



# Marine Academy Primary Newsletter

## April 2022

*'Where Stars Shine Brighter.'*

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

Dear Parents/Carers of Marine Academy Primary pupils,

April was a short month for us in terms of the number of days spent in school; the children attended for twelve days, as a result, this Newsletter is shorter than normal. It does though include exciting announcements from Mrs Reid, Miss Newell and Mr Green and the confirmed dates and initial arrangements for this year's Sports Days. In the coming days, we hope to have received the final version of our Ofsted report that we will be able to share with you too.

During the Summer Term of 2020/2021, we introduced the Marine Academy Primary children to the five consistencies that adults would be looking for throughout lunchtimes. As and when adults see these consistencies, children are rewarded with tokens to go into the token box. The box has three lines drawn on it and each time the children collectively reach one of the lines, there is a whole school treat. In December the children reached the first of the lines and chose to have a Movie Afternoon. By the final day of Term 4, the children had reached the second line and voted for a muffin and ice cream van to visit the Academy. The treat was kindly funded by one of our Governors and Local Councillor, Pat Patel. We are so grateful to Cllr Patel for his contribution, which truly made the final day of term an exciting one for all. The photo collage at the top of this Newsletter shows the big smiles that the children had!

Throughout Term 5, each Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 year group's learning will have a History focus. This term's Curriculum Letters, which provide more information about what your children will be learning about this term, can be found on our website [here](#).

This is always one of the busiest terms of the year but also one of the most fun!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Siobhan Meredith

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS...

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Bank Holiday Monday
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Extra-Curricular Activities resume
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Whole School Sun Safe Assembly
- 4<sup>th</sup> May – 20 children from Year 5/6 to go Sailing
- 4<sup>th</sup> May – 6 children to attend Children's University Music event
- 5<sup>th</sup> May – 30 children from Key Stage 2 to watch 'School of Rock' at the Theatre Royal Plymouth
- 6<sup>th</sup> May – Debate Club to meet with Johnny Mercer, MP
- 6<sup>th</sup> May – Year 5/6 Football Event at Ernesettle Community School
- Week Beginning 9<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 SATs Week
- 9<sup>th</sup> May – Year 2 Trip to The Box
- 11<sup>th</sup> May – Year 4 Trip to The Box
- 13<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 Trip to Mount Edgcumbe
- 16<sup>th</sup> May – Year 5 Trip to The Box
- 17<sup>th</sup> May – Year 3 Ancient Greek Workshop
- 17<sup>th</sup> May – Year 1 Trip to St Budeaux Parish Church
- 19<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 STEM Workshops
- 20<sup>th</sup> May – Reception Trip to Paignton Zoo
- 27<sup>th</sup> May – Whole School Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration and Outdoor Learning Day
- 27<sup>th</sup> May – Last Day of Term 5
- 8<sup>th</sup> June – First Day of Term 6



# New *this* Month

**Year 6** – Before the Easter break, Year 6 rounded off their Geography based topic learning by producing awesome essays about population, discussing the impacts and the changes. 'Twentieth Century Conflict' will be the History based topic for this term and after completing the first lesson, the children are extremely excited to delve deeper. Year 6 have started the term with a super positive mind-set, whilst they get prepared for their SATs. All of the Year 6 team have been incredibly impressed with their attitude to learning and we have every confidence in the performance!

**Reception** – Reception are super excited to be learning about 'Splendid Safari' this term. The children will be learning about the differences between Ghana and England, including looking at our different flags. The children will become fascinated when learning about different wild African animals, finding out facts and looking closely at their patterns. It will be wonderful to see the children creating African music and writing postcards to send to Africa! During Independent Learning Time, we are looking forward to observing the children become and take on the role of a safari driver. The children will be learning to retell the story of 'The Very Selfish Crocodile' using Makaton. This term in Maths, the children will be learning about patterns and will be developing their climbing skills during PE.



**Year 4** – We hope you all had a lovely Easter break, it was great to welcome everyone back this term. We are looking forward to a jam-packed term, full of lots of amazing enriching opportunities for the children. To ignite the children's excitement for their History learning, Year 4 participated in a Viking enrichment day, where 'Jay Productions' gave an insight into what life was like in the Viking era. This will be a great tool to support children's Computing learning, where the children will be creating a virtual card, to demonstrate their learning from the term. In PE, the children will be learning Outdoor Adventurous Activities and athletics, which will be a fun Friday morning for the children! Later in this term, we will also be spending a day at 'The Box' to learn about the History of Plymouth.

**Nursery** – This term Turtle Class are looking forward to learning about 'Round and Round the Garden'. During the term, they will be planting seeds in their garden and watching them grow, creating teddy bears for display, having a teddy bears picnic and making their own funny cress heads. The children will also be developing their pouring skills with their new water tubes in the garden and exploring their fairy garden.

**Pre-School** – It has been lovely to see all our friends after the Easter break and welcome new starters to Puffin and Penguin Classes. They have settled in very well and are enjoying exploring all the different areas and making new friends. This week to start their 'Happily Ever After' Topic, the children have been learning all about the story of the 'Three Little Pigs'. They are great at retelling the story and acting out the different characters in our role-play. The children have had a go at making houses out of bricks, straw and sticks before the 'Big Bad Wolf, huffs and puffs' them down. Puffins and Penguins can't wait to continue to learn a different fairy-tale story each week this term. In preparation for the summer term weather, please can we ask that your child brings in a named sun hat and sun cream. Staff will reapply the sun cream at lunch time. Their sunhat and their sun cream can be left in their trays or their bags. Thank you for your continued support.

**Year 3** – This month, the children in Year 3 have really enjoyed finishing their Guided Reading book, "The Iron Man" and this week, enjoyed starting their new book 'Gadgetman'. In addition, the children have spent time learning about statistics and have been introduced to a new learning platform 'Freckle'. More recently, the children have been introduced to their new topics in the foundation subjects enjoyed their Ancient Greek day on Friday. Lastly, the children were so excited this week to listen to a talk from the RNLI about water safety and staying safe at the beach. They discussed lots of ways that lifeguards can help us at the beach and shared how to call for help. They were also fantastic at recognising the different flags and what they mean. Keep up the hard work!

**Year 5** – Year 5 have had a very busy Spring Term! In the final three weeks of term, the children went swimming every day and every child made fabulous progress due to their resilience and determination to succeed. They were also fantastic ambassadors for our school, conducting themselves so well every day. They have shown the same enthusiasm for their learning and produced an abundant amount of splendid work! In Maths, we have concentrated on fractions. The children can now find equivalent fractions and add, subtract and multiply fractions. In English, the children have analysed different types of letters and correspondence. They are now able to identify the differences between formal and informal letters, using emotive language within their own letter writing. They created letters of application and concluded the topic by writing persuasive letters about climate change to their local MP! In their Geography topic, Earth's Biomes, the children were able to locate the different biomes around the globe and identify the flora, fauna and climate that could be found in each. In Science, the children learnt about the effects of gravity and other forces, such as air resistance, by planning and conducting a number of exciting experiments. In DT, we researched innovative housing materials and structures, which led the children to design their own geodesic dome and build a prototype of their design. We are very much looking forward to fantastic Summer Term, filled with fun, focus and endeavour!

**Year 2** – In Year 2 this term we are exploring World War Two and VE day. All the adults have been so impressed with the new knowledge the children have returned to school with thanks to parents, careers and lots of great nanny and grandads helping the children to explore their own family's experiences of the war. We have loved receiving the amazing photographs replicating your own home- made VE celebrations. Thank you for your wonderful projects, models, and flag photos- they have been added to our classroom displays for all the other children and adults to appreciate too. In maths we will be learning all about fractions and solving word problems, (whilst recapping our number bonds and place value) in preparation for SATS. In Science, we are learning all about plants, how they grow and what they need to thrive. Year 2 are very excited to plant their vegetables and to watch them grow over the term.

**Year 1** – The children ended Term 4 by drafting and writing fantastic Geography essays showing off all they had learnt during the topic, 'To Plymouth and Beyond!' The children were able to write down what they had learnt about Plymouth and conveyed what they liked about our city. The children were rewarded for all of their hard work at the end of term with a visit from the ice cream van. The ice creams went down very well in Year 1! We are looking forward to a busy Term 5. The children will be learning lots of facts about the Olympic Games and have already undertaken some amazing research over the Easter Holidays. At the end of May, the children will hold their own mini Olympic Games as a year group and compete for prizes. We look forward to seeing the children continue to display a love for learning in May.

### Debate Club visit the Houses of Parliament

What an amazing opportunity members of our Debate Club had on 28<sup>th</sup> April. Funded using the travel bursary from our local MP, Johnny Mercer, Debate Club went on the train to London with Mrs Jones and Mr Druce. The ten children, along with the School Councils from Ernesettle Community School and Tor Bridge Primary School, went on a tour of the Houses of Parliament and had the opportunity to meet with Mr Mercer virtually to ask him questions about his role. There was even some time for additional sightseeing; visiting Trafalgar Square and Buckingham Palace and a tour on the London Eye!





## Online Safety

Each month, we will continue to share with you some advice to further support your child to be safe online. This month's focus is 'gaming' and how you can support your child with having positive experiences of this. If you have any questions or queries then please do contact our Computing Leader, Mr Druce by emailing: [primary@marineacademy.org.uk](mailto:primary@marineacademy.org.uk) FAO: Mr Druce. You will also be able to arrange a time to virtually meet about Computing and Online Safety.



## Gaming Information for Parents/Carers



### Does the game affect your child's behaviour?

The behaviour of your child could be affected by some games, it can include bullying or 'griefing' others, trolling or other inappropriate behaviour. Very intensive games can result in short-term bad behaviour such as poor temper or 'ragequitting', which is where they get so upset that they stop playing immediately. Ensuring a game's suitability can help, as can limiting their playing time.

### Does the game have in-app purchasing?

In-app purchases normally enhance the game or gameplay. There can often be considerable pressure on children to be unique within their games (new skins) or to be better than others (purchasing power-ups). You should consider settings to turn off in-app purchases, or set a spending limit on the device or app. Children need to be aware of scams involving free in-game currency (e.g. V-Bucks in Fortnite, or Robux in Roblox). Scam text messages, forum posts and videos may have content advertising free in-game currency. But they're often scams, designed to coax the player into revealing their gamer tag (username) and password in return for currency. This is known as a 'phishing' scam.

## Gaming

Gaming is fun but be aware that it can be all consuming. Some things to consider:

- Use the gaming consoles' safety settings
- Agree with your child how much time they can spend playing online
- Pay attention to the PEGI (age) ratings and what they mean
- Remember that some online games have inbuilt chat functions
- Be aware that your child might use servers or 3rd party applications to access interactive online communities.

UK Safer Internet Centre guides:  
[saferinternet.org.uk/gaming](http://saferinternet.org.uk/gaming)

PEGI:  
[pegi.info](http://pegi.info)

Common Sense Media:  
[commonsensemedia.org/reviews](http://commonsensemedia.org/reviews)

Ask About Games:  
[askaboutgames.com](http://askaboutgames.com)



## Conversation starters

### Here some questions you can ask to start a conversation:

- Ask your child what games they know about and/or enjoy playing online. Why do they like them/ think they are popular.
- Ask your child how they would explain their favourite game to another young person, and how they could help play them safely.
- Ask about who they talk to and how in an online game. What would they do if they felt worried about a conversation? Make sure they know they can tell you if anything in the game makes them feel worried or uncomfortable.



*We are delighted to share that during the Easter break, both Mrs Reid and Miss Newell had their babies and all are doing well. A huge congratulations to Mr and Mrs Reid (and Wilma!) on the birth of baby Zara and to Miss Newell and Mr Green on the birth of baby Eddie.*

# Sports Days

- ★ Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June for Years 1 and 2
- ★ Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June for Pre-School and Reception
- ★ Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June for Years 5 and 6
- ★ Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June for Years 3 and 4

Parents and Carers are invited to join us from 12:30pm for a picnic on their child's sports day and spend the afternoon watching a variety of races. Afterwards, there will be an awards ceremony to celebrate values shown by the children throughout the day! Each sports day will finish at 2:15pm.



Look out for further information later this term, which will give you more information about the arrangements of the day, including collecting your child and their siblings afterwards!



**From Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May to Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May it is Sun Awareness Week. A chance to promote being safe in the sun.**

Here are ten top ways for applying sun screen!

1. With squirmy children who are eager to get out into the sun, it can be easy to miss patches when applying sunscreen. Don't forget to check easy-to-miss areas such as the ears, tops of feet and hands.
2. Get creative with sunscreen application; giving your kids novel ways to apply their sunscreen will make it more of a fun activity rather than a chore.
3. Trial different types of sunscreen and see which works best for your child. You may find they are more receptive to a sunscreen spray or applying it themselves with a sunscreen stick.
4. If you're going to the beach or the pool, you'll likely find it much easier to get your child to apply sunscreen before you leave for the day, or else they are likely to want to run straight into the water! This also allows the sunscreen to fully dry and be as effective as possible (application 15 to 30 minutes before sun exposure is best).
5. Distracting children whilst applying their sunscreen could be a useful way of getting them protected. Something as simple as putting on their favourite TV programme or song could give you the opportunity to apply sunscreen.
6. Applying a second coat of sunscreen about 15 minutes after the first helps cover any patches you may have missed the first time
7. Try writing a word as you squeeze the sunscreen onto their skin, maybe one letter on each limb, torso etc.
8. Alternatively, ask them to guess what picture you are drawing (a flower, smiley face) as you squeeze it on, and then tell them they can help 'rub it out' (i.e. spread it onto the skin)
9. Do a 'join the dots' with the sunscreen, letting them spread the cream from one dot to the next.
10. Coloured sunscreen makes it easier to spot if you've missed an area when initially applying sunscreen but will then fade.

The Academy's [Sun Protection Policy](#) has more information about the learning children will complete, recommendations for clothing such as sun hats as well as sunscreen during the Academy day.



If you would like to send in a #SUNSAFESELFIE, please send it to your child's year group email.



# SPORTS CALENDAR

## Sports Events across the World

This term the following sporting events are happening across the world...

- ★ French Open Tennis
- ★ Invictus Games
- ★ World Aquatics Championships
- ★ UEFA Champions League
- ★ Monaco Grand Prix
- ★ London Marathon
- ★ British Rally Championship Jim Clark Rally



This year, St Luke's iconic Midnight Walk is more special than ever! It marks 40 years since they welcomed their first patients, remembering each and every person they've ever had the privilege of looking after and walking in tribute to them. This year – for the first time – they have added a 2.5-mile route that's ideal for young children. Both girls and boys under 17 are welcome, too so you can choose to make Midnight Walk a family affair by walking 5, 10 or 15 miles, together. The theme of this year's event is 1982, the year St Luke's began. Then and ever since, their charity has kept going the extra mile to give outstanding, compassionate care and support to local families at the toughest time of their lives.

**We are very proud that Aimee from Year 6 is taking part in the Midnight Walk for St Luke's on 22<sup>nd</sup> July. You can sponsor Aimee by clicking [here](#). At the moment Aimee's target is to be ready for the 10 mile walk.**

Sponsored by local company Drakes Jewellers, Midnight Walk is a fantastic opportunity for everyone to join forces for a night of fun, making new memories as you walk together and celebrate the lives of the special people you want to remember. Not only that, the sponsorship raised will help St Luke's reach more families who desperately need their specialist service.



This term, we have an exciting development at Marine Academy Primary, as our Music and Art Curriculum Stars from this academic year are going to be trained by Mr. Clennel-White to become ARTS AMBASSADORS!

They will become school experts in the Arts, exploring new ideas, creating things, and teaching – as well as chatting to – their peers and teachers about how to make and design wonderful Art. Look out for the Arts Ambassador badge that they will be wearing and, if you see them, have a chat about all things artistic and creative! You might learn something new...