



Maltese Road Primary School



NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 17TH JANUARY 2025

Dear Maltese Road Families

On Thursday Year 1, with the assistance of the Year 5 and 6 Bronze Ambassadors held their own Teddy Festival on the school playground, with a range of different games and activities.

The event was organised by Mandy from Chelmsford Sports Partnership and had this to say: The Teddy Festival was brilliant and your Year 5/6 Bronze Ambassadors were fantastic. They were a credit to your school and were really encouraging and motivating to the Year 1 children.

Well done to our Bronze Ambassadors and all the Year 1 children for taking part.

Comments from some of the children:-

It was tiring

I liked that everyone was smiling and I was able to lead an activity

It was good because I liked doing all of the activities outside

I liked jumping over the pink line 20 times



Lost Property

Over the last term we seem to have accumulated an enormous amount of lost property, most of which was in the box for the entire term and unnamed. If the children do not hunt their items down in the day or two after mislaying them, they tend to get forgotten about.

From this term we will be clearing the lost property at the end of each month/term. All named items will be returned to their owners, the rest will be disposed of. We ask that over the weekend you check that all items that come into school, including any clothing (uniform, PE kits, gloves, hats and coats etc), lunch boxes and water bottles and anything else you can possibly put a name on, is labelled. That way items have the best chance of being reunited with their owners. Thank you.

The Big Garden Birdwatch 24 – 26 January 2025

Do you know the names of the birds you see out of your window, in your garden or at the park? Why not take part in this year's Big Garden Birdwatch and count how many of each bird species you see in one hour, while learning their names too.



Taking part is easy just visit the website to sign up, find a comfy spot with a good view of the garden and start counting!

How to take part

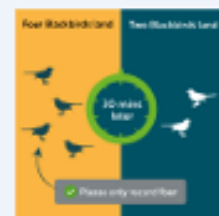
- 1 Get your free guide and stock up on supplies, with 20% off and free delivery on food and feeders at the RSPB shop.
- 2 Spend an hour watching the birds in your patch, between 24 and 26 January, and record the birds that land.
- 3 Tell us what you saw (even if that's nothing at all)! You can submit your results online or by post.



Choose an hour between 24 and 26 January



Only record the birds that land in your patch



Record the highest number of each bird species you see at any one time

Devices in Bedroom



It is not new news to us all that interacting with devices before bed, or having them by the bed, is not great for our sleep pattern as adults, but it can be a real nightmare for children. With some of the children excitedly telling us about the phones, games consoles and other gadgets that Father Christmas delivered, it's worth setting some ground rules for these items, before embedded habits become very hard to break.

Our devices emit blue light which stimulates our brains and interrupts our body's natural wind-down-for-sleep process. This can have real repercussions around the amount of sleep we get and how we feel in the morning. We know that our older children are sending messages to friends into the evenings, some have told us they have their phones

in the bedrooms while their parents think they are reading – which incidentally is a brilliant way to support your body's natural wind down and has many educational benefits, as well as just being a lovely way to pass some time.

Here are some ways you and your children will benefit from keeping the devices out of the bedrooms:

1. You'll minimize the temptation to play games or chat with friends online to an ungodly hour.
2. You're more likely to pick up that book and relax naturally, while hopefully enjoying a great story.
3. You'll have time before bed with siblings or family members, to perhaps play a fun game, or have a chat, if you lose the phone for the last 30 – 60 mins.
4. You'll reduce the hypervigilance that results from the anticipation of a message that may or may not arrive. Being alert for any constant communication prevents us from properly relaxing.
5. Sllleeeeeeep zzzzzz Just think how much more sleep your children could get without the phone distracting them from how tired they really are. It'll probably be better quality sleep too.

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 Class

Maltese Road Values

Respect	Dylan
Resilience	Faye, Louie, Michael
Responsibility	Isaac, Shater
Creativity	
Collaboration	Kate
Compassion	
Courage	

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:



Date	
• 22 nd January	• Year 3 Romans Workshop
• 10 th February	• Year 4 Superstars Event at CSAC
• 17 th – 21 st February	• Half Term
• 3 rd & 4 th March	• Book Fair – Details to Follow
• 7 th March	• World Book Day – Dress Up As Your Favourite Book Character
• 14 th March	• Year 1 Castles Day Workshop
• 24 th March	• National Skipping Day
• 26 th & 27 th March	• Year 3 & Year 4 Pirates & Mermaids Performance – Parents Invited 9:15am
• 2 nd & 3 rd April	• Parents Evening – Details to Follow
• 4 th April	• Last Day of Spring Term
• 7 th – 21 st April	• Easter Holidays
• 22 nd April	• First Day of Summer Term
• 24 th April	• Year 3 Fire Home Safety Talk
• 5 th May	• Bank Holiday
• 8 th May	• Year 4 Fire Safety Assembly
• 22 nd May	• Gemma’s Farm – Details to Follow
• 26 th – 30 th May	• Half Term
• 2 nd June	• Non Pupil Day
• 11 th – 13 th June	• Year 6 Residential to Essex Outdoors Mersea
• 18 th June	• Transition Afternoon
• 20 th June	• Sports Day
• 26 th June	• Transition Afternoon
• 2 nd July	• Year 2 Mini Games CSAC – Details to Follow
• 4 th July	• Reserve Sports Day
• 9 th July	• Year 6 Production – Parents Invited 1:30pm – Details to Follow
• 10 th July	• Year 6 Production – Parents Invited 9:15am – Details to Follow
• 18 th July	• Year 6 Leavers Assembly – Parents Invited 9am – Details to Follow
	• Last Day of Summer Term
• 21 st & 22 nd July	• First Day of Summer Holidays



Non-Violent Resistance (NVR) Group for Parents for all Schools

Kids Inspire, a local children's mental health charity, is accepting referrals to their next NVR parent group at the end of January 2025. Non-Violent Resistance is a practical therapeutic approach to managing challenging behaviour in children and teens – without shouting, punishment, or confrontation. Instead of responding with anger or strict discipline, it focuses on staying calm, consistent and supportive.

Please speak to Mrs Almond if you would like any further information.

2024-2025 Term Dates

Date	
• 6 th January 2025	• First Day of Spring Term
• 17 th – 21 st February	• February Half Term
• 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



Dates for your Diary

13th February Music Bingo – Adults Only – 7pm in the School Hall

Happy New Year from Friends of Maltese Road.

Last term we set ourselves the targets of attaining charity status and raising £3,333, both of which we achieved!

Now as a registered charity, we become eligible to apply for further grants and schemes such as gift matching which will enable us to increase what we can raise for our children and the school.

Thanks to you all - we raised a fantastic £3,500!

We have been and will be spending money on the following items and activities:

- Table tennis set, giant versions of favourite games for the playground: jenga, noughts & crosses, connect 4, and skipping ropes & hula hoops
- Theme Activity Days for every class
- Phonics scheme books
- Much-needed SEN and Rainbow Room equipment

We have set ourselves the same target for this term, and will be sharing some more dates for the diary shortly!

If you have ideas for future events or fundraising initiatives, or would like to get involved in any way, please reach out via email friendsofmaltese@gmail.com or your Class Rep.

We are so looking forward to the upcoming term and hope to bring more fun for the children, their adults and the wider school community to enjoy!



Music Bingo



Grab your friends and join us to blow away the winter blues with a night of old skool hits and prizes to be won!

THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY
FROM 7PM | School Hall, Maltese Road Primary School



£10pp includes first drink & nibbles on table

Bring your friends & family! (Adults only event)

Bar with drinks & cold snacks available to purchase

Limited availability – secure your spot by 6th Feb – details below:

✂ Email us at: friendsofmaltese@gmail.com, or complete & return slip to FOM box

Name:

No. tickets:

Contact:

Child's class or if you are a friend of someone at the school:



Please make payment by 6th February

BACS to Maltese Road Primary School PTA | ref Music Bingo | A/C 4472 7068 S/C 30 98 97

or cash with this slip to the FOM box



Gift Amnesty

Parents, staff and friends!

Can you help us raise funds for
the school this year?

If you received any gifts at Christmas that aren't quite to your taste or you got two the same, we would love any donations that can be used as prizes or at future events.

Please bring your donations and drop with your child's teacher on any Friday in January, or you can drop to main reception any other time.

Thank you!



Maltese Road Primary School Uniform and PE Kit

A reminder for the new school year that all children should be coming to school in the correct school uniform and PE kits. Here's a reminder of our uniform:-

Our uniform supplier is One Stop School Gear, Unit 1 Beehive Business Centre, Beehive Lane, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9TE Telephone number 01245 214084

The school uniform is; grey trousers or skirts/pinafores,
plain white shirts,
school grey jumper or cardigan with school logo
school tie.

In the summer: girls may wear the green and white checked summer dress, girls socks should be white and may be knee length or ankle.

Boys may wear grey school shorts.

Plain, black shoes only. No flip-flops, high heels, boots or open-toed sandals.

The PE kit is; white polo shirt with logo or plain white t-shirt, no slogans,
green shorts, or green, black or dark grey tracksuit bottoms/leggings in the winter, no slogans,
trainers (Reception class are required to wear plimsolls).
All items should be clearly named.

For pierced ears – very small studs only please - this is an Essex County Council ruling to comply with safety regulations.

No hoops or dangling earrings.

1 small stud only per ear.

Child must be able to remove their own earrings for PE lessons.

Tape is no longer permitted.

All other jewellery, including rings, bracelets and necklaces are forbidden.

No make-up or nail varnish to be worn at school and extreme hair styles / colours are not permitted. Children are not permitted to wear hair accessories that are non-school uniform colours and they should not wear extreme or overly large hair accessories.

Move with us

Discover the activity that's right for you !

These sessions are run by school age practitioners to help young people find what motivates them to move and be active.

Sessions include fun games aimed for children 5-11years of all abilities, attending school or not.

Practitioners will also look at ways to support young people to get moving in their community and be healthy.

Dates: Every Wednesday (including school holidays)

Time: 3.40pm-4.40pm

Location: Chelmsford West Family Hub Delivery Site, Dixon Avenue, Chelmsford, CM1 3QA

Free admission and no booking needed.

If you have any further questions please contact us.

t: 0300 247 0014

e: vcl.essexmid-PB19adminhub@nhs.net

w: www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk



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