May 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 2nd June
First day of Summer Half Term 2

Thursday 19th June
Sports day

I can't quite believe we are the end of the first half of our summer term. Where have the last 5 weeks gone?

It has been fantastic to see the sunshine and to see the children enjoy the school's outdoor spaces fully. Thank you for ensuring your children have had sun hats and cream, to keep them safe. Looking forward to the next half term, please can we ensure they continue to bring this to allow us to continue to enjoy our outdoor spaces safely.

School Events:

Despite a short half term we have still managed to cram a huge amount in:

Year 5 have had the opportunity to complete Bikeability Level 1 and 2 training; which helps to prepare them to ride safely on the road. 24 children completed the training and all of them succesfully passed, completing a variety of skills and learning then demonstrating safe riding on the roads around school. Well done Year 5!

Mini London Marathon - the whole school completed their own (scaled down) London marathon as part of a national event encouring chiodren to lead healthy lifestyles. The runs took place in the week following the actual event with children across all year groups taking part in completing a 2 mile run. Well done to everyone who ran, jogged or walked this distance.

VE Day 80 - the school was a sea of red, white and blue to help us learn about and remember the importance of this event. The children came together to celebrate in song and we joined together for the national two minutes silence. Each class also spent time learning about the events that were celebrated 80 years ago.

Outdoor club - year 6 have had two fantastic opportunities this half term with children completing the high ropes course at the River Dart Country park as well as having the opportunity to experience scuba diving at Kingsteignton Pool.

Year 2 visit to Occombe Farm - Mercury class had a fantastic day learning about the food we eat and using this to make their own pizzas.

Marldon football:
9 members of our football club travelled to Plainmoor Stadium to take part in the Torbay United Schools Cup.

The team played some great football, growing in confidence through the group stages of the tournment, finishing second in their group and securing a place in the quarter finals.
Unfortunately, our day ended in the quarter final after losing out 6-5 in an exhilarating penalty shoot out.

The team, as always, represented the school superbly showing great teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the day.

Well done Marldon Football Team!

Online Safety:

If you have children, it's understandable to have concerns about the films and TV shows they watch, as well as the video games they play. In this guide, we take a look at two ways you can assess if a particular movie, programme or game is suitable for a child. Both the BBFC and PEGI have search facilities on their sites that can be used to look up individual titles, so you can check their age ratings.
The guide provides tips on avoiding potential hazards such as violence, sexual content and inappropriate languages.

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

Many children of today love video games and these can have great benefits such as cognitive stimulation and social interaction with their friends. However, excessive or problematic gaming can negatively impact a child's mental health, potentially leading to issues such as increased aggression, poor sleep and social isolation.

Managing your child's gaming habits at home can be a tricky challenge for many parents, and it's okay to feel unsure at times. The key is finding a balance that works for your family. Setting limits on screen time, using parental controls, and even playing games together can help foster healthy habits. It's important to be consistent but also understanding, as gaming can be a fun and engaging activity for children. To support you in navigating this area, we recommend watching a short video from the leading children's mental health charity, Place2Be, which offers great tips and advice on supporting your child's gaming habits.

You can watch it here:

https://shorturl.at/lAvOy

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 and please have a restful half term break.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2nd June.

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 they need 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.

Publish date: 06/02/19

What parents need to know about AGE RATINGS

If you have children, it is understandable to have concerns about the films and TV shows they watch, as well as the games they play. In this guide, we take a look at the two official ways you can assess if a particular title is suitable for your child. Both the BBFC and PEGI have search facilities on their websites that can be used to look up individual titles so you can check their ratings.

RATINGS FOR FILMS, TV & MUSIC VIDEOS

Since 1912, the BBFC (British Board of Film Classification) has informed UK residents of the age suitability of films, TV and music videos - providing parents with the information needed to assess whether or not it is appropriate for their child's age. This applies to cinema releases, DVDs and streaming video services such as Netflix.

WHAT ARE THE BBFC RATINGS?

BBFC ratings are broken down into seven age categories:

- **U** – Universal, suitable for all ages
- **PG** – Parental Guidance required
- **12** – Suitable for people aged 12 and over
- **12A** – Suitable for people aged 12 and over; anyone younger must be accompanied by an adult
- **15** – Suitable for people aged 15 and over
- **18** – Suitable for people aged 18 and over
- **R18** RESTRICTED – Adult content only available in specially licenced cinemas and specialist retailers

WHAT ELSE CAN BBFC REVEAL?

Accompanied with the age suitability rating, BBFC also provide an additional warning regarding the content and what to expect, such as swearing, sexual content, violence and anything you may consider to be inappropriate for your child. In addition to this, the content is also rated in three levels: frequent, mild or strong.

LIMITATIONS OF BBFC RATINGS

It's important to note that there is no obligation on streaming video services to use or display BBFC ratings. Due to this, we advise that you check the rating online before your child streams the content. It may also be a good idea to watch the content first yourself or discuss it with other parents to help you decide whether or not it is suitable for your child.

RATINGS FOR GAMES

PEGI (Pan European Game Information) is a content rating system that ensures all video games are labelled with a minimum age recommendation. These age recommendations are based on the types of content featured within a game. With each game, PEGI also provide a content descriptor that indicates the potential issues and concerns, including sex, violence, bad language and drugs.

WHAT ARE THE PEGI RATINGS?

PEGI ratings are split into age restriction and content descriptors. Additional 'content descriptors' help parents and children to understand the type of content featured within a particular game, including sex, fear, bad language, discrimination, gambling, drugs, violence, and in-game purchases. In combination, the two different ratings can provide a good level of information to help make informed decisions regarding the suitability for your child.

PEGI age ratings are broken down into five categories:

- **3** – www.pegi.info
- **7** – www.pegi.info
- **12** – www.pegi.info
- **16** – www.pegi.info
- **18** – www.pegi.info

PEGI content descriptors are broken down into eight categories:

FEAR, DRUGS, IN-GAME PURCHASES, VIOLENCE, BAD LANGUAGE, DISCRIMINATION, GAMBLING, SEX

LIMITATIONS OF PEGI RATINGS

It's possible for young people to buy games online without a required proof of age, opening them up to age-inappropriate content without you knowing. We advise that you regularly monitor your child's gaming activities and maintain a honest and healthy dialogue with them about the online world.

PARENTAL CONTROLS

It is a good idea to put in place parental controls for all online accounts which your child may use to purchase or download online games e.g. The App Store, Google Play Store, PlayStation Store and Microsoft Xbox Store etc.

Source: www.bbfc.co.uk

Source: www.pegi.info

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 06.02.19

ARTICLE 28 - Every child has the right to an education