



MALDON COURT

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Autumn Term 2022

Weekly Newsletter

16th December 2022

DATES FOR THE DIARY

MONDAY 19th DECEMBER
- TUESDAY 3rd JANUARY
Christmas Holiday

WEDNESDAY 4th JANUARY
Children Return to School
No Clubs This Week

MONDAY 9th JANUARY
Clubs Commence

FRIDAY 20th JANUARY
Form 4 Cake Sale

TUESDAY 24th JANUARY
Forms 1 and 2 - Cricket Festival
Northern Gateway

WEDNESDAY 25th JANUARY
Form 3 Class Assembly 9am

TUESDAY 31st JANUARY
Forms 4, 5 and 6 - ESB Exam

MONDAY 6th FEBRUARY
Mental Health Week

TUESDAY 7th FEBRUARY
Safer Internet Day

TUESDAY 7th FEBRUARY
Pre-Reception School Trip
Sealife Centre - Southend

WEDNESDAY 8th FEBRUARY
Forms 1 and 2 Football Festival
Shrub End - Colchester

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Maldon Court wishes
Apollo, Katherine Boustead,
Gabriella Mazhawidza, Harry,
Jacob Simpson, Isabella Russell,
Isabel Dunkin, Martha Smith,
Mrs Callaghan and Miss Oxford
a very Happy Birthday



Dear Parents,

It has been a very special last week of term where our Christmas festivities have continued. On Monday and Wednesday, all of the children had the opportunity to buy gifts from the Christmas 'Pop up Shop'. This popular event is run by FOMCS and the children really do enjoy choosing presents for their family members. Thank you to the parents that make this event happen – lots goes on behind the scenes with buying all of the gifts and we really appreciate all of the time spent to make this happen.

Today is always a very special day. We started our day with our traditional Christmas Service at All Saints' Church. It was lovely to see so many of you there to share and celebrate with us. The children excelled themselves again with their exceptional readings and songs. It was wonderful to hear our choir sing, plus all of the separate classes. A special congratulations must go to Freddy Bruce who was awarded the solo of Once in Royal David's City. Freddy, you were fantastic and you should be so proud of yourself. Well done.

Following on from the service, all children enjoyed their traditional whole school Christmas lunch – another favourite of mine as we have everyone in the hall celebrating and having lots of fun together. This year was no different and the children enjoyed a superb Christmas lunch with all the trimmings made by Miss Reeves and Miss Crockett. The children loved the crackers and also the festive songs. It was also great to see all of the Christmas jumpers!

Finally, I would like to say thank you to Mrs Harvey who stepped in to take the recorder lessons for our children whilst Mrs Clark has been teaching Form 2. Her lessons have been outstanding and the children have really enjoyed their lessons. Thank you, Mrs Harvey.

HEADTEACHERS AWARD - Congratulations to Sofia Fisher who won the award this week for her excellent application to tests and for always having a determination to succeed. Congratulations also to Eliza Cowell who won the award for outstanding effort and contribution in Science Club. Well done to both girls. *Mrs Mason*

NURSERY - What a lovely festive last week of term we have all had. The children have enjoyed taking home their Christmas bags, full of gifts and crafts. Nursery also enjoyed a Barty Bear Session on Wednesday. This was Christmas themed and ran by Mrs Harvey, the children loved it and listened to the Nativity Story! The Christmas songs have been playing throughout the week and today we enjoyed wearing our Christmas jumpers and joining the whole school for a festive lunch. Our first topic when we return in January is Winter and Colours. For optional homework, please create a winter themed picture or painting to hang on our Home Link Board. Merry Christmas! *Mrs Kim Callaghan*



PRE-RECEPTION - Pre-Reception children have been fascinated this week with ice that they have found forming in the tuff tray outside on the decking, we brought this ice inside and made an experiment out of it, working out how we could make the ice melt and what we could use to do this. As an end of term treat the children have also enjoyed icing biscuits and decorating with many yummy treats, Merry Christmas everyone! *Mrs Kennedy, Miss Hansell and Mrs Mays*



RECEPTION - Reception have enjoyed a fun filled festive week! We created beautiful 2023 calendars by drawing penguins and painting a winter scene. We were very proud of our wonderful masterpieces. Well done Reception! *Miss Wayman*





FORM 1 - We have been having lots of Christmassy fun in Form 1 this week. To finish off our RE unit this half term, we made Christingles. The children all enjoyed learning what each part symbolises and the fact that it had sweets on them. As well as this, Buddy the class elf left us a magic trick to complete with skittles, we had so much fun watching the skittles turn to rainbows! I hope you all have a lovely Christmas break. Well done this term Form 1.



FORM 2 - This week Form 2 began filming their Stop Motion videos. The class were supported by Mrs Clark, Mrs Huett and Mrs Huett's nephew Ralph who works in the film industry with green screen filming. Throughout this term the class have been reading a wide variety of fairy tales and used the fairy tale format to create a storyboard. Once the storyboard was complete the children could then create backdrop scenery, ground covering such as grass or tracks and finally the characters and props. Stop Motion is the animation technique used to create movies such as the Wallace and Gromit films where each figure is hand-made and moved slightly before taking a photograph. Feature length movies can take over 1 million images to produce the entire animation! Form 2 took a total of 1000 images, roughly 200 images per group to tell their stories. Maybe there will be some budding film makers in Form 2!

Mrs Clark



FORM 4 - This term, Form 4 has been investigating levers and linkages. The design brief was to create a moving Christmas card using levers and linkages, after a few weeks of experimentation, they produced these fantastic cards. Mrs Baron





PE - We've had some fantastic PE lessons this week. The cold weather has meant that we have been dancing, playing dodgeball and balloon battles in the warmth of the school hall. When given the option however, Forms 5 and 6 were absolutely determined to go to the sports pitch to brave the minus 2.5 degrees temperature to have their PE lesson. With festive themed games of dodgeball and noughts and crosses, the highlight was surely New Zealand house completing the bleep test as a team. Did you know the bleep test goes all the way to Level 23? This is a school record! Well done everyone. *Mr Coyle*

PUPIL VOICE - BRAINTREE MUSEUM - First we went into a room designed as a Victorian classroom would be. We read aloud together an extract from 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens. Then we wrote part of the extract on slate with chalk. After that it was arithmetic and we added Victorian money, specifically pence, shillings and pounds, with column addition. They then showed us punishments and ways the Victorians encouraged learning and health. After the classroom we had lunch and became detectives trying to find out what Victorian objects were used for. The objects were: washer, jelly mould, butter pater, mousetrap, hot water bottle and tinderbox. Christmas Crackers - We then learnt that Christmas Crackers were Victorian, invented by Tom Smith to hold his sugared almonds. Over following years, he added a joke, a paper hat and a bang. We really enjoyed it!
Eli Hawes – Form 6

PE Timetable - W/C 2nd JANUARY		
Onsite PE lesson		
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Pre-Reception Form 1 Form 2		Reception Form 4 Forms 5 and 6
All Weather Pitch Lesson: 1-3pm		Swimming
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Forms 5 and 6	Forms 3 and 4	Forms 1, 2 and 3
No Sports Club this week		

MENU W/C 2nd JANUARY		
Day	Main	Dessert
Mon	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	
Tues	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	
Weds	Sausage rolls served with criss cross potatoes and baked beans	Flapjacks or fruit
Thurs	Roast gammon served with roast potatoes, carrots, Yorkshire pudding and gravy	Yoghurt or fruit
Fri	Young's fish fingers served with chips, peas and salad	Arctic roll or fruit



Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas Holiday
Mrs E Mason
Headteacher

FOMCS - Dear Parents. It was wonderful to see so many of your children at our Christmas pop up shop this week and we hope you enjoy the presents they have chosen for you. We are at the end of a very busy term and we would like to thank you for all your support with our events over the past few weeks. Finally we would like to wish all our Maldon Court families a very Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year. Have a lovely restful break. *Mrs Tsai and Mrs Jeffrey.*

