Marldon C of E Primary School

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

October 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been great to welcome everyone back to Marldon this half term and hard to believe we are at the end of it already!

It has been really enjoyable watching all of our new Reception children settle into school life and, as always, it's been fantastic to see the relationships that develop between any new children in school and the rest of the school. Thank you particularly, to the older children in school who always seem to remember what it was like to start school and therefore take great care of those for whom it is all so new.

Don't forget to check out our class blogs, on the school website, to catch up on all of the exciting things our classes have been up to.

Christian Value:

This half term we have explored our Christian Vision: 'Within the love of God, working together, growing together, for all to flourish.'

With the help of Rev. Chris and Rev. Jane we have explored what it means to flourish and how we can help each other in doing this.

Applications for Secondary Schools:

For children in Year 6, applications for Year 7 secondary school places opened on 1st September 2023. Please be aware that applications for a place at secondary schools in Year 7 need to be submitted by 31st October 2023.

Offer day will be 1st March 2024 when you will find out the allocation that has been made for your child.

To complete your application, you need to apply online at:

www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

(if you live in Devon) or

https://www.torbay.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

(if you live in Torbay)..

Mental Health:

A message from Alix Harding our Federation Mental Health Lead:

In a recent USF parent survey on their perceptions of children's mental health, a number of parents requested support in starting conversations about mental health, with their child.

Sometimes this can feel very scary and we as parents may worry about getting it "wrong".

In truth, our children just need to know that we are there and that we want to see and hear them. You know your child best and you will know when it feels right to approach this. Young Minds is an excellent mental health charity website that has some lovely conversation starters to support you in opening up a chat with your child.

Follow this link to download the ideas and get talking!

https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/how-to-talk-to-your-child-about-mental-health/#Conversationstarterstosupportyou

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Uniform Reminders:

Everyone has been looking really smart in their uniform at the moment and it is especially lovely to see the children wearing their star badges with pride. Please could you also ensure that jewellery is not worn apart from small studs or a simple watch. Children will be asked to remove any other items.

Coats:

Please could we remind you that children need a coat every day at school, especially with our changeable weather. Children getting fresh air is vitally important and we will try to take the children outside as much as possible, even when there is a little rain, so they will need a coat (labelled with their name) in school at all times.

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:

October:	
Friday 13th	Final day of Autumn Term 1
Monday 30th	First day of Autumn Term 2
Tuesday 31st	Year 6 Viking Experience at Ipplepen School
November:	
Friday 3rd	Year 5 'Safer Internet' work shop.
	Year 5 Swimming
Friday 10th	Year 5 Swimming
Monday 13th	Exploradome visit for YR, 2 and 4
Friday 17th	Children in Need
	Year 5 Swimming
Friday 24th	Year 5 Swimming
December:	
Friday 15th	Final day of Autumn Term 2
January:	
Tuesday 2nd	First day of Spring Term 1

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,

Jon Arnold

Head of School