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# THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

15 September 2017

We enjoyed a lovely New Parents' Supper last night and over 80 parents joined us for this very social event in the Main School Hall. It was overwhelmingly wonderful to hear how happy the vast majority of new girls are after only one week here at The Maynard. They are all establishing themselves, making friends and becoming familiar with the Maynard way of life. Equally, I loved hearing many parents commenting on how kind and supportive the existing student body has been in welcoming all these girls and helping them to settle in. As ever, I am very proud of our wonderful school community!



From my perspective, the school is positively buzzing with a significantly increased roll which is still continuing to rise! My thanks also to all the staff for putting on so many activities and events so quickly at the start of term and I am pleased to report that the lunchtime clubs are now all full. The girls are being kept very active which is just as I had hoped!

In short, we have made such a good start to the academic year and I really look forward to showing all of this off at our upcoming Open Morning, but more on this later in the newsletter.

On to the week's news ...

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## Duke of Edinburgh training expedition

We fielded six teams for last weekend's Bronze Duke of Edinburgh training expedition, starting in Sidbury in the driving rain! It was what can only be described as an "eventful" weekend thanks largely to the inclement conditions but all the girls were incredibly stoic and a complete credit. We lost three of the 39 through illness or injury but the main thing was that everyone came home safely and with a smile on their faces! Huge congratulations to them all!





### Pizza and bowling for the Lower 5s

I had great fun joining the Lower 5 year group for their traditional Pizza and Bowling night on Tuesday although, admittedly, I may need to brush up on my tenpin skills for any such future events like this! It was a very entertaining evening and the competitive edge on display from certain staff members only added to the humour! Events such as these are vital in keeping morale high as these pupils enter their intensive GCSE studies and I look forward to other such light entertainment to break up our heavy work schedule across the school in the coming months!

### Martial Arts and Gym coaching begins in earnest

The term has kicked off in earnest for all those who have signed up to either the gym training sessions or martial arts, which have proved such a popular addition to the calendar.

On Monday, 18 girls from Years 4-6 enjoyed their first training session at the Exeter Gym Club and a further 30 will head there again today to make the most of the wonderful coaches and facilities.

Equally exciting are the Martial Arts clubs that we are hosting for all our Pre-Prep, Junior School and Year 8 girls. On Tuesday, all the new girls in the Pre-Prep took part in a fantastic taster session with their Jiu Jitsu "Sensei" (Japanese for teacher) where they learnt how to count to five in Japanese, move like ninjas, creep up on animals in the jungle, stand in a "guarding stance" ready for anything and perform a "chamber kick". They even fought off a troll with a big boffer!

These lessons are so important for building confidence, strength and coordination so our enormous thanks to Dr Catterick from Exeter Martial Arts Club for running the sessions.

The Pre-Prep club runs on a Tuesday from 3:30pm to 4:10pm and we do still have a few spaces for anyone who would like to join, so do fill in the club form if your daughter would like to have a go!

Girls in Years 3-6 have also enjoyed their initial Jiu Jitsu session this week with Dr Catterick, showing lots of promise. Although this club is now full, we do have



some spaces for the Year 8 equivalent (on Tuesday from 1.05pm- 1.40pm). If your daughter is interested in joining, she should sign up on the Waterloo Sports Board.

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### Pleasing start to the Hockey season

This week has seen a good start to the hockey season albeit the Under 15 side had an unlucky draw against Millfield in their first round of the Independent Schools Hockey Cup. Although only conceding one goal in the first half of the match, their fortunes dipped in the second half as fitness took its toll but they put up a good fight against a very well drilled opposition nevertheless to finish 5-0 down on the final whistle.

On Thursday, our Under 9 team played at the St Peter's Prep Lymstone Hockey Festival where they enjoyed an afternoon of fun, some great hockey and even survived a heavy downpour in true Maynard style! Well done, girls, and we look forward to relaying your exploits over the coming weeks!

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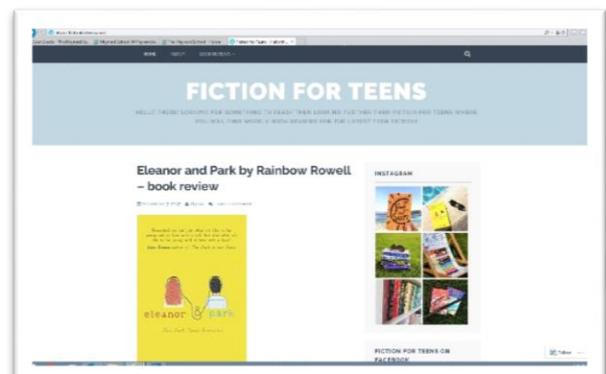
### Van Gogh displayed in the Junior School

We have a new artwork in the Junior School thanks to a fantastic collaborative effort from the whole of Year 4! It is a truly superb version of Van Gogh's 'Starry Night' that the girls started on the first day of term. As part of their PSHCE work on perseverance and cooperation, each of the class were tasked to complete their own section in oil pastel before it was all pieced together to create the whole impression. The girls are to be congratulated both on their wonderful teamwork that makes for such a lovely piece of art!

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### Fiction for Teens blog – the perfect solution for anyone looking for a good read

Struggling to know what books to recommend to your teenager? We have the perfect solution for anyone in this dilemma thanks to Alyssa Gibbons in Upper 5: Her blog <http://www.fictionforteens.com> is truly brilliant with impressively truthful and mature reviews of novels that she has read over the years and we would thoroughly recommend it to any adult or child looking for a good read. Do take a look and prepare to be impressed!



### Success at the Budleigh Salterton Poetry Slam

Huge congratulations to Adelaide Daws, Charlotte Hall, Sophie Gallaher and Lizzie Zmuda (all Upper 4) who represented The Maynard at yesterday's Poetry Slam, a competition forming part of the Budleigh Salterton Literary Festival (of which we are proud sponsors).

Fifteen teams from schools in East Devon spent the entire day developing their own poems for performance and learning how to present their work under the tutelage of poets representing Farrago Poetry.

Having split into two teams (Adelaide and Sophie in one, Charlotte and Lizzie comprising the other), they set about writing a poem on the theme of 'the sea will always carry me home'. Later that afternoon they performed their works in front of the judging panel and an audience of families, teachers and festival-goers, with both teams being shortlisted for the finals. Following an even better second performance, Charlotte and Lizzie were announced the winners with Adelaide and Sophie finishing as the joint runners-up - a truly magnificent result and well done to you all!



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### Equestrian news: Good luck to Hazel McCorrison

Our fingers are firmly crossed for Hazel McCorrison (Upper 6) who is competing today at the British Dressage National Championships at Stoneleigh Park. Riding her young horse, Blue Hors Zagato, they recently qualified for this prestigious competition by winning the Novice Regional Championships at Bicton from a very competitive field of 20. We wish her loads of luck!

Whilst on an equestrian note, we congratulate Kitty Guinness (Lower 5), Ana Hepburn (Lower 5) and Faye Hepburn (Upper 5) who last weekend came second in the Open (1.05m) class at the NSEA Showjumping Qualifier at Bicton Arena, qualifying them for the National Championships at Addington Manor next month. Ana also won the Intermediate (95cm) class as an individual so she will also go through to the finals representing The Maynard at this level. We look forward to hearing how they get on!



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### Young Geographer of the Year 2017

We would like to remind our keen geographers from age 9 years upwards about this excellent opportunity to enter the Young Geographer of the Year 2017 competition. The Maynard will also run its own internal competition and award prizes to the best entries. The deadline for this is Friday 29 September by 1pm. To find out more, please visit:

[www.rgs.org/OurWork/Schools/Schools+competitions/Young+Geographer+of+the+Year+2017.htm](http://www.rgs.org/OurWork/Schools/Schools+competitions/Young+Geographer+of+the+Year+2017.htm)

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### 'Sister Act' auditions massively attended

We have experienced huge interest from students across the board wishing to perform in the whole school production of 'Sister Act' at the Barnfield Theatre next March. This week's auditions have reaped large attendances with a quality field of budding actresses and we feel for both Ms Blackwell and Miss Bellamy Cooper who have the unenviable task of casting from such strong competition. They have been assisted in the process by Madeleine Mulhall, an opera singer with the English National Opera, who sat in on the recalls to give an outside opinion on each performer. Needless to say, she was hugely impressed by the quality of the auditions and we look forward to announcing the cast next week.



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### Give Yourself the Edge - Engineering Competition

We would like to draw attention to the above competition, aimed at students from as young as 11 years upwards. The aim is to produce an essay on 'Engineering a Better World' with a maximum of 1000 words. The main purpose of this competition is to provide students with something that can help 'Give Them the Edge' when completing their university, apprenticeship or job applications. Further to this, it will hopefully get them thinking about Engineering and if they want to pursue it as a career.

More information about this competition can be found from Monday onwards under the 'UCAS & Careers' section of our website [www.maynard.co.uk](http://www.maynard.co.uk).

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### MPA AGM

A reminder that on Wednesday 20 September we will be hosting the Maynard Parents' Association AGM. This is a great opportunity to find out what has been happening with the MPA over the past year and what to look forward to in the coming year.

The MPA is always looking for new ideas for fundraising and is eager for parents to join the committee, become Class Representatives or just generally help out and support the fundraising events. It raise a lot of money for the school whilst being a good way to get to know other parents in your daughter's year and throughout the school.

Please do come along to the Main School Hall - sustenance in the form of coffee and croissants will be available from 8.15am and the meeting will start at 8.30am. We look forward to seeing you there!

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### Open Morning - Saturday 30 September 2017

Plans for our upcoming Open Morning are racing ahead and we have a really exciting list of activities for our prospective parents and pupils to enjoy. All those with children in the Senior School will have received the letter about this important event and we do hope that your daughter will be able to help us in making it a true success.

From various sporting displays to coding using robotic mice, right through to wowing the crowds with theatre and music, we look forward to showing off all that a Maynard education has to offer and thank you for your ongoing support.



**FLEET ADMIRAL  
IN THE MAKING?**

We open girls' eyes to a world of possibilities,  
giving them the courage and self-belief  
to explore their potential.

OPEN MORNING SAT 30TH SEPT

 THE  
MAYNARD  
SCHOOL

MADE FOR GIRLS AGE 4 - 18

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Have a lovely weekend!



Sarah Dunn  
Headmistress

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