



NEWSLETTER May 2016

In this issue:

- ◆ Rocket science update
- ◆ Can you find 5 mistakes in the newsletter?
- ◆ Assessment week & SATs w/c 9 May
- ◆ Family photos 3rd May—see diary

Dear Parents & Carers,

Summer Fun: Welcome to the Summer term newsletter but the weather doesn't feel anything like summer yet! However we have many activities planned for this term that will need your support.—especially as this is the year when we hold one of our biggest and most popular events—**The Summer Fête** (Fair) . This will take place on Saturday 16th July so please put the date in your diary. Advance warning too of the date for our **Open Evening**—Tuesday 5th July. We are very excited about holding our first **Sports Day and Family Picnic** using our new sports areas on Tuesday 28th June.

Assessment Week: Most children will be taking **tests** during the week beginning **9th May**. Y2 and Y6 will be taking their SATs tests. These results are very important for your child so I am sure you will support them by ensuring they come to school each day, on time, after a good breakfast and a good night's sleep. We will give them fruit and water to help boost their energy and brain power.

Good luck to everyone.

Visitors: Thank you for supporting us by attending our Easter Assembly in March. We had the pleasure of hosting a visit by Canon (Reverend) **Ann Easter** (see photo) who is a Chaplain to the Queen. She spoke about her role and her visits to Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. Thanks also to Reverend **Dave Richards** who attended the assembly and gave his usual inspirational talk to the children.

Attendance: Over 60 children are heading for **100% full year** attendance by the end of the year, providing they are not absent before July. Congratulations to **Classes 5 and 8** who had the best attendance from last September, both achieving 98%.

Maryland Channel: Please remember to look at the pod screens before and after school to keep up with the latest news about our school. Also follow us on Twitter, [@MarylandPrimary](#)

Have a good term everyone.



Mrs L.P.Jackson, Headteacher.

ROCKET SCIENCE UPDATE



Do you remember us reporting to you that we are taking part in a national experiment using rocket seeds that went up into space with Tim Peake, the first British astronaut?



The project is to find out whether seeds that have been into space will be affected by those conditions outside the Earth's atmosphere. These are early investigations to find out if food can be produced in space to feed possible future human settlements.

The seeds came back to Earth on a returning shuttle and we have received 2 packets to start our growing experiment. **Year 2 children are taking charge of that important job** as part of their Science curriculum. They described what they had to do in assembly. We have one 'control' packet with seeds from Earth to compare growth with. These are carefully labelled. Then we have the seeds that went into space. Or did they? We won't know. To make sure the experiments are correct and fair, we have not been told if the second packet were actually in space, as there are some 'placebo' packets. Some schools got the real ones and others got 'placebo' seeds that didn't go into space. As seeds, they look exactly the same. Children in assembly predicted what they thought would happen. Will the second pack grow the same? Larger? Smaller?

Nature's Garden wows visitors from other Newham schools.

Ms Boreham shows a group of 15 visitors from other schools how they can create a superb outdoor environment for children that is ALSO a great learning resource. Of course they fell in love with the chickens, too.



WE RESPECTFULLY ASK PARENTS TO

Recently some parents have been putting their faces up to class windows and peering into class before the bell goes for the end of day. Please would you refrain from doing this, as it is very distracting for pupils and staff.

Please wait until **after school** to see teachers or ask for an appointment. Teachers are unable to engage in conversation with parents once the bell goes and parents should not be in class at that time. Also, we ask parents to refrain from coming into the classroom while talking on their mobile phones. Teachers don't like to have to ask parents to leave the class and it is made more difficult for them when they have to be interrupted because they are on the phone.

For security and safety purposes adults must sign in to the Family Centre even if coming in for a very short time.

The car park is for staff or authorised use only. Please do not walk your children through the car park. Remember they usually cannot be seen in the rear view mirror, as most are shorter than the back of a hatchback car.

NEW for our newsletter!



Elspeth, my sub-editor, and I have put in **5 deliberate spelling, punctuation or grammatical errors** for the children to hunt for. Towards the end of the month, I'll check them with the children in my assembly. Will you help them find **5 mistakes** in this newsletter?

INTERVIEW WITH A GENEROUS GIRL

by Elspeth Cole, Sub-editor

A Maryland student has raised over £1000 for charity, by cutting her long hair! Reesha (cl.9) has raised this huge sum of money for The Little Princess Trust, a charity helping children with cancer. My friend Mehreen and I interviewed her to find out about how she did it and all about the process.

She told us that her inspiration was pop star Jessie J, who shaved off all of her hair for charity. Reesha chose that charity as she knew it would go to little girls her age who had lost their hair, she didn't want them to feel left out as they are just like her yet they are very ill.

We asked how she raised the money and she explained that her mum had put up a giving website where anyone could give money to sponsor her. The goal to raise was £350, as that is how much money it costs to make a wig, but she surpassed that by a long way! Her friends, family and neighbours helped her raise the money. The night before she cut her hair she said "I was extremely nervous and pressured and didn't want to go through with it," but she had supportive surroundings and she did it!

She knew all about the charity and told us that her hair would be used to make a wig and she was so very proud of herself.

This is a huge achievement and Reesha said that it gave her such a sense of pride that she had done something this amazing - she would definitely encourage it. She was even mentioned in the Newham Recorder!

We were amazed when we found out what she did and congratulate her on her bravery. I'm sure she will never forget it!

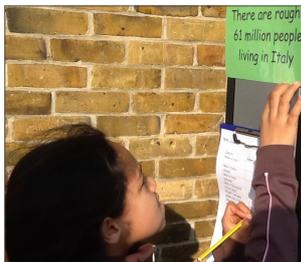
MARYLAND'S 48TH BIRTHDAY, FRI 6 MAY

We shall be having an exciting house quiz in assembly to celebrate our birthday. Please can your child come to school in their HOUSE colours that day, so they can proudly represent their house. Lister—yellow, Charles—red, Gurney—green, Cornwell—blue, Fry—orange.

STUDY THEMES FOR SUMMER TERM

Our whole school study theme **OTHER COUNTRIES**, launched with a frantic treasure hunt on the first day of term.

Here a child is shown finding out some facts about Italy. →



HOMework RESEARCH PROJECT

We are so delighted that **WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE** is the subject of our homework research project this term, as it is the 400 years since he died and is being noted by many events around the UK and the world. Ms Steele held a parents meeting this week to provide some guidelines and ideas for the project work. Also a sheet will be pasted into your child's homework diary giving details. If you have any questions, please see Ms Steele (Class6) or Mrs Cooper.

Please contact **Mrs Cooper, Deputy Headteacher**, if you wish to advertise in our monthly newsletter.

MARYLAND UNITED NEWS

WE ARE WORKING TO IMPROVE **YOUR** CHILD'S SCHOOL EXPERIENCE. **SHOULDN'T YOU?**



We have an exceptionally busy term ahead and our members are preparing for a massive fundraising effort for equipment we are unable to buy from our budgets, which have been subject to severe cuts.

Maryland United has been asked to **raise funds to buy a 3D copier** which costs around £1300. This would be a wonderful piece of equipment that would add immeasurably to, for example, design & technology lessons and to make artefacts for history lessons.

Our first big event will be the family quiz after school on the last day before the half-term break. Why not get a team together of children and adults to tackle some easy and some tricky questions? Great fun for everyone and snack food on sale. Why not consider contacting one of our hard-working and committed Chairs to help out at this or any other of our events, even if you don't attend meetings?

Maryland United Chairs

Staff Chairs: **Terena Bennett & Sevgi Kor (020 8534 8135)**

Parent Chair: **Michelle Edgecombe**

IF YOU ARE EMAILING US CHILDREN'S HOMEWORK ...

We are increasingly asking children to do homework on the computer and email it to the school. If you do so, please type into the **subject box** of the email the **child's name and teacher name or class number**. Work may be emailed to info@maryland.newham.sch.uk

IF YOUR CHILD HAS A PACKED LUNCH

We wish to remind you NOT to pack a drink into your child's packed lunch, as we provide water and milk at the lunch tables where your child is seated to eat. We would also remind you that **we do not allow sweets, chocolates, biscuits, cakes or fizzy drinks** to be packed for pupils' lunch. If we see these we shall take them out of the child's lunch and return them at the end of the school day.

The ideal packed lunch would contain a sandwich (please avoid chocolate spreads, jam or other fillings high in sugar), some vegetable such as carrot sticks or baby tomatoes. For dessert a piece of fruit or pot of live yoghurt (fruit yoghurt with no added sugar), cheese or a flapjack, with honey as a sweetener, is a tasty treat.



THE DIARY MAY/JUNE 2016

Event	Date	Time/Comment
School closed-bank holiday	Mon 2 May	
Individual and family photos	Tue 3 May	Families before & after school
London assembly elections	Thur 5 May	SCHOOL CLOSED
MARYLAND's 48th BIRTHDAY	Fri 6 May	Children to come to school in house colours, if possible.
Assessments week & Y6 SATs	w/c 9 May	Tests every morning
Last day of term 5	Fri 27 May	Finish at 3:15 pm
Family quiz	Fri 27 May	3.30pm in junior hall
First day of term 6	Mon 6 Jun	8:55 am
Educational visits week	w/c 6 Jun	
Maryland United meeting	Thu 9 Jun	In staffroom. Creche available
Sun awareness and lolly week	w/c 13 Jun	
Evening of music and dance	Mon 20 Jun	Details to follow
EU referendum	Thu 23 Jun	SCHOOL CLOSED
Sports day & family picnic	Tue 28 Jun	Details to follow

