

2017-2018 Number 37

An Lester Trumach -

- The Packet Ship

9 July 2018

Dear Parents

My apologies for the late publication of this newsletter. The busy end of term has heated up, not only with the weather, but with tasks relating to our post inspection plans. The local authority will be 'visiting' the school on Thursday to carry out a monitoring review, and we will keep parents informed of the progress they see as and when we receive their reports. Staff, children and governors have worked especially hard this term and one of the first signs of their commitment has been the results received by y6 children for their end of ks2 SATs this morning. It will be some months before these are officially verified and published, but the children should be congratulated for their efforts and achievements, and the first-sight headline figure is that 'scores' are strong and progress good: giving the lie somewhat to Ofsted's view that last year's improvements have not been sustained!

Test scores are one way in which the government likes to 'hold schools to account' – but there is so much more to any school than this sort of data and we've had the privilege of sharing some special moments with the children over the past week. The year 4 camp at BF Adventure was a great experience for the children, who all stepped outside their comfort zone to meet every challenge put in front of them. The centre manager said that he had never seen such a confident group when it came to the water jump activities.

Then yesterday evening, the year 6 leavers presented Marlborough's got Talent, a mixture of comedy and poignant memories shown through dance drama and song – a reflection of the many skills they have developed in and beyond the classroom. They can each be as proud of their achievements as we are of them... and our best wishes go with each one in the next part of their learning journeys at secondary school.

Administration Forms for Next Year

As all the children will be taking that next step up to their new classes, we have today sent home printed permission forms (for visits, the use of images and the new GDPR regulations). It would help us greatly if everyone could complete these and return them to the school office this week (and certainly, to avoid us needing to chase anyone up or print further documents) by Thursday 19th July.

Parent Governor

By the deadline of 12:00 noon today, the school had received 3 nominations for the 2 parent governor vacancies and we therefore need to hold a secret ballot. We are very grateful for the interest and support shown. Full details of candidates, voting slips, and deadlines will be sent later this week, in time for us to be able to declare the results before the end of term.



Marlborough Mariners

It is great to see the Mariners up-and-sailing again – we hope to find our old logo and to ensure that regular communication appears on this newsletter and the school's dedicated Marlborough Mariners website pages. Our recent meeting was a lovely informal start to develop the ideas for Marlborough Mariners to support the school. The group produced a timeline for fundraising activities and identified sub groups to lead within these activities. The cycle ride will launch the 10K library appeal on the 30th September with a full and exciting list of social activities to follow.

Some Drop Off and Collection Safety Requests, etc

We've received messages from local residents concerned about a few children gathering and playing unsupervised on the way to school before 08:30. We open doors at 08:30 and admit children directly to classes then, ready for the 08:45 start. If children are walking to school without parents, please remind them to come directly to school and, if they are slightly early to wait at the entrance or in the pavillion shelter.

At the end of the day, once children are 'handed over' they are parents' responsibility. Please do not allow them to climb on any school walls or equipment at this time. Infants with junior siblings must accompany parents to the appropriate waiting areas – they must not take short cuts through the pond garden or access the juniors' *Jungle Run*. For safety reasons, and particularly with pre-school children often present at home time, we need to keep the latch-gate to the pond closed.

Whenever possible in the hot weather, please



Ucture ALEXANDER

do send children with sun hats as protection. We have made sure that shaded areas are available for play, but need to ensure each child is appropriately protected.

Packet Points]
Last Week				Total			
1 st	Swiftsure	32	7	1 st	Swiftsure	46	
2 nd	Fox	25	5	2 nd	Fox	41	
3 rd	Walsingham	23	4	3 rd	Chichester	36	
4 th	Chichester	22	3	4 th	Walsingham	24	
	Freeling	22	3	5 th	Freeling	20	
6 th	Pelham	21	1	6 th	Pelham	16	

I'm not sure if there is a link with the weather, but a number of first aid ice packs have gone missing... If these have inadvertently come home, please return them to us as soon as you can. Thank you!

ogansier

