



MALDON COURT

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Spring Term 2018

Weekly Newsletter

2nd February 2018

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please check the school diary on the App and website.

WEDNESDAY 7th FEBRUARY
Form 4 Trip to Colchester Castle

THURSDAY 8th FEBRUARY
Selected Form 3 & 4 Cross Country
Chelmer Park 2.00pm

FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY
Form 3 Cake Sale

MONDAY 12th - FRIDAY 16th FEBRUARY
Half Term

MONDAY 19th FEBRUARY
Form 4 Parent Meeting regarding Essex
Outdoors Trip

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

MONDAY 5th MARCH
Choir competition at KEGS 3.30pm

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



Dear Parents,

This week, many of our children in Forms 4, 5 and 6 have been participating in their English Speaking Board Exams. This prestigious examination is something that we are exceptionally proud of at Maldon Court. Mrs Deakin, our ESB specialist, works incredibly hard to prepare the children for their examinations and I would like to thank her for all of her hard work and dedication to achieving the very best for all the children who participate. I am delighted to say that Maldon Court are already streets ahead of the latest government recommendations. Last week the new Education Secretary, Damian Hinds, in his first conference speech said "Teaching children how to build character resilience and workplace skills is crucial for a thriving economy. Clearly what happens in school – the ethos of a school, the expectations that are set for students, alongside what happens in extracurricular activity, in sport, in public speaking, in voluntary work and so on – all of these things will have an effect on character resilience and on the workplace skills that our young people will take with them." Here at Maldon Court we have been participating in ESB for many years now and our children have been given a clear advantage already.

HEADTEACHER'S AWARD - Congratulations to Harry Jones in Form 2 for being the first child ever to receive his pen licence in Key Stage 1. A fantastic achievement of which he should be very proud. As I am sure you are aware, children have to work very hard to achieve this accolade so to achieve this in Form 2 is outstanding. Well done, Harry. Congratulations also to Hugh Crozier who has gained the Headteacher's Award for his excellent participation in the Form 5 class assembly. Brilliant Hugh, well done!

Swimmer of the Week - Congratulations to Sophia Harvey who won the award for the previous week and Kate van Stolk who won it last week. Well done to both girls.

FORM 5 & 6 RUGBY TOURNAMENT

Last week we have had another exciting week of sport, which we have been training hard for. Thursday 25th January saw our Tag Rugby Tournament at The Plume School. With crystal clear skies and fantastic parental support we had a successful afternoon where we came 2nd out of seven other competing schools! The children all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and team spirit was high. Well done to Forms 5 & 6!



PRE RECEPTION - On a Friday afternoon Pre-Reception and Form 5 meet for a group buddy time. This time is loved by all and the children are always enthusiastic when the time arrives. Each week the children choose what fun activities to share with one another. This week the children all had great fun engaging in games and especially ending the busy session with a good sing song along to the Hokey-Cokey; what a fantastic way to end the week.



PRE-RECEPTION JUNK MODELLING - Pre-Reception are really enjoying their new topic 'dinosaurs' This week they have engaged in many fun dinosaur activities, the children most enjoyed junk modelling to create their very own dinosaur model. They have used many different sized boxes to design a dinosaur, they then painted and displayed in the classroom! Pre-Reception are so pleased with them and can't wait to take them home, the children thought of some brilliant ideas and they all look amazing.



SIBLING REGISTRATIONS - We are receiving many enquiries about places at our school and Nursery so we need to remind you to register any siblings that haven't yet registered. This will make sure that our current families are allocated places before we offer out to any external applications. This is especially the case for anyone who would like a place in Nursery 2018. Please ask in the school office for a registration form.



PARENTS' EVENINGS - We are trialling the ParentMail system whereby parents book their own appointment slot with their class teacher via the Parentmail module titled 'Parents Evening' (pictured). You are able to book appointments with your child's class teacher as well as Mrs Holden (PE). Parents' Evening dates are: Tuesday 27th February, 3.45 - 6.00pm and Thursday 1st March, 5.00—8.00pm. Self-booking will go live for parents via ParentMail on Monday 5th February at 9.00am and appointments will be booked on a first come, first served basis. Please ask in the school office if you need help with this.

BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH - This week the whole school took part in The Big Garden Bird Watch. Each child observed the birds that visited their garden in one hour over the weekend, these results were then recorded in a variety of ways in class. In Key Stage 1 the children found different ways of reading and displaying data including pictograms, bar charts and frequency tables. Form 4 have been reading and interpreting data in order to answer questions relating to the information they have collected. The pupils in Forms 5 & 6 focussed on data analysis, identifying where the observations were made and comparing the results

from different locations including Maldon, Witham, Danbury and Burnham. From the data collected they were able to establish that the more coastal locations and countryside offered a greater variety of bird types, up to 24 different types of bird, compared to town locations with a few as 11 different types. Form 6 went further in their analysis by comparing the different characteristics of the birds they observed such as those which liked to travel in flocks like starlings and those which were more solitary such as wrens.



SPORTS WRITE-UPS - Full reports will follow next week about the exciting Form 5 & 6 Cross Country and the Form 3 & 4 Netball afternoon with the benecos Mavericks at the University of Essex that we took part in on Thursday.



We're working towards Artsmark Awarded by Arts Council England



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SCHOOL GARDEN - We are very pleased to announce that we have achieved Level Three in the RHS School Gardening awards. This means that we have earned a Schools Constant Garden, whereby Rocket Gardens will grow and send us a series of boxes containing young vegetables and fruit plants during school term times. We cannot wait to see what we get! Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the success of the garden, especially Gardening Club and the parents that continue to lend their support.



MUSIC - I was delighted last week to announce the appointment of Mr Acton as our curriculum Music and ICT teacher. Mr Acton is keen to join our teaching team and in addition to his curriculum music and ICT teaching he will also lead our choir and orchestra on Tuesdays. We already have many exciting competitions lined up including the Essex Schools County Choir Competition. Mr Acton brings a wealth of experience, enthusiasm and qualifications and we look forward to him joining us after half term. As promised, we have also been working hard to find a teacher for private music lessons, thank you for your overwhelming responses over ParentMail this week. Miss Cornell will be continuing with her guitar and ukulele tuition and we have now secured the services of an outstanding piano teacher. Mrs Kate Stone, a highly experienced piano tutor, will be providing private piano tuition and I would urge you to please complete the ParentMail form so that we may gauge interest in other instruments and arrange teachers according to demand.



FORM I - This week, Form I have been experimenting in English lessons by using a long sheet of paper to record their sentences. Pupils had to replace words within sentences, with other words to make new sentences. Form I loved filling in the gaps on the paper and using all the different coloured felt tips.

Have a lovely weekend
Mrs E Mason, Headteacher

FOMCS - Please complete the ParentMail form if you would like to attend the family coach trip to Bewilderwood. 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 after half term. 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. Thank you for your co-operation.

FOMCS

NEXT WEEK'S MENU

Mon	Meatballs with tomato sauce with pasta and sweetcorn	Vanilla sponge and custard	Fruit
Tues	Beef casserole served with seasonal vegetables	Strawberry jelly	Fruit
Wed	Roast turkey, roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, seasonal vegetables and apple sauce & gravy	Fresh fruit salad	Fruit/ Yoghurt
Thurs	Battered fish, new potatoes and peas	Mixed fruit crumble and custard	Fruit
Fri	Beef burger with cheesy chips and salad	Chocolate chip cookies	Fruit

