



2016-2017

Number 1

An Lester Trumach - The Packet Ship

12 September 2016

Dear Parents

Welcome to the first edition of a new year's newsletters – a welcome especially extended to all the new families who join us for the first time this year. An Lester Trumach is Cornish, named after the packet ships that used to sail from Falmouth with Post Office letters and Admiralty packages for ports all around the world.

We aim to send one each Monday, although perhaps (as today) not quite with strict naval discipline! It should arrive by email through the school's website mailing system and you can always check for it along with back copies on our website at www.marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk. This should always keep you up to date with whole school activities and class teachers also send flyers from time to time for news and events that affect their school year group only. The new class blogs will shortly be set up within the website as we aim to increase its interactivity to support communication.

I noticed this week that the new term dates had not been reset on the website so feel I should congratulate everyone for arriving on time at the beginning of term! This has now been corrected and the school's own Diary Dates for the year (sent to you last term) can also be found under the Information and Policies' Term Dates section. A most important item marked on the diary is the annual 'Meet the Teacher' event. Reception Class parents have obviously already had the chance to meet the team, but please don't be afraid to ask if you are unsure of anything. For parents of y1 to y6 children we are again holding two separate meetings this year:

Tuesday 20th September	17:00	Infants' Parents
Thursday 22nd September	17:00	Juniors' Parents

We do find that this is a very important opportunity for you to find out what's happening in the year ahead and how you can support your child in his or her new class. After a short introduction in the hall for me to share important news along with forthcoming arrangements parents can visit the classrooms. Please go to your younger child's class first as a second session will be run straight afterwards in y5 and y6 where your family has children in more than one class.

As said this is **IMPORTANT** so we provide a free crèche in order that every family can ensure that they are represented at these meetings – it also reduces the excuses for not coming! Of course, it would help us with organisation if we knew how many adults were attending the meetings and whether or not you would like to use the crèche facility. Please therefore, let us know either by speaking with one of the office staff or emailing us (at office@marlborough.cornwall.sch.uk – the contact button on our website also links with this email address). We look forward to seeing **everyone** there!

You may have noticed the outdoors work that's taken place over the summer. Thanks to the funds raised through the Sponsored Cycle Ride we now have a 'Jungle Run' from the Cygnet's Nest quiet area up to the Ministry of Mud. This has already proved popular as there is some safety netting in place, although we do need to 'fence' the final high walkway link – and **we would like to ask for some volunteer help**. There is also an Outdoor Orchestra in the 'arena' behind the waiting shelter. Please do not allow children to use these facilities outside of school time.

Another new acquisition for outside will be our unique Story Chair, currently on display in the hall: the product of some wild Fab Friday imaginations – the children's ideas were passed to Mrs Gall's very gifted Dad for him to build this fantastic addition to our school environment and resources.



<http://marlborough.eschools.co.uk>



Clubs and Music Tuition start this week.

Thank you for being organized in sending children with their instruments this week. Keyboards began today – as a significant number of this group were out of school on Class 4's Viking visit other children had extended lessons this week; y4 will make up for this in their keyboard lessons next week.

There has been a full response to last week's club notices, a keen and steady flow of children signing up to new activities. Film Club got under way with *The Magic Roundabout*; films are advertised in the entrance foyer. Art Club starts today for



Infants with Junior sessions taking place after half term. This term both clubs will run on the same theme, which will be *Dragons*. Mrs Pellow is hoping to exhibit the work all together in the last week of



term. Activities will include creating a dragon and a dragon map using a variety of artists' mediums, making a dragon snow globe and crafting a dragon egg. We'll be reading *The Snow Dragon* by Vivian French to set the scene and inspire us. The Gardening Club is taking on a large part of the responsibility of caring for our Allotment. This can be quite challenging work for younger children and it is pleasing that some older pupils have already signed up. We would very much welcome (long-hand for 'need) some adult help too. If you are able to help out with the club after school on



Wednesdays (even on a 'job-share' basis) you would be very welcome and we

would be delighted. The winter sports timetable is now upon us with some new arrangements and fixtures for netball with the Falmouth Schools. It would be great if some more y6 children joined the team – it is open to boys and girls, so do encourage them to take the opportunity to learn new skills and to represent the school in competitive sports.



Sumdog



Your child may have told you something about Sumdog an online regular practice Maths website we use in school, which is also accessible from home. Y2 to y6 children will have their own log-in codes - please help them to develop safe internet habits by keeping this password secure and secret.

As this week progresses, the new juniors are getting used to the daily journey up the stairs. We like to encourage their independence, so ask that you let them enter class on their own. Obviously, they may still want to share their learning with you from time to time. You are welcome to come into class at the end of the day so that we can get started more quickly in the mornings. As a reminder for everyone – now that we are settled for the new year, please do make sure that you arrive on time each day. Parents need to leave class when the 08:43 bell sounds and children arriving after this time should leave parents at the hall door. We do have to mark late arrivals, and these are recorded in the register and are considered by the county Education Welfare Service as unauthorized absences.



Food Policy – Allergies, Intolerances, Preferences and School Food Standards

There are an increasing number of children in school with an intolerance of specific foodstuffs and some who can suffer significant allergic reactions. Bearing in mind the manner in which nut allergens can transfer the governors do need to consider the school's becoming a 'Nut Free School' (our kitchen already is). This decision will be taken later this term. In the meantime, I would ask please that parents do not include peanuts or peanut butter in packed lunches. I appreciate this may be disappointing for some children – but I am sure that you will agree the safety of all children and respect for each other's needs has to be a priority.

Our own kitchen and meal service is a central part of the school's aims for the children and Jess is tireless in constantly looking at ways to improve the service. We have some ideas for the future and also need to put in place fully and formally some of the government's National Food Standards. We will talk a little about this at the 'Meet the Teachers' evenings and then the school parliament will lead a consultation to draw up a School Policy this year.

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