



Marist Mail

Friday 23rd January 2026



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

Dear Marist families,



'Come, follow me... and I will make you fishers of men.'

In Monday's worship we will reflect on the Gospel where Jesus calls His first disciples, saying, "Come, follow me... and I will make you fishers of men." We will explore how Jesus chose ordinary people with everyday jobs, not because they were already special, but because He knew they would have gifts within them that could help others. The children will be encouraged to think about their own futures—what they might like to be when they grow up and the talents they enjoy using now. We will talk about how every job or dream, whether doctor, teacher, artist, builder, or footballer, can become a way of sharing kindness, helping others, and making the world brighter. Whatever paths our children take, they too will be able to answer Jesus' call by using their gifts to spread love and goodness in the world.

Next week...

Friday 30th January - Class 6L
Worship 9am



info@marist.surrey.sch.uk



01932 344477



[Our School Website](#)



continued...

Catholic Life

Congratulations to 4P for their wonderful class worship this week. The children spoke with confidence, clarity and excellent oracy skills. A big well done also to 5C, who represented The Marist so impressively at Our Lady's- they were a credit to the school in both behaviour and spirit. Thank you to all the teachers involved for their hard work, preparation and support in helping the children shine.

Young Voices

Year 5 had the most wonderful time at Young Voices this week, singing their hearts out alongside thousands of other children and filling the arena with energy and joy. Their enthusiasm was infectious from start to finish and they performed brilliantly. Usually on the coach ride home the children are fast asleep within minutes, but not this time- they were absolutely full of beans all the way back to school! A huge thank you to all of the staff who supported the trip and made the day so special and an extra thank you to Mrs Lopez for kindly coming in to unlock the school so families could collect their very excited singers at the end of the night.

International Week

This week we have been celebrating International Week across the school, exploring the theme: "How do rivers and water shape life on Earth, and why does their future matter to us all?" The children have been wonderfully busy, taking part in a wide range of activities linked to countries from all around the world and discovering how vital water is to communities, cultures and ecosystems everywhere. From creative projects to fascinating research and hands-on learning, the whole school has



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embraced the theme with great enthusiasm. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Baguley for her hard work in coordinating International Week so beautifully – it has truly been a highlight of the term.

Notices

A gentle reminder that children should be wearing their school ties each day as part of our full school uniform. Wearing our uniform smartly helps us to show pride in our school community.

We also kindly ask families to be considerate when parking near the school. Safe and mindful parking shows care for our neighbours, protects our children and demonstrates the Gospel value of loving our community through our actions. Thank you to the vast majority who do this every day.

With every blessing
Mrs Fanzo

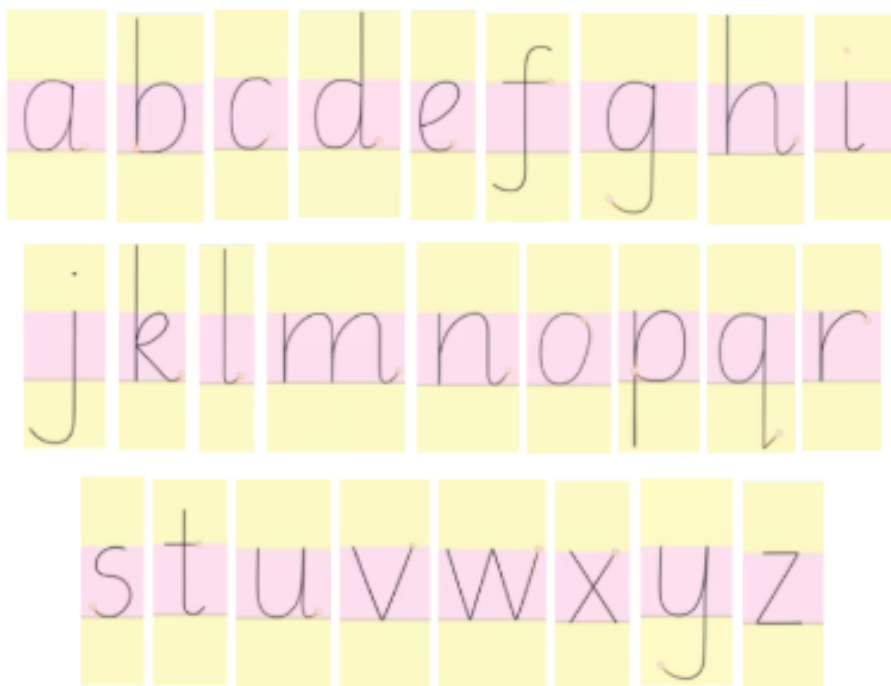
Capital Letters and Lower Case Letters

We've noticed that some of our children are using capital letters in the middle of the words.

- Encourage your child to write using lower-case letters only, unless it's the start of a sentence or a name.
- Please avoid teaching capital letters too soon—we'll cover these in school at the right time.
- Celebrate neatness, not speed! Little, accurate practice makes a big difference.
- Refer to our booklet on our website, RWI Letter Village videos and Instagram for models.
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With consistency at home and school, children develop confident, fluent handwriting. Thank you for helping us build strong foundations.

Lower Case Letters



Capital Letters





Handwriting

Workshop for EYFS families

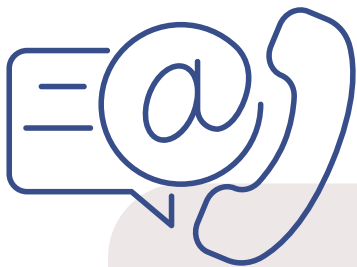


Tuesday 3rd February 2026



2.30–3.15pm

Opportunity to see how we teach early handwriting skills and how you can support your child at home. See message sent via Arbor.



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.



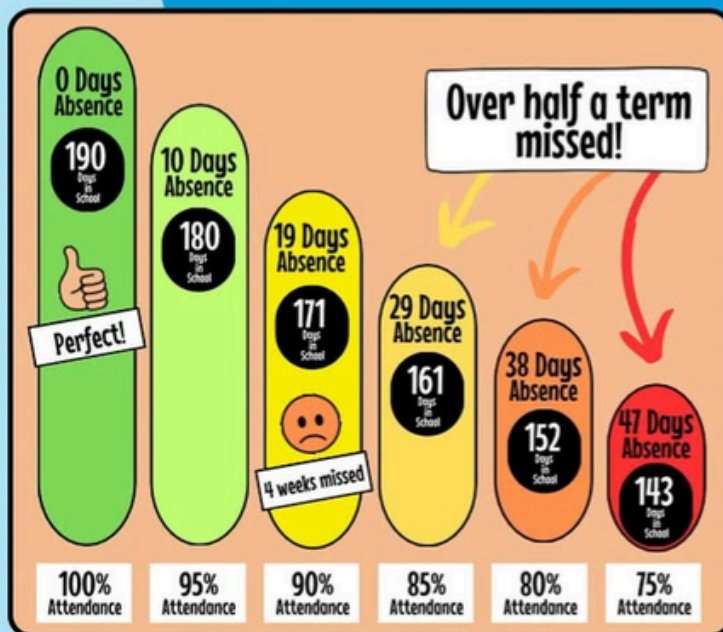
Building Confidence

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.

SJB Admissions

Please be aware SJB are currently consulting on their draft admission policy also. This is at the request of the Diocese and they have supplied schools with model policies to use.

SJB is a heavily over-subscribed school so it's important for parents in Year 5 and below who may want their child to go there, to be aware of the criteria.



PTA Meeting

Our next PTA meeting is on Friday
6th February at 9am in school.



FEBRUARY ACTIVITY CLUB

The Marist Primary School
58 Old Woking Rd, KT14 6HS

8:30AM - 4:30PM
16TH FEBRUARY - 20TH FEBRUARY

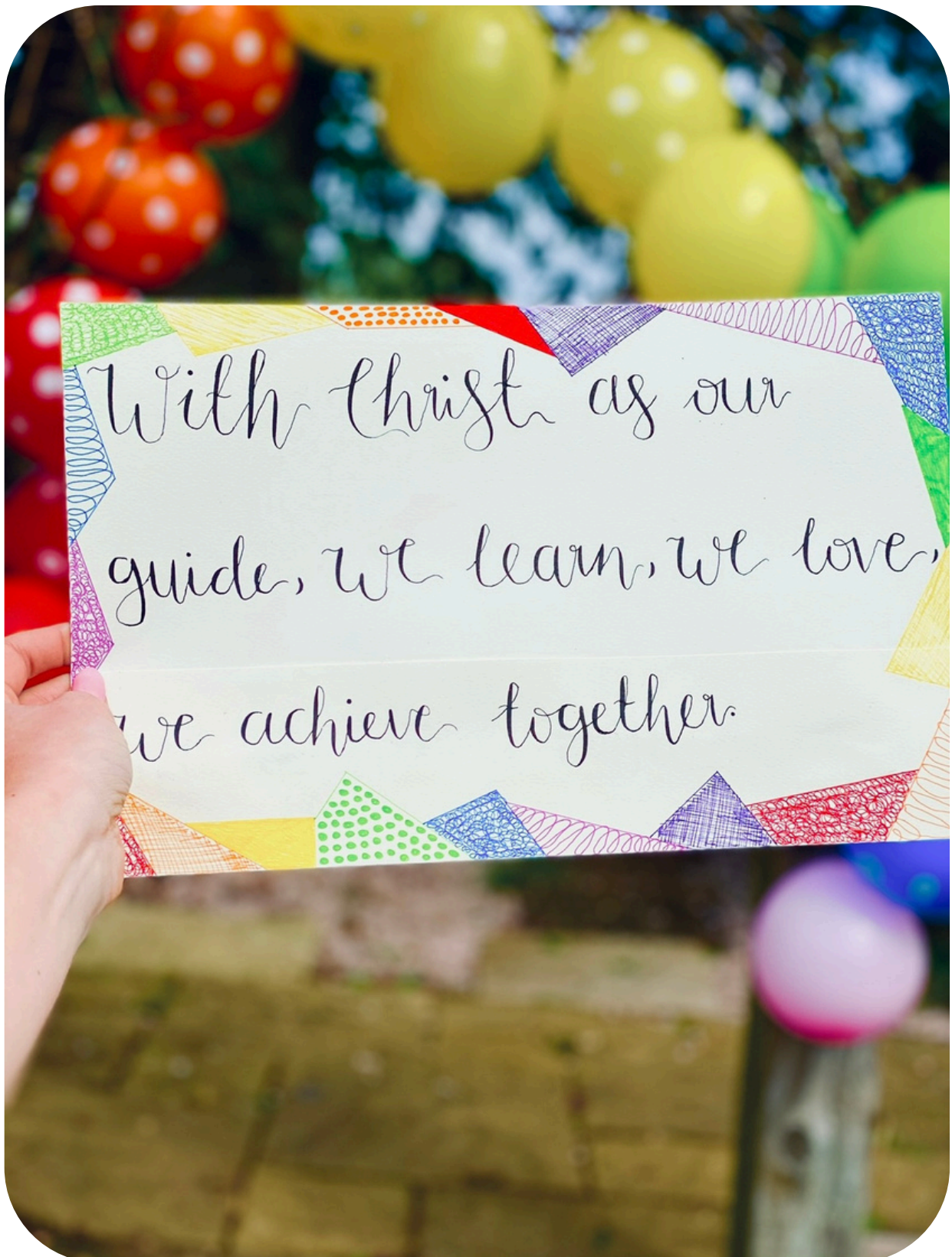
Our holiday courses give children from Year 1 to Year 9 the ideal blend of play and structure. With safety and enjoyment always in mind, every day is designed to keep children active and engaged.

£26 PER DAY
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