



# MARYLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL MAY 2024

Message from Mrs Jackson,  
MBE, FOB, Headteacher



Dear parents and carers,  
**Sad news**

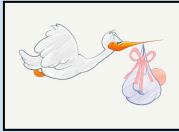
We received the news on 22nd April that Natasha Ttoffali, Headteacher of Park Primary School, had passed away. Our condolences are with the staff, pupils and parents of the school who have lost a great leader.

**Thank you!**

Many thanks to those parents who helped at the Big Dig & Big Build day on 13th April. The outdoor areas and gardens are looking so much brighter and engaging.

**Congratulations to Ms. Boreham**

who is expecting her second child in August. What wonderful news!



**Coming soon!**

There will be some new additions to Cluckingham Palace with the arrival of 5 new little hens some time in May. Our hens are laying wonderful, tasty eggs and enjoying the attention of our pupil carers, The Eggsperts.



**Maryland's Birthday Celebrations**

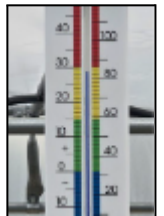
will take place on Thursday 9th May. Children pay £1 to wear non-school uniform on this date as part of the celebrations. Teachers will also be hosting a 'One minute challenge' event for pupils to enjoy. Please support this fundraising event by providing monetary contributions for our staff, who will be showing off a range of talents for one minute each!

## Summer term dates

Thursday 2nd May	Polling day - school closed
Monday 6th May	May Day Bank Holiday - school closed
Wednesday 8th May	Class 10 trip to Cody Dock. School birthday celebration (one minute challenge)
Friday 10th May	Year 1 phonics screening check parent meeting 9am, infant hall
Monday 13th May-Thursday 16th May	Year 6 SATS begin Breakfast club for Year 6 pupils
Wednesday 15th May	Drama workshops for Nursery, Reception and Year 1
Thursday 23rd May	Class 9 trip to Cody Dock
Monday 27th May-Friday 31st May	Half term holiday - school closed
Monday 3rd June - Summer Term	School and Nursery open for children
Monday 3rd June-Friday 14th June	Year 6 swimming lessons
Monday 10th June - Friday 14th June	Phonics Screening Check Year 1
Tuesday 2nd July	Sports Day & Family Picnic 9am
Friday 5th July	Family Disco doors open 5.45pm
Wednesday 10th July	Opening Evening, 3:30-7pm
Thursday 11th July	Y6 graduation ceremony 1.45pm
Friday 19th July	School closes for summer 1pm

## Introducing 'The Polly'

We have been lucky to win a grant to build our new polytunnel (nicknamed The Polly). The polytunnel has its own **ecosystem** where the temperature is 10 degrees warmer than the air temperature outside. It also has its own **sprinkling system** to water the plants. We hope to grow plants all year round, some of which will be 'exotic'. The school's Eco-Warriors (children from Y5 & 6) will join an adult team to take care of The Polly, however each year group will have a **planting bed** to do some exciting growing. The Polly will also be integrated into our Science curriculum. Although the structure has not been fully completed (e.g. it will be accessible for wheelchairs) we are happy to accept **donations of any young plants or seedlings in pots** that can be transferred into the Polly. We would particularly like **mini lemon or orange trees**, peppers and tomatoes. We hope to grow a grape vine, pumpkins, sweet potatoes, melons and even papaya. If you have any experience in using a polytunnel, please contact the school. We will be reporting on the project each month so watch this space.....!



## Visit by Andrew Kemp, Local Authority Climate Change officer

Mr. Kemp toured the grounds of the school and said this was the best school he has visited since taking up his role. He commented that it was like 'being in Kew Gardens'. He is an expert



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 🐦 @MarylandPrimary

in ecology and marvelled at the fact that we had rare great crested newts in our pond which are a protected species. Mr.Kemp will be working with the school to support us in reducing our energy use.



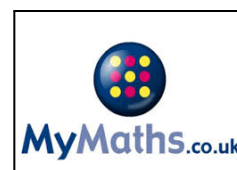
The great crested newt

### Introducing MyMaths

We have recently reviewed home learning and are excited to be introducing MyMaths as our new Maths home learning platform after the half term holiday. This will replace Mathletics. Your child can still use their Mathletics accounts until 31st May. MyMaths login details will be sent home in early June. Your child will be set home learning tasks using MyMaths and there are still lots of maths games to enjoy too. Please attend our parent workshops to learn more about MyMaths:

**Tuesday 11th June, 3:30pm - Key Stage 1**

**Tuesday 18th June, 3:30pm - Key Stage 2**



### Visit by School Improvement Officer, Sarah Lack

Our School Improvement Officer, Sarah Lack, visited the school last week. She was really impressed by our high standards and was particularly pleased to see the progress we have made in developing the curriculum in French, Music, C.P.S.H.E & Art. She was also very pleased with the improvements we have made to our Early Years environment and curriculum.

### Gold Award for Maryland

Have you noticed our new sign on the gates? Our new banners have been awarded to us by TfL Travel Stars to celebrate our gold accreditation. We are one of only 25% of London schools to receive the gold award for promoting healthy and sustainable travel!



### Health and Safety

This is a reminder that scooters and bikes must **not** be ridden on school grounds. A toddler has recently been knocked over by a scooter and a staff member has also been hit by one. Please wheel your scooter to the scooter park once you have entered the premises. Also please do not block the fire escape gate to the Children's Centre when storing scooters.

### Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Year 1 pupils will be completing their statutory Phonics Screening Check during the week commencing 10th June. There is a meeting on **Friday 10th May** at 9am in the infant hall for **Year 1 parents** to find out further information about how to support your child at home.

### Year 4 Multiplication Check

Year 4 will be completing their statutory Multiplication Check during the month of June. Children can use their Times Table Rockstars accounts to practise their times tables.



Year 1	Count on in 1s,2s,5s & 10s
Year 2	Know by heart 2, 5 and 10 table facts and division facts
Year 3	Know by heart 3, 4 and 8 times table facts and division facts
Year 4	Know by heart ALL table facts and division facts
Year 5	Use tables to derive other numbers facts e.g. $5 \times 5 = 25$ so $50 \times 50 = 250$
Year 6	Identify multiples and factors, including all factor pairs of a number and common factors of two numbers.

### School closure! - Thursday 2nd May - Local election

There will be a local election on Thursday 2nd May. The school will be used as a polling station and therefore we will be closed to staff and pupils on this date. Home learning activities will be set for children.

### School closure! - Monday 6th May - Bank holiday

### Wright Education Academic after-school club - academic support and fun all in one club!

We offer lessons and activities in a safe, enriching environment that children will enjoy. After school club 3.15pm to 6.00pm. Also WrightEd Minis cater for 3-5 year olds for after school care.

Available Monday-Friday

Contact Sandra by calling **07852137462**

Email [Info@wrighteducationuk.com](mailto:Info@wrighteducationuk.com) Visit [www.wrighteducationuk.com](http://www.wrighteducationuk.com)



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

