



MALDON COURT

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Spring Term 2018

Weekly Newsletter

26th January 2018

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please check the school diary on the App and website.

TUESDAY 30th & WEDNESDAY 31st JANUARY
ESB Examinations

MONDAY 5th FEBRUARY
Parents Evening Self Booking opens on ParentMail

WEDNESDAY 7th FEBRUARY
Form 4 Trip to Colchester Castle

MONDAY 12th - FRIDAY 16th FEBRUARY
Half Term

TUESDAY 20th FEBRUARY
Maths Information Evening for Forms 1 – 6 at 7.00pm

FRIDAY 23rd FEBRUARY
Swimming starts for Forms 4 - 6

TUESDAY 27th FEBRUARY
Parents' Evening 3.45 - 6.00pm

WEDNESDAY 28th FEBRUARY
Form 4 Assembly
Reception Road Safety Walk

THURSDAY 1st MARCH
World Book Day
Parents' Evening 5.00 - 8.00pm

THURSDAY 8th MARCH
Pre-Reception Mother's Day Tea

FRIDAY 16th & SATURDAY 17th MARCH
KS2 School Production at URC Market Hill 7.00pm

MONDAY 19th MARCH
Science Day



Dear Parents,

If you haven't heard already from your children, our production was announced on Monday and the children were delighted to hear that it is based on the Jungle Book! It is now full steam ahead for our two performances. These are on Friday 16th and Saturday 17th March at 7pm at URC, Market Hill. If your child cannot attend either of these performances, please inform the school as soon as possible as parts will be allocated to the children imminently. As stated before, this production will be for Key Stage 2 children only. However, the Key stage 1 children were thrilled that they will watch the dress rehearsal and that they would see the performance before the adults could!

HEADTEACHER'S AWARD - Congratulations to Martha Smith and Lottie Craddock who won the award this week. Martha won it for her excellent spelling results throughout Form 1 and Lottie for her excellent application to her school work in all subjects. Fantastic Martha and Lottie, well done!

FORM 5 SUMMER HOLIDAY 11+ TUITION - The format of the 11 Plus tuition in the summer holidays is changing this year. Rather than have 3 mornings a week for 3 weeks, I have decided that the tuition will be for 3 full days at the end of the summer holidays instead. The children can then have a well-deserved rest before we start in earnest on these days. It also allows parents more freedom to book holidays as not so many weeks will be taken up. The tuition days will run on August 29th, 30th and 31st from 9am-3.30pm and will be led by myself and Mrs Clark. Further information will follow via Parentmail next week.

FROM HEADS OF SCHOOL - Last week, Heads of School had a meeting with Mrs Mason about ways of improving the school. One of the subjects that we came up with is games in After School Care. We feel that we need some more KS2 games to play with so if you have any games that you no longer require that are suitable for older children, please can you bring them into school for us. Thank you in advance.

On behalf of Heads of School: Grace Whiteford

RECEPTION - Reception have been learning about Weather this half term. This week, we have been learning about Shelters and how to keep dry in different weather conditions. On Wednesday, Reception had a fun afternoon listening to 'The Gruffalo's Child' and identifying the different animal homes and shelters. The children worked in groups and had a great time building homes out of recycled materials for the Fox, Snake, Mouse, Owl and Gruffalo! Have a look at the log pile house built for the Snake!



FORM 2 - Form 2 has been using the tablets a lot this week. Firstly, in Geography, they researched facts about China. They had to think about what to type into the search engine to find the answers to the questions posed, select appropriate child friendly sites and then read to find the answers. The answers they gave showed how proficient they are becoming, both using the tablets and developing their research skills. They then used the tablets in Computing to take photographs. This was a week to practise taking photographs, centring their subject and keeping a steady hand.



ENGLISH SPEAKING BOARD EXAMINATIONS - Mrs Deakin has been working very hard to prepare the children for their ESB examinations next week. I would like to take this opportunity to wish the children in Forms 4, 5 and 6 that are taking part every success. I know how hard you have been working very hard and will all do well next week. After half term Mrs Deakin will be working with the children in Forms 2 & 3. If you would like your child to take part but haven't yet signed up, please let the school office know so that the register for next term can be compiled. ESB is a National Awarding Body, to promote and assess effective, confident and constructive oral communication skills for all levels and all ages. The emphasis is on spoken English as a practical and enjoyable life skill, with the focus at assessment on the candidate both as a speaker and as an active listener sharing knowledge and ideas with others.



AFTER SCHOOL CARE - Over the past two weeks, we have been trialling a different set up for homework for KS2 children in After School Care to further improve our provision for both children and parents. All KS2 children who are booked into After School Care will now be supervised by a teacher from 3.30pm-4pm to start their homework each night. Children will sit with the teacher in their classroom or the dining room , depending on which teacher is supervising on that day. The thought behind this is that children will have a quiet area to focus on their homework and will have a teacher to ask if they are unsure of something. For obvious reasons, we cannot guarantee that the homework will be completed in these sessions but it does ensure that they have had 30 minutes of quiet, focussed time to make a start. This also has the added advantage that Mrs Cousins and Miss Willis will then be able to ensure that the KSI children in After School Care will all be heard read. This will be signed in their reading record books. I am sure this will meet with your approval

FORM 5 CLASS ASSEMBLY - Form 5 did a wonderful assembly about the Ancient Mayan. Their performance demonstrated their confident acting skills with excellent fluency. The audience enjoyed the comical timing and the children’s own choreographed song. The assembly was followed by a meeting about Form 5’s forthcoming trip to ‘Fellowship Afloat’. The children were very excited to hear Mrs Clark tell them of all the fantastic activities that they will be doing on their trip in March. Just as a reminder to parents, please can we have the forms returned to us by Monday. Mrs Clark & Mrs Mason can’t wait to accompany Form 5 on this exciting, fun-filled, educational trip!



Have a lovely weekend
Mrs E Mason,
Headteacher

NEXT WEEK’S MENU

FOMCS - Thank you to those who attended the coffee morning today. We are planning lots of exciting events this year for the whole school community to get involved with and look forward to your support. A reminder of the opportunity to have a good clear out of clothes over half term. A bag to put items in will be sent home with each child along with a letter reminding you what items can be donated. Bag2School will be collecting our donations on the morning of Monday 26th February. Therefore we ask that all donation bags be brought into school on either Friday 23rd February or at morning drop off on Monday 26th February. Please can we ask that donations are NOT brought into school at any other time as the school does not have the capacity to store them. If you wish to purchase any pre-loved uniform please contact either Julie Head (07739 297527) or Kate Farr (07944 711000)

Mon	Homemade pizza with potato croquettes and salad	Shortbread	Fruit
Tues	Chilli cone carne with rice, warm tortilla chips and soured cream	Apple crumble and custard	Fruit
Wed	Roast beef, roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, seasonal vegetables and apple sauce & gravy	Fresh fruit salad	Fruit/ Yoghurt
Thurs	Sausages, mashed potatoes and beans	Lemon mousse	Yoghurt
Fri	Fish fingers, new potatoes, peas and salad	Chocolate chip cookies	Fruit