



An Lester Trumach - The Packet Ship

9th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hopefully you will all have been able to access your child's class outcome this week. Videos, tea parties, information guides, singing, dancing, art, writing and more have all been shared with families to celebrate the end of a busy, and hopefully, unique term. Looking at the children's books and listening to them talk about their learning shows just how well our families, staff and pupils have managed to focus on supporting wellbeing and learning during this very different term. The quality of learning is still amazing, showing that children have rebuilt their resilience and, as always, are up for giving their best. This is not necessarily the same throughout the nation but something that the community at Marlborough should be very proud of. We are very much looking forward to Squashbox theatre, our virtual nativity *Lights, Camel, Action!*, *The Cancelled Christmas* and our Silly Santa Walk; all exciting ways of doing December differently.

School Closure

The Department of Education announced yesterday via the media that schools could close on the 18th of December as the DfE would like them to be part of the Track and Trace system, still in dialogue with families regarding Covid updates, up until Christmas Eve. This is very late in the day for an announcement to be made and therefore **Marlborough School will be open on the 18th of December** to ensure families can keep to their work requirements. The office@marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk address will be checked for the first 6 days of the holidays, including Christmas Eve, but only with regard to Covid updates. Families will be informed if there is a positive case in their child's class and your child needs to isolate for 14 days. We will not send out emails regarding possible cases. We hope you understand that the changes to our protocol have been put in place as our staff need to have a break as well.

The Christmassy Christmas Show of Christmassy Christmasness

Squashbox Theatre will be in school entertaining all of our children with this festive show on Thursday 10th of December. Performances will be delivered to two classes at a time to enable distancing of our class bubbles.

Christmas Performances

Christmas Performances are going ahead, with children in Reception, Class 1 and Class 2 putting together a production of *Lights, Camel, Action!* The production will be filmed and there will be a Zoom screening of the production on Wednesday 16th December at 5.30pm. On Thursday 17th December at 6pm there will be a Zoom screening of *The Cancelled Christmas* performed by Classes 3, 4, 5 and 6.

The performances will be shown via Zoom to school families and a private Youtube link will be sent to parents so they can keep a copy of the shows. If you do not want your child to be on screen please let the office or class teachers know. Many thanks.

Christmas Dinner

The kitchen will be preparing a delicious Christmas dinner, complete with sprouts and crackers on Wednesday 16th of December. Please book your child's meal by Friday via ParentPay.

Children's Christmas Cards

Each class has a post box this year where Christmas cards can be posted for their class mates. Cards will be quarantined before handing them out to children. The last date for posting Christmas cards is Tuesday 15th of December.

<http://www.marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk/website>





Silly Santa Sponsored walk

On the 17th of December the whole school will be raising money for Cornwall Hospice Care by taking part in a Silly Santa Sponsored Walk. We will leave school at 9.30am and walk up through the graveyard, down Spernen Wyn Road and along the seafront to Castle Beach. Although we will not be able to have additional adults joining the walk you are more than welcome to come along and clap by the roadside to encourage the children on their 2 and half mile walk in their festive outfits!

Santa and elf suits will be sent home with children on Wednesday so they can come into school on Thursday with their outfits on. They will need to wear plenty of warm layers under their suits. Each child will be able to keep their suit and a Santa medal. The charity are asking that each child raises a minimum sponsorship of £7.50 in aid of Cornwall Hospice Care - but more would be fantastic. Sponsor forms and monies can be returned to school either on Friday 18th December or in the first week of January.

Winter Weather Preparation

As the weather turns colder we are still ventilating our classrooms and children are still playing and learning outside. Please can you send your child to school with warm clothing; tights and trousers are allowed, and a warm, waterproof coat. Hats and gloves can be worn when children are outside. Thank you

Learning Out and About and In School

Class 2 Adventure Club – On Tuesday 15th December Class 2 will be heading out to the school field for a Maths Adventure Club with Miss Tremewan. As they will be outside all morning please can children come to school in warm, waterproof clothing. Thank you.

Covid Cases, Symptoms and Testing

Please can we ask parents to keep communicating with us regarding symptoms, isolation, track and trace app isolation and testing. If a member of your household shows symptoms of Covid then the whole household needs to isolate. Please do not send your child to school if someone in your household has symptoms.

Holiday travel - Please can families let us know if they are travelling anywhere outside of the travel corridor over the Christmas holidays. Families travelling outside of the corridor will need to quarantine for 14 days after arriving back in the UK.

Hand Sanitiser - Please can children not bring in their own hand sanitiser as some of the packaging can be confusing for younger children who may mistake them for a drink. We have hand sanitiser in school for children to use at times when hand washing is difficult.

National Assessment Changes

The government are making changes to assessments this year to reduce pressure on pupils and staff. Year 2 assessment judgements will be made by teacher assessment; identifying what the children are capable of doing independently rather than through testing. The Year 4 multiplication assessment is not statutory this year. The Year 6 assessment window has been extended and they will still sit reading and maths statutory assessment tests (SATs) but the Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar assessment will not be taking place.

<http://www.marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk/website>



Breakfast Club Changes

Our Breakfast Club will be run by Plymouth Argyle in January. Ryan will still be there, providing breakfasts and activities, but payment will now go to Plymouth Argyle. Details of payments will be sent out before the end of term. Also, we are going to offer an earlier start, with parents either paying £3.00 to start at 7.30am or £2.50 to start at 7.45am.

Pupil Premium funding

The Local Authority are giving vouchers to pupils eligible for Free School Meals over the Christmas holidays. This will be £15 per pupil per week. More details of this will be given by the LA nearer the time.

A reminder that Pupil Premium pupils are now able to join Breakfast Club for free.

If you think you may be eligible for funding you can either ask for a form at the office or follow the link to complete an application: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/schoolmeals>

Second Hand Uniform Swap

The usual rail of free used uniform is out of bounds due to Covid restrictions but Jodie Coles has very kindly sorted the rail into different age groups for distribution. She has created a list of available items and will add these to the Facebook group. It would be wonderful if a parent from each class could distribute any uniform to parents. Please let the office know if you would be happy to have a bag of spare uniform, suitable for your child's class, to distribute. Thank you.

Join the Winter Reading Mini Challenge

The Winter Mini Challenge encourages children to keep up their reading habits over the winter holidays, with a free-to-access website featuring rewards and incentives for reading and reviewing books.

Over the school holidays children can experience a 'dip' in reading skills and learning, and due to the disruption to education caused by Covid-19, this year is set to have an even greater impact on learning loss. This winter we are very excited to team up with award-winning inclusive publisher **Knights Of** to run an *Everyone Is A Hero* themed Mini Challenge to celebrate heroes in all their forms and keep children reading this winter. **The Winter Mini Challenge starts on Tuesday 1 December 2020 and finishes on Friday 15 January 2021.** <https://readingagency.org.uk/children/news/join-the-winter-mini-challenge-and-become-a-reading-hero.html>



Marlborough Mariners' Update **Christmas Raffle**

It's beginning to look a lot like ... you know what ;)

And it wouldn't be the festive season without a school raffle - oh no it wouldn't - oh yes it would!

So, to help raise some much needed funds to put towards the construction of the planned outdoor shelter and facilities on the school field (which will mean our kids can get more access to the outdoors as part of their learning - what's not to love!) the Mariners are pulling together a Christmas raffle!

We've already have some fantastic vouchers and items donated as raffle prizes from the local community inc. Eden Project passes, Fish and Chips vouchers, £20 voucher for a TiramisUgo take away delivered to your door, Massage voucher, Beauty products, and are in the process of contacting further local businesses. If you know of any local businesses that you think may be willing to help, please get in touch via email to

mariners@marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk

Thank you!

Tickets can be purchased through this Paypal link: <https://www.paypal.com/pools/c/8uO7Y8vvyU>

<http://www.marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk/website>



Strictly Christmas Dance Party- Friday 18th of December 4.30pm

Get ready to Rock around your Christmas Tree!

Dance along to some Christmas classics along with the Strictly beats of the Salsa, the Charleston and the Jive - we may even throw in a cheeky cha cha for good measure!

Learn some simple Strictly inspired steps, play some games and join in with a Christmas and Strictly themed quiz - It will be Fab-U-lous and you will all be the stars of the show!

Dress code: Dress to impress! Sparkles, glitter, fancy dress, Christmas jumpers, anything goes!

Donations welcome - suggested donation £1-2 per head but any amount however big or small is warmly welcomed

This is a Mariners event to raise funds for the facilities on the school field and will be hosted by Sally from Cscape Dance.

Marlborough Kitchen

Upcoming lunches are:

Thursday 10 th December	Sausages and Wedges Veg Sausages and Wedges Roast Vegetable and Potato Frittata
Friday 11 th December	Homemade fishcakes Veggie Chickpea Curry Egg Mayo Rolls
Monday 14 th December	Pizza Margarita Roasted Sweet Potato and Spinach Pizza Carrot and Ginger Soup
Tuesday 15 th December	Pork Ragu Lentil Ragu Smoked Mackerel Pate Open Sarnies
Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas Dinner- Turkey Christmas Dinner- Veggie Christmas Soup
Thursday 17 th December	Beef Chilli Bean Chilli Hummus and Breadsticks
Friday 18 th December	Jacket Potatoes Tomato and Sesame Soup Herby Cheese Scones

Dates for the diary

Thursday 10th December – Squashbox Theatre

Tuesday 15th December – Class 2 Adventure Club (am only)

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 16th December – *Lights, Camel, Action!* shared screening 5.30pm

Thursday 17th December – Silly Santa Sponsored Walk

Thursday 17th December – *The Cancelled Christmas* shared screening, 6pm

Friday 18th December – Last day of Autumn Term

Friday 18th December – Strictly Christmas Dance Party via Zoom 4.30 until 5pm

Monday 4th January – INSET day

Tuesday 5th January – Children back to school,
Start of Spring Term

<http://www.marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk/website>



Reception, Class 1 and Class 2 - Lights, Camel, Action!



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