

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

6 March 2018

Having started with “What a week” in the last newsletter, I could not have predicted what would ensue! The Beast from the East, Storm Emma and Sister Act rehearsals all colliding in the same 48 hours led to some interesting times, quite apart from having to make the very tough decision to close the school to ensure everyone’s safety. However, it was heartening to see how staff, pupils and parents rallied together against the elements and I’m also relieved to hear of no broken bones despite a great deal of hilarity on toboggans, skis and snowboards!

Last Tuesday, we had a lot of hardy toddlers with us for the inaugural Forest School event of the year and, despite the bitterly cold conditions, they all seemed to have a wonderful time with chocolatey treats around the fire and some amazing craft making in the warm sanctuary of the Junior School Hall. They are all back again this morning for the second of this five week course and I’m only too pleased that the weather is so much kinder for them to enjoy the great outdoors.

As the week went on, the tradition of the tutor groups decorating their doors in the theme of a book (to celebrate World Book Day) was taking shape. I was impressed last year, but it has gone to a whole new dimension this time and there really are some quite fabulous themes, beautifully presented! We will do our judging with the Head Girl Team in a delayed slot later today and it really is going to be a very difficult task!

It’s now full steam ahead for Sister Act and I am looking forward to seeing every single one of the four shows - I’ll probably know all the songs by heart by the end of the week. I cannot thank Mrs Bellamy and Miss Blackwell for the immense



energy and passion that has gone into making it into what will surely prove to be a spectacular production. The girls must also be applauded for their commitment during both the evenings and weekends, particularly this Sunday when there was snow and ice on the ground – but they still battled the elements to make it in for rehearsal!

And, finally, if you can join us on Friday 16 March, I fully recommend the MPA quiz night. It is great fun with Mr Smerdon as the compère and, of course, it is all for a good cause! Please don't expect a lot from the staff team but we will do our best!

Anyway, on to last week's news with our apologies that the elements were against us, making this newsletter somewhat overdue!

'Best ever' Discovery Morning



It seems like long ago with all that has happened this past week, but we thoroughly enjoyed welcoming over 70 families to our Spring Discovery Morning on the Saturday before last. These are always wonderful events and a great way for prospective parents and pupils to see the school in operation. Without doubt, this was the best yet thanks to the hard work of so many different members of staff. The Main School Hall looked totally stunning with its new-look, ethical bunting and decorations replacing the helium balloons of old. We are grateful to our Estates Team who, once again, rose to the challenge, this time installing a pulley system in order to raise the bunting in a safe and befitting manner for such a high room!

As ever, there was an array of varied activities from Forest School and creating mud muffins, to making lip gloss in Science, a STEM session designing incredible infrastructures using spaghetti and marshmallows, right through to ballet, yoga and some wonderful art projects!

Robotics success

Congratulations to Lorelei Silver, Lizzie Zmuda and Alice Player (all Upper 4) who competed in the FIRST® LEGO® League National Final in Bristol on Saturday 24 February. It was an early start, leaving at 6.00am, with a jam-packed day of presentations and interviews to follow but it was a wonderful experience and the girls remained upbeat throughout. Of the 54 teams competing, our girls finished 26th on the robotics completion and have been selected to be nominated to enter their project "sink-cycle" for a Global Innovation Award - an international competition and a tremendous achievement!



You can watch their robot performance here <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=TiAkFTWCZa0> (skip to 1:50).



Cross Country teams brave the elements

It turned out to be quite a quiet week on the sports front with several fixtures being cancelled or postponed due to the weather but full credit must go to our Under 9 (Year 4) and Under 11 (Year 6) teams who competed at the Prep Schools Cross Country held at Stover last Tuesday.

Mrs Fabian reports: “We went well armed with hot chocolate, blankets, lots of layers to keep warm and, although chilly, it was a beautiful day for running - the sun even shone for a little bit and we had a flurry of snow to get excited about.

“All the girls ran superbly, and we were really impressed with how hard they tried; they all completed the tough course, which was very uneven and steep in places. There were approximately 50-60 girls in each race and we had some brilliant individual performances with five girls finishing in the top 20 and two in the top 10.

“Top effort, they had a great time”

Sixth Form adventure activities

Following on from last term’s caving, climbing and team building exercises, the students in the Sixth Form are now turning their hands to a spot of sailing down at the quay.

During their six week course, they will learn about all things nautical from wind direction, sail trimming, how to helm the boat efficiently and, god forbid, man overboard!



Sister Act – almost a sell-out!



Tickets for Sister Act have nearly sold out with only very limited availability remaining for the Wednesday and Thursday evening performances. The matinee show, condensed for the enjoyment of local schools on Thursday, will also be a full house and we are really excited to be welcoming students from St Thomas Primary School, Lady Seawards, Ladysmith Junior, Ide and St Sidwells Primary Schools to this very special performance.

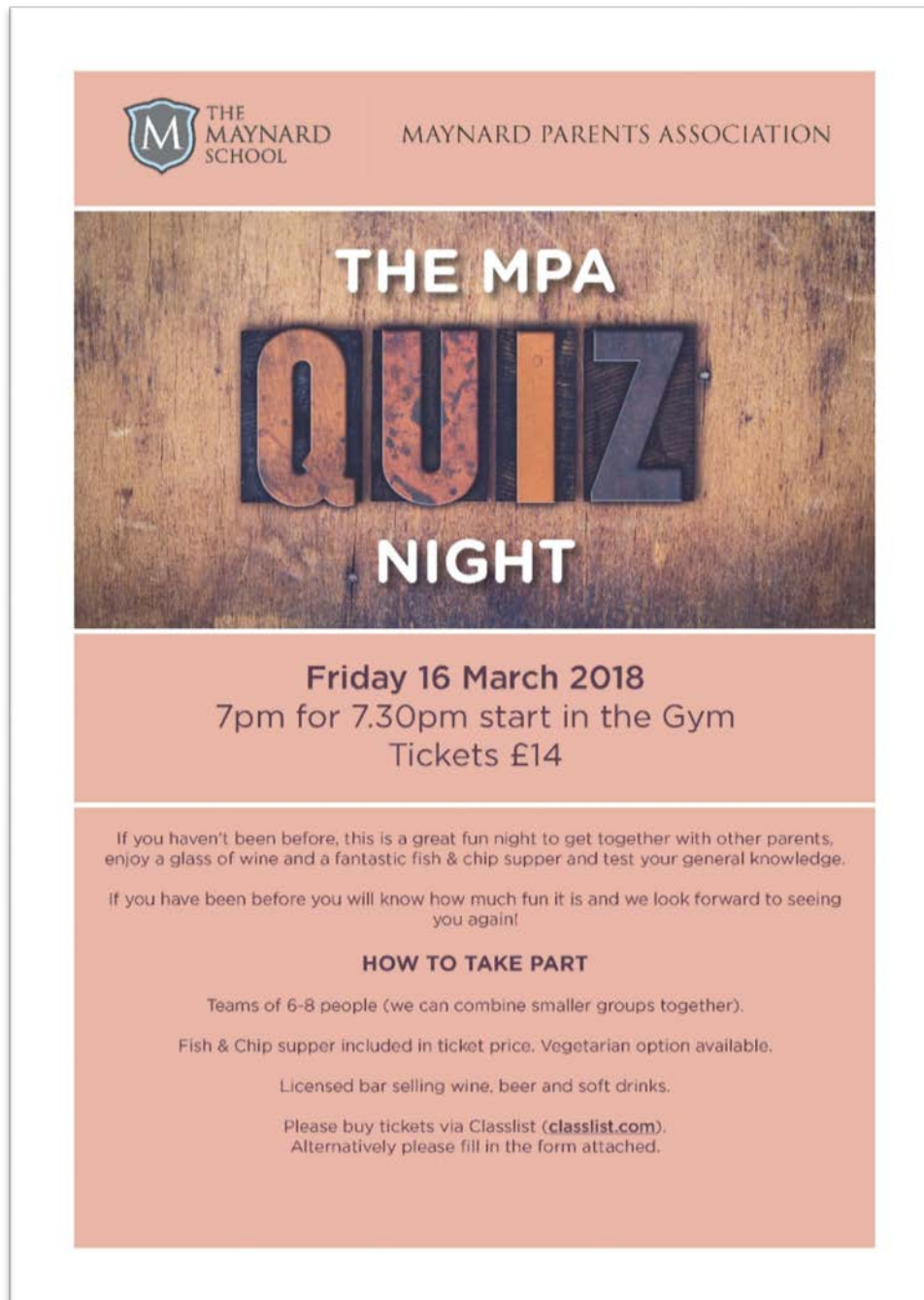
We are delighted to have secured a professional photographer to take shots during the dress rehearsal tonight and we look forward to sharing these with everyone, most especially those that are unable to attend any of the performances.

At this juncture, we must wish all those involved in this spectacular show the very best of luck - break a leg!




MPA Quiz - a great night out!

Don't forget it's the MPA Quiz Night next Friday 16 March, being held here at School from 7pm. This is always a cracking night out so please do buy your tickets now!



The poster features a wooden background with the text 'THE MPA QUIZ NIGHT' in large, stylized letters. The 'Q' is orange, 'U' is blue, 'I' is orange, 'Z' is blue, and 'NIGHT' is white. The top left corner has the school logo and 'THE MAYNARD SCHOOL' text. The top right corner has 'MAYNARD PARENTS ASSOCIATION' text. The middle section contains the date and time: 'Friday 16 March 2018', '7pm for 7.30pm start in the Gym', and 'Tickets £14'. The bottom section contains two paragraphs of text, a heading 'HOW TO TAKE PART', and three bullet points.

 THE MAYNARD SCHOOL

MAYNARD PARENTS ASSOCIATION

**THE MPA
QUIZ
NIGHT**

Friday 16 March 2018
7pm for 7.30pm start in the Gym
Tickets £14

If you haven't been before, this is a great fun night to get together with other parents, enjoy a glass of wine and a fantastic fish & chip supper and test your general knowledge.
If you have been before you will know how much fun it is and we look forward to seeing you again!

HOW TO TAKE PART

- Teams of 6-8 people (we can combine smaller groups together).
- Fish & Chip supper included in ticket price. Vegetarian option available.
- Licensed bar selling wine, beer and soft drinks.

Please buy tickets via Classlist (classlist.com).
Alternatively please fill in the form attached.

Mother's Day Tea Party for charity



And finally, we are so proud of those students in the Lower 5 who are organising the Mother's Day Tea Party on Monday 12 March in the Main School Hall from 4pm. They have designed the whole event, done all of its marketing, organised the entertainment and have garnered the necessary troops to spend the entire weekend baking in order to treat all the mothers accordingly. So do please come along and support these wonderful girls who have worked so diligently to make sure the Tea Party is perfect!

Most importantly, all the money raised will go to SOS Africa, a charity enabling education and care for underprivileged children. This was selected as the tea party organisers will be heading off to South Africa for their Sports Tour in the summer and will be visiting some of the most impoverished townships where they will meet the children who benefit from this fundraising. Please help them attain their goal of raising £600 - enough to educate one girl for a whole year!

Tickets are £5 per adult, free for children and the afternoon promises to be a wonderful social opportunity as well as the chance to feel spoiled! In order to give us an idea of numbers for catering purposes, please could you RSVP to rachaelboard@maynard.co.uk to let us know how many you will be bringing (and payment will be on the door). Our grateful thanks!

Apologies again for the late newsletter, but all systems are running normally again so I look forward to sending you all of this week's news on Friday!



Sarah Dunn
Headmistress
