



2016-2017

Number 17

## An Lester Trumach - The Packet Ship

30 January 2017

Dear Parents

*It always seems incredible how quickly the end of January arrives, confirming that the new year is now well under way: it's already the fifth week of term and on Friday class 4 held the first Cake Bake of 2017, raising £123.15. Thank you to everyone who supported the sale, either as cooks or consumers! As we've explained in the past, these funds are being directed towards projects to improve use of the school grounds. With the money you have raised in various ways, an allocation from the school's building reserve and the promise of a further grant award ★, we are now preparing to put works out to tender, aiming to raise the quality of the school's outdoor environment significantly through the summer. There will be a Big Dig later in the year – one which we hope celebrates all we have been able to achieve – but one that will be all the more successful if we manage to make sure that money goes as far as possible – this could involve a few 'Little Digs' as we'll need to ask for help to prepare the way. In the meantime...*



**★ look out for a very important announcement to be made on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February!**

### Parent survey

As part of the service purchased by the school to support teachers' assessment of pupils' progress, we have been given access to a survey that is designed to help as Marlborough tries constantly to improve the education and opportunities that we offer the pupils of our school. We are now at a stage in the school year where we need you to tell us how well you think we are doing, and how the school can improve the things that are important to you. On the email to which we have attached this week's newsletter there is a link and password for you to complete the questionnaire. Please spare 10 minutes to tell us how you think we should be spending our time and resources, to make our school the best that it can be for your child. Each completed questionnaire is vital in finding out what parents think. Your answers will be treated in the strictest confidence and will make a difference to how we run the school and plan for the future. It would be most useful for us if you could ensure that you have completed the survey by next Monday. Thank you.

### A note from the kitchen

*Thank you to all parents and pupils for your wonderful and continued support of our school kitchen. For the third autumn term in a row, the junior school lunch take-up has considerably increased. We're also looking forward hugely to being able to release our recipe book **Feed** around Easter time: it is being put together as we speak by Ruth and David at Sames and Littlejohns Design and we hope it will be printed by local printers Booths in Penryn*

*There has been some amazing support this last year from volunteers over the lunch time hour, helping to serve our food and support children with their eating. This really helps us, as it frees up a cook to be able to keep preparing things fresh throughout the service – this makes the food a lot tastier! We'd like to put a call out for anyone else interested in helping us one day a week. In return, we feed you a lovely hot meal which you can either eat with the children or take home with you. Please pop in and chat to either the office or Jess in the kitchen if you are interested.*

<http://marlborough.eschools.co.uk>



## Playground Equipment – Can you help?

As you will be aware, children's toys and games often have a limited shelf life. They're often not returned to where they should be kept and even if they are, can be handed back a little the worse for wear. As you can imagine, if this happens at home, the increased numbers at school can have quite an impact and the result is that we are running a bit thin on our playground games and toys. We would like to transfer some of the older PE equipment to provide more break and lunchtime activities but can only do so of course once we've replaced them with appropriate sports kit. We will also look to buying some specific materials so that the children have a choice of activities – but again our resources are limited.

I have spoken to the children suggesting that if they have any old outdoor toys that could serve for general playground use that they would like to share with friends and donate to the school we would be very grateful. Of course the equipment will need to be serviceable and we will need to check its safety and suitability, but it would be good to increase the range of things the children can play at lunchtime, without having to reach too deep into our pockets.

We have been given a couple of buckets of Lego and one idea proposed is that if we could make a large circular mat with a draw skin and collect other old Lego we could make this available for some playtimes. The children's parliament will plan to work on a few other suggestions, and hopefully organise some monitors to make sure everything is used and put away well to extend the life of the equipment we have.

Whilst we can and will order some appropriate play balls for use at playtimes, I do need to ask parents not to send children in with leather footballs or heavy or hard plastic/rubber balls as these can be dangerous and are certainly intimidating for younger children. The playground is a limited space and we need to keep it safe and enjoyable for everyone to use together.

Last Week				Total		
1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Fox</b>	34	7	1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Fox</b>	26
	<b>Swiftsure</b>	34	7	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Freeling</b>	19
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Freeling</b>	27	4	3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Swiftsure</b>	17
4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Pelham</b>	21	3	4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Pelham</b>	11
5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Chichester</b>	20	2	5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Walsingham</b>	10
6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Walsingham</b>	12	1	6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Chichester</b>	9

## INVITATION TO

# COOSE TRANNACK CROSS COUNTRY RACES

Saturday 18 March 2017

The event is held on the Coose Trannack Woodland adjacent to Trannack School (near Helston). It is a millennium wood with fantastic views over The Lizard peninsula. The course is sloping and represents a tough challenge for even the most talented runners. The event is open to all children from Year Reception to Year 12 and will involve separate races for each Primary School age group.

If your child is interested in representing Marlborough and/or you'd like to join in as a family (For the first time this year we will also be holding an adult "fun" run for anyone who likes a challenge and a bit of fun!!!) please ask at the school office. Further information is available at:

[http://trannack.eschools.co.uk/website/coose\\_trannack/29267](http://trannack.eschools.co.uk/website/coose_trannack/29267)

You can also follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com> (search for Coose Trannack), where you can find up to date information and ask us any questions.

*Robansier*

<http://marlborough.eschools.co.uk>

