Marldon C of E Primary School

January 2024 Newsletter

Dates for the diary:

Thursday 1st February:
Recycle Devon workshops for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Week Beginning Monday 5th February:
Children's Mental Health Week.

Friday 9th February:
Last day of Half Term.

Monday 1 9th February:
Fisrt day of new Half Term.

Friday 1st March:
Rev. Jane to visit Venus class.

Monday 4th March:
Year 5 and Reception Zoo visit.

Week Beginning Monday 11th March:
British Science Week.

Week Beginning Monday 18th March:
Year 5 Bikeability.

Monday 18th March:
Parents Evening.

Thursday 21st March:
Parents Evening.

Thursday 28th March:
Easter Service and last day of Spring Term.

What a fantastic and busy start we have had to 2024. It has been great watching classes settle into the spring Term with renewed enthusiasm and vigor.

As we near the half term I have a few messages to share with you:

Christian Value:

Courage has been our focus value for this half term. The children have learned about the story of the woman who bled and we have explored courageous advocacy as well as looking at how we use courage within our everyday lives.

Right of the Month:

Each month we focus on a different article from the UNICEF Rights For Children charter. This month we have explored Article 2 - Non discrimination.

Marldon Football:

Well done to our school Football team who took part in the second part of the Torbay Schools Cup. 10 members of the football club went to Paignton Academy and played two games; losing one and winning one. As always the team showed fantastic team work and sportmanship - never giving up and ensuring everyone was involved.

Federation Theatre visit:

On Friday 26th January, 143 children from Marldon joined over 600 others from across the Federation to watch the Blackbird and Caterpillar. The children loved the performance and it was great seeing so many children from across the Federation in the same place!

School Uniform:

Please could we remind everyone to check the school uniform policy on the website and ensure that all children have the correct **uniform** and **PE kit.** Children should not wear jewellery or nail polish to school (1 pair of stud earrings and a watch are permitted). Children also need a coat in school each day as we will still go outside in the rain. Finally, could you please ensure that all uniform and clothing is named so that we can return it to children quickly. Many thanks.

Mental Health:

Children's mental health week is running from 5th- 9th February and this year the theme is "My Voice Matters".
This links with Article 12 "You have the right to an opinion and for it to be listened to and taken seriously".
"My voice matters" is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.
When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem.
Our children and mental health champions will be sharing their own voices that week as we discuss how important it is for all our voices to be heard.
The Children and Young People's Mental Health Charity Place2Be visited primary and secondary schools to ask children and young people what they wanted when parents talk to them about their mental health. Their answers are direct and so interesting – please do take a look via this link and scroll down to Top Tips for Families.

https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/schools/primary-age-activities/#resources

Yellow Zig-zags:

Over the coming days you will notice some friendly cones arriving on the yellow zig zags outside of the school gate. These are to help to remind us of the importance of not stopping or parking across these between 8am and 4pm.
The school entrance is a busy place, which leads straight onto a busy road. The zig-zags are there to ensure the crossing is clear and that pedestrians and drivers have a clear view. Please respect these cones and the zig-zags as their purpose is to keep our children safe.

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.

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

ARTICLE 28 - Every child has the right to an education