



## Marldon C of E Primary School

**Within the love of God, working together, growing together, for all to flourish.**

### March 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As our Easter break is upon us, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support across the spring term. We have had a busy March with a number of different events and visitors taking place. If you want to find out more about any of these please remember to check out our class blogs.

#### Christian Value:

Next half term our focus value will be compassion. We will explore what compassion means and how we can show it within our learning and within our wider community. Our Values Ambassadors will share the story of The Kind Stranger.

#### 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 March we have focused on Article 28 - Children have the right to education.

#### World Book Day:

It was fantastic seeing so many children arriving as their favourite book characters; thank you for helping them to be able to do this. The children had a great time taking part in book treasure hunts and sharing reading with friends from across the school.

#### Comic Relief:

It was great to see so many children coming to school in red, helping us to raise awareness of

this great charity. The children spent time in the day exploring the work Comic Relief carry out and what the money they help raise could be doing to make a difference.

#### Clive Pig Story Teller:

We were excited to welcome local author and story teller Clive Pig into school. Clive led a whole school assembly, in which he shared his story telling techniques and love for books and reading. Years 2,3, 4 and 6 then were lucky enough to take part in fairy-tale writing workshops to help support their fiction writing in class.

#### Year 5 Bikeability:

A huge well done to the year 5's who have braved the weather over the last two weeks to complete their level 1 and 2 Bikeability training. This training helps to develop riding skills as well as preparing riders to ride safely on the roads.

#### Fair-Trade conference:

Our Year 5 Rights and Values Ambassadors accompanied Mrs Hare to Totnes, to take part in The Devon Development Fairtrade workshop. The children worked with others from local schools to extend their knowledge and understanding of fair-trade. They were joined at the workshop by representatives from a fair-trade coffee co-operative from Rwanda. The children returned full of great ideas and we are currently exploring how they can share their new understanding with the rest of our school community.



ARTICLE 28 - Every child has the right to an education





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### British Science Week:

As a school we celebrated British Science Week by carrying out a whole school investigation. Miss Hayman, our Science lead, set a question at the start of week asking if the children with the longest legs could jump the furthest? The children enjoyed making a prediction and then deciding as a class the best way to carry out their investigation. Each class collected their results and then shared these with Miss Hayman, who shared these during a whole school assembly. If you want to find out our conclusions you will need to check out the class blogs or ask your child!

### School Day:

Please can I remind you how important it is that children arrive on time for school each day. Arriving even 5 minutes late each day soon builds up and across a school year could mean missing the equivalent of 3 school days!

<b>Every minute counts!</b> Lateness = loss of learning
5 minutes late each day = 3 days lost
10 minutes late each day = 6.5 days lost
15 minutes late each day = 10 days lost
20 minutes late each day = 13 days lost
30 minutes late each day = 19 days lost
(figures across a school year)

### Parents Evenings:

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our parent's evenings this week. If you were unable to attend please do not hesitate to contact the school office to organise an opportunity to catch up with your child's teacher.

### Mental Health:

A message from Alix Harding Our Federation Mental Health Lead:

As a federation, we believe that teaching children to understand and talk about their mental health is crucial in promoting their future wellbeing. Our mental health champions have been promoting this message in our school assemblies.

Sometimes, as parents, we worry about talking to our children about mental health for fear of making things worse, or we worry how our child will react. However, having regular chats about how our minds are doing can be really beneficial and gives your child the message that their mental health is as important as their physical. We would ask how our child's cut knee was healing so why not ask what's going on for them in their minds too?

Here are some links to useful information on talking to your child about their mental health.  
[www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/how-to-talk-to-your-child-about-mental-health/](http://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/how-to-talk-to-your-child-about-mental-health/)  
[www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/supporting-your-child-s-mental-health/](http://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/supporting-your-child-s-mental-health/)



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### 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:	
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Last day of Spring Term
April:	
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Summer Term
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Y5 Mini Police Programme to begin
May:	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	May Bank Holiday
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Coronation Bank Holiday
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Y6 SATs Week

Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Y6 SATs Week
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Y2 SATs
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Class Photographs
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of Summer half term 1
June:	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Summer half term 2

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

I hope you all have a happy and restful Easter and we look forward to welcoming you back for the Summer Term.



Kind regards,

Mr. Jon Arnold  
Head of School



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