

# THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

4 May 2018

What a difference a bit of sunshine makes to us all and the entire Maynard community seems to have a real spring in their step now that the weather is improving! I just love being able to look out of my office window and see all the Sixth Formers making the most of the Rose Garden, whether it's to do a spot of revision en plein air or to just enjoy some well-deserved downtime from their studies. You can imagine my surprise when one lunchtime my office started to reverberate to a whole load of 80s tracks that they were playing very loudly over someone's speaker. It all seemed very retro to me but not that I was going to complain!

I have been hugely impressed this year with the sheer quality of the Thursday assemblies that our Sixth Formers have been taking. They have really raised the bar and I speak for staff and students when I say that these have become quite a highlight of the week. There has been an incredible range of topics covered from mental health and why sharks aren't as dangerous as we imagine, right through to one about the NHS and yesterday's on why we should all be buying organic meat. Clearly a lot of research has been put into each of these assemblies and I can only applaud the girls for their intelligent insight, balanced views and for the confidence they have shown in their delivery. Believe me, it's a daunting prospect to stand up and talk in front of the entire school but they have done it all with admirable aplomb and great humour at times.

I have really enjoyed joining in Thursday's Robotics Club this term and my enormous thanks to Mr Ibrahim (father of Isabelle in Upper 4) for volunteering his time to run these weekly after-school sessions and to Miss Parsons and Mr Ridler for their involvement. I am delighted that there has been such a strong take-up from the girls and we now have four teams who are all avidly designing some stunning looking rockets ahead of the big launch event later next month.



Their designs will be judged on which one looks the best, the one that can fly the highest and the accuracy of its flight path. There's a lot to do these next few weeks but it is already becoming very competitive!

Finally, I would just like to wish our Modern Foreign Language students and A-Level artists the best of luck for their respective exams next week. I know how hard they are all working and I am sure their efforts will be justifiably rewarded.



On to the week's news!

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### Our incredible Music Department



We are celebrating some fabulous news this week concerning our Music Department who we have just heard has been awarded an ISM Gold Certificate in Music 2018. This is because over 20% of the Key Stage 4 cohort of Maynard musicians achieved an A\*-C in their GCSE music examination last year. This puts us as one of the top 58 schools across England – huge praise indeed and we are totally delighted. Our thanks to all those involved for gaining us this incredible accolade!

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### Ten Tors teams selected

We are so proud of all those girls who committed themselves so fully to the training for this year's Ten Tors, taking place next weekend (11-13 May). They have all worked very hard over these past months and stuck at it even in the wettest of conditions with typical Maynard spirit. We are excited to have three strong teams, and one individual walking with another team, to cheer on over the course of the weekend. They are:

**Maynard 35A:** Betsy Board, Alexandra Dean (Leader), Ana Hepburn, Tilly Hoban, Peggy Morgan, Katie Slade.

**Maynard 35B:** Polly Broad, Hollie Cottell, Thalia Gibbons (Leader), Kitty Guinness, Rebecca Marshall, Evie Oldland.

**Reserve:** Mikee Osterlund



**Maynard 45:** Katie Byles, Gaia Clark-Nevola, Talitha Dersley, Laura Kerr, Alice Sara, Anna Witcombe.

**South Dartmoor 45:** Georgina Ward

We wish them all lots of luck!

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### Eleanor Simpson vies for GB selection



One of our star equestrian girls is on the crest of a wave following last weekend's FEI Chepstow International Horse Show and our huge congratulations to Eleanor Simpson (Upper 3) and her horse, Lucky. The pair were hoping to suitably impress the GB selectors who were treating the event as a European viewing trials and, although we don't know yet whether she will be donning the union jack saddlecloth, she surely must be in huge contention. As the youngest competitor in the class, she won the 'Children's Tour' on Friday, was third in Saturday's Speed Class and quite spectacularly won the Grand Prix on Sunday. We will keep fingers crossed this is enough for the selectors but, in the meantime, a massive well done!

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### Basketball success

Congratulations to Evangeline Davies and Natalie Charity (both Lower 4) who played in the Devon team that brought home the spoils from the inter-county basketball tournament being held in Gloucestershire last weekend. Devon was undefeated in all their matches to take the championship title. Equal congratulations to Grace Oldfield and Chloe Pring (also both Lower 4) who played for the South West team and, despite never having played together beforehand, they managed to clock two victories against Bristol and Gloucester to finish in third place.

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### Swimming match against Exeter School

The Under 9 and Under 10 swimming team made the short hop to Exeter School on Monday for their first match of the season. They all competed brilliantly with the Under 9s winning 47-43 and the Under 10s unfortunately losing 35-55. As ever, the camaraderie was wonderful to watch and the girls were very vocal in cheering their fellow teammates on!



### Over £1000 raised for charity in the Maynard Virtual Marathon

So far four students have completed their forms for the Maynard Virtual Marathon and our enormous thanks to all those that supported them. They alone have managed to raise over £1,000 for the two charities, Teenage Cancer Trust and CLIC Sargent. Congratulations to them all:

Amelia Moody in Upper 5 who ran the furthest (156 miles)

Maddie McLaughlin in Upper 4 who raised a staggering £602

Flo Evans (Upper 4) who, once again, raised an enormous sum (£371)

Amelia Salter in Year 4 who was the youngest runner and completed all 26.2 miles

Please may we remind any other runners to hand their forms in to either Miss Williamson or Mrs Thorne at the earliest opportunity.

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### Year 6 enjoying maths

The Year 6 girls have been working hard in their maths lessons this week, working in pairs to devise a survey from which to log data. They asked each other questions such as what is their favourite pet, chocolate bar or holiday destination and then tallied the response to create a frequency chart of the information. They presented their numerical data as a pie chart and even included a key to visually represent their findings. Terrific work!

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### Pre-Prep Forest School in the sunshine

The girls in Years 1 and 2 enjoyed another fabulous Forest School session yesterday and they all happily got stuck in to some star wand making and natural art design in the style of Andy Goldsworthy. They even tried their hands at a bit of fire starting, obviously under very close adult supervision!



### Summer Concert



Just a quick reminder that we are hosting our annual Summer Concert next Thursday (10 May) from 7.30pm in the Performing Arts Theatre. Tickets are always at a premium for this as, apart from being fabulous in its own right, it is also the last chance to hear our talented Upper 6 musicians, so we would encourage you to secure yours early in order to avoid disappointment. They can be purchased from School Reception - £4 for an adult, £3 for students. We very much look forward to seeing you on the night!

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### Reply slips for the Gym and Dance Showcase

Rehearsals for the upcoming Junior School Gym and & Dance Showcase next Tuesday 8 May are running very smoothly and this year's edition promises to be another stunning spectacle. The show will start at 14.30 in the Gym with doors opening at 14.10. Due to its popularity, we are limiting tickets to a maximum of two per family but we would urge you to return your reply slips at the earliest opportunity as we will have to cap numbers once all the seats are accounted for (there is no standing room). Slips can be returned to form teachers or please email the Junior Office [helenlloyd@maynard.co.uk](mailto:helenlloyd@maynard.co.uk).



### Gold Duke of Edinburgh awards



Our congratulations to Emma Machell and Georgia Newstead (both Upper 6) who have both successfully completed their gold Duke of Edinburgh awards. We also received news that Old Maynardian, Amy McIntyre (leaver in 2017), was presented with her gold award at St James's Palace by HRH Prince Edward in March.

Unfortunately, it was during the second blast of snow so it turned out to be an eventful few days and trekking through the icy conditions in dresses and heels was quite an unwelcome adventure! Fortunately this didn't taint the day and Amy enjoyed a wonderful and very memorable time.

On which note, may we wish all those training for their gold awards this year the best of luck for their expedition over the weekend.

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Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend!

A handwritten signature in grey ink, which appears to read 'Sarah Dunn'.

Sarah Dunn  
Headmistress

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