Marist Mail

Friday 9th October 2026



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

Dear Marist Families,



'Invite to the wedding feast as many as you can find'

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of a king who invites guests to a great wedding banquet. Some people ignore the invitation, while others gladly accept it. Through this story, Jesus reminds us that God invites each of us to be part of His family and to live lives filled with love, kindness and faith. This week, the children can accept God's invitation by showing care for others, helping those in need, listening carefully in prayer and making choices that reflect our school values. By saying "yes" to God's invitation each day, they can help to build His Kingdom in our school and community.

Next week…

Thursday 15th October - Parent Tours - 9.15am

Friday 9th October - Harvest Mass led by 6L - 9am - families welcome

Friday 9th October - PTA Quiz Night - 7pm

info@marist.surrey.sch.uk

01932 344477

Our School Website



continued...

Catholic Life

Well done to 6L for leading their class worship for parents this morning. The children spoke with confidence, sharing their learning beautifully. Thank you to all the families who joined us for this special occasion.
We would also like to congratulate 4T and 5C, who have represented the school so wonderfully at Mass this week and to Reception who thoroughly enjoyed their trip to learn about Baptism! Their reverence, participation and exemplary behaviour were a credit to themselves, their families and our school community. We are very proud of the way they lived out our mission through their prayer and worship.

Parking

Please may we ask families to park considerately. We are experiencing a high number of complaints from residents due to inconsiderate parking. Thank you to the vast majority of our families who always park respectfully.



With every blessing,
Mrs Fanzo

Pupil Leadership Updates

Our pupil leadership groups in KS2 met this week to share ideas to help shape life at The Marist.



Liturgy Leaders have been reflecting on how praying the Rosary helps us to grow closer to Jesus and have begun discussing which hymns would be most appropriate for Advent liturgies and celebrations.



Pupil Voice Representatives are starting to consider how we can further develop children's understanding of the wide range of careers available to them and how we can inspire aspirations for the future.



Art Ambassadors have been exploring ideas for a new arts-based project that could enhance creativity and showcase children's talents.



Eco Leaders have been debating potential environmental projects and considering ways to further improve our school's sustainability and care for God's creation.



Digital Leaders have been discussing how to use digital toolkits effectively and exploring what children know about artificial intelligence and the importance of understanding its risks as part of online safety education.



Enrichment Leaders have begun planning an exciting enrichment day, thinking about activities and experiences that will broaden learning opportunities for all children.



Playground Pals have been discussing potential projects to enhance playtimes and make them even more enjoyable, inclusive and engaging.



Well-being Ambassadors focused on the theme of belonging, exploring how we can help every child feel valued, included and supported, while promoting friendship and a strong sense of community throughout the school.



Harvest Mass and Collection

We warmly invite all families to join us for our Harvest Mass on Friday 16th October at 9am, led by Class 6L.

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we kindly ask families to contribute to our Harvest Collection. Donations can be sent into school with your child's class teacher from **Monday 12th October to Friday 16th October**.

We would be grateful for donations of:

Luxury Items: Biscuits (family packs, chocolate biscuits or shortbread), crisps (sharing bags, Pringles or similar), selection packs or sweets (Heroes, Celebrations, etc.

Larder Items: Tinned foods (beans, spaghetti, soup, peas, sweetcorn, carrots), pasta and pasta sauce, ketchup and mayonnaise

Thank you for your generosity and support. Your donations will help families in need within our local community.

News from the PTA

Well done to 4T, 5C and EYFS on their visit to Mass at Our Lady's this week.

A few dates for the coming weeks:

Quiz night – 16th October – 7:00pm for a 7:30 start

The PTA quiz is a fun evening with an outside quiz master. The tickets are £12.50 each, this includes entry into the quiz and one entry into our raffle to win a selection of prizes.

Tickets can be bought by following this link

Signup sheets for teams will be going up outside the hall next week so please fill them in with your team details.

Clothing collection

There will be a textile collection on Tuesday 4th November after drop off so if you are having a clear out in half term please keep clothing and bring it in bags to school on this date and leave under the canopy for collection.

The PTA get 45p per kilogram of items collected so please retain anything on the list and bring on the 4th November.

Winter Market – 14th November

More details to come but please put the date in your diary! A great event to stock up on some Christmas presents as we look towards Advent.

PTA continued...

Facebook page

For those of you that are new to the school (or may have missed it previously!) there is a dedicated Marist families Facebook page. If you would like to join please click here. You will need to answer the questions to be able to join. Please make sure you answer the questions accurately or you will be declined. The questions are the only way that we can tell you are a genuine parent within the school. Thank you.

Fundraising ideas & Upcoming meetings

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 next meeting is on the 21st October at 09:00 in the staff room – everyone is welcome; it would be lovely to see some new faces!
If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to be involved or have skills that we could utilise please give us your details by completing the attached google form and we will be in touch.

Attendance Matters

- Yesterday our whole school attendance was 98.2%.
- 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.

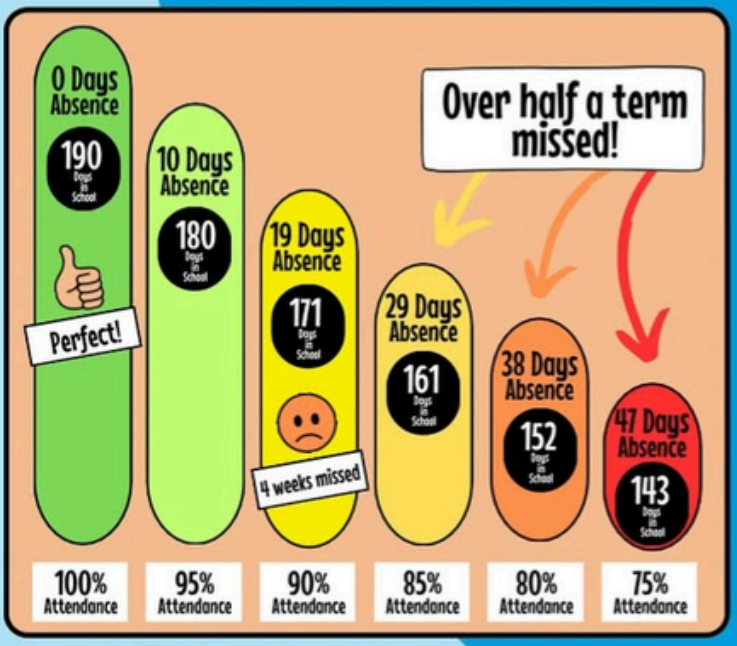
Social Skills
Being in school every day helps children make friends, develop important social skills and feel part of the school community.

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


West Hall
WEST BYFLEET | SURREY
Christmas Fayre
Friday 4 December, 4pm - 6pm
There will be a number of stalls selling Christmas decorations, candles, sweets, bags, jewellery, books, and much more. This will be a great opportunity for children to meet Santa and his real-life reindeer. Each child will receive a gift.
Entry is free, but please book your ticket early. Please call us on 01932 338000.
West Hall luxury care home,
Off Parvis Road, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6EY
ACH_6052/09/2025

FUTURE YOU

TECH ACADEMY

FUTURE ENGINEERS CAMP

DESIGN • BUILD • CODE • PLAY

Become a game creator at our exciting two-day coding camp!

Can your child build the city of the future?

Over two action-packed days, young creators will explore Minecraft coding, automation and creative problem-solving before teaming up for the ultimate challenge: designing and building their very own futuristic city! From smart buildings and transport systems to sustainable features and interactive creations, their imagination is the only limit.

Key Information:

Venue: St. George's College Weybridge

Dates: 29-30 October (2-day camp)

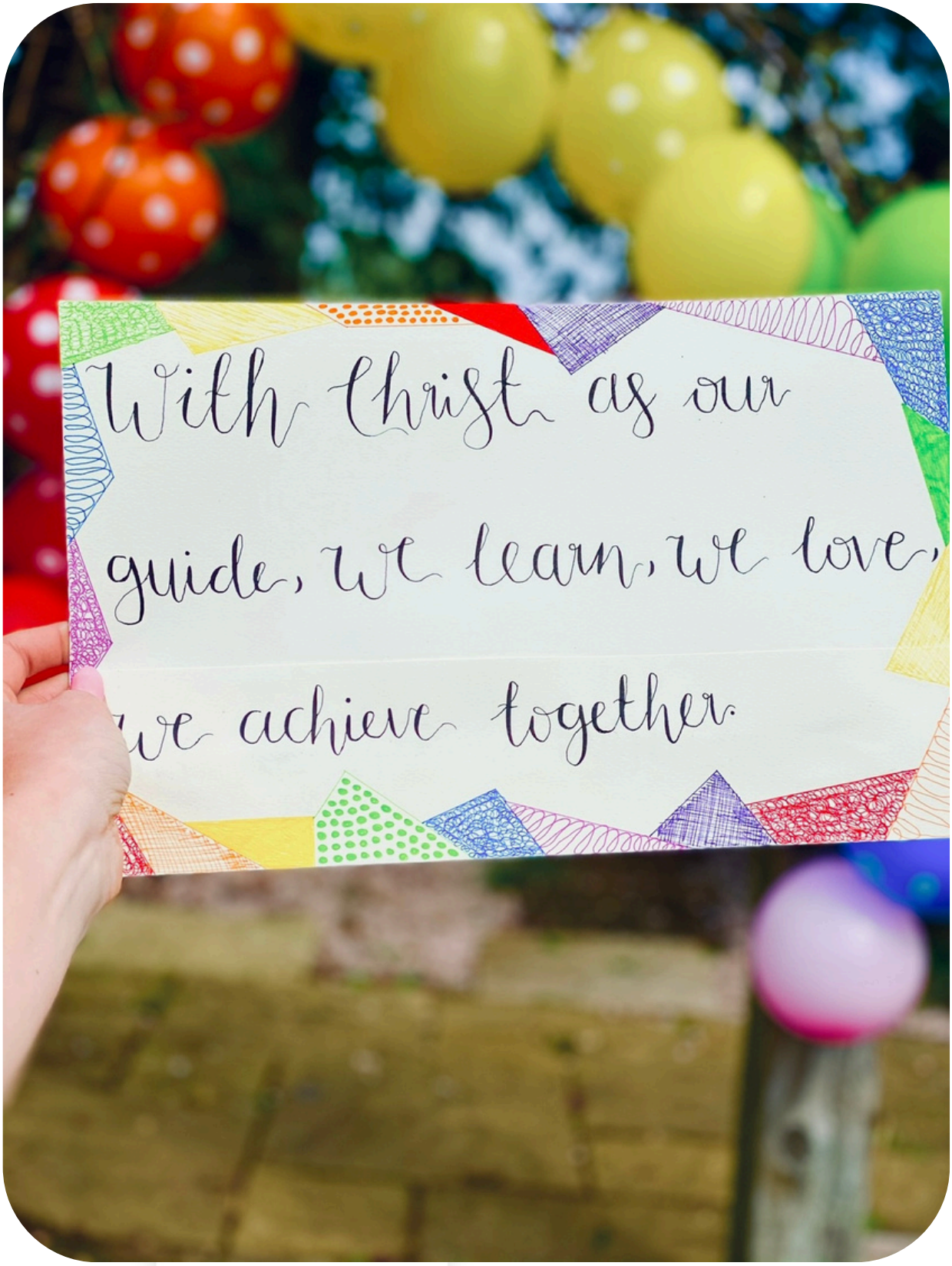
Times: 8:30am - 4pm

Ages: 8-13



BOOK NOW!

****USE CODE TWQ196 FOR A £20 DISCOUNT UNTIL MIDNIGHT 15 OCTOBER****



@THEMARIST_WB

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