

MARSHLAND ST. JAMES SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



SPRING ISSUE 1 - FRIDAY 9TH JANUARY 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term and the first newsletter of 2026! .

We have unbelievably begun the year with snow, an occurrence that many of our children have experienced for the first time - and they have all certainly enjoyed it! Although the weather conditions made the roads and paths treacherous, the children had a great time playing in the snow with their friends and we have managed to survive the week! There is truly something special about walking on a snowy playground and making the first set of footprints.

We have welcomed our newest members of staff, Miss Wilson and Miss Rawlings, to our team this week, and both have settled in well. Although they will not be staying with us permanently, both teachers have formed good relationships with the children in their classes, and when I have spoken with individuals, the children have all given positive feedback!

This week we have had height and weight measurements carried out for Reception and Year 6 children, we have all started our new curriculum subjects, with all Knowledge Organisers coming home tonight for the half term. Please do look at these with your child and let them share their new and prior learning. We are also having a huge push on handwriting this term, so watch this space for more information around how we teach this.

Wishing you a great, if slightly soggy weekend...!

Ms Lucca and the MSJ team.

A MESSAGE FROM MISS CADMAN ABOUT READING AT HOME!



According to the Book trust (2025), *'fitting in some time together to share a story or book with your child can help your child learn words and express themselves, help them feel close and connected to you, teach them about the world and about different kinds of people and spark their imagination and creativity that you might see in their pretend play and the stories they make up.'*

As you know, in NRC, we read with your children everyday and we would really like for this to be continued at home. Sharing a book with your child is magical for both of you!

OUR FIRST WEEK BACK IN SCHOOL!

Following 2 very snowy and icy days we have finally been able to get out new equipment out to keep us busy at playtimes. This equipment was funded by the whole school sponsored event last summer where the children raised money for charity, and also our school - what an achievement!

'I think it will be good for people to be active and have something fun to do. I'm excited for the cup and ball game! They're my favourite!' Thomas

'It will be good to be able to experiment with different toys and play equipment that is different from what we had before. I'm excited to play with the tennis rackets and balls. That'll be fun!' Freya



1/2B

This week we have been enjoying some of the cold weather by playing in the snow! We have also been continuing to get to know our new teacher and settling into new classroom routines. As a class, we have started to learn about the Romans and we are writing a report to show our learning.

N/RC

It has been lovely to welcome back Nursery and Reception this week. It was made even more special with the magical arrival of snow. The children thoroughly enjoyed experimenting with it, mixing it with sand, shovelling it into wheelbarrows and drawing in it with paintbrushes to make pictures. The children have settled back into learning this week very quickly and we are so proud of their behaviour.

They are stars!



3/4A

This week in 3/4A, we have welcomed two new students who have settled in very well and are learning our school values. I have also joined the class this week and have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the class and become involved in the school culture. I am looking forward to a great rest of the term. Some first week comments from our class this week

Freddie: I have enjoyed playing with the new things at play time.

Darcey R: My favourite thing this week has been my first day when I got to make some new friends.

SNOWY FUN!



OPPORTUNITIES TO JOIN OUR TEAM!

We STILL have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor in school.

All vacancies are advertised on My New Term, but If you do not see the position you are interested in, please contact Mrs Beale in the main office and she will update you.



PARKING

I know that parking at our school can be a challenge at times, but please can I ask that you park safely so that all families are able to access the site as easily as possible.

Can I also politely remind everyone that parking in the staff car park is prohibited unless permission has been given this academic year. This would usually only be a temporary arrangement and based on medical grounds, following a discussion with me.



UPCOMING EVENTS

January

February

12th - Disco

13th - Last day of school before half term - NON-UNIFORM DAY (FOSA)

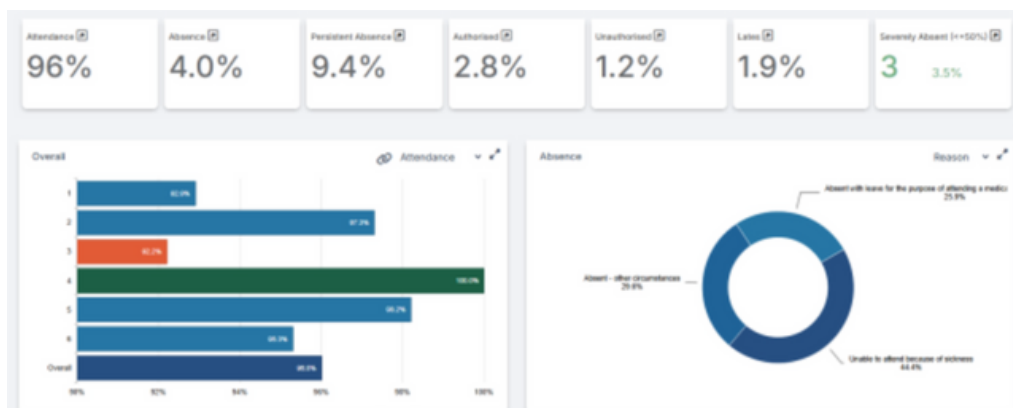


This section is a bit empty ... I need to sort out the MSJ diary!

FREEZER UPDATE....

As you know from Mrs Beale's emails, we came back into school on Tuesday to find that our kitchen freezer had stopped working, resulting in all of our food defrosting and being thrown away. We are so sorry about this and thank Mrs. Roper and her team for ensuring that we had some hot food to offer. Even after several engineer visits, we still have not resolved the issue, but hope that we will be back to normal next week. Please bear with us!

ATTENDANCE



ATTENDANCE YEAR TO DATE: 94.3%

Thank you for bringing your children in during this bad weather, and for ensuring that they have the correct clothing.

Every day is a school day, and we want to do whatever we can to support you in this.

SAFEGUARDING

As you will all now know, we have signed up to take part in the NSPCC's 'Speak Out. Stay Safe' programme this year, and I will be delivering the first assemblies to KS1 and KS2 next week. These will be followed up by lessons that support the learning, which is all about keeping safe and what signs of abuse to look out for. All resources are set at an appropriate level for the age group receiving them, and will empower our children as they work through them.

We have shared the NSPCC's 'Talk PANTS' with children this week. Developed with children, parents, carers and teachers, Talk PANTS is here to help children understand that their body belongs to them, and they should tell a safe adult they trust if anything makes them feel upset or worried. Please find a link to this [here](#). EYFS will continue to use this resource.

If you are interested in volunteering with the NSPCC and/or running workshops in schools, please use this [link](#). They are particularly short of volunteers in our area!