



NEWSLETTER

Friday 8th September 2023

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Harvest Service in church: **Date TBC**

Year 6 Residential at The Pioneer Centre:
25th – 27th October

Half term:
30th October – 3rd November

Parent Consultation Evenings: Tuesday
17th October &
Wednesday 18th October

Carol Concert in Church: Thursday 21st December

End of term: 22nd December



Dear Parents,

Welcome back everyone. I hope you all had a fabulous summer and are feeling refreshed for the new academic year. As this is the first newsletter, we are sharing a paper copy with you, however subsequent letters will be posted on Class Dojo and on our school website: <https://www.martleyceprimaryschool.co.uk/>
Here you will find the term dates

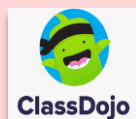
We have had a really productive first full week, every and settled back in to routine brilliantly. Well done to all our new starters: all of the Reception children in Holly Class, and our new pupils across the school who have joined the Martley family. We also welcome some new members to our staff team; the Admin Team now consist of Miss Owen and Mrs Lewis. Mrs Owen is on site from 8:30 – 4pm daily, and Mrs Lewis Mondays and Wednesdays. Mrs Ali will be supporting with training the new team over the first few weeks of term. Sadly, Miss Austin - who was due to be joining us in Maple Class has had to withdraw due to personal circumstances; therefore, Mrs Nelms is teaching Maple Class for the Autumn Term. We are recruiting for a permanent member of staff and will of course keep you updated. We appreciate that this is short notice however the circumstances have been beyond our control.

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) Update

On Monday we were inspected by a technical surveyor to see whether RAAC is present on the school site. Although the report has not yet been issued, he confirmed that there is no RAAC at Martley CE Primary School.

Reporting Absences

All absence reporting will now revert to the Administration Team. Please contact Mrs Owen or Mrs Lewis by phoning **01886 888201** or emailing the school office at office@martley-pri.worcs.sch.uk on the first day of absence, no later than 9:30am. **Please do not send messages regarding absence via ClassDojo.**



Based on an evaluation of communications in the last academic year, ClassDojo has not been the most effective method of dealing with parental queries; the tracking and monitoring of whole school issues can be more effectively addressed in a more structured manner if directed through the school office. The impact on staff mental health and wellbeing have also been a consideration.

Class Dojo will no longer be used by parents to contact staff directly but more as a means of communicating school events, teaching and learning. If you would like to speak with your class teacher, they will be available after school as usual or by making an appointment through the school office. Any messages can be passed on via the Admin Team.

Many thanks as always for your continued support and we all hope that this school year will be a successful one!

'Preparing today's children for tomorrow's challenges'

MEDICAL: If your child suffers with asthma, they need their named inhalers in school. Please make sure that all medication including epipens (or similar) are in date.

HEALTHY EATING

At Martley, we endeavour to be a healthy school, teaching the children about how to make good choices for their health including what they eat and how this contributes to their wellbeing.

We know how important it is that your child has the right fuel to keep them going from breakfast until lunch and ask that children only have fruit at morning break (this also includes fruit winders).

Please remember that all key stage 1 children have the option of free fruit and vegetables as part of the government school fruit and vegetables scheme, however you may provide an alternative piece of fruit if you wish.

Children need to bring in a named water bottle each day, please note that squash is not allowed.

UNIFORM & JEWELLERY

Thank you for making sure that your children look so smart!

Just a couple of reminders, children must have their hair tied back if longer than shoulder length and jewellery is limited to small, plain studs only.

Outdoor P.E. kits should be plain black only please.

Thank you for your support with this.

DOGS

As much as we love them, dogs are not allowed on any part of the school premises.



VOLUNTEERS

If there are any parents interested in listening to readers on a regular basis then we would love to hear from you. Please let Mrs Cox know via the school office; office@martley-pri.worcs.sch.uk



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ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

Attendance

Our aim is to improve attendance and punctuality across the school. This is a key message from the Department of Education and we will be continuing to work hard to attain even higher percentages of attendance in each class.

Absence Procedure

If your child is ill and unable to attend school, **please phone or email the school office** first thing in the morning. At the start of each day. Registers are checked and if a pupil is absent and no communication has been received from you, a phone call will be made to ascertain the reasons why. Please note, it is imperative that all contact numbers are kept up to date for this reason, and in case of emergencies.

Family Holiday/Medical Appointments

Parents/carers are advised to make dental and medical appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. If a pupil needs to attend a medical appointment, a letter or appointment slip may be asked for.

Leave will not be granted for family holidays unless it is deemed an 'exceptional circumstance'. Requests must be made on the school's leave of absence form available from the school office. You will be notified of the decision in writing. When a leave of absence is refused, and the child is still absent, it will be recorded as unauthorised which may result in a fixed penalty notice.

Persistent Absence

Attendance on a regular basis; if a pupil's attendance becomes a concern, a letter will be sent home inviting parents/carers for a meeting and to offer support.

Punctuality

Arriving late to school is disruptive for the teachers and other pupils, it also means that children miss important input. Morning registration is at 9am though children have activities set from 8:45 during our soft start.

Attendance is a team effort and we very much hope that we can work together in the best interests of all of our children.

Thank you



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