



MARYLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL NOVEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

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Message from Mrs Jackson Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,
I hope you had an exciting half-term break. Thank you to those selected children who gave up their holiday to come in for extra lessons—it will pay off in the end. Premises: Our cook and her team are enjoying their new state of the art kitchen—see the website for our new Autumn/Winter menus.

The final phase of our roof replacement has started and some areas of the playground have been used for building equipment. Please keep your children away from that area before and after school whilst they are in your care. The work is scheduled to last for 12 weeks. No more leaks!

Attendance: Unfortunately YR have been hit by an outbreak of chicken pox but hopefully the other year groups will aim for very high attendance. Well done to Yr 4 for having the best attendance of the year so far, 99%.

Date for your diary : Please attend a special Festive Farewell assembly on Friday 15th Dec, 2pm where we will be saying goodbye to Mrs. Cooper and Mr. Arthur. We will send them on their way with a cheerful Christmas singalong. Head Boys and Girls: a special thank you to our 4 head students, Resha, Omar, Teodora and Thierry who have been doing a marvellous job as school ambassadors. Houses: Lister is in the lead once again—see housepoints in Junior hall. Come on, the rest of you!

Mrs. L. Jackson, Headteacher

Assessment week w/c 20 November

We have 2 assessment weeks every year, in November and May (SATs time for Years 2 and 6). During assessment week, we test our pupils in Years 1-6 in English, maths and science. The November tests are done for a variety of purposes:

- to diagnose any aspects of the curriculum that need more work
- to predict if individual pupils are on track for expected progress or if they are having difficulty with the year's work, we can ensure they have the right booster support to reach the standard required of them
- to report back to you. We use the results of the tests to report back to parents in January at your 1:1 meetings with teachers. At that meeting you will receive a summary paper report with your child's results and some targets for improvement.

Of course, assessment is ongoing in many forms throughout the year in every class, so if you have cause for concern about your child's progress, please make an appointment to see the class teacher. Likewise, we will call in parents at any time in the year if we have similar concerns, so that school and home together can achieve excellent academic outcomes for our pupils.

Homework 'clinic' after school 3.15-4.15pm starting Tue 7 November

We have had requests from parents to put aside a time after school to help them support their children with the homework that we set. The sessions will be run on Tuesday afternoons 3.15-4.15pm in the Children's Centre and you are welcome to attend, but you **MUST** accompany your child to the sessions. A member of our leadership team will run every session, so that any area of the curriculum in any yeargroup can be addressed. As you will be with your child for the session, we will not be sending letters home for you to sign permission. We'll send text reminders, post a tweet on the website and post a reminder on our TV pods in the playgrounds as well. The sessions can only be sustained in the future if 5 or more pupils attend.



Sponsor a chicken and name it.

Our seven Cluckingham Palace ladies are getting on now and are starting to exceed their life expectancy (if you see what we mean!). We therefore want to refresh our brood with 5 new hens. We are offering families an opportunity to sponsor one of our new hens. Because they are rare breeds, we are asking families for a donation of £20 to sponsor the purchase of one hen. You will then be able to name the hen, receive a certificate of sponsorship and a pack of eggs when they start laying.

NHS 'flu vaccinations at school for children Reception - Year 4

It's that time of year when the Newham immunisation team will be coming into our school to offer the children (from Reception to year 4) the nasal 'flu vaccine. The NHS offers this service instead of going to a GP's surgery.

The 'flu is an illness caused by the influenza virus. It is common during the winter months. The vaccination programme is designed to protect your child against 'flu which can be an unpleasant illness. The immunisation team will be at our school on 27/11/2017 helping to protect children from the 'flu virus in time for the winter, so helping to protect other children and family members because they are not spreading the virus infection at home and at school.

Shortly you will receive a letter offering your child the vaccination and a consent form for you to sign. At the same time you will receive a NHS leaflet informing you all about the vaccination process.

Whole school rewards at Maryland.

Behaviour at Maryland is, and has always been, outstanding. This is achieved through skilled management by teaching and support staff, whole school policies that are consistently implemented, but much more interestingly, by rewarding children. We do this in several ways, rewarding both collective and individual effort.

Has your child brought home a **Star of the Week** certificate over the last few years or told you they have earned **house points**? Children are able to 'earn' housepoints for excellent behaviour, good manners, helpfulness, effort in their work or producing an outstanding piece of work (if it is outstanding writing, it might be published on our *wE-PUBLISH* website). At the end of the year, the winning house in each class joins the other winning classes' groups to go out together on a well-earned treat. For the last few years, that has been a trip to the cinema.

Junior children can earn a place on Fridays at the **Top Table**. Staff look out for children in the dining hall who have excellent table manners, eat properly with a knife and fork and eat sociably. These children are rewarded with a seat at a table beautifully set out with an extra treat at the end of lunchtime. They provide excellent role models for the other children, encouraging them to behave well at lunchtime to earn THEIR place the top table.

All the above strategies go hand-in-hand with the myriad of other ways we encourage our children to always be their best, such as SLT's 'goodie boxes', end of year 'Golden child' certificates and gifts, special assemblies to celebrate pupils' achievements, stickers—the list goes on.

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Homework research project deadline Mon 11 December

Your child should have been working steadily since September to research and draw up a project on the theme, 'Who do you think you are?'. Please look in your child's homework diary for details pasted in at the beginning of term. We have been giving children periodic reminders during assemblies, but time will soon be running out to complete the project and hand it in. The projects can be presented in any form, e.g. a family tree on paper, a 3-D model, an electronic PowerPoint version, or a booklet—wherever the imagination takes you. To remind you, children are expected to research their families to draw up a family tree. We'd like some writing about each member, e.g. where they are from, when they were born, the work they do/have done. The exhibition of work will take place after school on Thu 14 Dec.



Thank you to our families for your Harvest Festival donations

You have been most generous again this year. Our harvest table was heaving under the weight of a variety of staple foods that will go to needy families who live locally. *Community Links* distribute the food via food banks and also food parcels delivered to elderly people.

We hope you enjoyed our classes and choir performances. We thought that the theme of finding out about the references to harvest in the world's main religions was enjoyable and instructive.

← Some of your harvest festival donations

And talking of harvesting

... we have had our first crop ever of sweet potatoes in Nature's Garden. What a bumper crop it was! The more we dug into the trough, the more potatoes were unearthed. They were deliciously sweet, so we'll be doing that again next year.

From our own sweet potato harvest →



New trampoline park in Stratford

We are always keen to promote great exercise opportunities. This one will be enjoyed by the whole family. A company called *ZAPspace* opened in October, having taken over the old Rex theatre premises on Stratford High Street. Have a look at their website at www.zapspace.co.uk

Puzzle corner

2 puzzles this month!

Can you find all the missing numbers in this maths puzzle involving addition and subtraction?

Where is the best place to start?

	+		=	17
-		+		-
	-	2	=	
=		=		=
2	+		=	16

Here's a tricky critical thinking puzzle for our older children and your parents /carers! (This puzzle featured on Radio 4's 'Today' programme in October.)

A father's age and his son's age are the same with the digits reversed. A year ago the father was twice as old as his son. How old are the father and his son?

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

Diary Nov & Dec 2017

Homework clinic sessions every Tuesdays starting 7 Nov- pg 1	From 7 Nov
Sponsored SPELL. Years 1-6 during school time.	w/c 13 Nov
Phonics screening test meeting - Year 1 parents in Class 4. 3.30-4pm	Tue 14 Nov
Reception classes - sponsored singalong in infant hall 3.00-3.10pm.	Thu 16 Nov
Nursery sponsored singalong 11.25-11.35 & 3.00-3.10pm .	Fri 17 Nov
Assessment Week Year 1-Year 6. Tests every morning.	w/c 20 Nov
Years 1 & 2 sponsored singalong in infant hall 3.00-3.10pm.	Thu 23 Nov
Maryland United meeting. 3pm in staffroom. Crèche available. All welcome.	Thu 23 Nov
'Flu vaccines for children in reception—Year 4 (see page 1).	Mon 27 Nov
Christmas lights switch on in Nature's Garden after school.	Mon 4 Dec
Christmas disco. Have you got the moves? See you there 6-8pm	Fri 8 Dec
Homework research project deadline Years 1-6	Mon 11 Dec
Christmas Fayre and Bake 'n Take. After school.	Tue 12 Dec
Infant and Nursery Nativity plays.	Thu 14 Dec
Project exhibition in halls	Thu 14 Dec
Christmas singalong, Festive farewell and Raffle draw—all welcome. 2pm in halls. Refreshments available.	Fri 15 Dec
Xmas pantomime (visiting theatre company) 'Peter Pan'	Tue 19 Dec
Children's last day of Term 2	Tue 19 Dec

