



MARYLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

November 2018 NEWSLETTER

- In this issue:**
- Parliamentary Review
 - Gold Accreditation
 - Value of the Week
 - Straw campaign

Message from Mrs Jackson Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,
I hope that you have had a fun half term break.

Parents/staff association

Maryland United is the school's association made up of parents and staff who give their time to support the school in diverse ways- *fund raising, supporting at school events, listening to children read etc.* If you can, please join us in continuing to make our children's time at Maryland truly memorable for them. Contact the following people to offer your help: Mrs Kor, Miss Bennett or Ms Edgcombe.

Premises

I would like to reassure parents that the premises have been checked regularly and given the all clear by Pest Control for any spider infestation. The new Family Support room is finished and Mrs.Mott and Mrs.Kor have relocated into their new base. We are still waiting for Newham Building dept to give us permission to create a Sensory Room. During the half term break we have had a wheelchair ramp built courtesy of MJ Associates, How kind!

Twitter

Do you want to keep up to date with school news, see some of the great learning taking place in lessons and get handy tips for helping with learning at home? Please follow us on Twitter @MarylandPrimary.

Safeguarding your children.

We have had 2 incidents where children have become very ill and we could not contact the parents. Please update you details if they change. Also if you change the person who regularly collects your child please inform the class teacher immediately.

Have a safe bonfire night !
Mrs.L Jackson, Headteacher

Parliamentary Review – We Have Made the Headlines!

Maryland School have shared best practice alongside 13 other schools in the S.E. of England in the 2018 Parliamentary Review. The September release of The Parliamentary Review has been used as an example of excellence and innovation and shared with 35,000 political and business establishments. The Review article explains how innovative Maryland is compared to other schools and the positive change that has happened as a result. If you didn't manage to grab a free copy of the Parliamentary Review at our most recent Parents' Evening, Maryland Primary School's article can be viewed here:

<http://www.theparliamentaryreview.co.uk/organisations/maryland-primary-school>

Thank you, Parents!

The Harvest assembly this year was a great success. Your kind donations of food to the harvest table were donated to the local food bank to support vulnerable families in our community. Thank you for your generosity towards the fundraising for our Sensory room. So far we have raised £ 208 of the £4000 we need. We appreciate your support as always.

Transport for London award us GOLD for the 3rd year running

See below for an extract of the letter sent to us by the borough's Sustainable Transport Officer:

Dear Maryland,

Thank you for your continued hard work and commitment to enabling more walking, cycling, and use of public transport for school travel. This has a big positive impact on the health of the school community and local residents, and for the local environment.

Following your hard work last academic year I'm please to say that Transport for London (TfL) have confirmed that your school travel plan has been accredited under the STARS scheme at gold level. Congratulations to Mrs. Marsh and all the children in the Eco Team – what a great achievement!

Free online safety workshop for parents and carers

Muddled by Minecraft or rattled by Roblox? NSPCC and O2 are running an hour-long interactive workshop with tips, tools and advice on how to keep your child safe online. Talking about online safety with your child is important– find out how to have those important conversations, get to know your child's online world and learn where to go for help and advice.

The workshop will take place at **2:15pm on Tuesday 4th December**. Please reply by emailing online.safety@maryland.newham.sch.uk or by filling in the slip that will be attached to letters coming home soon.

National Numeracy Family Maths Toolkit

We are pleased to have been selected by National Numeracy to take part in a family based maths project. Each child will be bringing home a Family Maths Scrapbook, which have been provided by the charity free of charge. These will be used as part of weekly homework for families to work on open ended maths tasks together. Activities are linked to things at home, the school calendar and cultural events to give purpose and link to real life. They aim to stimulate mathematical conversations, reasoning and problem solving. Activities can be recorded in different ways including pictures, photos, diagrams, charts, graphs. Mrs Morbin will be holding a workshop **on Friday 16th November at 2.30pm** in the Children's Centre to introduce the project. Come along to find out more.

For more information about supporting with maths at home, including tips and advice for improving your own maths skills visit <http://www.familymathstoolkit.org.uk/advice-for-families>

Value of the Week

As stated in the last newsletter, each week, a child will be nominated for showing the moral value of that particular week. During this month the children have been working hard to demonstrate 'Resilience', 'Respect', 'Kindness' and 'Courage'. Next will be 'Ambition' and 'Teamwork'. When a child is selected, they gain a star for their house/team, the house with the most stars will be awarded extra points which will help towards winning the end of year prize. Therefore this not only supports children's social and moral skills but also promotes team work.

Straw campaign

Sustainability has been an area of focus for Maryland School in the last few years and we are continuing with the same theme this year. We are raising the awareness of the **impact of plastics straws** on our environment. Plastic straws are often non biodegradable and non recyclable. Our **straw detectives** are already out and about, raising awareness where and when they can, in the local community. Our Eco warriors will be encouraging businesses in the community to change to paper straws. Therefore, when next you visit a restaurant, please ask for a paper straw! This is a small step towards preserving our environment for the generations to come!



Mrs Jackson & Miss Boreham attend The Houses of Parliament to celebrate Maryland's article being published as part of the Review.



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🐦 @MarylandPrimary

Thank you for your suggestion. Parents' Evening was a great success!

Feedback from parents told us that having an additional Parents' Evening in the Autumn term would be a fantastic opportunity, earlier on in the academic year, to further discuss your child's progress, attainment & wellbeing. Over the two days, on 16th & 17th October, 82% of all parents attended. This is one of the highest attended Parents' Evenings so far. Don't forget you will still have another Parents' Evening to attend in the spring term and then an Open Evening in summer term where you will have an opportunity to view your child's work. If you or the teacher would like any additional meetings, these can also be arranged.

Parents' view

A very big 'thank you' to those parents who took time to complete our parents' survey this term on Parentview website. 94% of parents agree that their child is happy at Maryland School, whilst 95% say their child is safe and looked after. The school leaders will always try to resolve any parental concerns as soon as they are brought to their attention so don't hesitate to contact a member of the senior team.

Make your child a comprehension genius: November tips.

One of the simplest and easiest ways to develop our children's **thinking and comprehension skills** is by wording questions in the right way. Following on from our parent presentation in September, here are some tips on how to support your child to improve their comprehension skills:

-ask questions with words and phrases such as: **how many, when, where, list, define, tell, describe, identify**, etc., this will draw out factual answers and test your child's recall and recognition skills.

- starting questions with **describe, explain, estimate, predict, identify, differentiate**, etc., will encourage your child to translate, interpret and understand.

Forest Gate Christmas lights switch on events 2018.

The event will take place on Saturday 1st December. This year the Christmas tree will be sited outside Barclays bank on the junction of Upton Lane, Romford Road and Woodgrange Road which falls into Forest Gate South ward.

Maryland's own Christmas tree in the Nature Garden will be switched on on Friday 30th November 2018.

Meet our Governors!

Hello Maryland Newsreaders,

I am the Vice -Chair of the governing board. I began my journey as a parent governor 9yrs ago when my child was in Year R. She is now at secondary school.

We are fortunate to have a governing board which nurtures individuals who volunteer to be part of a very important part of this school.

The governing board is part of the leadership team. The makeup of the board is crucial - we have members with a wide range of skills and experience, all of which can be used to aid decisions within the school.

It is a privilege to be a governor in a local school which provides first class education, especially as I have lived in the local area for over 16yrs. I am living and seeing the changes within the local vicinity of the school which also helps the board to plan ahead when we are thinking about the future of the school and what is best for our children.

Why have I continued to support the school has a governor?

I am by profession a Social Worker. I worked for over 20yrs within local authorities in managerial roles and as a Reviewing Officer and Child Protection Chair. I now work as a Safeguarding Advisor for the Diocese of London. Supporting and advising churches with all matters relating to Safeguarding. I can support and work alongside our leadership team using my professional experience. Finally, the events and performances which I attend at Maryland always give me great pleasure to watch.

Kind regards,

Annette Gordon,

Vice-chair of Governors



Miss Gordon

Diary November & December

Year 1 phonic screening meeting at 3.30pm-4.00pm	Tue 13th Nov
Assessment Week Y1-Y6	w/c 19th Nov
Flu vaccines for children	Mon 28th Nov
Christmas lights switch on in Nature's Garden after school	Fri 30th Nov
Christmas disco. Have you got the moves? See you there 6-8pm	Fri 7th Dec
Project exhibition in halls	Wed 12th Dec
Homework research project deadline Years 1-6	Mon 10th Dec
Christmas Bake 'n Take & Fair. After school.	Fri 14th Dec
Infant and Nursery Nativity plays.	Wed 12th Dec
Christmas pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty'	Tue 18th Dec
Christmas singalong and Raffle draw—all welcome. 2pm in halls.	Wed 19th Dec
Children's last day of Term	Thu 20th Dec

Please contact Ms Gajowska, Technical Manager, if you wish to advertise in our monthly newsletter.

