



**Maltese Road Primary School**



**NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers



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This is our last newsletter of 2023. It has certainly been a very busy term, but as usual we have filled it with lots of lovely learning for the children and as many brilliant opportunities as we have been able. What a busy week we've had with the wonderful performance of 'Prickly Hay' by our KS1 children. The children were amazing, it was fantastic to see so many parents and grandparents turn up to support the children. Also, the delightful KS2 carol concert performed in our local church, the singing was truly magical. And not forgetting the Panto! It was lovely to see all the children having big smiles on their faces and joining in the singing and dancing. All the staff have commented how this year's performance was the best one yet.

Now we are really in the Christmas groove.

We finish for the holidays on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, we look forward to welcoming the children back at school from 8:30am on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024.



#### Maltese Road has Talent

Wow! What a performance! Maltese Road truly has talented children, from singing, dancing, acting and now musicians. Well done Dylan and Toby (Y6) on their amazing debut act of playing 'Jingle Bells' on the electric guitar, Emilia's (Y5) solo performance of 'Oh Christmas Tree on the guitar and Charlotte's (Y6) solo performance of 'Carol of the Bells' on the piano.

On Tuesday, Year 5 set up their very own World War II museum, exhibiting all of the work and projects that they have been doing this term. The rest of the school took it in turns to go along to the Museum for a look round, everyone was very impressed!

# CHRISTMAS DINNER

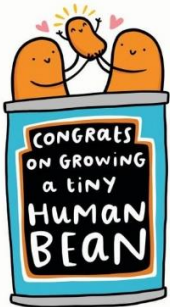
We had a really wonderful Christmas lunch yesterday, with everyone enjoying it with their friends and classroom adults. The children loved the crackers, music and traditional meal. We must say a huge thank you to Mrs Kirk, Mrs Painter and Miss Millard who worked so hard in the kitchen from very early in the morning cooking the most complicated meal of the year for the highest number of people. They did an awesome job! There were lots of compliments and polite manners from the children which just made the experience perfect.

There will be a few changes to the teaching staff at Maltese Road in January 2024.



On Monday, we will say a sad Goodbye and Good Luck to Mr Hillis, who is leaving to develop his teaching career for a more senior role in another school in Essex. We wish him all the best for his future adventures.

We would like to give Mrs Ingram a warm Maltese Road welcome, who will be join the fantastic Early Years teaching team.



Next Wednesday, we say goodbye to Mrs Beaney, as she is leaving us to start her maternity leave. It's time to put her feet up and enjoy a few days of well earned rest before, alongside Mr Beaney, she welcomes her new arrival and they begin a wonderful adventure as a family of three.

We would like to welcome Miss Lindridge to our fantastic Year One teaching team.



Thank you for your kind monetary contributions towards resources for our school. Recently, we have purchased classroom resources (glue stick, whiteboard pens) and invested in an active maths scheme to support pupils' positive mind set and academic progress in maths. Over the past couple of years, since the pandemic schools have noticed an increase in pupils unable to concentrate for long periods of time. This scheme has been recommended by educators to support all pupils style of learning.

## Next Week – Week Commencing Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Monday – Fun PTA Christmas Activities

Wednesday – Last Day of Autumn Term

### Menu change for next week:-

Monday:- Cheese & Potato pie served with veg

Tuesday:- Meatballs with potatoes and veg

Wednesday:- Chicken nuggets or chicken burger with chips and beans.

From 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024 the Trust have made the tough decision to increase the price of our school meals by 10 pence, to £2.45 per day.

### Message from Essex Police

Are you planning on giving your child a new games console, mobile phone, tablet, or computer game this Christmas? Or do you have friends or family who are?

Visit [www.essex.police.uk/sortyoursettings](http://www.essex.police.uk/sortyoursettings) for practical things you can do to help make your child's new device safer when they are online.

#StaySafe

Mrs White

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 6 November 2023**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2024**.

Applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions). 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

#### 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 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.

#### Pupil Awards

##### Attendance Award:

Dragonfly Class

##### Maltese Road Values

Respect

Resilience

Responsibility

Creativity

Collaboration

Compassion

Courage

Sienna

Antonia

All of Fox Class, Emilia

Charlotte, Dylan, Toby, Hussain,  
Jack S, Leo

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:



| Date   |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 20<sup>th</sup> December</li></ul>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Last Day of Autumn Term</li></ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 21<sup>st</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Christmas Holidays</li></ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024</li></ul>                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First Day of Spring Term</li></ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 24<sup>th</sup> January</li></ul>                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 6 Cyber Safety Presentation from Essex County Fire &amp; Rescue</li></ul>       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 31<sup>st</sup> January</li></ul>                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SEND Coffee Morning – Details to Follow</li></ul>                                    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 19<sup>th</sup> March</li></ul>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 3 &amp; 4 Easter Workshop at Chelmsford Cathedral – Details to Follow</li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 14<sup>th</sup> June</li></ul>                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sports Day – Details to Follow</li></ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> June</li></ul>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 6 Residential Trip to Essex Outdoors Mersea</li></ul>                           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 10<sup>th</sup> July</li></ul>                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 6 Leavers Performance – 1:30pm – Parents Invited – Details to Follow</li></ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 11<sup>th</sup> July</li></ul>                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 6 Leavers Performance – 9:15am – Parents Invited – Details to Follow</li></ul>  |

*This year's Essex Libraries' Winter Reading Challenge is now underway, and we are hoping for your support to help us get as many children involved as possible!*

*The challenge invites children aged 0-11 to take part in various activities, which support literacy and creativity, to earn stickers to fill up their special booklet.*

*Children can also follow the challenge storyline on our social media, where they will travel around the world with Lyra the penguin to meet different endangered animals and learn all about them.*

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/winter-reading-challenge>

## **Nuts**

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.

## **Natasha's Law and Birthday Treats**



If you are sending treats in for classmates to celebrate a birthday, please ensure that each individual packet has clearly labelled ingredients. If that is not the case, we will sadly have to return the treats to you as we will be unable to give them out under Natasha's Law. Alternatively, purchase a fabulous book for the children to enjoy and keep in their classroom in honour of the birthday. Suggested books for your child's age are listed on the class pages of our website.

## **P.E.**

Children must not wear any kind of jewellery in PE lessons, including watches and earrings. Our school upholds the Essex policy around earrings, which states that earrings should be removed and that taping is not a suitable substitute, as it does not reduce the risk of the back of the earring puncturing the neck. Children with medium/long hair are reminded to tie it up securely

**Family Support Worker Melanie Pointon contact Mon-Fri on: 07562 111 932.**

## 2023-2024 Term Dates

| Date   |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| • 20 <sup>th</sup> December                                | • Last Day of Autumn Term  |
| • 21 <sup>st</sup> December – 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2024 | • Christmas Holidays       |
| • 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2024                             | • First Day of Spring Term |
| • 19 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> February             | • February Half Term       |
| • 28 <sup>th</sup> March                                   | • Last Day of Spring Term  |
| • 29 <sup>th</sup> March – 12 <sup>th</sup> April          | • Easter Holidays          |
| • 15 <sup>th</sup> April                                   | • First Day of Summer Term |
| • 6 <sup>th</sup> May                                      | • May Day Bank Holiday     |
| • 27 <sup>th</sup> May – 31 <sup>st</sup> May              | • May Half Term            |
| • 3 <sup>rd</sup> June                                     | • Non Pupil Day            |
| • 19 <sup>th</sup> July                                    | • Last Day of Summer Term  |
| • 22 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> July                 | • Non Pupil Days           |

### PTA NEWS

Thank you to everyone for all of your support again over the Autumn term. We will be back in the New Year with lots more dates for exciting events.

Have a wonderful break.



# BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Monday **before school** Dodgeball **KS2**

Monday **after school** Football Club **KS2**

Wednesday **after school** Football Club **KS1**



**For half termly costs and start/finish times, please visit:**

**Book online:** [www.essexkidscamp.co.uk/activities](http://www.essexkidscamp.co.uk/activities)

**Email:** [info@essexkidscamp.co.uk](mailto:info@essexkidscamp.co.uk)