



Report to Parish Council meeting MAY 2026

Note from the Head Teacher:

Firstly, I must send my apologies for the meeting. I live a long commute away and am needed at home currently for family matters.

The Spring term was filled with enrichment and excellent learning at Marhamchurch C of E Academy. The children have enjoyed Forest school sessions in our school grounds and the use of our Outdoor classroom, now repaired after the storms. We are now having full use of the field in preparation for our exciting annual sports day.

Our Choir continues to grow strong, with up to 40 participants and they have had a successful trip to the Hall for Cornwall this year. We love to sing in the church and for local residents also.

This is my third year leading the team at Marhamchurch and I am in my second as Head Teacher of St Marks, Morwenstow. Whilst it can be challenging leading across 2 schools, it is also rewarding to bring the best educational offer to local communities.

This year, at Marhamchurch, we have successfully implemented wrap around care (breakfast club and after school care for working parents) through County funding initially and now this is set to continue as a lasting provision to serve local parents.

Kindest wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Petersen'.

CONTEXT -

Marhamchurch C of E Adademy is part of the LAP (Learning Academy Partnership) SW, a multi academy Trust comprising of 18 schools across Devon, Cornwall and Torbay.

Our Trust values are EMPOWER, EXCEL, TOGETHER. We believe the Christian ethos that permeates our Trust leads to trusting relationships, productive classrooms and an inclusive, caring community.

Our school vision **'Life in all it's fullness'** (John 10:10) is reflected in all that we do. We learn, reflect and grow together towards a future where everyone can flourish.

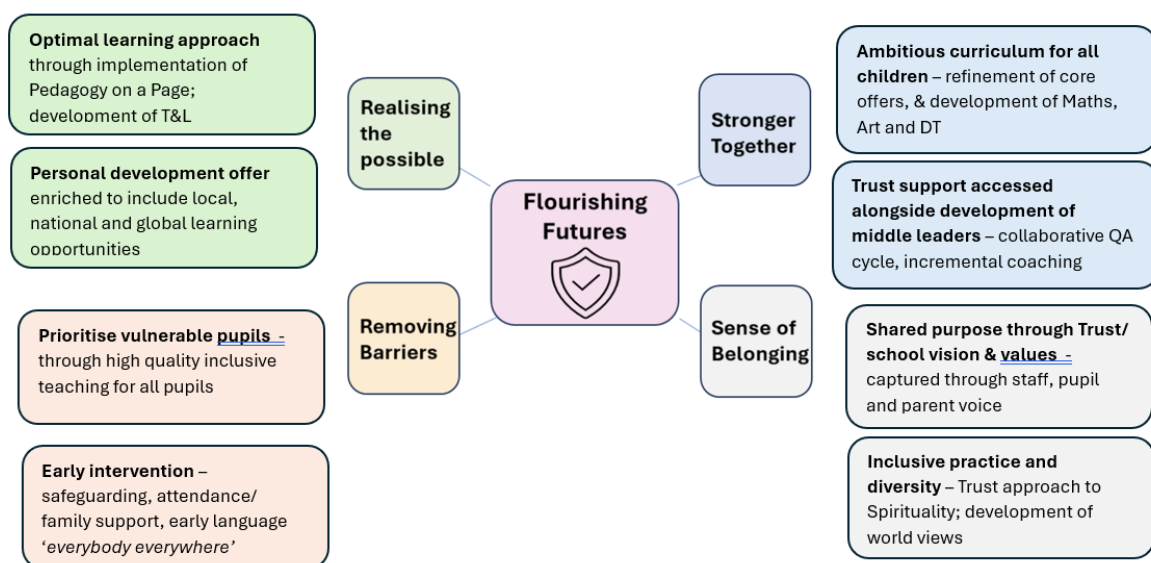
Pupil numbers - current pupil numbers - 127; 9% pupils pupil premium; 11% pupils on SEND register.

With 20 Y6s leaving, our next new intake is positive with 17 coming into Reception class.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT –

This is my strategic overview of the school's Academy Improvement Plan –

KEY AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT: Maths teaching and learning; developing middle leaders, ensuring the best provision for our most vulnerable pupils.



Acronyms:

T&L - teaching and learning; DT - Design & Technology; QA - quality assurance.

ENRICHMENT, TRIPS and VISITS –

Opportunities this academic year have included Beach school with the Two Minute Foundation, Surfing lessons for Y6, an increase in outdoor learning with improvements made in our outdoor classroom so that it is useable all year round.

Art and culture

Bude Literacy festival – author visits; puppet making workshop
Theatre visit for EYFS and KS1 to see 'The Gruffalo' at Exeter Northcott
Home learning celebration for parents – classroom/ gallery spaces open. Learning projects based on wider curriculum enrichment.



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Music – increase in peripatetic lessons – woodwind, guitar, piano.

Music therapy for SEND pupils.

ASONE workshops for KS2 – singing and songwriting.

School choir growing – Songfest, singing in the community.

Triggshire woodwind quartet recital

Quintet and ballet dancer recital for whole school

Sport – Gymnastics County finals, Cross country finals, Small School Athletics, Cornwall School Games, Primary School Games Netball, KS2 Football festival, Sports Day, a wide variety of clubs/ after school provision.

Church and wider community – Messy Church club weekly, Open the Book weekly, Explore Easter, Bude Methodist Church, Easter service St Marwennes. PFSA Easter fayre and hunt, Leavers Service.

LOOKING AHEAD -

We are looking forward to our Year 5 and 6 residential trip to Bristol in June where we will take part in cultural activities such as Science museum, Art galleries and spray art workshop, boat trip on the river and the Clifton suspension bridge.

Our school strives to be the best in the area and currently recruitment is underway for the new academic year. We retain some valued long standing members of staff and hope to retain the very best teachers to help our children to learn and flourish.