



Maltese Road Primary School

NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 4TH APRIL 2025



Dear Maltese Road Families



As the spring term ends, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing support. We are so grateful for your partnership in supporting your child's learning. Wishing you a restful break and a happy Easter, and looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday 22nd April.

A big thank you to everyone who came to our Year 1 and Year 2 class assembly. We hope you enjoyed the assembly learning all about our topics this term. We really enjoyed sharing our work with you.



Headteacher for an Hour

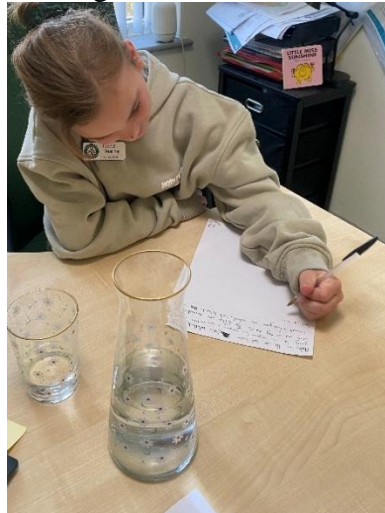
On Thursday 3rd April, we welcomed two new headteachers – Miss Evie Whitlock and Master Monty Wilkinson. Both headteachers embraced their new role by setting a few new rules. Miss Whitlock's rules were no ties to be worn and an extra play for the whole school. Master Wilkinson's rule was the whole school to play 'Tag' at the end of the extra play. Ties will be worn and teachers will be teaching either Geography or English during his time as Headmaster.

Message from Miss Whitlock –

Hello, I'm the new headteacher, Miss Whitlock. Today is going to be fun! This morning I saw no pupils wearing a tie, which was one of my rules. The children were relaxed and focused in the lessons. Everyone was excited and well behaved.

Happy Easter!

Master Wilkinson said he found being headmaster exhausting!





Year 5 children will have brought home this afternoon their **Bikeability Forms** from **Autumn term 2025** when they will be in Year 6. Please return your child's form as soon as possible so that we can secure our dates for October 2025. Thank you.



🔪 FOMS Raffle Prize Winners 🔪

Please collect the coloured hampers and cash prize from the office at the end of the day.

£100 Cash - Dede Y5

- **Red hamper** - Mrs Farrell
- **Orange hamper** - Deyana Y5
- **Yellow hamper** - Evie Y5
- **Pink hamper** - Mrs Andrews
- **Purple hamper** - Antonia Y2
- **Blue hamper** - Mrs Richie
- **Green hamper** - Mia - Reception class

Congratulations also to those who won the smaller prizes of sweets and chocolate:
Percy, Shalom, Caelan, Ronnie, Darcy, Poppy J, Arlo, Maxwell, Lucas W, Evie, Shater and Maggie S!

Thanks FOMs for organising and everyone who contributed to the beautiful rainbow hampers! 🌈

Year 5 & Year 6 Swimming Forms – Those children that are taking part in swimming lessons next term have today come home with a permission slip, to please be completed and returned, these will be given to the swimming instructors.

PARENTMAIL – DO NOT MAKE ANY FURTHER DINNER MONEY OR TRIP PAYMENTS. We will be switching over to Arbor pay after Easter. All outstanding balances and credits will transfer over.

Arbor Management Information System & Arbor

Our school has recently migrated to a new management information system called Arbor. You may have heard of this system from friends or family. Please look out for communication from us this afternoon about how you can set up your online access to Arbor and more importantly Arbor Pay. After Easter we will be using Arbor pay so please set up your accounts following the information that we provided this afternoon.



Other reminders

- **Parking – Park sensibly, safely and respectfully along Maltese Road and Westfield Avenue, we are still receiving calls from local residents**

Important messages:-

- ✓ If there is a change in circumstances when collecting your child from school at the end of the day, **you must telephone the school office by 2:30pm at the latest.**
- ✓ If you need to contact your class teacher at any time please feel free to use ClassDojo, or the class email address found on our website.
- ✓ Please ensure that if your child is not attending school that you phone the school office every day of the absence on (01245) 357 860 to inform us by **9:00am.**
- ✓ Please note that any urgent messages must be contacted by telephone and not email, as these messages may not be seen until the following day.

Attendance Award:

Hedgehog

Maltese Road Values

Respect	Layla A
Resilience	Harley, Isabel, Whole of Year 6
Responsibility	
Creativity	
Collaboration	Oscar M
Compassion	
Courage	Jordan, Yashwitha

Letters Sent Home

Friday 31 st March	Year 5	Swimming Questionnaire
Friday 31 st March	Year 5	Bikeability
Thursday 3 rd April	Whole School	Teacher Club Slips
Friday 4 th April	Selected Children	Mini Marathon Packs
Friday 4 th April	Selected Children	Mini Wimbledon Competition

Teacher Clubs – Week Commencing 21st April 2025

Club	Year Groups	Day	Pick up time
Step by Step Drawing	R – 2	Tuesday	4:00 pm
Art	3 – 6	Wednesday	4:00 pm
Choir	3 – 6	Wednesday	4:00pm
Book Club	R – 2	Thursday	4:00pm
Computer Animation	3 – 6	Thursday	4:00 pm

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Date	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7th – 21st April 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Holidays
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22nd April 24th April 29th April 1st May 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Day of Summer Term Year 3 Fire Home Safety Talk Class Photos – Full School Uniform to be Worn Year 3 Caveman Trip to Danbury Country Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5th May 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bank Holiday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8th May 9th May 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VE Day 80th Celebrations – Details to Follow Year 4 Fire Safety Assembly Wilderness Dress Down Day for a £1 Donation FOM Taste of India Tuck Shop After School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13th May 21st May 22nd May 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reception and Year 2 Pirates Trip to Danbury Country Park Year 1 Stick Man Trip to Weald Country Park Gemma’s Farm – Details to Follow
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26th – 30th May 2nd June 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Half Term Non Pupil Day
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11th – 13th June 14th June 18th June 20th June 26th June 2nd July 4th July 9th July 10th July 17th July 18th July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Residential to Essex Outdoors Mersea FOM Summer Festival – Details to Follow Transition Afternoon Sports Day Transition Afternoon Year 2 Mini Games CSAC – Details to Follow Reserve Sports Day Year 6 Production – Parents Invited 1:30pm – Details to Follow Year 6 Production – Parents Invited 9:15am – Details to Follow Year 6 Prom – 6pm – 8pm in the School Hall – Details to Follow Year 6 Leavers Assembly – Parents Invited 9am – Details to Follow Last Day of Summer Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21st & 22nd July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Day of Summer Holidays



SEND News

WILDERNESS

FOUNDATION UK

On Friday 9th May we are holding a Wilderness fundraising day!

Wilderness is a charity that **includes using the outdoors, nature and wilderness experiences to bring about measurable, positive change and improved mental health within disadvantaged and vulnerable young people and adults, enabling them to lead a healthy and active life and improve their personal sustainability, independence, belonging, self-esteem and resilience.**

This charity has supported many children and families within Maltese Road and we would love to give back so they can carry on their brilliant and life changing work.

We are inviting all children to wear non-uniform for the day, with a focus on what you would wear to walk around a forest; tracksuits, jeans, wellies or trainers, we are asking for a £1 donation for this.

The day will be packed full of fun and exciting activities and challenges and guests from Wilderness will be joining in with the fun. Keep your eyes peeled for more information! We look forward to raising lots of money to support Wilderness!! Parent's welcome from 2pm

Video resources to help your neurodivergent child

Essex County Council has received funding to produce a series of information films. They have been made to support families, short breaks providers and education staff.

The purpose is to provide information and ideas for supporting children who may be neurodivergent. They aim to be an early intervention tool that can be shared with wider family members and those that care for your child. They also show what kind of support might be available in schools.

Each film has been coproduced with families, short breaks providers, schools and health practitioners. The topics for the films are based on feedback from Essex parents and carers. All the films support the Implementation of the Ordinarily Available.

You can find the films on The Short Breaks website. <https://shortbreaks.essex.gov.uk/short-breaks-resources/>

2024-2025 Term Dates

Date	
• 4 th April	• Last Day of Spring Term
• 7 th – 17 th April	• Easter Holidays
• 22 nd April	• First Day of Summer Term
• 5 th May	• May Day Bank Holiday
• 26 th May – 30 th May	• May Half Term
• 2 nd June	• Non Pupil Day
• 18 th July	• Last Day of Summer Term
• 21 st & 22 nd July	• Non Pupil Days

2025-2026 Term Dates

Date	
• 1 st September	• Non Pupil Day
• 2 nd September	• Non Pupil Day
• 3 rd September	• First Day of Autumn Term
• 3 rd October	• Non Pupil Day
• 27 th – 31 st October	• October Half Term
• 19 th December	• Last Day of Autumn Term
• 22 nd December – 2 nd January 2026	• Christmas Holidays
• 5 th January 2026	• First Day of Spring Term
• 16 th – 20 th February	• February Half Term
• 27 th March	• Last Day of Spring Term
• 30 th March – 10 th April	• Easter Holidays
• 13 th April	• First Day of Summer Term
• 4 th May	• May Day Bank Holiday
• 25 th May – 29 th May	• May Half Term
• 1 st June	• Non Pupil Day
• 17 th July	• Last Day of Summer Term
• 20 th July	• Non Pupil Day



Healthy snack -

Most children require a snack at morning break to keep them going through the day. We encourage children to bring in healthy snacks.

Many of these will help contribute to their 5 daily portions of fruit and vegetables, keep them alert and help them concentrate.

Children in **EYFS and KS1** have a daily snack of fruit or veg provided for free by the government, so additional snacks for these ages may not be required.

If you are intending to send in healthy snacks with your child please limit them to the list below.

Vegetables/ vegetable sticks – such as celery, cucumber, peppers or carrot.

A piece of cheese (cheddar cheese or Babybel).

A piece of fresh or dried fruit – pineapple, mango, kiwi, plain raisins, apricots, blueberries, banana slices.

breads are also good snacks Bread sticks, plain pretzels, banana bread, malt loaf, oat/rice cakes and small pitta.

We are aiming for a common-sense approach, with the key being to keep it healthy and no chocolate, sweets or crisps during breaktime.



We are a nut aware school; we have children and adults with nut allergies, which could be very dangerous for them to be in contact. Please ensure that you check ingredients of all foods sent into school, even items you buy regularly, as there can be changes, to ensure there are no issues.

PTA NEWS



Upcoming Events:

- Mini London Marathon, Saturday 26th April
- Taste of India Tuck Shop, Friday 9th May
- Summer Fair, Saturday 14th June

End of term update

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of our second term as Friends of Maltese Primary School (FOM), we wanted to take the opportunity to update you on our progress to date and our plans for the future.

Since September, and with your help and support, we have raised over **£7,500** for the school! The money raised has already been put to great use, enabling us to purchase:

- £1,000 on new toys and games for the playground, including a table tennis table, for the children to enjoy during breaktimes
- Provided materials for Reception class sandpit refresh
- Sourced much needed SEND equipment
- We supported the school to host interactive history days for each year group
- Contributed to the schools' subscriptions including Inspire Education and Grammersaurus which help bring the children's learning to life

Meanwhile the school have also been busy putting together an Amazon wishlist including resources, equipment and books to cover class topics which we hope to be able to start delivering on next term as well as investing in a much needed storage shed in the playground.

We have hosted over 20 events and initiatives including the inflatables afternoon, Elfridges, raffle, Music Bingo night, Christmas wreath making, KS1 disco, KS2 youth club, movie night, Halloween and Valentines themed tuck shops, Wonka Bar raffle and refreshment stalls at school performances. We're excited to launch the Easter event tonight with over 150 children coming along and we can't forget our marathon runners who have already raised £1,500 for the school.

In addition to this we ran the FOM logo competition, pumpkin decorating contest, held non-uniform days, started the Asda rewards programme, launched an Easter egg colouring competition, introduced the Christmas jumper exchange and will shortly be launching a pre-loved uniform shop and more cultural themed events.

We are on track to hit our fundraising target of £10,000 for the school this academic year and are currently busy planning our inaugural **Maltese Festival** for 14th June 2025. More on this to be announced next term!

In October 2024 we were granted charity status signalling a significant milestone for the FOM team. Having charity status opens lots more doors and we have already benefited from book donations from publishers, donations from local retailers and raised £625 in sponsorships from local estate agents who will be supporting the Maltese Festival.

Being a charity also allows us to apply for various grants and funding for the school. Working alongside the teachers, the FOM team are busy applying for these - if successful they will allow us to add significant budget to our pot. Our focus is to raise funds to enhance the SEND provision, provide more outdoor facilities for our children, install a new climbing frame and be able to purchase sports and music equipment. We are also in

the process of applying to local supermarkets to participate in their token collections and hope to be able to share more on this in due course. More long-term plans include refurbishing the library, turning the rainbow room into a sensory space and providing more outdoor learning facilities.

Of course we couldn't have achieved all this without your support. We truly appreciate everyone who has purchased tickets, attended events, donated gifts, volunteered and helped out. A huge thanks must also go to the teachers and staff at the school who attend events and help run initiatives. We couldn't do it without them.

I also want to thank my formidable FOM team for the countless hours and effort that goes into putting on these brilliant events for our children. If you would like to get more involved with the FOM, do drop us an email.

We want FOM to be a collective of our school community and we hope you have enjoyed being part of the journey so far. We are always keen to get your feedback; good or bad, and welcome all ideas. If you would like to get in touch, please do so confidentially through your class rep, email us, or pop a note in the FOM box outside reception.

Wishing you and your families a lovely Easter break and we look forward to sharing more plans with you in the new term.

Nicola James
FOM Chairperson