Marldon C of E Primary School

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

November 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't quite believe where November has gone. This half term has been packed with fantastic learning opportunities for all of our children. History has been brought to life via a Viking workshop; Clive Pig enthralled us with a storytelling day and we explored the wonders of our world and beyond in the Exploradome to name but a few.

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 the first of our 5 Christian Values – Friendship. The children have explored what it means to be a friend and how friendship can be challenging as well as rewarding.

Christmas Dinner day:

As you are aware, Christmas lunch will be taking place on Wednesday 13th December. To make this a little more festive we would like to invite the children to wear Christmas jumpers and/or Christmas accessories on this day. These can also be worn on the final day of term – Friday 15th December.

School Choir:

A big thank you and well done to the school choir who performed at the recent Church Christmas fete. They sang a number of Christmas songs which were well received by all those watching.

School Football:

Well done to our football team who visited Paignton Academy to take part in the first of a three-part tournament playing against a variety of schools from Torbay.

The team played two games; winning one and drawing the other. We're looking forward to watching them again in the next part of the tournament.

Also, a big thank you to St Michael's Primary who hosted a game for us last week. The game was a great experience for the team and it was fantastic to see the children persevere and keep smiling, even when things did not go our way – well done!

Warm Clothing:

With the weather becoming colder and more changeable, please can you ensure your child brings warm clothing to school (winter coat, hat, gloves etc) each day.

We love to get outside for break and lunch but it is never as much fun when you are cold!

Mental Health:

A Message from Mrs Harding our Federation Mental Health lead:

Mental Health is a big focus in the media currently which is a great thing – we are becoming more aware of the importance of noticing and talking about our mental health and the more we do this, the less stigma there is around acknowledging that we can all struggle.

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ITVX have created a programme to support children's wellbeing. You may have seen adverts for Britain Get Talking on TV – this programme promotes the benefits of a simple chat with trusted others as a way of alleviating our stress and worries. Supported by Ant and Dec, the programme has designed a simple "homework" task for you and your child to do together that gives the opportunity for talking about what's on our minds. If you are interested, check this out at https://www.itv.com/britaingettalking/ There are top tips for having difficult conversations and signposting to further support too.

Application for Primary School Places:

Applications for Primary school places, for admission into Primary School in September 2024, opened on 15th November.

You can apply for a place if your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020. Applications are completed online at: https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place/ - if you live in Devon or https://www.torbay.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/admissions/primary-admissions/ if you live in Torbay.

Applications must be completed by 15th January 2024 or they will be considered as late and you may not get a place for your child in a school of your choice.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Mr Arnold or the School Office.

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:

December:	
Monday 4th	Parents Evening 1
Wednesday 6th	14:00 and 18:00 - Key Stage 1 Nativity Performance
Thursday 7th	School Disco Parents Evening 2
Friday 8th	15:30 – Dance Club Show Case
Monday 11th	Glow in the Dark Dodgeball
Tuesday 12th	Glow in the Dark Dodgeball
Wednesday 13th	School Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

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Friday 15th	Christmas Church Service – led by Year 5 and 6
	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