Marldon C of E Primary School

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

Dates for the diary:

Friday 26th July:
Final day of School year.
Leavers' Worship at Marldon Church

Monday 5th August:
Marldon Church Summer Wonder Zone.

Tuesday 3rd September:
First day of Autumn Term.

Friday 18th October:
Last day of Autumn 1/2 term one..

Monday 4th November:
First day of Autumn 1/2 term 2.

Friday 20th December:
Last day of Autumn terml.

Tuesday 7th January:
First day of Spring term.

Friday 14th February:
Last day of Spring 1/2 term 1.

Monday 24th February:
First day of Spring 1/2 term 2..

Friday 4th April:
Last day of Spring term.

Tuesday 22nd April:
First day of Summer term.

Friday 23rd May:
Last day of Summer 1/2 term 1.

Monday 2nd June:
First day of Summer 1/2 term 2.

Thursday 24th July:
Last day of Summer term

As we complete our final day of the school year, I would like to thank you for all of your support through our 2023-24 school year.

It has been a fantastic year with so much going on. I hope you have seen the social media posts showing how many trips and events have happened across this year (over 900) in the USF. This is only possible though with your support - thank you!

As the term draws to a close I have just a few pieces of information to share with you:

School Vision:

We have finished our year exploring how our 5 school values help us to achieve our school vision of flourishing. This is the perfect time to explore how each and every member of our school has flourished through the last 12 months and how we have achieved this with a mix of our own courage and perseverance alongside the friendship and compassion of those around us.

Thank you and goodbye:

I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the staff at Marldon for all they have done across this year. From cleaning and caretaking, preparing and cooking lunches to manning the office and supporting the children each and every member of staff has gone above and beyond to ensure we flourish together. I hope you all have a great summer and a well earned rest.

I must also say another goodbye and good luck to Mr. Youd who will be jetting off to Dubai to start his new job soon. Thank you for all you have done for Marldon and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Residentials

It was great to welcome Doddiscombsleigh and Ipplplepen schools to join us at our Year 2 camp. Our year 2 children had a great time and made the most of the opportunity to make new friends, while enjoying the experience of camping on our school field. A great time was had by all even if we were all a little tired at pick up on Saturday morning!

Year 6 have also finished the year with their residential trip to Skern Lodge. This is a fantastic event with the year 6 across the whole USF gathering in North Devon for 3 days of adventures (including surfing, high ropes, river kayaking to name a few) to celebrate the end of their time at primary school.

A big thank you to all the school staff who gave up their time to support these residentials; without them they couldn't take place!

School dinners:

A little reminder that school meals will be increasing in price in September – each meal will now cost £2.55.

Can I also remind parents of children moving from Year 2 to Year 3 that unfortunately your child will no longer be entitled to universal free school meals and any school meals ordered will need to be paid for, in advance, via parentpay; unless you are entitled to Free School Meals.

If you have any questions about this, please call the school office or pop in to see one of us.

Uniform:

Like myself, I am sure you will be spending some time over the summer getting school uniform together. Please do not forget to check our uniform policy before purchasing new items.
As a reminder, children need to wear:

·a school sweatshirt or sweat cardigan with a school logo.
·a white or red polo shirt or short sleeved shirt.
·grey or black shorts/trousers/skirts or pinafore dress. (Children can wear a red and white gingham dress through the summer months.
·school shoes must be worn to school. These can be black/brown sensible shoes, not trainers. But at break and lunchtimes children can wear trainers for running around. (In the summer children can wear sturdy sandals which support their feet and have a back on them).

As we have done for the last few years we will be asking children to come to school in their PE kits on PE days (these will shared when your children return to school in September). PE kits should be:
·a plain white T shirt
·plain black shorts
·plimsolls or trainers
·a tracksuit may be worn in colder weather.

A message from Rev. Jane:

DATE FOR YOUR HOLIDAY DIARY

St John Baptist, Marldon will be hosting a Summer Wonder Zone: offering crafts & activities for children & families focussed on the theme of God's wonderful world on Monday 5th August: 10am-12.30 in the church. Drop in when you can or come for all of it! Take away what you make! Refreshments available. Children must be accompanied. No charge but donations welcome.

ARTICLE 28 - Every child has the right to an education

As the end of the Summer term approaches, you and your child may be thinking about transitions into new year groups, including secondary school and this can affect both our and our children's emotions.

Young Minds offers some great advice for coping with this exciting, but potentially unsettling time. Please find below a link for a video called Find Your Feet, reassuring your child that they are not alone in any worries they may have about the move from primary to secondary!

https://youtube/xT6ctrk3pVQ

Please also find below a link to a useful document with top tips for parents and carers to help manage change and transition to new classes and year groups.

https://www.youngminds.org.uk/media/2odjlktz/top-ten-tips-for-parents.pdf

Online Safety:

All through the year we have shared tips on staying safe on the apps and programmes we use online. Looking forward to the summer, we wanted to share a positive messgae, as the internet can be a supportive place for all of us as we enter the summer break, so please take a look at the attached poster all about how we can share kindness online this summer.

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.

My final message must be for our departing Year 6:

As you embark on the next phase of your journey we would like to wish you every success and happiness in all that you do. Remember all things are possible if you believe in yourself!

Have a fantastic Summer Holiday and I look forward to welcoming you back in September.

Kind regards,
Jon Arnold
Head of School

ARTICLE 28 - Every child has the right to an education

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

10 Ways You Can SHARE KINDNESS ONLINE

Last year, around one in five young people aged 10–15 in England and Wales admitted experiencing online bullying: most commonly being insulted or sworn at, or having hurtful messages sent about them. To someone who's being bullied, the world can seem like a bleak, negative place – but just one kind word can be a ray of hope: a turning point that brightens their day and refreshes their perspective. That's why 'One Kind Word' is the theme of Anti-Bullying Week 2021. We're supporting this year's event by bringing you ten top tips for beating online bullying by replacing it with kindness.

1 PRAISE WHERE IT'S DUE

Sometimes a friend or relative might post online about something they're proud to have achieved: maybe an exam they've passed, a new skill they've learned or a task they've completed. Celebrate their hard work and determination by being kind enough to praise them for it publicly.

2 REACH OUT

It's not always easy to tell what kind of mood someone is in just from what they post online. Simply dropping somebody a message to say 'hi', to ask if they're OK or to tell them that you're thinking of them could totally make their day.

3 RECOMMEND FUN THINGS

If there's something you enjoy doing online – perhaps you play a particular game, or you've found a really cool site – share it with someone you think will enjoy it. Even recommending a film or TV show you think they'll like can bring a little happiness to someone who really needs it.

4 OFFER TO HELP

Sometimes you might see a friend or family member posting a question online or asking for help with something they can't do themselves. Don't just ignore it – if you can help, get in touch. Something that's difficult for them might be no trouble for you!

5 POST POSITIVELY

Lots of people seem to go online purely to complain about things or be negative. Just because you're communicating online (and not face to face) doesn't mean you can't be positive, though! Post about things that make you happy and that you're thankful for. It could brighten someone else's day.

6 SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION

If somebody that you know has done something positive or shown kindness themselves, go online and thank them with a message or a post. Expressing your gratitude costs nothing and showing someone that you appreciate them will really make them feel good.

7 BE UNDERSTANDING

Showing empathy towards others is an act of online kindness which often gets overlooked. If you notice that someone you know is upset, drop them a message. Sometimes people just need someone else to listen to them and understand their situation.

8 SHARE INSPIRATIONAL POSTS

When you see something online that inspires you or makes you feel happy, share it with people you know. A spot-on quotation, a beautiful photo or an uplifting video can lift someone's spirits and help them to feel better about life.

9 THINK BEFORE COMMENTING

Thinking before we act can be just as important as acting in the first place. Taking a second to consider what you're saying in advance could stop you from posting something negative, hurtful or offensive – even if you don't mean to. It's better to post positively or not post at all.

10 LIKE, LOVE AND ENGAGE

If somebody posts something that you like on social media, don't just scroll past – take the time to like it, love it or leave an appreciative comment! Reacting positively to other people's posts might seem like a small gesture but could mean a lot to them.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with more than 10 years of experience in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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ARTICLE 28 - Every child has the right to an education