voices

Wednesday 21st January - Y1,2,5 PE kits

Thursday 22nd January - Y1,2,3 PE kits

Friday 23rd January - Y4 and 6 PE kits

Friday 23rd January - Class 4P
Worship 9am

Friday 23rd January - Class 5C to Mass
at Our Lady's 10am

 info@marist.surrey.sch.uk

 01932 344477

 [Our School Website](#)



continued...

oracy skills made the worship engaging and meaningful. We also want to give a special thank you to Miss Bushill for all her effort and support in helping the children prepare so brilliantly. Well done, everyone!

Strong Foundations

At The Marist, we use the Strong Foundations and Writing and Reading Frameworks guidance, which show that secure early development is key to lifelong success. As parents/carers, you play a vital role in building these foundations at home.

Talk, talk, talk! Communication and language are at the heart of learning. Make time to talk with your child- ask questions, listen carefully and encourage them to explain their ideas. Repeating key words and phrases helps too. Try our “Say it again, say it better” approach: if your child says something, encourage them to add more detail or use a richer word or, if it was not grammatically correct, model this to them.



Read every day. Sharing books is one of the most powerful things you can do. Read together daily, talk about the pictures and ask questions. This not only builds vocabulary but also fosters a love of reading that lasts a lifetime.



Support writing skills. Good writing starts with strong transcription skills- how your child holds a pencil, forms letters and numbers and begins to spell. Encourage correct grip and neat letter formation. If you notice your child reversing letters or numbers, gently help them correct it. These small steps make a big difference later.



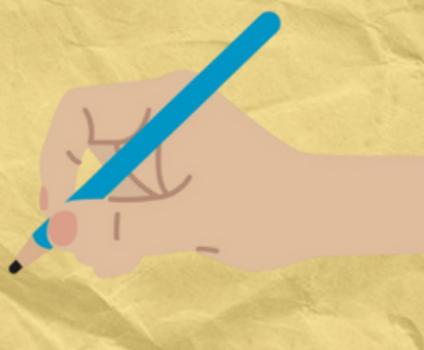
You'll find practical tips and ideas in our Instagram posts and the Marist Mail. Every little bit of support at home helps create strong foundations so your child can access and enjoy learning as they grow.

With every blessing,
Mrs Fanzo

Pencil Grip

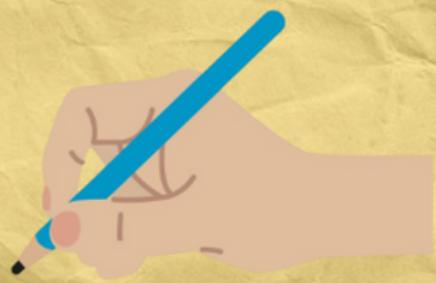
How?

Pinch your nose...
Pinch your pencil



Grip

A pencil should be held between the pads of the thumb and index finger, and rested on the middle finger.



Fine Motor Strengthening Ideas to try at home:

Play-Doh - squeeze, roll, pinch, hide beads

Use spray bottles to water plants.

Hole punching—make “confetti”.

Crumpling paper into balls and tossing into a bin.

Finger puppets or shadow puppets.

Pressing small buttons on toys.

Using tweezers, tongs, or chopsticks to pick up small objects.



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 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 - 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

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.



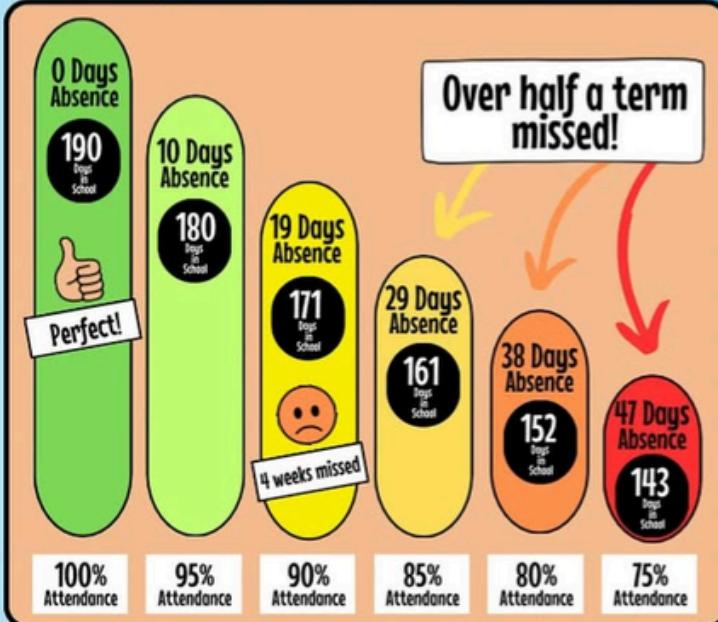
Building Confidence

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 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.

Community Box



This Marist learner has a passion for BJJ (Brazilian jiu jitsu) and have been training since he was 6 years old. He loves training and competes on a regular basis.

We are very proud of his achievements at such a young age. In the last 3 years, he has participated in over 70 competitions, with more than 300 fights and over 230 wins to his name. Some of his major achievements includes winning Gold at the British Open numerous times, Gold at the English Open numerous times, the Elite European Championship, UK Nationals and International Open along with other prestige titles in the BJJ community such as The International Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Federation.

In recognition of his talent, he is sponsored by a very known fightwear clothing brand 'Raine' and 'Grappling Industries', a major competition organiser that puts on events all over the world.

He is due compete in Ireland on 9th Nov so he's been training hard and really looking toward to competing with some of the best athletes around the world. Please wish him luck!



Woking Symphony Orchestra

family concert

music by Bernstein, Ravel, Gregson and more...

Nona Lawrence tuba | conductor Roy Stratford



Saturday 17 January 2026, 3:30pm

Cobham Free School, Portsmouth Road, Cobham KT11 1TF

All tickets £7 · Under 2s free

www.wokingso.org.uk & wso2011@hotmail.co.uk



Presented by WokingSO Productions Ltd • Woking Symphony Orchestra registered charity no. 295247

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Guitar, Bass and Ukulele

Guitar Lab is a creative guitar group where players of all levels come together to learn, play and perform music together.

Experience: One term of lessons required

School years 3 and above

Mondays 5pm - 6pm

Starting 23 February

St. Peter's School, Guildford, GU1 2TN

Cost: £37.50 for 5 sessions

Sign up here



T: 01483 519303

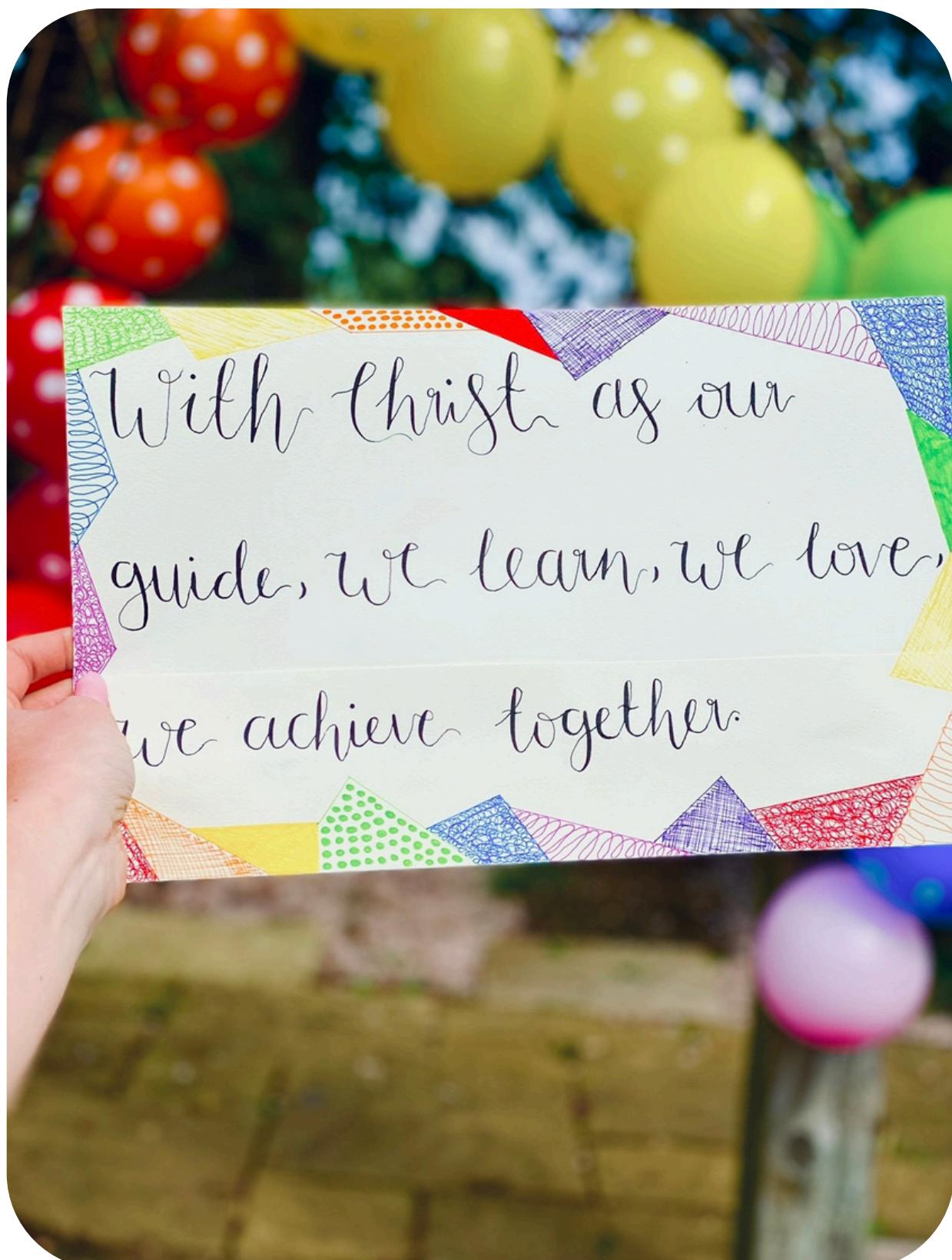
E: surreyartsmusic@surreycc.gov.uk



Discover more about music lessons at:

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