



Marldon C of E Primary School

Working together, growing together, for all to flourish.

February 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a restful half term break and it has been fantastic seeing the enthusiasm the children have returned with for the second half of Spring Term:

Thursday 2nd March:

Just a reminder that we will be open as usual on Thursday 2nd March.

Christian Value:

This half term our focus value is *Courage*. We will explore what courage means and how we can show it within our learning and within our wider community. We will explore what it means to 'go against the flow' and our Values Champions will share the story of David and Goliath.

Right of the Month:

Each month we focus on an article and explore how it impacts our rights and those of others in our community and beyond.

For February we have focused on Article 17 - Every child has a right to information from a variety of sources. This has linked into the work each class carried out on safer Internet Day.

Reading Shed:

The children have loved exploring our new reading shed during break and lunch times. This is a quiet area filled with exciting new books which the children can use. A big thank you to FOMPS for providing the funding to purchase the shed and the books.

Marldon Football:

Well done to our Year 5 and 6 footballers who played against Ipplepen Primary last Thursday. The children showed great sportsmanship and teamwork earning a well-deserved victory.

School PE Kit:

Just a reminder that on PE days school PE kit should be worn to school. This is to help ensure children get a full PE lesson and to help decrease the number of bags and lost property within school. I have put a reminder of our PE uniform below - please can this be followed:

- Plain white t-shirt or polo shirt
- Plain black or navy shorts
- Plimsolls or trainers
- Plain black or navy tracksuit trousers can be worn in cold weather along with a matching plain navy or black top or school jumper

World Book Day:

Just a reminder that this Thursday (2nd March) is World Book Day. Through the day the children will be taking part in a range of activities including a book treasure hunt and shared reading opportunities. To help celebrate this (as previously shared) we would love the children to come to school in a costume from their favourite book.

Comic Relief:

The Rights respecting Ambassadors would like to invite children to come dressed 'red to toe' on Thursday 17th March in support of Comic



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relief. It maybe they choose to wear all red clothing, wear red face paint or just include a bit of red in their outfit that day. We will be sharing an online link closer to the event on which you will be able to make a suggested £1 donation which will go straight to Comic Relief to help support the important work they do.

Parents Evenings:

This terms parents Evening will be held on Monday the 27th and Thursday 30th March. These will once again be run through the School Cloud system so please keep an eye on your ParentPay as the invites for these will be sent out soon.

Paignton Water Polo Club:

If your child loves being in the water and fancies trying something new, Paignton Swim Club are currently running a water polo club and are looking for new members. Sessions run from 12pm -1pm on a Sunday at Clennon Valley Leisure Centre and children can try for 2 weeks before committing.

Children don't need any experience but need to be able to swim to some level and be confident in the water.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact Douglas Litt on 07963 672255.

Mental Health:

A message from Alix Harding Our Federation Mental Health Lead:

Years and years ago, we sat, as families and communities around the blazing orange camp

fire each night telling stories, jokes, sharing ideas and going over each day.

We felt connected.

But our modern-day campfire has turned into a blue light. Each night we sit around our digital camp fires (some separate, some together) and watch stories and laugh and are entertained, but despite connection to the whole world, we don't always experience that feeling of deep connection to others. Added to this disconnect, we know, the blue light at night can have a damaging effect on our sleep and health, so exacerbating the problem. And now, we all feel rather zoomed and videoed out! There are 3 things we can do to help get ourselves and our families back to feeling calm and connected again: Nature, Nurture and Nourishment

- Nature helps us feel more connected. Walking, scavenger hunts, breathing in fresh air, blowing on dandelions, getting exercise outside, sun rays and looking at greens and blues is all so, so good for your child's brain. This doesn't have to be big expensive days out - just a little more time in garden, your local park or town walks appreciating the nature peeking through pavements. Spend as much time outside with shoes off and feel the grass or earth between your toes!

- Nurture - giving your child attention, affection and lots of affirmation can literally help grow their brain and help empower them, building resilience.



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· Nourishment - through sleep, good food, receiving love and giving love to others. Our relationships are so important for good mental health.

Find out more about how to help your child connect with their world and practise relaxation at www.relaxkids.com

Planned Absence:

Please remember that you must notify school of any period of planned absence. This needs to be done through collecting and completing an S2 request form from the school office. At this time, can I also remind you that we are only able to authorise requests if there are 'exceptional circumstances.' Devon County Council's advice is that we must be extremely cautious about approving any requests if a pupil's education is likely to be significantly impacted upon.

It is important that these forms are handed in with adequate time to respond as any unauthorised absence will likely result in a penalty notice or court summons being issued to each parent for each pupil affected.

Important Dates:

March:	
Thursday 2 nd	World Book Day
Friday 3 rd	Reception and Year 6 Height and Weight checks
Friday 17 th	Comic Relief - Red Nose Day
Week beginning Monday 20 th	Year 5 Bikeability
Tuesday 21 st	Clive Pig Story Teller in school
Monday 27 th	Parents Evening
Thursday 30 th	Parents Evening
Friday 31 st	Last day of Spring Term

As always, if I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact the school or catch me on the school gate.

Kind regards,

Mr. Jon Arnold
Head of School