



Marston Thorold's Primary School Newsletter

Yearly Newsletter

HEDGEHOG CLASS 2026/27

Welcome back to a new year in Hedgehog Class! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and managed to stay cool in the heatwave—the fresher weather is certainly welcomed! I am looking forward to getting to know our lovely new Hoglets and helping them flourish in their first year at Marston Thorold's.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch via the school office. Alternatively, come and find me at the end of the day on the school gate!



What's happening in Autumn Term?

Autumn 1 - Our EYFS topic is *All About Me*, which will allow the children to learn more about themselves and each other. Year 1 and 2 will be exploring narratives and writing traditional tales. In Science, we will start looking at seasonal changes, which will be ongoing throughout the year. In geography we will be learning about life in Grantham and Lincolnshire today, beginning to read and make maps. RE will focus all term on how religious stories link to celebrations, and in music we will prepare for our Harvest service. Our art lessons will focus on drawing skills and computing will have an online safety focus.

Autumn 2 - EYFS will be focusing on *Terrific Tales* which ties in with our whole class Nativity at the end of term. Our History topic will be *The Great Fire of London* and Year 1 & 2 English lessons will also focus around this. In DT, we will be exploring and building Stuart houses, and in science we will learn about living things and their habitats.



What's happening in Spring Term?

Spring 1 - Our EYFS topic will be *Amazing Animals* which links with our continuing Science topic of living things and their habitats. In Geography, we will be comparing life in Chembakolli with life in Marston. Year 1 & 2 will write adventure stories based on pirates. RE lessons will explore what people learn from stories and festivals, while art lessons will focus on painting skills and colour. We will be developing fundamentals and gymnastic skills in PE and making animated story books in computing.



Spring 2 - EYFS's topic will be *Back to Nature* in line with our science topic of plants. In History, we will explore how Mary Seacole, Edith Cavell and Florence Nightingale improved nursing, and Year 1 and 2 will use this knowledge to write non-chronological reports in English. In DT, we will be learning about balanced diets and making our own healthy wraps, and in PE we will be developing dance skills.

What's happening in Summer Term?

Summer 1 - Our EYFS topic will be *Ticket to Ride* as the children learn all about transport. In Geography, we will compare hot and cold places around the world, and in Science we will begin to look at Animals including Humans. This will be enhanced by some exciting activities and a trip to a wildlife park! In English, Year 1 and 2 will then write recounts of our trip. In RE, we will discuss the differences between religions and world views, and in Art the children will explore structure to build clay tiles. In Computing, the children will learn how to code.

Summer 2 - The final topic for EYFS will be *All At Sea*, during which they will explore the depths of the ocean, both real and fictional. In History, we will explore how Marston has changed over the years, and in Science we will continue learning about animals including humans. In DT the children will use mechanisms to make moving monsters and in PE we will prepare for sports day! In PSHE we will continue to explore spirituality and what this means to everyone.



PE

Hedgehog PE days are **Wednesday** and **Friday**. Children are required to bring their PE kits to school at the beginning of term to leave on their pegs and can be collected again at the end of term. Our PE uniform consists of black shorts, white T-shirt, socks and trainers/plimssoles. Please also provide a tracksuit top and jogging bottoms for the colder months. Adults will be available to assist with changing for PE, but please support your child by practising with their independent dressing at home.



Reading Books

Little Wandle scheme:

Your child will bring home a reading book which will be closely matched to their phonics level and changed every Friday. They will have already read this book during three adult-led group reading sessions. Keeping their book for the whole week will ensure children become confident not only reading the words, but also with their fluency, tone of voice and comprehension of the story.



Accelerated Reader scheme:

Pupils will choose a book from their reading level which has been determined by a comprehension quiz. After reading the book (and when they feel confident to do so) a mini quiz will be taken to assess their understanding of the book and determine if it can be changed or suggested to read again. These interactive quizzes should be taken at school but progress can be monitored through their online portal at any time.

Please remember to read with your child for 10-15 minutes each night. This will make a huge difference to their progress and enjoyment of reading. We also encourage the reading of any materials which interest your child such as magazines, leaflets, posters, non-fiction books and annuals.

Homework

A bingo grid will be sent home every full term with fun activities and challenges to support your child's learning. This is also available on the 'homework' tab on our class webpage. Children can choose the order in which to complete the activities, but please ensure your child completes one piece of homework every fortnight so we can celebrate and look at everyone's work together. For any activities that cannot be physically handed in, please email photographs to the school office with the subject:
[Name] Hedgehog Homework.

Spelling

Each week, key spellings and spelling patterns will be published on the class page of the school website. These spellings are taught in class and will be recapped and revised throughout the year.

Please continue to practise these at home to support reading and writing skills.



Website

[Hedgehog Class: EYFS, Year 1 & Year 2 | The Marston Thorold's Charity Church of England](#)

Our website contains a wealth of information that you may find helpful.

On your child's class page, you can find:

- Homework grids
- Knowledge organisers
- Photo updates
- Spellings

On our main website, you can find information about our:

- Policies and reports
- Term dates
- Newsletters
- School information
- School meals
- SEND

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