

Marish Academy Trust Newsletter

Issue 67 - July 2024

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

Dear Parents & Carers,

Another academic year comes to close on Friday of this week and once again it has been a successful one for both Marish and Willow schools. Despite various challenges during the year, the children have excelled themselves gaining particularly good phonics and KS2 results. However, results are but one facet of what we achieve in our schools.



As a parent said in a thank you letter this week, at Marish and Willow we help to shape the adults our children will become. With you, their parents, (and their first and best teachers), we have the privilege of watching them progress over seven or eight years and become confident, independent learners who leave us, not just ready to make the most of their opportunities at secondary school, but who will go on to be the participants and contributors in the next generation. This is what we are most proud of.

Some of the highlights of this year have been Awards Evenings, Sports Days including the SEND unit sports day, various productions from those performed by the younger children at Christmas to the polished performances of Harry Potter by both year 6 cohorts. Our PGL trip for Year 6 to the Isle of Wight had over 100 children on it, perhaps the most we have ever taken away yet, but here too they did us proud.

Before we know it September will be here and the cycle will start again, so we wish you all a well earned and refreshing summer break. In the meantime, thank you for entrusting us with your children and working as partners with us this year once again.

Best wishes,
Mrs Denham and Miss Court

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Reception Trip to Wellington Farm



PIC•COLLAGE

The children had a great experience visiting the farm animals, the dinosaurs, and the play area at Wellington Country Park. They enjoyed a picnic lunch.

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Reception Trip to Wellington Farm



PIC·COLLAGE

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Year 1 Trip to Iver Environment Centre



Year 1 had a wonderful time at the Iver Environment Centre, exploring nature and engaging in hands-on activities. The children thoroughly enjoyed their visit, learning about the environment in a fun and interactive way.

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Year 2 Trip to Bournemouth



The Year 2 children had a fantastic time on Bournemouth beach; playing in the sand and enjoying the waves. It was a day full of fun activities and laughter by the shore!

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Year 3 Trip



Year 3 students across the Trust attended the annual "Everyone Can Play" event hosted by the Slough Music Service. Along with three other schools, they showcased their guitar skills, which they have practiced all year. It was a fantastic day, and the children thoroughly enjoyed it.

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Year 4 Trip to Victoria Theatre



Year 4 students enjoyed an exciting visit to the New Victoria Theatre in Woking to see "Awful Auntie" by David Walliams!

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Year 5 Trip to National Gallery



Year 5 had an inspiring visit to the National Gallery, where they explored incredible works of art and learned about famous artists. It was a day filled with creativity and discovery!

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Year 6 Trip to Chessington



Year 6 students had an amazing time at Chessington, enjoying thrilling rides and exciting attractions. It was a fun-filled day packed with adventure and memorable experiences!

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Year 6 – Production – Harry Potter



Year 6 gave a fantastic performance based on **Harry Potter**, captivating everyone with their magic and creativity!

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Year 6 - Leavers Assembly & Garden Party



Year 6 had an emotional Leavers Assembly, celebrating their time together with heartfelt moments. At the end of the day, they enjoyed a delightful garden party, filled with fun and laughter.

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Sports Activities



BERKSHIRE GAMES

Over 1000 children from schools across Berkshire participated in the Berkshire Games at Braywick Leisure Centre in Maidenhead. They took part in activities ranging from archery to wheelchair rugby and dance. Students from Year 3 to Year 6 at Marish took part in the Invictus events as well as various other sports.

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Sports Activities

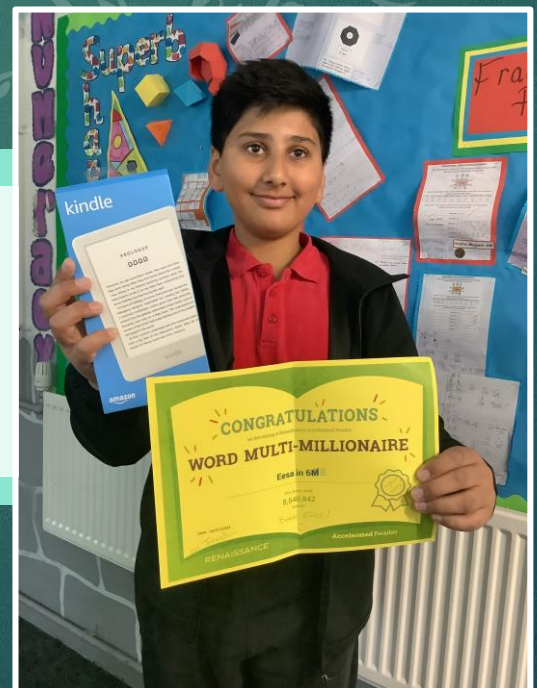


SKIPPING FESTIVAL

The Skipping Festival at Eton Sports College was a fantastic event! The children had a great time learning new skills and techniques, making it a fun and engaging experience for everyone involved.

Word Millionaire

Well done to Eesa for reading an impressive 8,540,842 words! He received the Kindle prize for his outstanding achievement.



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Eco Warriors

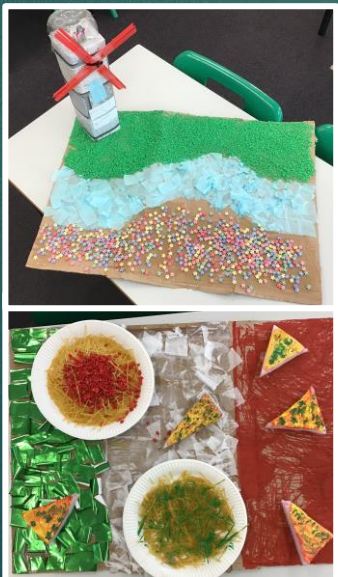
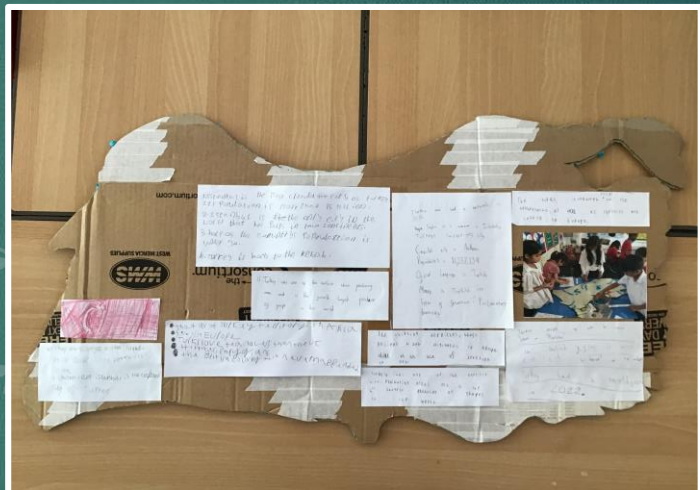
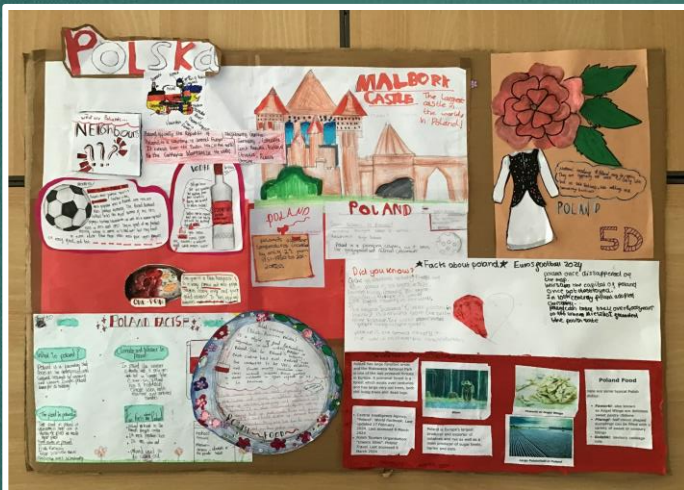
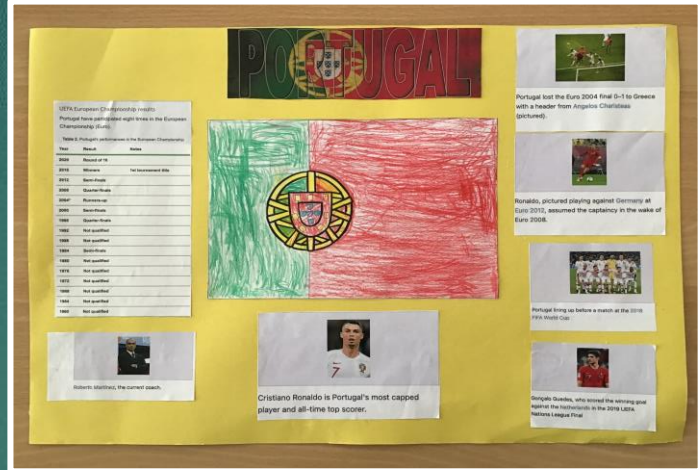
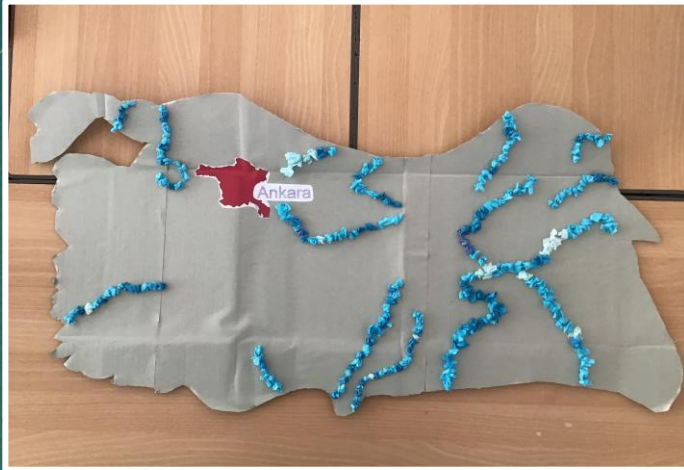


The Eco Warriors at Marish and Willow once again entered the Slough BID Garden in a Wagon competition this summer. Working together they designed, decorated and planted a garden, keeping it alive and thriving until the competition. The wagons were displayed in Slough High Street and judged by the mayor of Slough Balwinder S Dhillon. Unfortunately, we did not win a place. However, the Eco Warriors created a beautiful garden.

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Euro Projects



The Trustwide Geography team recently set each class across both schools a challenge based on the current UEFA European football championship tournament. As you can see the children learned about different cultures; they worked hard and produced some fabulous projects based on their chosen country.

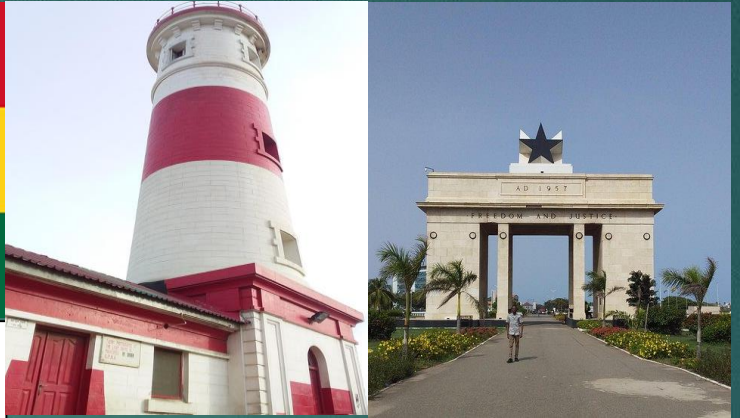
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MFL – Twi, Language of the week



English is the official language of Ghana, but Twi is spoken by up to 8 million people in Ghana. It is also spoken in Côte d'Ivoire and in Togo. There are two major dialects – Ashanti and Fante.



The capital of Ghana is Accra. This means 'ant hill' in the local language.



Accra is known for its vibrant markets.



Now let's learn a few phrases...

- Now let's learn a few phrases...
- Akwaaba Welcome!
- Medaase Thank you!
- Mem a wo akye Good morning!
- Mem a wo aha Good afternoon!
- Mem a wo adwo Good evening!
- Da yie Goodnight!
- Nante yie Safe journey!
- Wo din de sen? What is your name?
- Me din de Kathy My name is Kathy
- Wofi (ri) he? Where are you from?
- Mefi (ri) England I'm from England.
- Baako 1
- Mmienu 2
- Mmiensa 3



This is the flag of Ashanti. The Ashanti people live in the central part of Ghana.

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Healthy Lifestyle

Activities to keep fit at home

Exercise: Mater's Tow Truck Trail

Players: 1 or more

Where to play? Indoors or outdoors

How to play



1. Use toys to mark out a start and finish line.

start **finish**

2. Get on to your hands and knees and place a ball or soft toy on your lower back.



3. You have to get to the finish line without dropping the ball, but take it slowly – if it falls, you need to start again!



4. Time yourself – see if you can beat your own time, or race against friends.



5. Next time, make it harder by adding another object to your load or moving the finish line further away.



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Healthy Lifestyle

BLUEBERRY AND BANANA MUFFINS RECIPE

Preparation time - 10 mins

Cooking time - 25 mins

Makes - 8 Muffins

Ingredients – Serves 4

- 125g lower-fat spread, melted and cooled slightly
- 2 tablespoons semi-skimmed milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 ripe banana, mashed
- 50g unsweetened apple purée
- 100g self-raising flour
- 1 teaspoon ground mixed spice
- 50g soft brown or light muscovado sugar
- 75g dried blueberries
- 75g porridge oats



Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 180C (fan 160C, gas mark 4). Line a muffin tin with 8 paper muffin cases or squares of baking paper.
2. Mix together the cooled low-fat spread, milk, vanilla extract, mashed banana, apple purée and eggs in a bowl.
3. In a separate large mixing bowl, combine the flour, mixed spice, sugar, blueberries and porridge oats.
4. Slowly tip the wet ingredients into the bowl of dry ones, gently mixing as you go, until combined.
5. Divide the mixture evenly between the muffin cases, then bake for 25 to 30 minutes, until firm and golden. Remove from the oven and leave to cool on a wire rack.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/blueberry-and-banana-muffins/>

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Attendance

Marish

July 2024

Reception: **94.35%**

Year 1: **90.51%**

Year 2: **94.71%**

Year 3: **93.17%**

Year 4: **92.37%**

Year 5: **95.29%**

Year 6: **89.19%**

Target: **96%**

Willow

July 2024

Reception: **83.77%**

Year 1: **94.14%**

Year 2: **93.67%**

Year 3: **95.34%**

Year 4: **94.83%**

Year 5: **95.50%**

Year 6: **90.51%**

Target: **96%**



Last month's 100% attendance reward was Muffin



Below 90% Serious Concern
Drastic effect on academic success

95- 90% Cause for Concern
Negatively affecting academic success

100%- 96% WELL DONE
Achieving full potential

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Parent Notices

Timings of the School Day from September

Soft start is from 8:15am to 8:30am for all year groups except Nursery.

SEN Unit:	Doors open 8:15am to 8:45am and then at 3:00pm
Nursery:	8:00 – 11:00am and 12:00pm – 3:00pm
Nursery full time (Marish)	8:00am – 3:00pm
Reception:	8:30am – 3:15pm
Year 1 and Year 2:	8:30am – 3:15pm
Year 3 and Year 4:	8:30am – 3:25pm
Year 5 and Year 6:	8:30am – 3:25pm



Ensure that you drop the children off at the designated entrance and do not leave them unsupervised on the school grounds.

Fees for Breakfast club and Meerkats

Meerkats	Before 4pm	After 4pm
	£2	£5
Breakfast Club	£1 per day	-
Late collection	£5 per 15 minutes	-

Full time only sessions, £2, parents still need to order and pay for school dinner in addition to this.

If you would like your child to attend Breakfast club or Meerkats you will need to apply for a space. For more information or an application form, enquire at the school office.

Please note, there is a different payment schedule for Pupil Premium/ Free School Meal pupils. Please contact the office before applying.

All pupils must be booked in advance otherwise they will not be allowed to attend. If your child attends Meerkats without a booking they will be charged the late fee. If your child attends Breakfast club without booking they will not be allowed to attend. Bookings close at 7am. Please book a week in advance.

Please make sure you drop your child(ren) in the morning and collect them in the afternoon from the reception area so they can be signed in and out.

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Parent Notices

School Uniform

Our Trust school uniform consists of:

- Red/Green sweatshirt or cardigan (Red for Marish and Green for Willow)
- Navy blue trousers, shorts or skirt
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Black smart shoes (no boots, high heels or platforms)
- Nursery – the above with grey or black jogging bottoms
- PE Kit – red plain round neck T-shirt, black shorts or jogging bottoms
- A plain black tracksuit to wear over the PE kit for outdoor lessons in cold weather.

Trainers/plimsolls will work for outside lessons

- Swimming is a part of the Year 4 curriculum and pupils are expected to have appropriate swim wear with a swimming hat



All items of clothing must be clearly labelled with the child's name.

The only jewellery allowed is one small stud in each ear, a watch and that which is a specific religious requirement. These must all be removed for PE. The child must take full responsibility for looking after these items. The school will accept no responsibility for their loss or damage.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators PROMOTING PHYSICAL WELLBEING

Physical activity isn't only beneficial for our bodies; it also plays a role in promoting mental wellbeing. With both the Euros and the Olympics this summer, it's an opportunity to engage young people in regular exercise which can reduce stress, improve mood and boost self-esteem. Despite these benefits, many children face barriers to participating in physical activity.

1 MAKE IT FUN

Incorporate activities that children enjoy, such as playing games or dancing. Encourage participation in team sports or group activities to foster social connections and a sense of belonging.

2 MIX MOVEMENT WITH LEARNING

Educational settings can incorporate movement breaks and physical activities to enhance focus, concentration and cognitive function. Embedding exercise into the curriculum can also reinforce learning and stimulate creativity. 'Revision walks' with podcasts and flashcards can benefit older learners.

3 CREATE OPPORTUNITIES

Provide clear chances for physical activity throughout the day, both indoors and outdoors. Schools can encourage active play during breaks and at lunchtimes, while limiting screen time at home can help keep children up and about.

4 PROVIDE POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

Praise and encourage children for their efforts and achievements in physical activity. Recognise their progress and celebrate their successes to reinforce positive behaviours. Educators could do this in several ways, such as applauding their efforts at assemblies or celebrating their accomplishments in newsletters.

5 VARIETY IS KEY

Introduce a selection of physical activities to keep children engaged and prevent boredom. From swimming and cycling to yoga and martial arts, trying different types of exercise can help children to discover what they enjoy most.

6 ENJOYMENT OVER COMPETITION

Encourage children to focus on the enjoyment of physical activity rather than winning or achieving perfection. Emphasise effort, improvement and having fun rather than outcomes, to minimise the amount of stress that children can sometimes associate with sports and other competitions.

7 SET REALISTIC GOALS

Help children set achievable physical activity targets based on their interests, abilities and preferences. Celebrate their progress and successes to maintain motivation and enthusiasm.

8 MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE

Ensure that children have access to safe, suitable spaces for exercise at home, at school and in the community. Advocate for inclusive environments which accommodate diverse needs and abilities. Be a change maker in your community if facilities aren't already available.

9 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Parents and carers can be positive role models by prioritising their own exercise and involving children in their fitness routines. Gentle walks, bike rides or sports activities can be wonderful opportunities for bonding and staying active together.

10 ENCOURAGE PERSISTENCE

Help children develop resilience and perseverance by encouraging them to overcome challenges and setbacks in physical activity. Teach them the importance of perseverance and the value of effort in achieving their goals.

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is a learning and development specialist who, as well as working for Minds Ahead, is associate vice principal for personal development at a large secondary school in Barnsley. He was asked to be part of an expert research group for the Department for Education, one of only three school leaders to be asked to do so.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators PROMOTING A LOVE OF EARLY WRITING

Mastering writing skills at an early age can result in better literacy and communication capabilities, giving children improved prospects in their later education and career. To write meaningfully requires motivation, inspiration and fine motor skills. Children gradually come to understand that writing has meaning and that the words they write can be read back again.

1 MODEL WRITING HABITS

Children thrive on copying the behaviours of the adults they observe around them, so modelling writing habits to children is vital – as is helping them to grasp that writing has meaning. As many adults now write with digital tools instead of pen and paper, we'd recommend using obvious 'writing' actions so that children are less likely to misinterpret what you're doing as browsing the internet or checking your social media.

2 WRITE FOR A REAL PURPOSE

Adults can promote writing by involving children in its real-life purposes, such as shopping lists or letters and cards to friends and relatives. This is especially helpful before children enter the final year of the Foundation Stage, when writing becomes more structured and less spontaneous. Children increasingly use digital technology for their early writing, so it's important to recognise and value all the forms that writing might take for children at home.

3 CREATE THE 'WRITE' ENVIRONMENT

Where possible, providing accessible opportunities to write is beneficial for children who want to engage independently. It can help children to be fully immersed in the experience, aiding their concentration and letting them build up the amount of time they're able to focus. You could keep paper, clipboards and a range of writing tools near where children play, for example. They could also take these outside. Different materials will pique interest.

4 UTILISE THEIR INTERESTS

To inspire children to write and keep them motivated, following opportunities linked to their interests and play is important. They could write invitations for a tea party or a sign for a make-believe shop, for instance, or make a 'lost and found' poster for a character in a story. These opportunities can be created organically by giving children access to a variety of writing tools in the environment.

5 CONSIDER THE PROCESS

In terms of development, children generally learn to speak first, then build their vocabulary and develop the fine motor coordination they need to manipulate a writing instrument. All these stages are important and should be encouraged. As they grow older, the alphabet can be introduced, and you can support them to make links between the spoken language and written words.

6 FOCUS ON FINE MOTOR SKILLS

Before learning to form letters, children will make marks as they learn how to hold instruments like pencils or crayons. In doing this, they'll develop the dexterity and movement in their fingers that's needed for writing. You can support this by engaging in play which boosts these skills – such as threading beads, finger painting and using playdough. Giving them broader implements to hold (chunky crayons, for example) will also help.

7 PHASE IN PHONICS

Using phonics builds the knowledge of sounds and the skill of using letters. For young children to be able to apply what they've learned in their writing, it's important that they get lots of opportunities to playfully explore the sounds that make up words. Moving to more formal correspondences and letter identification too early can be counterproductive: nurseries should be able to advise parents on the right time to introduce this.

8 BUILD A POSITIVE MINDSET

In developing early writing skills, children engage in mark making, which might not accurately represent known letters and can include symbols and pictures. Praising a child's effort here promotes a positive mindset around writing: they're demonstrating that they understand it has a purpose and meaning. Ask them to share what they've written (they'll normally translate it for you!) and try to avoid correcting them too much in that specific moment.

9 TAKE REGULAR BREAKS

While writing and early mark making can be hugely enjoyable, children can also sometimes struggle to sit for lengthy periods of time or engage with writing fully. Regular intervals are encouraged: even making some marks or writing a few words (such as their name) is better than none. You could also factor in some movement breaks. Not forcing children to write in a particular way is key to ensuring they don't become disengaged.

10 LINK WRITING TO READING

As children get older, you can (while reading a story, for example) highlight particular sounds in words – perhaps starting with familiar ones like the letters in their names. You can also show the direction you're reading in (left to right in English; right to left in Arabic and so on), which will help raise their awareness. Highlighting who the author is may also encourage children to begin writing their own stories.

Meet Our Expert

Kara Kiernan has worked in senior leadership positions (both in the UK and internationally) for 15 years, supported by an MEd in Educational Leadership. As an educational consultant, she now delivers training for a range of organisations – notably on EYF5 practice and child development. Previously, Kara was head of a nursery and junior school and has also been a director of early years.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/love-of-early-writing

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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Some Useful Information



**ALL
ABILITIES
WELCOME**

**BOYS & GIRLS AGED 7-17
SATURDAYS 1.00 - 2.30PM
£6 PER SESSION**

**FIRST
SESSION
FREE!**

**SPORTS HALL
DITTON PARK ACADEMY
KINGS REACH, SLOUGH SL3 7UX**

**For more details call Lorien on 07703 056303
or email admin@fullcourtconnections.co.uk**



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Some Useful Information

NEW FOR 2024

**HOME
START**
Berkshire East

CONNECT WORKSHOP

INTERACTIVE SUPPORT

5 weeks

19th Sept
to
17th Oct

Does your child have:
Meltdowns
Special interests
Anxiety
Sensory issues
Need of daily routine

MEET OTHER PARENTS FACING THE SAME ISSUE

FACE TO FACE COURSE

- Learn strategies to encourage the behaviour you like, routines, and manage challenges.
- Meet other parents going through the same issue. Make friends and support each other.

For parents with children who have a diagnosis of autism or are waiting

TIME & PLACE

Penn Road Children's Centre
Penn Road, Slough SL2 1PG
9.30am to 11.30am



RSVP & INFO:

01753 572958

office@homestartberkshireeast.org.uk

FREE

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Some Useful Information

This summer holiday

Would you rather your kids be doing this?



Or
this?



29 JUL-
30 AUG
2024

Ages
5-16

There is a huge variety of exciting activities available at the Slough HAF programme this summer, with something for everyone, free with a HAF code or pay to join in the fun! Visit: sloughhaf.org.uk



Slough
Holiday Activities
and Food Programme

Funded by

Department
for Education

www.slough.gov.uk
Slough
Borough Council

CC-6885_2_Summer 24/04-06-24

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Some Useful Information



FUN! **Summer CAMP**

OUR CAMP IS FREE FOR CHILDREN WHO RECEIVE FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND HAVE REGISTERED AT [SLOUGHAF.ORG.UK/EVENTS](https://sloughhaf.org.uk/events) QR CODE TAKES YOU TO THE REGISTRATION PORTAL



IF YOU ARE NOT ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS, THE DAILY CHARGE IS £10 PER DAY INCLUDING A HOT MEAL. COLLECT A REGISTRATION FORM FROM YOUR SCHOOL OR EMAIL US. ALL REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL OR EMAILED TO US AT [MUSIC.SERVICE@SLOUGH.GOV.UK](mailto:music.service@slough.gov.uk)

AGE 4-14YRS

**GROVE ACADEMY SCHOOL,
LADBROOKE ROAD, SLOUGH, SL1 2SR**

**MONDAY 22ND JULY - THURSDAY 15TH AUGUST
10AM-2PM**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US:
[MUSIC.SERVICE@SLOUGH.GOV.UK](mailto:music.service@slough.gov.uk)**

[WWW.SLOUGHMUSICSERVICE.CO.UK](http://www.sloughmusicservice.co.uk)

PLAY

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Some Useful Information

TRACK START U.K. **SUMMER** **Athletics Holiday Camp**

5 WEEKS OF SUMMER FUN!

Join us at our Track Start Olympic themed athletics holiday camp where your children will take part in athletics, group games and other fun activities!

SUMMER DATES

Week 1: 22nd July - 26th July
Week 2: 29th July - 2nd August
Week 3: 5th August - 9th August
Week 4: 12th August - 16th August
Week 5: 19th August - 23rd August

ALL EVENTS

Javelin	Triple Jump
High Jump	Shot Put
Sprinting	Hurdles
Long / Middle Distance	
Long Jump	
Cross Country	
Vertical Jump	
Discus	



Camp Prices

Price for the week - £137.50

Price per day - £32.50

For extended hours - £12.50

Extended hours 08:00-17:00



kidsactivities@deleisure.com
www.deleisure.com



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Some Useful Information

Siblings Session

Meet children similar to you



**DO YOU HAVE AN
AUTISTIC BROTHER
OR SISTER?**

**ARE YOU
AGED
BETWEEN
8-11?**

**Come and take part in
games and activities
while meeting children
similar to you!**

RSVP: 

EMAIL:

paulaimber@homestart
berkshireeast.org.uk

OR RING:

07888 319723
to RSVP.

DATE:

2pm-4pm
29th July

LOCATION:

29 Church Street, Slough
SL1 1PL

FREE 

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Some Useful Information

**THE CROWN
ESTATE**



**Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
& Oxfordshire
Wildlife Trust**



Summer events at Windsor Great Park Environmental Centre



Summer Sensations Family Nature Trail

Tuesday 30th July—Friday 2nd August
10am-2pm (last entry 1pm)
Ages 4+

A wildlife trail with a focus on senses—smell, hear, taste, feel and see all the natural wonders summer has to offer in our relaxing sensational trail. £5 per child, adults free.

Moth and Butterfly Family Event

Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th August
10am-2pm (arrive at 10am)
Ages 4+

Discover the magical contents of a moth trap and learn follow the butterflies through the meadow in our lovely lead family event, learning all about lepidoptera! £8 per child, adults free.

Teddy Bear's Picnic Toddler Event

Friday 16th August
10am-12noon
Ages 18 months—5 years

Bring your teddy and join us for a party in the park! Look for wild teddy bears and learn all about what our teddy's need to survive in the wild. This is an event for toddlers. £8 per child, adults free.

Nature Explorer's Day Camp

Mon 19th and Tues 20th August
9.30am-3.00pm
Ages 8-12

Spend a whole day with other like-minded young people learning all about survival skills through games, activities and crafts! £35 per child, children drop-off.

Wild Discovery Day Camp

Thurs 22nd and Fri 23rd August
9.30am-3.00pm
Ages 8-12

Spend a whole day with other like-minded young people learning all about predators and prey through games, activities and crafts! £35 per child, children drop-off.



Book and find out more at bbowt.org.uk/



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Summer Sensations Family Nature Trail



Join us at Windsor Great Park at the beginning of the summer holidays for a sensory marvel. Smell, hear, taste, feel and see all the nature delights that summer has to offer in our lovely woodland and meadow areas.

Windsor Great Park Environmental Centre

Windsor Great Park, SL4 2BY

Tues 30th July–Fri 2nd August

10am–2pm (last entry 1pm)

Booking necessary!

Scan here or book at:

bbowt.org.uk/events

