



MARYLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Message from
Mrs Jackson



Headteacher

Dear Parents,

Covid - Health & Safety

In light of the Prime Minister's announcement on 27.11.21 we will be reintroducing some extra safety measures for our upcoming school events. Please read the COVID bulletin on the back page of this newsletter.

Parent appointments

If you need to speak to the class teacher about a concern please make an appointment for a convenient time rather than speaking at the classroom door when dropping or collecting your child. For any urgent matters please contact a member of the senior leadership team via the school office team.

Bicycles - Health & Safety



Parents please be aware of the school's policy on scooters and bikes. Recently bikes were parked blocking the main entrance gates which resulted in health and safety issues. Please note only Year 5 & 6 are allowed to park their bikes on site. Our scooting and cycling policy can be found on our school website under the 'KEY POLICIES' tab.

Special visitors

Last week Lyn Brown, MP for West Ham visited Maryland and gave us some excellent feedback.



Next week we have the pleasure of welcoming Dawn Butler, MP for Brent.

✉ Gurney Road, Stratford, E15 1SL
www.maryland.newham.sch.uk
☎ 020 8534 8135
Fax: 020 8534 4426
E-mail: info@maryland.newham.sch.uk
🐦 @MarylandPrimary

Countdown to Christmas!



Wed 8th Dec	Children's Christmas lunch , children wear a Christmas colour.
Thurs 9th Dec	2pm: Christmas Nativity , <u>Year 2 parents invited</u> 3pm: Bake N' Take
Fri 10th Dec	6pm-8pm: Family Christmas disco
Tues 14th Dec	Aladdin Pantomime
Wed 15th Dec	Last day of term for Nursery pupils (finish at 11.40am) 2pm: Christmas sing-a-long & raffle , <u>parents invited</u>
Thurs 16th Dec	Santa visiting. Children's last day of term. Class parties in afternoon children can bring individually packaged party food but we will provide the drinks. Children can bring a toy to play with and wear festive colours or a Christmas jumper (no donation necessary).
Fri 17th Dec	INSET for staff, school closed for children.
Mon 20th-24th Dec	Wright Education Christmas club Tel: 078 5213 7462 8-6pm most days

#Kidstakeover@Maryland

As part of World Children's Day, Maryland had a 'kids takeover' where children took on key roles such as being the headteacher, deputy headteachers, site supervisors & the office team. The headteachers had a conference on lunchtimes and behaviour. All of the children enjoyed it so much, they have asked for a second kids takeover day.



Newham Heroes Exhibition

Due to demand we extended our art exhibition dates. Many schools from Newham and beyond, with members of the community have visited with overwhelming awe and wonder at the children's work. *What our visitors said about the exhibition...*

'So great to see such a range of brilliant work...great connections, not just for Britain, but our local area too. Lots of ideas to take back to St Francis.' (Art Leader, St Francis Catholic Primary School)

'It is a privilege to visit this school...truly inspirational. I have learnt a great deal in a short time - really educational. I must congratulate the teachers & the children for producing such interesting artwork.' (High Excellency Cenio Lewis, High commissioner for St Vincent and the Grenadines).



Congratulations Maryland!

Transport for London has awarded Maryland Gold status for our impressive school travel plan which promotes healthy ways to travel to school and care for the local environment.



Donated items to the St. Vincent volcano appeal

What good news! The items have arrived in St Vincent and been distributed to schools by the Lions Club. In appreciation the High Commissioner visited Maryland to see our fabulous art exhibition. Maryland pupils are truly global citizens!



Maryland sporting heroes

Year 5 took part in a dance mat competition and came 3rd place out of 8 schools, they received medals and certificates. Year 6 took part in a Newham wide basketball competition with 10 children from year 6. We came 2nd out of 7 schools. Here are the children with their medals and certificates. What a

Parent Covid Bulletin - 29th November 2021

Important Covid Update:

Prime Minister sets out new measures as Omicron variant identified in UK: 27th Nov 2021

What is the Omicron variant?

Omicron contains a large number of mutations which makes it different from the other already known variants of Covid 19. Investigation is ongoing both in the UK and internationally to fully understand how these mutations may change the behaviour of the virus with regards to vaccines, treatments and transmissibility.

Prime Minister - temporary measures

The Prime Minister confirmed new temporary and precautionary measures following the discovery that the Omicron variant is present in the UK. The following measures have been enforced by the Prime Minister, these will be reviewed in three weeks:

- All **international arrivals** to take a **Day 2 PCR test** and **self-isolate** until they receive a **negative test**.
- **Face coverings** to be made **compulsory** in **shops** and **public transport**. All hospitality settings will be exempt.
- All **contacts** of **suspected Omicron cases** must **self-isolate**, regardless of their vaccination status. They will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace.



Does this have an impact on Maryland Primary School?

Whilst there are no current reported cases of the Omicron variant in Newham, we always prioritise health and safety of our children and families so there are going to be some changes. Thankfully, due to the successful measures which we previously put in place (ie. during the initial early transmission of Covid 19 & when the Delta variant emerged) we are going to reintroduce some of these strategies as a precautionary measure.

We have a range of parent events organised over the coming weeks eg. Family Disco, Nativity, Bake and Take. These events will go ahead as planned - the only reason they might be cancelled closer to the time is if there are further changes introduced by the government.

Health and safety covid measures at Maryland school events:

- Parents can wear face masks/shields/visors (this applies to before and after school in the playground as well as at events) *if they choose to*
- Temperature checks for parents at key events - *compulsory*
- Increased ventilation eg. the wind catchers/air vents will be open in both junior and infant halls, the large middle hall doors can also be opened
- Carbon dioxide monitors in place to monitor ventilation levels
- Increased social distancing eg. we have limited the number of parents attending each event, the middle and infant hall will be open to increase space available for different activities, one-way systems will be used where applicable
- Family groups should sit together
- Hand sanitiser will be available



If you and your family are able to, we would also recommend that you take a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) the day before attending a school event. This is not compulsory and we do not require proof of your test result, it is simply another measure to reduce the spread of the virus. Thank you families for your cooperation with this matter.

Mr D Lock,
Deputy Head Teacher & Covid Champion for Maryland School

COVID-19 HEALTH CHAMPIONS

KEEP NEWHAM SAFE

Newham London

KEEP NEWHAM SAFE

Doing the basics

Face

- Face coverings are required on transport and in health care settings
- Shops and venues also require face coverings
- It is a good idea to wear a face covering in crowded and busy places – indoors and outside

Space

- Think about risks you might pose to people who are vulnerable – or others might pose to you
- Still keep space and distance from people you don't live with
- Make sure there is good air flow if inside
- There are no limits for now on how many people you can see and where you can see them BUT the safe thing is to keep space and distance with them

Air

- Make sure there is good air flow if you are seeing people inside
- Keep windows and doors open
- Be outside as much as possible

Hands

- Continue to wash your hands regularly, for 20 seconds and with soap or 60%+ alcohol hand sanitiser
- It's very good to wash your hands - even if it's not a rule

Covid rates are rising. Do everything you can to keep yourself and others safe

Newham COVID-19 Helpline can help with isolating:
020 7473 9711 (9am-7pm, every day) or email covidhelp@community-links.org

PR-20 People at the Heart of Everything We Do

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

