February 2025 Newsletter

Marldon C of E Primary School

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

Dates for the diary:

Monday 24th February:
First day of Spring Term 2

Thursday 27th February:
Achieve 4 All Handball Festival (invited children)

Friday 28th February:
Year 6 Viking Day

Monday 3rd March:
Year 1 and 4 Plymouth Aquarium visit

Thursday 6th March:
Achieve 4 All Sports Festival (invited children)

Wednesday 12th March:
Rev, Jane to visit Venus Class

Monday 17th March:
Start of Y5 Bikeability (2 weeks)

Monday 24th March:
Parents evening

Tuesday 22nd March:
Torbay Tigers Basketball Festival (invited children)

Thursday 27th March:
Parents evening

Friday 4th April
Easter Service at Marldon Church
Last day of Spring Term.

Tuesday 22nd April
Start of Summer Term

This half term has just flown by. Thank you for all of your support with events and I hope you have a restful and enjoyable half term.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 24th February.

Park Life - Tree Planting:

Last week, using the minibuses, we shuttled each class down to Compton to take part in this woodland event run by Parklife and supported by the national Trust.

The children worked together to plant native tree species, which will form a part of a new woodland. The trees we planted will form a part of a new 20,000 tree woodland that is being planted and will in time be opened to the public for walking as well as supporting local wildlife.

I would like to say a big thank you to you for supporting us with this event. It was amazing to see every child in our school take part in a project which they will be able to watch grow over their lifetimes and make a positive difference to our local community.

Year 3 and 5 Author Visit:

Year 3 and Year 5 were lucky enough to be visited by local author Clare Helen Welsh.

Clare used to be a teacher within the federation and has always loved reading and teaching children HOW to read.

As part of Children's Mental Health week, Clare shared her new book "The Space Between" with us and the children participated in some activities linked to the book.

Reception and KS1 Recycle Devon Visit:

Venus, Mars and Mercury Class were visited by a member of the Recycle Devon team to help them become Recycling Super Heroes!

They enjoyed learning about why and how they recycle, as well as having the opportunity to sort recycling into the correct bins. Something we hope they have been able to help with at home since the visit.

A message from Mrs Alix Harding, our Federation Mental Health Lead:

Children's Mental Health Week 2025.

This year's theme was; Know Yourself, Grow Yourself. It highlighted the importance of understanding our own feelings and emotions. By developing self-awareness, children and adults alike can build resilience and develop the tools to support not only themselves but those around them. We encourage you to explore the fantastic resources available on the Children's Mental Health Week website to learn more about how you can support your child's emotional well-being and help them thrive.

https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/

Jewellery:

Please remember that the only jewellery that should be worn in school is small stud ear rings and watches. Watches must not be able to take pictures.

Online Safety:

From using them for communication, work, shopping and entertainment, devices such as smartphones, laptops and the rest are now deeply ingrained into modern society. Small wonder, then, that young people – who've grown up surrounded by such gadgets – can sometimes struggle to put them down, switch them off or keep themselves occupied without them.

While limiting our screen time may require a great deal of restraint, the effort can be rewarded with significant benefits to our physical and mental health. Our #WakeUpWednesday guide has simple tips for helping to manage the amount of screen time in your household – encouraging the whole family to spend more quality time together and live in the moment.

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, I end my newsletter by reminding you that if you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to catch me at the school gate.

Kind regards,
Jon Arnold
Head of School

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