



# MALDON COURT

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Autumn Term 2020

Weekly Newsletter

27th November 2020



Dear Parents,

It has been a lovely week for the children here at Maldon Court and we are already getting into the Christmas spirit. We have a number of plans and surprises underway to ensure that the last two weeks of this term will be as special and as festive as possible for the children; they really do deserve it. On Tuesday all of the children in KS2 will be watching a 'remote' pantomime performed by the Mercury Theatre in Colchester. This will be streamed to the children in the afternoon. They will enjoy a basket meal of cheeseburger and chips and strawberry ice cream for dessert. Our EYFS and KS1 children will enjoy a Christmas production streamed on iPlayer so that they also participate in our first Christmas treat of the year. Our traditional Christmas plate competition has been as popular as ever and the entries were of an exceptional standard. They are now displayed in the classrooms and they really do look fantastic. This year, Mrs Wilkins had the extremely tough job of judging the winners. After much deliberation, the winners were Jessica Jones for EYFS, Elizabeth Neall for KS1 and India Fisher for KS2. Congratulations to all of our winners and to every child who entered.

This afternoon saw our first ever 'Birthday Party Afternoon' take place. The children were so excited and each and every one of them had the most wonderful time. We had music playing, balloons and there were brilliant traditional games played including Musical Statues and Musical Chairs. It really was so special to see just how much the children enjoyed themselves; the laughter and happiness was a delight to see. All birthday children (from September – December) received a birthday sticker and cake. We look forward to our next party in January.

Finally, we have plans in place for a nice surprise for parents to celebrate Christmas. The children have already started practising and we have all been working very hard to prepare this for you! You will have to wait just a little longer to see what it is. I hope that you enjoy it!

**HEADTEACHERS AWARD** - Congratulations to Florence Curtis in Form 5 who won the award this week for her excellent singing. Well done, Flo. Congratulations to Darcy Ephgrave who won the Good Manners Award this week.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please check the school diary on the website.

### TUESDAY 1st DECEMBER

KS2 Remote Pantomime

### THURSDAY 3rd DECEMBER

Forms 5 v 6 Netball Match

### MONDAY 7th DECEMBER

Christmas Parties

Pre-Reception & Reception

Forms 1 & 2

Forms 5 & 6

### TUESDAY 8th DECEMBER

Christmas Parties

Nursery

Forms 3 & 4

### FRIDAY 11th DECEMBER

Christmas Jumper day

Christmas Lunch

End of Term

### MONDAY 4th JANUARY

Children Return to school

No Clubs this week

### MONDAY 11th JANUARY

Clubs Commence

### MONDAY 11th FEBRUARY

Life Support Roadshow

★ HAPPY BIRTHDAY ★

Maldon Court wishes -  
Conor Ludden  
a very Happy Birthday

**NURSERY** - For the final week of our Transport and Road Safety Topic we focused on the story Whatever Next! The role play zone was made into an aeroplane to 'roar out of the clouds'. We used the lovely rocket that Ellie brought in to visit the moon. Our tuff tray was very exciting, as we turned it into the moon for Teddy and Owl to enjoy their picnic. The children love this story and know it very well! Next week we begin our Christmas topic. For optional homework, please make a homemade Christmas decoration to hang on our tree.  
Mrs Kim Callaghan



**RECEPTION** - Reception have been learning about 'The Gingerbread Man'. We had a fantastic time making gingerbread. We mixed flour, sugar, butter, eggs, ginger, and golden syrup into a sticky dough. We all took turns stirring the mixture and rolled out our very own gingerbread man. Luckily, none of them ran away! We had a brilliant time decorating our gingerbread and were very creative with our designs. We also took part in a gingerbread obstacle course. We had great fun acting as the gingerbread man. We used different skills including, crawling, jumping, hopping, and sliding.  
Miss Wayman



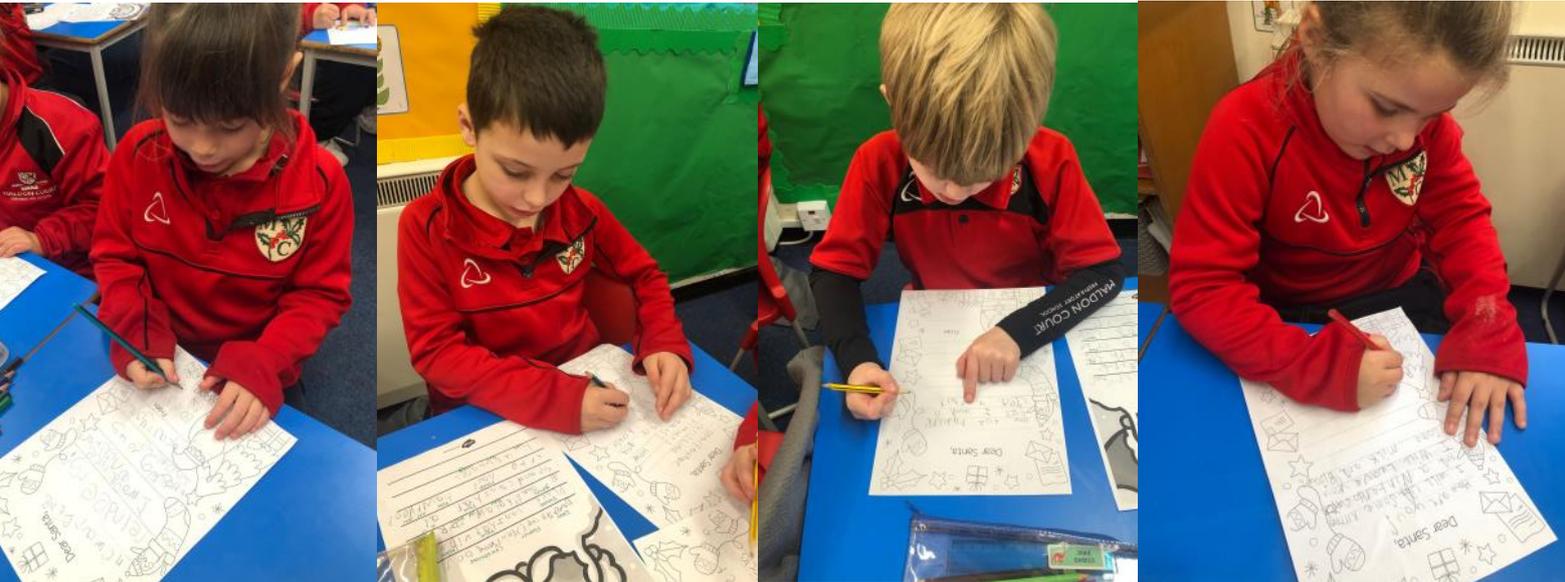
**PRE-RECEPTION** - For our topic 'The Gruffalo', Pre-Reception explored their own Gruffalo trail at Leeches garden... We even had some mouse ears to wear on our heads. We started with listening to The Gruffalo story before we went on our way. As we walked around Leeches garden, we spotted the fox, the owl, and the snake before finally seeing the Gruffalo! It was such a fun morning, and we cannot wait to go again.



Miss Washbourne and Miss Denyer



**FORM 1** - Form 1 have had a very exciting week in English this week. We have been busy writing our letters to Father Christmas. The children were very excited and were sure to use their best handwriting ready for when he reads their letters. The children were very good at writing their letters and even had to think of a question to ask him. Miss Sackett



**FORM 4** - This term, Form 4 have been learning about different symbols that signify the Christian meaning of Christmas. The children have enjoyed discussing the different symbols that remind them of the Christmas story and have reflected on their meaning. The children each decided on their own symbol that represents the Christian meaning of Christmas and painted this design using acrylic paints onto their stone. Well done Form 4.

*Miss Broadbridge and Mrs Dickinson*



**FORM 6** - Form 6 have been looking at poetry from the First World War in English which really captured the children's interest. At their request on Tuesday we had a focus day on WWI and looked at the causes of the war, the conditions in the trenches and focused on a soldier from the War Memorial. The pupils went to the memorial, chose a name and we used the online Census to find out about the life of the soldier, their family, occupation and where they lived. The class found this fascinating and all agreed it helped them to understand the soldiers were real people who have families like us. They were shocked to see how young some of the boys were and how they would lie about their ages to go and defend their country. We also continued our local history project and the pupils had a wonderful time walking around Maldon collecting pictures and testing the route of their own Childs Heritage Walk of Maldon. Mrs Bradford





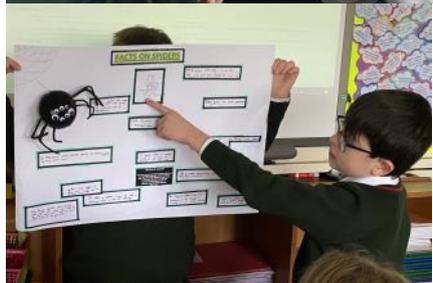









**FORM 5** - We have been busy over the past few weeks in Form 5. Here is just a snap shot of what we have been up to... The children have been enjoying studying WWII in History which has been linked to our Beyond the Lines English Topic. We are using a short video clip to improve our descriptions of how the soldiers felt in the war using show not tell as a tool. We have started looking at Siegfried Sassoon and have been analysing a WWI poem that he wrote. The children used the ICT suite this week to research the role of Women in the War and the various jobs they had. They had to find out the needs of the job and how working conditions and pay were.



The children have been enjoying their DT and are making Christmassy cushions. We have practised some stitches and everyone has made a considerable amount of progress. We are now at the stages of sewing on our decorations.

This week has seen another end to a cycle of Genius Projects. I am learning so much. The children seem to really embrace the projects with all sorts of interests being explored. We have had spiders to bat boxes, the solar system to goose bumps. I love finding out what the class have chosen to explore and their excitement to share their projects with the rest of the class.

Buddy time has been a real hit. The children have really enjoyed the teams meetings we have had with Pre-Reception. Pre-Reception children have sat beautifully and listened to their buddies read a couple of stories. It has been lovely to see the faces of the children and for them to see other children within the school. Albeit remotely. Keep it up Form 5!

Mrs Bonner and Mrs Clark

PE Timetable - W/C 30th November	
Wednesday	Thursday
On Site PE Lesson - Morning	
Pre-Reception	Reception
Form 1	Form 5
Form 2	Form 6
All Weather Pitch Lesson: 1-3pm	
Form 3	Form 4
KS2 Sports Club at the all-weather pitch for children in Forms 3 and 4 Wednesday 2nd December 3.30 - 4.30pm	

Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs E Mason  
Headteacher

**FOMCS** - Thank you for all of your wonderful paper plate creations, Mrs Wilkins had a tough job judging them all. We have organised a musical advent for the children to start next week, meaning they'll start their school days with a little bit of festive music and cheer. And finally plans are all set in place for the children's Christmas bubble parties; we're confident they'll have a great time. Tori and Charlotte.

MENU W/C 30th November		
Day	Main	Dessert
Mon	Lasagne served with garlic bread and salad	Flapjack or fruit
Tues	Cheese burger served with chips and salad	Strawberry Ice cream or fruit
Weds	Sweet and sour chicken served rice and prawn crackers	Yoghurt or fruit
Thurs	Sausages rolls, duchess potatoes and baked beans	Orange jelly or fruit
Fri	Birds Eye fish fingers served with potato croquettes, peas and salad	Vanilla sponge cake with sprinkles or fruit

