



### Newsletter

Friday 16th February 2018

To all Parents/Carers,

That half term certainly flew by! I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter; it's always really nice to see everything the children have achieved and all the events that have taken place in and out of school.

Believe it or not, it is almost two years since we embarked upon our Artsmark Gold journey. Under the expert stewardship of Miss Gamble and her team, this journey is coming to an end quite soon and we are gathering the evidence piece by piece. When you actually read the whole report it is amazing to see all the great opportunities that the children have had – well-dressing, mosaic art (see right for Y2), choir performances, celebration assemblies and artist visits just to name a few. As a school it is really important that we continue to get that balance within the curriculum just right. Reading, Writing and Maths are important and underpin many essential life skills but they only form part of the curriculum. If we want children to explore their potential then the Arts, Sport, Languages and all the other areas must continue to have their chance to shine. The pinnacle to this achievement will be Arts Week in the Summer Term. This is being planned as we speak so keep an eye out for further details. I'd like to think that we will achieve Gold comfortably and with a bit of luck we might even be looking at Platinum which is the top award.



In other news, I spent Wednesday afternoon in Y4 and despite the miserable weather we went into the Forest School area to do something called 'Twig Towers'. The concept was simple, build a tower out of nothing but twigs – the tallest tower wins. Well if you ever wanted to see Growth Mindset in action then this was the place to see it. In the wind and rain we had towers falling over at the last minute, we had cold hands and we had one failed attempt after another but every group managed to complete the task and one was 2.9m in height! Our Forest School trainees are approaching the end of their training too so we'll start to have fires out there pretty soon in the firepit.

And finally, as I mentioned a few weeks back, some of our After-School clubs led by staff are up and running. Last Thursday I was interviewed by two members of the Journalism Club and hopefully after half term we will be having a Coding Club using Raspberry Pi technology. Some of the clubs only last a half term so keep checking your emails for any dates.

Just a few reminders, after half term it is Parent/Carer Meetings so make sure you have signed up and booked a slot and the first Thursday back is World Book Day!

Have a good half term and see you on the gate on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February.

Mr I. Johnson

## Award goes to... Markeaton School Kitchen!

Congratulations to our Kitchen Team who just scored the first ever 100% in Derby City for a Food Audit!! An amazing achievement! They thought their attention to detail with allergies was exemplary and there was a super variety of freshly sourced ingredients on offer!

In addition to the fabulous nutritious meals our School Kitchen serve daily, they are now offering 'special theme days' to make school lunches even more varied and exciting! Last month's theme was 'Burns Night' and February's offering was 'Chinese New Year'. For more information on upcoming special theme days, please refer to our website [www.markeaton.derby.sch.uk/School-Dinners](http://www.markeaton.derby.sch.uk/School-Dinners)



## School Dinners



The cost of school dinners for half term Monday 26th February to Thursday 22nd March is **£41.80**. Payment can be made half-termly or weekly and is due in advance. Please refer to our School Dinners—Payment and Arrears Policy on our website for more information.

## We are a nut free school

Due to children who attend Markeaton Primary School that have a severe allergy to nuts, we kindly request that you do not send your child to school with nuts, or products containing nuts, for their snacks or in their packed lunches.

*For some, contact with nuts could be life-threatening!*

Thank you for your co-operation in making our school environment safe for all.



## Highlights from this Half Term

A busy and eventful start to 2018! The whole school participated in our e-safety week, with a visit from our local police and some children visiting an e-safety seminar at the Quad, Derby. Week beginning the 5th February was 'Children's Mental Health Week' and the children were asked to concentrate on what they were good at. Leigh Timmis, a round the world cyclist and motivational speaker, attended one of our assemblies; he talked about resilience, finding what makes you happy and how to survive at -45 degrees!

**FS2** have been fine-tuning their fine motor skills by seeing how many marbles they could balance in a minute. They have also enjoyed reciting a poem by Mary Ryer "Winter Time" with actions.

**Y1** have been exploring the world and putting their knowledge into the form of African rainforest collages and Inuit clay coil igloos. The cold hasn't stopped them either—they have been outdoors making 'creatures' from natural objects during their Outdoor Learning sessions.

**Y2** immersed themselves in their WW2 topic this half-term. They've had fun making ration eggless chocolate cakes and creating their own WW2 gardens and Anderson shelters. Parents and carers who came to view their work said they were very impressed.

**Y3** enjoyed a jam packed half term, with Street Dance moves in PE, sewing lessons to create their own Viking purses and art lessons where they created their own thoughtful collages to represent 'What Makes Great Britain Great'.

**Y4** have been exploring how archaeologists use artefacts to find out about the past during their Viking topic this half term. During Literacy, they have also been 'calmly creating complex sentences' to help them write their own explanation text.

**Y5** enjoyed learning about different artists including the works of Frida Kahlo, Jean-Michel Basquiat and Banksy. Using their knowledge, they then went on to make their own masterpieces. The 'Power of Pullies' was one of the studies this half term in science with some budding young engineers in the making!

Our science lessons are never boring - **Y6** have been carrying out experiments to find out what happens to the water we flush down our toilets and the process to make it drinkable again. They have also enjoyed a visit, along with Y5, from local storyteller, Sophie Snell, where they participated in 'Derbyshire Folk Tales' workshops.







Why not follow us on Twitter [@Marketon Primary](https://twitter.com/MarketonPrimary) to view more of our fabulous activities and events throughout the school year.



## Please sponsor us!

Mr. Johnson and some of his crazy team have agreed to attempt to climb to the top of Snowdon... IN THE DARK! Thank you for all who have donated so far - £1280 raised but please keep donating to help raise funds for Alzheimer's Society and Markeaton PTFA. Please click on the link if you would like to sponsor us

[www.sponsorme.co.uk/ianjohnson/markeaton-midnight-snowdon-challenge.aspx](http://www.sponsorme.co.uk/ianjohnson/markeaton-midnight-snowdon-challenge.aspx)



## Parentmail

### FAQ's



When logging in to pay for a school trip or activity, always click **Payments**, and if you cannot find the item you are looking for, click **Shop** at the top of the page. This will take you to a full list of items (including those you have already paid for). The reason the activity can only be found here is because the payment due date has passed.

## Parentmail App

Since replacing our text messages to you with emails, many of you have found the free Parentmail app useful. The Parentmail app delivers our messages to you direct which are all easily accessed from one place and you receive a notification when anything new comes in.

If you decide to not download this app, we ask that you check your email inbox once per week so that you don't miss any messages.

Should you have any problems navigating this system, please speak to the School Office. We are always on hand to help.



## Attention all parents!

### Download the ParentMail App for the best way to pick up school messages

FREE  
DOWNLOAD

"Nice simple little App but such a great, effective way of accessing important school information"



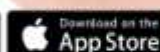
"Great communications tool - makes life a bit more organised"



"Brilliant! I don't have to go back to all my emails to check up what's going on at my children's school, 10 out of 10"



Search "ParentMail" in your App store...



ParentMail



Please note: If you are not already registered, you will need to register online on the ParentMail website before trying to access the App. Please ask the school office to send you a registration message.

## YMCA Wrap-Around-Care

Based at Markeaton Primary School

In partnership with Markeaton Primary School we provide a safe and friendly environment for your child that provides lots of exciting activities before and after school, including: problem solving, arts and crafts, a range of sports, help with homework and much more. Our wide range of activities will support children's natural stages of development and interests alongside ensuring healthy and nutritious food is provided.

We support daily routines to enable children to become alert and ready for the school day and then offer time for homework and fun and games after the school day so children go home relaxed.

The Breakfast Club includes a nutritious breakfast and the After School Club includes a nutritious tea.

To book your place, please visit:

<http://ymcaderbyshire.org.uk/about/what-we-do/family-work/markeaton-primary-school/>



### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please note: YMCA Holiday Club will not run on Friday 23rd February

## Dates For Your Diary 2018 - 2019

*Further dates will be added throughout the school year*

<b>19th - 25th February</b>	<b>Half Term - school closed</b>
Thurs 1st March	World Book Day ( <i>see Latest News page</i> )
Fri 2nd March	Y4 Viking Day!
	<b>PTFA Quiz Night</b>
5th - 7th March	Parents Evenings - not including Y4
	School Book Fair 3.30 - 4pm
Tues 6th March	Y5/6 trip to Kedleston Hall
Wed 7th March	Music Celebration Assembly auditions 12pm
	Y3 Viking Day!
Thurs 8th March	Y3 Come To Lunch
8th - 9th March	Y4 Conover Hall residential trip
12th - 14th March	Y4 Parents Evenings
Wed 14th March	Y2 trip to Holdenby House
	Y6 Come To Lunch 12.30pm
Thurs 15th March	Y2 V Day Street Party 2.30 - 3.15pm ( <i>parents welcome</i> )
	Y1 Wildlife Workshop
Fri 16th March	FS2 trip to Rosliston Forestry Centre
	<b>PTFA Easter Egg Hunt</b>
Mon 19th March	Music Celebration Assembly 9.45am
19th & 20th March	Y5 Level 1 Bikeability (limited places)
Wed 21st March	Class Photographs
Thurs 22nd March	FS2 Balanceability (limited places)
<b>Fri 23rd March</b>	<b>INSET Day - school closed to pupils</b>
<b>26th March - 8th April</b>	<b>Easter Holidays - school closed</b>
<b>Mon 7th May</b>	<b>Bank Holiday - school closed</b>