

AUTUMN TERM CELEBRATIONS

Where have the past eight weeks gone? What a busy and productive term at both schools with settled children and great learning behaviours! Both schools joined to celebrate Harvest at St. Mary's Church in Marshchapel. The children were greeted by the bell ringers and treated to a story from Father Terry, after sharing songs and poems about food and autumn. Early Years made bread rolls to share with our guests.

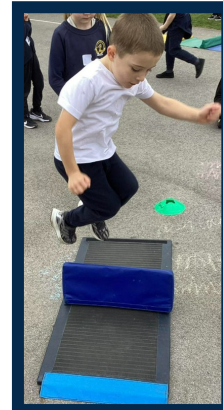


On Lincolnshire Day, the children dressed in the colours of the county flag and learned about how the flag was created.



ACTIVE TERM AT MARSHCHAPEL & GRAINTHORPE

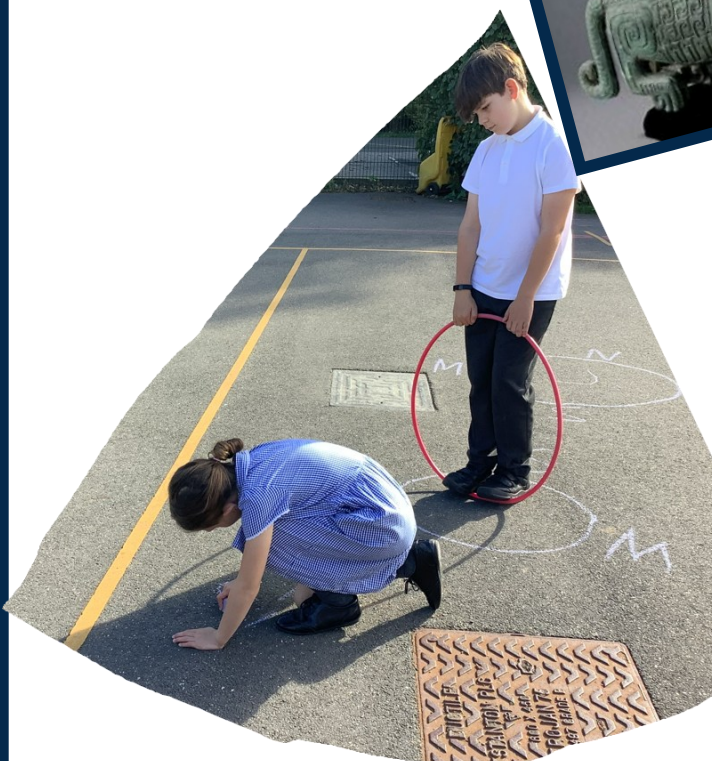
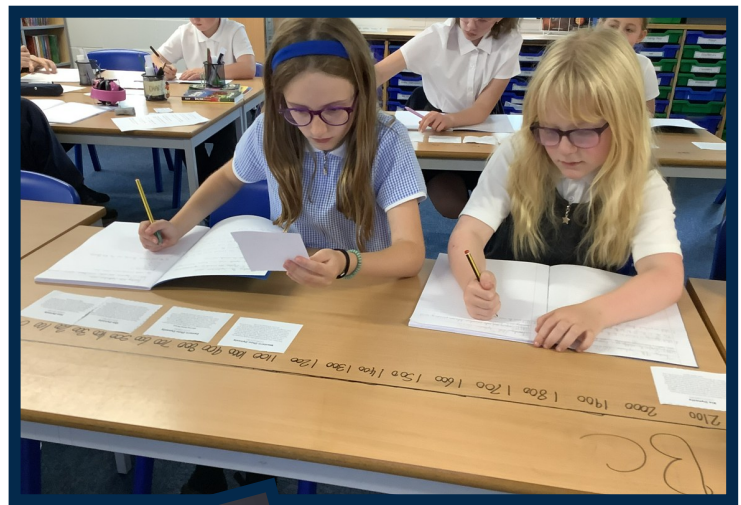
It's been so good for pupils to join with local schools and participate in sporting events. Already this school year children have experienced football, cross-country running and multi-skills. Mixing with children from other small schools locally, as well as taking part in the Wolds Sports group, means the children are keeping fit and making new friends. There are lots of exciting events lined up for the rest of this year and all children will have the opportunity to take part.



TERM ONE LEARNING IN KESTRELS

The Kestrels project around the Shang dynasty has introduced the class to the Taotie art form. Historians now believe the term Taotie wasn't used during the Shang dynasty, but it refers to an ancient Chinese mythological creature, usually found in bronze artefacts with raised eyes. We couldn't stretch the budget to bronze, so the children experimented with clay! As part of the history, the class tried to understand the chronology of the ancient Chinese dynasties.

Scientific experiments have seen the group investigating the movement of the Earth by creating human sundials and creating their own pneumatic lifts to understand how they work.





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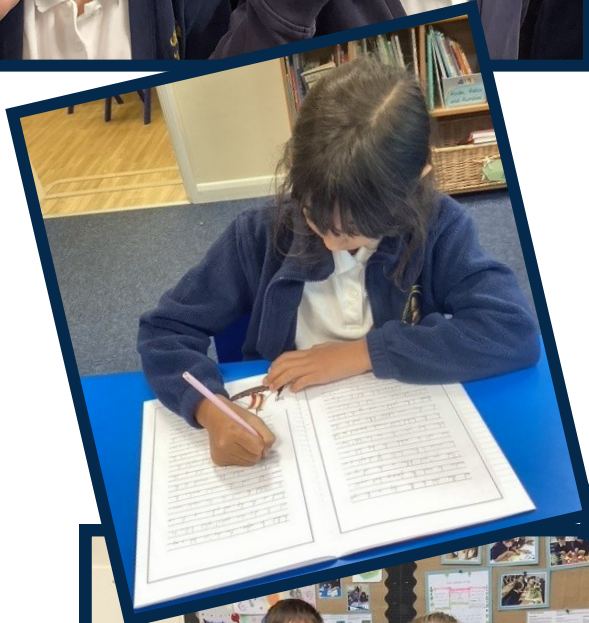


TERM ONE LEARNING IN BARN OWLS

The Barn Owls have been doing brilliantly with their independent writing inspired by their class book *Arthur and the Golden Rope* by Joe Todd-Stanton. The adventures they have created are full of imagination and excitement!

Our young artists have been exploring warm and cool colours, experimenting with different mediums, mixing shades, and creating their very own owl masterpieces!

In Science, learning about food and the digestive system gave the children the opportunity to explore their teeth - with disclosing tablets and all things dental!





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TERM ONE LEARNING AT MARSHCHAPEL

What a busy term! From Harvest pumpkins to Hallowe'en, the children have been inspired by the learning journey, creating healthy food, going on wellbeing walks around the village and settling in very well to school life again.



CROSS COUNTRY

LOUTH AC

TRACK & FIELD

JUNIOR ATHLETICS

YEAR 3 UPWARDS

TRAINING
MONDAY 6-7PM
SATURDAY 10.15-11.15AM

RUN **JUMP** **THROW**

More details contact
AJ 07904078717
Sue 07919684052

LOUTH NETBALL CLUB



Come and have fun!
Make new friends.
Learn new skills.

Join:

Louth Netball Club

7-11 year olds (years 2-6)

THURSDAY
5-6pm

Meridian Leisure Centre,
Wood Lane, Louth LN11 8SA
(1st session free)

For more information email:
louthnetballclub7@gmail.com

Affiliated to England Netball

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION



Our local MP, Victoria Atkins, has asked if the children would like to enter her Christmas card competition to celebrate the season.

Last year, we produced the winning entry with Phoebe's fabulous creation from Grainthorpe. Let's see if we can win again! I am happy to send the entries on for you, so get designing your festive delights.

If designs can be brought to school by 7th November, I will send on to the House of Commons on your behalf. Once again, the prizes will be a selection of goodies from the Houses of Parliament Shop.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (RBL) POPPY APPEAL



We will be supporting the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. We have a box of poppies and a selection of poppy inspired stationery for sale from Monday 3rd November. The school councillors will sell the items at break times, so please send in your donations for this worthy appeal. Everything raised goes to the RBL.

We hope to lay wreaths at both war memorials this year - more details to follow after half term.



Small schools, achieving big things!

OPEN MORNINGS

Marshchapel Infant School
Grainthorpe Junior School



- Both schools rated Good by Ofsted
- Wrap around care available
- FREE minibus
- "A place with special friends." Ofsted, Feb 2025

Come and see us in action
4th November 9.30-11.30am
13th November 9.30-11.30am

Visit our Facebook page to see what we are all about! 

01472 869075
enq@marshchapel.lincs.sch.uk



You Can Adopt...

We have 100 babies and children awaiting adoption...

If you would like to start or grow your family through adoption, we'd love to help. Take the first step by booking on to our 'You Can Adopt' Information Event...

4th November 2025 at 6.30pm
18th November 2025 at 12.30pm
3rd December 2025 at 6.30pm
16th December 2025 at 12.30pm

Book your place here,
familyadoptionlinks.org.uk



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite; it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic 'skins', music tracks, LEGO items, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often "gone when they're gone".

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emotes. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular renewals help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with series, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

SAFEGUARDING IN OUR COMMUNITY

If you have any safeguarding concerns about children, please let us know. We have a designated safeguarding lead professional (DSL), Mrs Turner and deputy DSLs, Mrs Manders and Mrs Clifford.

Please telephone school on 01472 869075 (M) or 01472 869035 (G).

If you have a safeguarding issue to discuss directly, you can contact Lincolnshire Children's Services on 01522 782111.

STAY AND PLAY



It's been a super busy term at Stay and Play and Mrs Wells is keen to see you all again next term! Wednesdays from 9am, you are invited for 90 minutes of good company, chat and coffee! Come and join others in a relaxed and friendly space where the little people get to play together and adults get to socialise.



BREAKFAST CLUB AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Those of you who have been at the clubs this term will know how things have been transformed with even more activities to entertain children before and after school. Places are limited, so it's important to book as early as you can to ensure a space.

Next term, the programme includes firework pictures, weaving, printing, and all things elf-related in the build up to Christmas! Thanks to Mrs Alvarez for her great planning!





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TERM TWO DIARY DATES 2025

Monday 3rd November - Term 2 Starts for children

Tuesday 4th November - 9:30 to 11:30 Open morning for Reception children starting school in September 2026, at Marshchapel

Tuesday 4th November - 15:30 PTFA meeting at Marshchapel. All parents and friends invited to discuss the plans for Christmas and the school year ahead.

Wednesday 5th November - Reception children appear in *The Louth Leader* special edition

Thursday 6th November - Grainthorpe boys' football sessions at Louth Academy

Sunday 9th November - Remembrance Sunday

Monday 10th November - Anti-Bullying Week begins with Odd Socks Day!

Tuesday 11th November - Armistice Day

Tuesday 11th November - Special Sporty Day for Years 1 to 6 at Grainthorpe - Zumba!

Thursday 13th November - 9:30 to 11:30 Open morning for Reception children starting school in September 2026, at Marshchapel

Friday 14th November - Children in Need Day. Break the Rules Day. More details to follow.

Thursday 20th November - Year 3/4 New Age Kurling and Boccia event in Louth

Tuesday 2nd December - Year 5/6 Athletics event in Louth

Friday 5th December - St James's Church, Louth tree festival begins (we have a tree!)

Tuesday 9th December - Marshchapel Infant Nativity performance (morning)

Wednesday 10th December - Marshchapel Infant Nativity performance (morning)

Thursday 11th December - 6pm Christmas Carol Service at St Mary's Church, Marshchapel

Friday 12th December - Christmas Fair at Grainthorpe from 2pm

Monday 15th December - Grainthorpe Christmas performance (afternoon)

Tuesday 16th December - Grainthorpe Christmas performance (morning)

Tuesday 16th December - Grainthorpe home-cooked Christmas dinner provided by school

Wednesday 17th December - Years 1 to 6 go to the pantomime at Grimsby Auditorium

Thursday 18th December - Marshchapel Christmas buffet lunch provided by school

Friday 19th December - *Good Lookin Cookin* Christmas Dinner Day. Last Day of Term 2.

Tuesday 6th January 2026 - Term 3 Starts for children

If you are planning a holiday, please check the school dates so you book during a holiday period.