



MARYLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

December 2018 NEWSLETTER

Message from Mrs Jackson Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

Staffing

This month we welcome back Miss Webb and welcome Miss Fatoba who will be Maryland's new academic assistants. They will be working with Maryland pupils to ensure they achieve their very best. We also welcome Miss Orriss and Miss Khan as Lunchtime Managers.

Fundraising

Waitrose has kindly offered to support Maryland in fundraising for our sensory room. They have placed a community matters donation box near the exit to the store, please donate your green token to Maryland's box! Other local businesses have been incredibly supportive donating gift vouchers and local produce for our Christmas raffle. Tickets on sale, information to follow.



Cluckingham Palace.

Did you know that in the winter months our chickens lay less eggs? We think this is because in the colder months, their energy needs to be used to keep them warm. They are still laying a few, just not as much as the summer term. Eggs are on sale outside the Nursery.

Change to afternoon play time.

We have reviewed our school day and have decided to move our afternoon play time to 2pm instead of the original time of 2:15pm. This will mean that both parts of the afternoon will now be equal, rather than having one longer session and one shorter session. This will help us with timetabling subjects such as Computing next year.

Have a wonderful, restful break,

Mrs. L. Jackson
Headteacher

Congratulations Mrs Jackson!

In November, Mrs Jackson was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Jamaican High Commission in recognition for her long outstanding service for the field of education for 40 years. What amazing work, Mrs Jackson! We are so proud of you, and thank you for all that you do.



This year's annual pantomime performance 'Sleeping Beauty'

On Tuesday 18th December we will be welcoming a professional theatre company to the school for our annual pantomime show for pupils of 'Sleeping Beauty' - which the school has paid for. Please could parents provide a contribution of **£2 per child** to cover the cost. When you send your contribution in, please place the money in an envelope, with your child's name and class number written on it.

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 **on Tuesday 4th December at 2:15pm** 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.



Homework Project for this term/What's the problem with plastic?

The deadline for pupils to bring in their homework projects on the topic of **reducing plastic waste and single use plastic** is fast approaching. We have already had some children handing in their projects and they look fantastic! Please join us for our project exhibition to look at the work produced.

Key dates for the project:

10.12.18: Project deadline.

12.12.18: Project exhibition in the Infant Hall 3.15pm

14.12.18: Projects to be taken home

Sports News Report from Mr Hoque

The Maryland team have been competing with other schools in a mini-Olympic competition and the Panathlon achieving 4th and 5th place respectively. Considering there were 12-18 other schools competing, Maryland did excellently! They competed to a high standard and we are very proud of how they represented Maryland.



Countdown to Christmas!

Fri 30th Nov - **look at the lights** on our Christmas tree in Natures' Garden after school. The school post box will be available for children to post cards to their friends.

Fri 7th Dec - **Family disco** - Junior hall 6 - 8 pm. Parking in playground

Tickets on sale from the Children's Centre and at the school gate. Our ever-popular DJ, Mr. Bee, will keep you dancing, taking part in games and competitions ... and that includes the adults, so put on those dancing shoes and dress to party, party, party!

Mon 10th Dec - **Deadline for project**

Wed 12th Dec - **Children's Christmas lunch** for those who have a school lunch

- **Year 2 nativity performance in the Junior hall from 2pm**

- **Project exhibition 3.15pm - Infant Hall**

Thurs 13th Dec - **Christmas lights** switch on at Maryland Point

Fri 14th Dec - **Christmas Fair and Bake and Take, Junior hall** 3.15-5pm - lots of fun activities and bargains to buy

Mon 17th Dec - **Children's Centre baby group Christmas party 1.30pm**

- **Nursery Christmas Singalong, from 9am**

Tues 18th Dec - **PANTOMIME: 'Sleeping Beauty'**

Wed 19th Dec - **Christmas Singalong and raffle in the Junior hall from 2pm**

- **Children's Centre Stay and Play Christmas party 1.30pm**

Thurs 20th Dec - **Class parties** - children can bring party food but we will provide the drinks. Nursery parties in the morning and all other classes in the afternoon.

Thurs 20th Dec - **Children's last day of term.**

Fri 21st Dec - **INSET**, school closed for children.

HAVE A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY EVERYONE!

See you on 7th January 2019!

Looking ahead to the Spring term

Reporting to parents

We will be sending home new targets for you to work on with your children on **Friday 11th January**. Our next Parent's Evenings will be on **Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th January**. Each parent will get an appointment with their child's teacher to discuss learning and progress since the October meetings, new targets and how they performed during assessment week.

Nature's Garden

Over the half term, PRS (Public Realm Services) came to build 7 new planting bays. Maryland received £1500 from Whole Foods to pay for the planting bays. Now, every year group has a planting bay, with its own compost bin. We have had one bay built slightly higher for accessibility purposes. Now, more children than ever will be able to plant. Children have already requested a growing competition in the summer term to see which class has the greenest fingers!



Term dates for children 2018/19

The full version of our term dates table can be found on our website, but these are the children's main holiday dates for this year. Travel plans should be within these dates, as no absence will be authorised to extend holiday times.

Spring

Half term: Mon 18th Feb-Fri 22nd Feb 2019

Spring break: Mon 8th April-Mon 22nd April 2019

Summer

Half term: Mon 27th May-Fri 31st May 2019

Last day of term for pupils: Fri 19th July 2019

After School Clubs

Our after school clubs have now begun. As more clubs become available, we will be notifying children in assembly. A letter to gauge interest will be sent out to parents. If you are interested, please complete the details and send to your class teacher. Clubs operate on a first come, first served basis and we keep a register of attendance so that all children have the opportunity to attend a club at some point during the year (if they apply, subject to availability). Some clubs are provided by outside companies who have their own selection criteria, e.g. karate, football and Maryland Movers.

Poon Dojo (SCHOOL OF MARTIAL ARTS EXCELLENCE)

For further information please contact: Penny Nicola on pnicola@live.co.uk /07961358852

or Gemma Britton on gemma_britton@outlook.com /07916334670 Email: www.pondojo.com



Meet our Governors!

Hello Maryland Newsreaders,

I am **Stephanie Houghton**, one of three **Parent Governors** elected to Maryland's governing body, and I have been in post for just over a year. **Parent Governors** represent a parent's **unique** perspective and must have children currently attending the school. My two eldest children are in **Year 2 and Reception**, and my 2 year old will start Nursery next year, so I hope to support the school for a few years to come!



I have a Clinical Science background - my **MSc** is in **Medical Physics** and I manage a team within a Medical Physics facility. I am passionate about **raising the profile of STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Maths)** subjects in primary schools, and **encouraging more girls** and their parents to see the **value of STEM** as a **career**. I am one of the current Link Governors for **Maths**. I am also a member of the Personnel and Curriculum subcommittees. Fulfilling these responsibilities involves critically assessing the school's performance by attending board meetings and forums, reading reports/ results data, and termly school visits.

These **visits** are a **fantastic** opportunity to meet with **pupils** and **staff** and **examine pupils' work**. During visits I have **observed science** lessons, discussed **maths results** and **new innovations**, and attended a meeting with the **UCL STEM team**. I was also lucky enough to **speak** about the **life of Marie Curie** at an assembly!

All Governors share responsibility for **strategic decisions** involving the school, but are not involved in its day-to-day running. This is described as **'eyes on, hands off'**! Governors are also given **unique opportunities** to attend workshops and conferences on topical issues such as **Child Mental Health**, and **Online Safety**- this knowledge is crucial in helping us to **critically evaluate** the school's approach and responsibilities in these areas.

I volunteer to **give something back** to my **local community** and support Maryland school!

Kind regards,
Stephanie.

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



Diary December 2018 & January 2019

NSPCC and O2 Online Safety Workshop for parents and carers. 2:15pm	Tue 4th Dec
Christmas disco. See you there 6-8pm	Fri 7th Dec
Homework research project deadline Years 1-6	Mon 10th Dec
Christmas Bake 'n Take & Fair. After school.	Fri 14th Dec
Infant Nativity play. 2pm in Junior hall. Project exhibition. 3pm in Infant hall.	Wed 12th Dec
Christmas pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty'	Tue 18th Dec
Christmas singalong and Raffle draw—all welcome. 2pm in hall.	Wed 19th Dec
Children's last day of term	Thu 20th Dec
First day of Term 3. Schools starts at 8.55am.	Mon 7th Jan
Parent's Evenings. Letters to follow at the start of the Spring term.	Wed 23rd & Thu 24th Jan