



MARYLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

Message from Mrs Jackson



Headteacher

Dear Parents,

Staffing

We welcome back Mrs Gajowska who has just returned from maternity leave. She re-joins the Office Team.



Thank you parents

Parents, I just wanted to say a massive thank you and well done to you for all of your hard work and determination with supporting your child with their learning, particularly those children who are learning remotely from home. Please be reminded that our office and Senior Leadership Team are available to support you should you need it. You may still have a question about Google classroom or have a request relating to technology. You can contact us using the details at the bottom of this page.

We've done it again!

We have been awarded a food hygiene rating of 5 (top possible score) following our recent inspection from the Local Authority. Well done to all of our staff who help to ensure we continue to have the highest standards of health and safety in the school.



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Community Art Project

We have some fantastic new art work on display in our halls. Pupils used their art skills to create vibrant displays promoting a love of our community. The children studied one of Sonia Boyce's significant historic artworks 'Talking Presence' which is a painting-collage of London to show how she felt connected to the city. Sonia Boyce's artwork displayed her affection for where she lived and our children were encouraged to create a collaborative painting-collage of their area to represent the pride and love they have for their community and the people in it.



Remote learning

Many of our pupils have now been learning online for a month now and it is pleasing to see how well they are doing with their work. It is important that pupils complete the work they are set on Google Classroom in order to make expected progress. The government guidance is that Key Stage 1 pupils complete 3 hours daily and Key Stage 2 pupils complete 4 hours of learning. If your child is completing their remote learning independently, please support them by checking what assignments they have been given and the quality of their work. We have updated our website with further information about remote learning:

<https://maryland.newham.sch.uk/remote-learning-provision-questions-answers/>

There are some great examples of work produced at home this term too!

Half term

We will be closed for the half term break from Monday 15th - Friday 19th February. If your child is learning remotely please log on to begin the new term on Google Classroom on Monday 22nd February. The school will also reopen to pupils who are eligible to attend on this date.

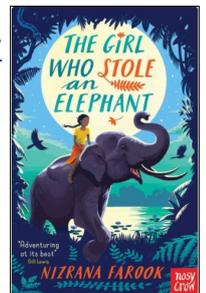
Online libraries

Whilst the children are learning at home, they are unable to borrow books from the school library like they usually would. Here are some great website resources where children can read books digitally, so that they can continue to develop their love of reading:

1. Get Epic <https://www.getepic.com/> All pupils will be sent class codes to access Get Epic on Google Classroom this week. With a vast range of books across a range of genres, as well as comics, there is something to suit all readers. Pupils can log in during the school hours using their class code. Outside of these hours, parents can sign up for free using their email address to get another 2 hours of access each week for evenings and weekends.



2. Oak Academy National Library: <https://library.thenational.academy/> Each week Oak Academy is adding a new eBook to their online library, as well as interviews with an author of the week. Books available include Jaqueline Wilson's "The Story of Tracy Beaker" and Nizrana Farook's "The Girl Who Stole An Elephant".



3. BookTrust <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/> BookTrust has a range of picture books available to read online and is great for younger readers.

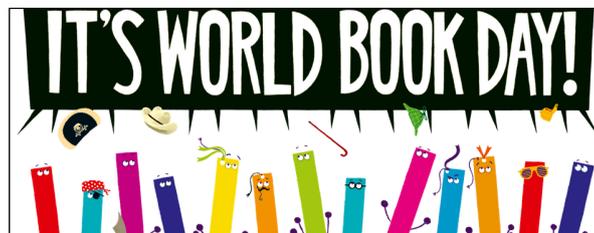
4. Audible https://stories.audible.com/discovery/enterprise-discovery-21122356011?ref=adbl_ent_anon_ds_ds_dccs_sbtp-0-2 There are a range of audiobooks which are free to listen to on Audible, which are suitable for key stage 2 children.

5. Love My Books: <http://www.lovemybooks.co.uk/> There are some great videos of picture books being read on this website with suggested activities such as singing songs and going on a listening walk. These are perfect for early readers.



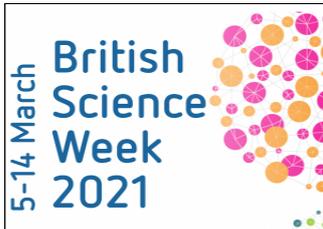
World Book Day March 4th

World Book Day is coming up. We will be organising digital £1 book vouchers this year. On March 4th, all pupils can dress up as a book character. Children who are still learning from home can share their outfits with their friends and teachers during their Google Meet or send their teacher a picture via Google Classroom! We will also be arranging some book based activities for all year groups on this date.



British Science Week

British Science Week is coming up and will take place from 5th-14th March this year. We have been given a grant to organise fun and exciting Science activities based on this year's theme of 'Innovating for the future'. We hope that all children will be back in school for some of Science Week, but if they're not we'll organise some special activities for remote learning.



Free School Meals

We are providing supermarket vouchers for all children who are eligible for free school meals, through the government's voucher scheme, whilst the school is closed to most pupils. If you haven't already done so, please apply via the Newham free school meals website: <https://www.newham.gov.uk/schools-education/free-school-meals/2> Even if you are not eligible at the moment, we encourage you to apply as Newham will hold your details on file and check them every week to see if your entitlement may change. This ensures no child misses out if circumstances change.

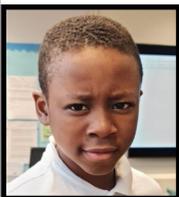
Healthy Lunch Ideas

Do you have free school meal vouchers to spend? Struggling for meal inspiration with the kids at home at the moment? NHS Change for Life have produced a range of healthy recipes to try at home. Complete with its own shopping list, each set of recipes contains 5 easy, tasty lunches for around £15. Check out 3 weeks' worth of recipes now, plus ideas and inspiration for ways to keep lunchtimes fresh until children can go back to school. You could even get the children involved in the cooking. Visit <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/lunch/cheap-lockdown-lunch-ideas> for more information.

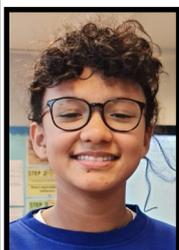


Pupil Voice

Two Year 6 pupils share their thoughts about learning at Maryland during the current lockdown:



"As Deputy Head Boy I want to thank the members of Maryland staff for being here for us during difficult situations like this. I am enjoying learning about every subject in class, despite some of us being educated from home."



"We are enjoying assemblies at Maryland because today we were learning about the topic of mental health and the importance of caring about it. There was also another recent assembly about diversity and how it is important to respect other people's race which I enjoyed."



Covid Champion Update

Covid Testing for Staff

The government have now provided primary schools with Covid tests for staff. Staff will be administering the test themselves at home before they attend work each week, results are given within 30 minutes of taking the test. This measure will further help to mitigate the risk of transmission and help to ensure that the school is a Covid-secure working and learning environment for staff and pupils.

Covid Testing for the Community

Newham local authority are actively encouraging young people and families in Newham to get tested for Covid-19, including those who are asymptomatic (people who show no symptoms).

There are two mobile testing sites located at Newham Leisure Centre and East Ham Town Hall. For more information on local testing sites and how to book a test, please visit Newham's Covid -19 testing page located on www.newham.gov.uk.



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

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

