



**MARKEATON PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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**Headteacher:** Mr. I. Johnson (Hons) NPQH

To all Parents/Carers,

28/9/18

It's been a funny old week this week! On Monday and Tuesday I was de-icing my windscreen in the morning and then on Wednesday it was twenty degrees! I'm not sure what is forecast next week but this last little bit of good weather is really helping us to enjoy the outdoors for a while longer (see right)!

I have seen Miss Hughes' class doing their 'Rammie's Daily Mile' this week on the field. This is something seen in quite a few schools across Derby and it basically requires the children to run a mile every day before lessons. It doesn't have to be done at full pace (some children prefer to walk or skip!) but it is designed to help improve mood and children's attitudes towards their learning.

Anyway, we're going to give it a go and see what impact it has so watch this space and keep an eye on Twitter. It's all part of our affiliation with the Derby Community Trust Sports Programme so there will be lot more updates as the year progresses.



In other news, you may have seen recent articles in the news about Ofsted and what their main focus will be over the next few years; the Curriculum. This means that inspections will have much more of an emphasis on foundation subjects such as History, Science and Music just to name a few. At Markeaton we are very proud of our curriculum and each class' Twitter updates hopefully give you a flavour of what goes on in school. We have adopted a cross curricular approach for a number of years now whereby an umbrella theme and/or question is used to cover these subjects and link them all together. For example, a topic on Space over the course of a term might include making rockets, learning about Neil Armstrong and writing code for a space launch. The teaching staff are very skilled at this and at the back of each classroom the children get to see their work being displayed week by week. Most importantly, the children have lots of fun meaning their learning remains with them for a lot longer.

Next Friday is our Macmillan coffee morning so please pop along for a brew and a slice of cake. Thank you also to the children for not reminding me too often that my team lost to Derby County on Tuesday night in a penalty shoot out!

And finally, myself and all the staff would like to say thank you to Mrs Wright who left her position at the beginning of this year as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant. Mrs Wright was a valued member of staff who had worked for us for a number of years, most recently in Y1, and we wish her the very best of luck in the future.

Have a lovely weekend

Mr I. Johnson