



Marldon CofE (VA) Primary School

Part of the
United Schools Federation
(USF)



January 2019

We have had a very busy start to the new term but we still have two weeks to go before half term. Thank you again for all of your support over the term so far.

This week we have also seen the first sign of winter weather. Please make sure that during the cold spells, children come to school with their coats.



In March last year we had some heavy snowfalls that meant we needed to close the school. If that happens again this year, we will inform you via email as soon as possible, as well as informing Devon County Council who will put notification on their website.

Class Assemblies

Dates of the class assemblies for this term have been added to the school website and to the diary dates list at the end of this newsletter. Please remember that class assemblies begin at 3.00pm unless you are told otherwise by the

class teacher. We always appreciate your attendance at your child's class assembly.

Parking

I have been contacted again by local residents about some of the parking issues that are happening on the roads around the school. The main issues of concern are people parking across driveways, on corners causing obstruction and also parking on the yellow lines.

Can I please urge you to consider these issues when parking around the school at the beginning and end of the day. I have contacted the local authority for advice and have also spoken to the local PCSO. The advice from the PCSO is clear in that incidents of obstruction need to be reported and that residents should report cars that are blocking access at those times of the day.

Staffing

You may have noticed a couple of new faces around the school this term. We welcome Shirley Smith to our office staff. Mrs. Smith has settled well and is working hard to get to know everyone as quickly as she can. She joins Mrs. Barson in our admin team.

We also welcome Kate McFadyen who has taken up a new Learning Support role in school.

We have also said a goodbye (for now), to Mrs. Field who has left Marldon on maternity leave. We wish her and her husband all the best as they prepare for the new addition to their family. As soon as we have news we will of course let you know.

Miss Vernau has taken on the full time role in Y1 while Mrs. Field is away from school.

Film Week

Last week we had 'Film Week' in school. What a great week it was too. All classes used film to inspire their learning especially in the area of writing. This was clearly evident during our Oscars Ceremony on Friday where every class presented their work to the school.

Thank you to everyone for their efforts during the week.

Mental Health



We are now thinking about Mental Health. As part of Mental Health Week the children will be learning more about how they can keep a healthy mind. They will learn about the '10 A Day' which are a suggested list of choices we can all make to help balance a healthy mind. (See attached poster).

Ofsted



As you will be aware, we had a visit from Ofsted on Thursday 31st January. Although Ofsted inspections do bring a certain level of

'excitement' to a school, it is also a chance for everyone in school, including the children, to show how proud we are of what we do and the progress that we have made since the last inspection.

The final report will be available in the coming weeks but for now I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the staff at school for their incredible work and commitment to the children and the school.

Thank you also to the Governors for their hard work and continued support in all areas. It is very much appreciated.

I would also like to thank the wider federation. The support is amazing from all of the other schools within the USF and the impact of the linked working between each one becomes very clear at times like these.

Thank you too for all of the parental involvement. We always appreciate your time and support.

Recycling competition



Following the Eco Councils trip the Eco Summit at Ipplepen Primary recently we have created a competition about recycling. You should have already received a letter outlining the competition. We are hoping that there will be lots of family entries to judge. Work as a team together to create something on the theme of recycling.

The original letter is attached.

Competition deadline - Wed 13th Feb.

Bullying leaflet - see attached

As part of our ongoing work in school we talk to the children a lot about relationships and how to deal with problems, including bullying.

We have recently introduced a new leaflet with them, based around the word 'STOP'.

S Several	S Start
T Times	T Telling
O On	O Other
P Purpose	P People

E Safety Parents Meetings

Our Y6 children recently took part in a 'Virtual Reality' workshop which was designed to make them more aware of the role of social media and the issues around e-safety. It was a successful workshop and well done to all of the children for taking part.



E-Safety is something that we take very seriously and as we have in previous years, we are looking to provide some additional e-safety sessions for parents / carers. It is very important that we all keep up to date with issues around e-safety especially with the pace that technology grows and develops.

When we have more information we will of course, let you know.

Head of School

You will have received a letter from Mr. Harding recently, outlining the fact that due to some changes in leadership across the USF, I will be moving on to a new role within the federation. I will be leaving Marldon at the end of this half term to take up my new role and I am looking forward to this new challenge. Replacing me will be Mr. Jon Arnold. Mr. Arnold will be an excellent addition to the Marldon team and I am certain that the school will continue to move forward under his leadership.

I would like to end this newsletter by thanking everyone that I have worked with at Marldon over the last 4 ½ years. I have really enjoyed working at the school and leading it through two Ofsted inspections and one SIAMs (church) inspection.

Thank you too for all of your support over the years. Parental / carer support is vital for any school and I appreciate all of your contributions.

Most importantly though, I would like to say a huge thank you to the children. They are brilliant and I am very pleased to have known every single one of them. I will definitely miss them as I leave the school this term.

Dates

Wed 13 th Feb	Recycling competition deadline.
Half Term Monday 18th - Friday 22nd Feb	
Mon 25 th Feb	School opens.

Regards,

Adrian Clements
Head of School