

NEWS FROM MARCHAM SCHOOL

At the end of May the school took part in national 'Walk to School Week' which was designed to raise everyone's awareness of the need to find healthy and environmentally friendly solutions for travelling to school. It may be that it raised your awareness too if you heard the sounds of the Walking Bus at 8.35 am every morning that week, accompanied as it was by small bells. The 'bus' began at the end of Fettiplace Road, walked down Howard Cornish Road, into Haines Court and Elwes Road and then into school, picking up extra passengers who joined it along the way. On one day, 48 school children took part as well as their parents, carers and younger brothers and sisters. This is what the children from all over the school had to say about it:

- It was really fun because you were able to walk to school with your friends* Adam, 7.
- It was great because it was healthy and fun* Robin, 11.
- The walking bus was a great success and I loved walking with my friends. Plus I loved the sound of the bells* Ashley, 9.
- It is good exercise and makes you really think about the environment* Tervel, 9
- I enjoyed it as you could walk with your friends, chatter all the way to school* Lawrence, 8.
- We were making up Christmas songs because of the bells that the walking bus was using* Jonathon, 7.
- I liked having time to talk* Kalina, 5.
- I liked the bells ringing to show the bus was ready* Charlie, 6.
- It was fun and I hope we do it again* Elliot, 11.

On another note, it is at the end of this term that we say goodbye to Lesley Clark our headteacher who leaves us to take up a new post in Essex. Lesley has been head at Marcham School for the past four years and has served the school with great commitment, building on its strengths and helping to create a vibrant, thriving community. The school is now a popular choice in the area, having had rising numbers of children throughout her time here. Under her leadership, the school received an outstanding OFSTED report in 2005. Lesley will be missed by children, staff and governors and we wish her well in her new post.

TODDLER GROUP NEWS

Marcham Baby and Toddler Group meets each Tuesday at All Saints Church in Marcham from 1000 to 1200. Sessions cost £1 per family. All carers and children are welcome for activities, tea and coffee, company and a chat. We'd like to remind everyone that we will be running as normal throughout the school holidays and older children are welcome.

We have recently elected a new committee for the next 12 months but are always interested to hear from people who have the time to help out, either with running activities or in any other way. If you'd like to contact us, either come to the Church on Tuesday mornings or call Vicky, our Chair, on 01854 391313.

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Can you help?

We are planning to refurbish some areas of Marcham School Infant Playground which will become part of the Foundation Stage Unit outside play area. We need:



- Paving slabs (for an area 10' 9" x 15')
- Wooden decking (for an area 132 foot)
- Plants and/or gardening labour

and plan to carry out the work during the Summer break. If you may be able to help by donating any of the above, or in any other way please contact Marion on 01865 391167 e:mail marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk



All Saints' with St Luke's August Holiday Club

PYRAMID ROCK

Primary age children and new reception
Tuesday to Friday
28-31 August
9.45 am – 2.30 pm



Marcham Sports Scout & Social Club, Morland Road
£5 per day, £15 for four days if paid by 17August
BBQ for all the family 6pm Friday 31 August
More details Nikki 07841 404 535
Jill 07811 165 351
Watch out for more publicity or booking forms

FOR SALE

Boy's School Uniform. Chandlings Manor School
Also ski-wear. Age 5 years. Call 01865 391900

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

At the time of writing, the 1st XI has lost only one fixture and us currently at the top of OCA Division 2. In the 2nd Round of the Airey Cup Visitors, Minster Lovell, set a worthy 217. After a slow start the 1st XI proceeded to win the match. The 3rd Round will take place at Marcham on Sunday 1 July when the 1st XI play Oxford Caribbean. In the Osburton Cup, the 2nd XI was narrowly defeated by Freeland 2nd XI (Freeland 100 – Marcham 99).



Fixtures for July and August are as follows:

| July | 1st XI | 2nd XI |
|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 7 | Witney Swifts <i>home</i> | Marsh Gibbon 2nd XI <i>away</i> |
| 14 | Faringdon <i>away</i> | Shrivenham 2nd XI <i>home</i> |
| 21 | Minster Lovell <i>home</i> | Kings Sutton 2nd XI <i>away</i> |
| 28 | Garsington <i>away</i> | Chipping Norton <i>home</i> |
| August | | |
| 4 | Brill <i>home</i> | Twyford 2nd XI <i>away</i> |
| 11 | Watlington <i>away</i> | Wantage <i>home</i> |
| 18 | Freeland <i>home</i> | Westbury 2nd XI <i>away</i> |
| 25 | E&W Hendred <i>away</i> | Risinghurst <i>home</i> |

The historical item for this issue is taken from a report in the N. Berks Herald of 2 July 1943. Thus, it is recorded that a cricket match was played at Marcham between AMPC and Abingdon Police Division. The scores were AMPC 29 and 104 and Abingdon Police 45 and 45. Bill Pointer (391454) would be please to hear from any reader able to give guidance regarding what the intitial AMPC represent. [Possibly Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps? The Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps was formed in October 1939, but their title was changed to Pioneer Corps in November 1940 and became the Royal Pioneer Corps in 1946. Ed]

As is usual, information relating to the Club may be obtained from Graham Hill (391415) or Terry Whittaker (391317).