



Marine Academy Primary Newsletter May 2015

'Where Stars Shine Brighter.'

...providing an outstanding education that ensures all pupils reach their greatest potential and live by life's highest values.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS...

Dear Parents/Carers of Marine Academy Primary pupils,

Welcome to the first of what will be many Monthly Newsletters. I hope that you have had a very good first half of the Summer Term; I have enjoyed seeing many of you still during Early Morning Learning each day. I have had a wonderful first six weeks as Headteacher at the Academy. I am delighted that it has been exceptionally successful during its 20 months of opening and relish the prospect of the Academy's further successes. We anticipate that Ofsted will visit us during the second half of the Summer Term so are looking forward to hear their views too.

I am honoured, and also extremely excited, to be leading Marine Academy Primary, with Marine Academy Plymouth and Plymouth University, to develop an outstanding primary school with the highest quality staff, learning environments and curriculum. I want to continue to ensure that your children are inspired and provided with fantastic opportunities to become lifelong learners and positive citizens of the future. If there is anything that you would like to talk to me about then please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me by calling the Primary on our direct number: 01752 213941.

I hope that you all have a lovely half term break!

Yours sincerely,

Miss. Siobhan Easton

Term Dates 2014-2015

Term 6

1st June:	First Day of Term 6
18th June:	Classes RCJ and RJW Father's Day Assembly
18th June:	New Class Letters go Home
26th June:	MAP Summer Celebration (more information to follow)
6th July:	Transition Day
7th July (am):	Summer Musical Performance
8th July:	Classes 1SM and 2/3LG Trip to Mount Batten Beach
8th July:	Classes RCJ and RJW Trip to Kings Tamerton Woods
9th July:	Classes 1SM and 2/3LG Big Sing!
10th July (pm):	Summer Musical Performance
13th July:	Arts Week
16th July:	Classes 1SM and 2/3LG Sports Morning and Picnic
17th July:	Nursery and Reception Sports Morning and Picnic
17th July:	Reports go Home
22nd July:	Last Day of Term 6

Term Dates for Pupils 2015-2016

Term 1

7th September:	First Day of Term 1
22nd October:	Last Day of Term 1

Term 2

2nd November:	First Day of Term 2
18th December:	Last Day of Term 2

Term 3

5th January:	First Day of Term 3
12th February:	Last Day of Term 3

Term 4

22nd February:	First Day of Term 4
24th March:	Last Day of Term 4

Term 5

12th April:	First Day of Term 5
2nd May:	Bank Holiday
27th May:	Last Day of Term 5

Term 6

6th June:	First Day of Term 6
22nd July:	Last Day of Term 6

Transition Information

We have now appointed all of the teaching and support staff for the next academic year and will send home letters on **Thursday 18th June 2015** to let you know who your child's class teacher and Teaching Assistants will be for next year. This will be prior to their Transition Day when they will spend time in their new classes on Monday 6th July.

From September we will increase in size again and have the following classes: two Reception, two Year 1, two Year 2, one Year 3 and one Year 4. We currently have waiting lists for the majority of our year groups and therefore Plymouth City Council will be allocating places to other children to join us also.

I would like to invite Parents/Carers of current children in Class 1SM to meet with me on **Thursday 11th June at 2:30pm** in the Primary Hall to answer any questions about how your children will be taught in Year 2. From September they will be taught in two smaller classes of approximately 20 children, which will be a fantastic step for us and will continue to ensure excellent provision and personalised learning for your children.

Marine Academy Primary Governors: Meet our Parent Governor – Martin Wright

Each Newsletter we will ask members of our Governing Body questions to allow you to find out more about them and their roles. This month it is Martin's turn!



Why did you want to be Governor at MAP? *"I always wanted to be part of something that was truly great. There are not many occasions that come up where you have a chance to make a difference to a lot of young people and when I was asked to be part of MAP I didn't realise just how great it was going to be. The school offered so many wonderful opportunities to our children; I am really glad I chose to send my children to this school."*

Do the Governors govern Marine Academy Plymouth, Primary and Nursery? *"Yes we do! There is a whole range of people that have a wide variety of experience and skills that work very hard to ensure that we are giving the very best to the students. We each have specific areas that we look at, for example I mainly deal with the Primary and I am often in school challenging teachers, TAs and other members of staff to ensure that they are giving 100% to our children. With this challenge they are free to challenge me in return to ensure that we as governors are ensuring that they have the right tools to do their work."*

What do you do as a Governor? *"As a governor I primarily look to support the culture that we have developed at MAP both in terms of the children's relationships with each other and the community and teachers' relationships with their colleagues, parents and the leadership team. We also look at government policy, finance, opportunities and other things that will have an impact on the school."*

What do you think the best thing about Marine Academy Primary is? *"I said it before but the relationship between MAP, parents and a wider community is the best thing that we do as a school. We are here to widen children's horizons by showing them that they can be amazing at whatever they wish to do. Too often people look at an area of a city and right people off because of it. Our job is to help these children and show them that they are capable of doing it. It's quite twee but the ethos of the school is 'where stars shine brighter' and that is what we do."*

Have you visited the Primary recently and what did you think? *"I have recently made a formal visit and I have seen first hand the quality of the children, teaching and learning that we have here at the school. We do not allow children to slip through the cracks and we ensure that all of our children are taught to respect one another and to respect themselves. I am extremely proud of the school and I feel that this is still just the beginning."*

Uniform

For the summer, please remember that summer dresses are to be navy blue checked rather than lighter blue variations.



Shorts are OK to wear but should be dark grey please similar to the trousers that are currently being worn to school. Please make sure that your children still wear black school shoes rather than any form of sandals or trainers. Can you please also encourage your child to keep their shirt tucked in.

Academy hats can be bought from the Primary Reception and these are great for the children to keep in school to wear at lunch and breaktimes when it is sunny.

As the weather gets nicer, we may move PE slots around to allow classes to go outside for their sessions, with this in mind can you please ensure that your child always has their house polo PE shirt, black shorts and plimsolls or trainers in school every day.

Attendance



All children with an attendance rate of 98.5% and above for Terms 5 and 6 will be entered into a draw for a £50 Toys 'R' Us voucher at the end of the Summer Term.

Those children with 100% will get two tickets in the draw!

Please give your child the best chance of winning this super prize by ensuring that they are in every day and that dental and medical appointments are taken outside of the Academy day. Lateness also affects attendance.

Each week the class with the highest attendance is awarded a certificate and every time they win two certificates they will receive an extra ten minutes Golden Time. Every child in the class receives a Golden Ticket too!

Outdoor Learning in Reception



We would like to take this opportunity to thank Dave Hoskin, a member of the MAP Site Team for helping us to create such a fantastic Outdoor Learning environment for the Reception children. You can see a video of the children learning in it on our Facebook page – www.facebook.com/MarineAcademyPlymouth

