

# NEWSLETTER



## AUTUMN CELEBRATIONS



Our first half term back at school is always such a busy one! Not only do we have lots of new learning to fit in, we also have harvest and Halloween to celebrate.

Before our service of Thanks for the harvest, we worked hard in school to learn some hymns and songs to sing. Our choir, alongside Mrs Coffey and Mr O'Brien, spent lunchtimes rehearsing their pieces and everyone worked hard in class to create some spectacular scarecrows. During the service, the children sang and read beautifully and our choir blew us all away with their amazing performance. Thank you so much for your donations of food. We know that times are tough for lots of families at the moment so it was great to see so many of you supporting our collection to help other local families in their time of need.



### HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

EYFS has made sure everyone in school is in the Halloween spirit with some fantastic learning opportunities in their classroom. Then, all of the children made such an effort with their costumes for our discos—everyone looked 'spooktacular!' If you have entered the PTFA Halloween Trail, remember to bring your sheets back after the holidays to claim your prize.



### Future Strictly Stars?

This half term, our children enjoyed a special dance lesson delivered by Mrs Reed or Little Movers. The lesson was linked to an area of their curriculum and all of the children worked to create a dance routine using new skills they had learned during the session.



### Website Updates

Have you been on our website recently? It really is a great site to visit as it has lots of updates about what we have been getting up to in school. We have recently added more information about our Curriculum at Marsden, which tells you a little more about the subjects your child is studying in school. More information is being added over the coming weeks so please keep checking in!

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to our Y4 teacher Mrs Reed and her husband, who are expecting their first baby in February. We are all so excited to meet your new arrival!



### Attendance and Punctuality

As you are aware, attending school regularly and being on time is key to your child's success at school. As soon as the gates open at 8:45am the children's learning begins! Teachers have tasks for children to complete, children read to adults and any help needed from yesterday's lesson, is often provided at this point of the day. Therefore, please aim to have your child in school for 8:45am but definitely in class by 8:55am.



We have recently updated our attendance policy to encourage good attendance at our school. Some important things to note are that we will visit any child on day 3 of absence to carry out an 'Eyes on the Child'. Attendance above 96% is considered good. If your child's attendance falls below this then your child's attendance and punctuality will be monitored. Please ensure you support and encourage your child to attend and be punctual.

### Message from Mrs Marshall

We have had a wonderful half term in school, making so many special memories and developing some fantastic skills. The support you are providing the children with, from homework to having all of the correct materials is vital to the children's learning and something we really appreciate.

This term, more than ever, we are aware of the financial burden that every household is under and we try our very best to support families in need. Our harvest festival gave us a chance to thank Hospitality and Hope for all of the support they have given us over the years and this was gratefully received.

Next term sees the 'Christmas Celebrations' starting and the excitement building. We look forward to welcoming everyone into school to be a part of these events and also seeing the amazing children we have at our school show us the wide range of talents they have.

I hope everyone enjoys a wonderful half term and comes back refreshed and ready for the next adventure.

In order to help support the children's learning, lots of our year groups have been on some amazing educational visits this half term. Y6 visited High Force to discover how waterfalls are formed, Y5 visited the Hindu temple to discover more about their beliefs and customs, Y4 looked at Ancient Greek artefacts in the Great North Museum and Y3 have been to

Beamish to find out what life might have been like in a mining community.

Our KS1 children have also been very busy; Year 1 set up their own toy museum and Year 2 have taken part in some tennis lessons. EYFS hosted a wonderful book breakfast which we know you all really enjoyed.



### Dates for the Diary

Next half term is always jam packed with events—particularly in the run up to Christmas. Our website has an up to date Parent Calendar which has all of the dates you need. Please be sure to check it out via the 'Parents' tab on our home page. As always, we will send a ParentMail with further details as events get closer. **Following the half term holiday, School re-opens on Monday 31st October.**

