



Reaching for the moon

MAPS Newsletter: guiding you through life at our school!

Edition 15. Week ending 3rd May 2019

MAPS Enrichment programme

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Freestyle Soccer- am Junior Choir- Lunch -y1- 2 Choir -y3-4 Chess - y1-4 Maths – Invite only y1 - y2 Gymnastics - y1-2	Freestyle Dance - am Soccer-y1-2 Hockey - Invite Only Athletics - y2 – y4 Freestyle Multi- sports	Gymnastics-y3-4 Fencing Hotshots (4:45– 5:30)	Tennis-am Book Club – Invite only y3-4 Soccer – Invite only y3-4 Lego - R – y1	Freestyle Gymnastics-am

All clubs finish at 4:30pm. Please collect your Children promptly.

A message from Mr Northcott

Dear Parents

Just to confirm that this summer term we are transferring our uniform suppliers over to www.yourschooluniform.com, which should be a seamless transfer. Officially this takes place in June but they are gearing up for this now. A reminder that the new Year 4 will need blazers and proper full length ties. We do have a number of blazers here at school that you can try on to get the right size.

With the transfer of uniform supplier we have also taken the decision to change our ties for the lower part of the school. The current elastic ties are not very robust and the elastic stretches and breaks easily. As a result we are moving to clip on ties for the lower part of the school. These clip on the top button when it is fastened so please ensure your child has a shirt that has a top button and that it is not too small for them to do up.

You will also have had an email from the diocese about a planned trip to the Holy Land for pupils and families. If you are interested please do get in touch with them directly, or via the school.

We have been emphasising the importance of creativity and thinking skills in school, and we have been very fortunate to have had a theatre production of Alice In Wonderland – which of course is a highly creative topic. Many thanks to the Friends of MAPS for funding this production – it is great that the whole school get to see live theatre and experience the awe and wonder of it all. I've just passed two boys chatting about it – “the best day ever” one of them said to the other. This is exactly the sort of reaction we hope for – so thanks to the Friends of MAPS.

Just a reminder we have our pub quiz coming up on Friday 10 May – a great night out, and our end of term disco's. If you can help in any way the Friends of MAPS would love to hear from you.

Have a great bank holiday – remember we are not open on Monday!



Start and end of the School day:

The drop off system is working well, you are able to drop your Children off between 08:20 and 08:35 at the gates and they will be walked into school by children from MAA. Our classroom doors open at 08:30am with the gates closing at 08:40. Learning and lessons start in earnest at 8.45.

The school day finishes at 3:30pm, and unless Children are in a Club they should be collected at 3:30pm.

Music

Well done to all the staff and pupils for winning one of the DRET Oscars held last Friday. MAPS were nominated for the best Primary Musical provision and despite not having a Year 5 & 6 we swept the board and won the award. This is primarily for the way the teachers embrace music and get the pupils singing and doing music every day. Music has so many benefits for everyone (as outlined in my Assembly recently) so it really is a win win situation. Special mention must go to Mrs Pheasant for her leadership of Music in the school. Well done.



Ramadan

Dear Parents we are conscious that Ramadan is rapidly approaching and the issue of fasting has been brought to my attention. Having referred to the Muslim Council of Britain and other school policies we have agreed on the following position.

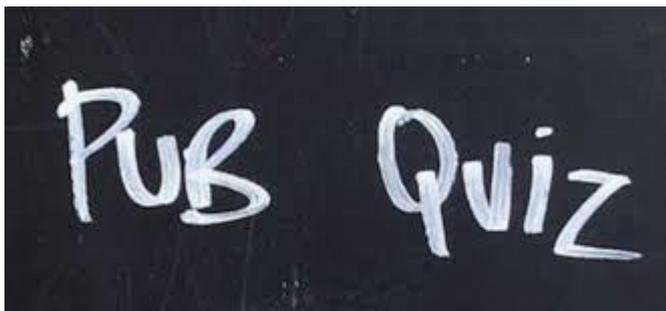
Whilst we recognise that fasting is not compulsory before the age of puberty in Islam, we understand that children are often encouraged to fast or indeed wish to fast to prepare them for adulthood. Fasting obviously impacts upon a child's ability to concentrate and function, and when they are little their capacity to manage a full fast physically is limited. **We do not encourage children in KS1 or lower KS2 (Years 3 & 4) to fast.**

All parents must inform the school in writing if they wish their child to fast for part or all of the month of Ramadan. We ask that parents complete a 'fasting permission slip'; these slips are available from the office or can be emailed on request.

- Parents **MUST** inform the school via a permission slip if their child is fasting.
- The school will inform parents immediately if their child who is fasting becomes unwell.
- Children who fast must conserve their energy and not join in strenuous games. We do not recommend that they undertake After School Clubs during Ramadan.

If you would like to discuss our policy further then please do contact me and I can explain it more fully.

Pub Quiz next week. Please get your teams ready for this great event. It was a huge success last year. Details are around school, but if you don't feel you can get a team together – don't worry – we can put individuals and couples together on the night to form winning teams. Please do register your interest with the Friends of Maps



Many thanks to the Friends of MAPS

for constructing and designing the new sandpit. We are close to our official opening. If any parents have any old bucket and spades from previous trips to the beach and are happy to donate them to the school, we would love to have some toys to play with in the sandpit. Please drop them into the Office. Thank you



Disco tickets

On sale soon – Year 4 will be selling these before school and after school. On sale Thursday 16th May/ Friday 17th May £3 to include food and drink (+ tuck shop). The Disco is 23rd May.

Cornwall:

A reminder: If you have not already we will need parents to commit to this trip – please can you do this via the link sent to you by 1st June 2019 (this summer). Your commitment will be the first payment made on parent pay.

- **Consent forms: deadline 1 June 2019**
- Payment Deadline (£400) : April 30th 2021
- Trip: 4 -8 July 2021



If you are a girl aged between 5 and 6 and interested in becoming a **Rainbow Guide** the 31st St Matthew's Rainbows are having an Open Evening on Wednesday 8th May, 6pm – 7pm at St Matthews Parish centre NN1 4RY

For more details please contact Sophie 07852 932339

Online safety

This week we have been gathering pupil voice about 'keeping safe online' and children are developing in their understanding about how to stay safe on the internet. Thank you for continuing to support the important messages at home. Lots of children are asking about specific games that they can or cannot play in terms of age ratings. If you are unsure about a game you can use the following website to check the age ratings recommended.

<https://www.common sense media.org/game-reviews>

You can also find reviews by adults and children on this website that will help you as parents to understand more about the game. If your child is playing a game that is not of their age but you have made the decision for them to play it, please ensure you are supervising them at all times.

Class Photos

If you wish to order a copy of the class photos please bring your order form to the office by next Friday 10th May.