



An Lester Trumach - The Packet Ship

2018-2019

Number 20

25 February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you had a great half term break and were able to enjoy some of the beautiful sunshine – long may it continue!

This week in school sees our first Governors' Week – the governors will be visiting classes, meeting children and staff, and gaining feedback regarding the life of our school. This will all be used to help us build a picture of how our school is running. Findings from this Governors' week will be available on our website. As ever, if you have any feedback for school – celebratory or developmental, please do drop me a line.

Big Dig

We are holding the first Big Dig for 4 years next Thursday here at school. Please see attached letter for further details. It should be a very exciting day with lots of activities for the children. If you can help at all, please complete a volunteers form and return to Sascha House (via the school office if that's easier for you) Please note school dinners on that day will be **PASTIES** – please ensure that you have ordered your pasty by **WEDNESDAY OF THIS WEEK**.

Final Reminder – Auction of Promises

Friday 8th March from 7:30pm (for 8pm start) at Upper Deck (Falmouth Marina.)

Sickness/Absences

A gentle reminder that if you need to get in contact with the school to please phone 01326 314636 or email office@marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk. We do not receive messages through our 'text' number that has been used in previous years or by the fax number.

Packet Points						
This week score table				Termly score table		
Position	Team	Weekly Points	Weekly Score	Position	Team	Termly Score
1 st	Chichester	25	7	1 st	Walsingham	35
2 nd	Swiftsure	21	5	2 nd	Chichester	34
3 rd	Freeling	15	4	3 rd	Swiftsure	27
3 rd	Pelham	15	4	4 th	Pelham	19
5 th	Fox	12	2	5 th	Fox	16
6 th	Walsingham	9	1	6 th	Freeling	12

Have a great week,

Vicky Sanderson

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



Mariners Update:

IMPORTANT: Parent consultation on spending Mariners funds

1. What's the question? We need to know if parents are happy for c. £1k of the £9k+ Mariners funds raised so far to be spent on a specific request from the school: 6 visualisers to support teaching and learning which currently cannot be funded from within the school budget.

2. When do we need comments by? Next Monday 4 March.

3. Details: Visualisers allow teachers to easily show something in the classroom (e.g. a piece of good story writing) on the big screen. The cost for all 6 is approximately £1,000 and they would ideally be purchased this half term. The request was discussed in the February Mariners meeting and the feeling was generally positive, especially as it is hoped the Auction will further increase the funds raised. However since this is not for a specific 'in the library' resource (although there is a literacy link), it was also felt it was important to check with all parents via newsletter (as well as checking with activity leads and the Mariners email list).

"The visualisers will be used daily – to introduce lessons – show resources and model strategies and writing. I have used them in lots of schools now and have really missed them in this school." Vicky Sanderson

4. Who should I respond to? Just hit 'reply' to the newsletter email. Your response will be shared with the Mariners and Vicky Sanderson (or you can email them direct). If you would like your child's classroom to get a visualiser it's really important to respond! Often when people are in general agreement they don't reply and then we may not get a representative view. Of course if you have reservations it's important to let us know also.

5. More details: This has prompted a wider discussion about a) starting to spend the funds raised for the £10k library appeal, so we can all see the results of our efforts, and b) putting in place a more formal structure for funding allocation decisions. If you would like to get involved in either of these activities, email mariners@marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk

Other Mariners updates

- Auction of Promises 8th Mar: the deadline to book £20, 3-course dinner tickets is **THIS THURSDAY 28 FEB**. Once you have booked online (via bit.ly/2Rs0xcN) you simply pay cash at the office (also by this Thu if possible). Do get your class groups together for a fun night out!
- Big Dig 7th Mar: see more detailed text in this newsletter for background to the Big Dig and remember to get volunteer forms back/collect items requested. PASTY ORDER DEADLINE **THIS WEDNESDAY 27 FEB!**
- Thanks to all who came to the Mariners meeting on 12th Feb and especially Ben Gowers bringing a governors' perspective. To get minutes, email mariners@marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk. Next meeting: Thu 21st Mar, 8-9pm, Falmouth Townhouse. For info the Mariners webpage now has all meeting dates for the year: www.marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk/website/mariners/7862
- Thanks to all the painters on Sat 16th!

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



Why the Big Dig?

Some parents will not have experienced a Big Dig before, and we thought it might be great to explain where it came from, and what it is about!

Back in 2013 Marlborough School won an application to be a 'Beacon School' as part of a national initiative called LINE – Learning in the Natural Environment. This Natural Connections Demonstration Project, funded by DEFRA, Natural England and English Heritage, was believed to be the largest outdoor learning project in the UK. Its aim was to strengthen the connection between people and nature, and to support schools to embed learning in the natural environment into their ethos and teaching.

To celebrate being a part of this exciting project, Marlborough School held several special outdoor Big Dig Days. The whole school spent all day outdoors and the Marlborough community came together to work in the school grounds, tidying old areas and creating new. Lots of craft activities took place and the children were engaged in learning new skills and playing in the natural spaces around school.

It has been a while since a Big Dig took place, as there is no longer funding for this type of project. The school grounds badly need some attention, and we all know how important it is for children to get outside for fresh air, exercise and simply to connect with the world around them. Some of the more memorable learning experiences take place away from desks and beyond the classroom. As such, parents began talking about restarting the momentum.

When the school parents' forum, the Mariners, proposed it to the Marlborough School teachers as a parent-led event, it was met with collective enthusiasm. The teachers, parents, and most importantly the children themselves, are all excited for this opportunity to enjoy a day of creativity and being outdoors in the local natural environment.

This does mean that we are responsible for organising and running all of the day's activities, sourcing all equipment and skills needed and ensuring the smooth running of the day!

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

If you are able to volunteer your time, we truly would appreciate it. Please complete your form by this Wednesday 27th February if you would like to ORDER A PASTY. And equally OUR WISH LIST IS ESSENTIAL if we are to be able to achieve all that we hope, both for improving the learning and play facilities of the school grounds, and for the kids' activities. So please check if you are able to contribute any items – they will all help, (a copy came home in the children's book bags before half term).

If you'd like to find out more about previous Big Digs, follow the link for LINE under the Learning section of the school website. To be in touch, please email through the mariners@marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk or speak to us directly.

Sascha House, parent of Marley (Yr 5) and Jago Phoenix (Yr 2) and Ilona Jones, parent of Isla (Y2)

