

# THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

15 February 2019

What a difference a little sunshine makes and the recent beautiful weather has certainly put a spring into all our strides. Or is everyone feeling especially pepped by the shorter week and the prospect of the half term holiday? Whatever the reason, we have enjoyed a wonderful week with lots to celebrate, not least Valentine's Day yesterday which saw everyone dressed in an especially themed red or pink mufti day. To the nay-says amongst us this might seem somewhat frivolous but the occasion held far deeper connotations in that it was being treated as a charity fundraiser to raise sufficient sums to continue sponsoring an education for one of the little South African girls that our Sports Tour girls were so lucky to meet last summer. Without our support, Raynick's parents would not otherwise be able to afford any form of schooling and I am especially proud that we have pledged to continue sponsoring her for another seven years until she turns 18 and can go out into the world as an educated young lady, ready to make a difference.

We also played host last night to the annual Sixth Form Cocktail Party which is always a glamorous and super fun event – this year being no exception! It's so important that our hard working Sixth Formers are given these wonderful social opportunities to properly let their hair down whilst juggling such a heavy workload. If it's any consolation to the Upper Sixth, and to prove there is light at the end of the proverbial tunnel, their next big school social will be their leaving party to mark the end of exams and a new beginning in the chapter of their lives. And trust me, it may seem ages away but the time will flash by!

Earlier this afternoon, we waved off our Senior School historians on their trip to Berlin and my thanks to Mrs Wilks, Mr Tabb and Mr Loosemore for acting as their guides. Traditionally, this is a fantastic trip to an incredible city and the perfect opportunity to take in the arts and artefacts of somewhere with such a rich cultural history.



Can I also thank Mrs Leigh, Mr Loosemore and the entire Upper 3 team for a really informative evening about wellbeing on Wednesday. From all the feedback, it was clearly a very well received event and we certainly look forward to organising more of these in the future.

In the meantime, may I wish you all a happy and relaxing half term!

On to the week's news ...

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### Fantastic fun on the Saxon trip to Escot

The girls in Year 5 had a fabulous day in the sun yesterday at Wildwood Escot where they enjoyed a series of hands-on Anglo-Saxon activities, rolling up their sleeves and getting stuck into bread making, some foraging, milling, woodwork and dressing up in authentic clothing from the era.

The highlight for many, and an added bonus to the day was being able to watch the wolves and lynx up close.

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### Year 6s in rehearsal for Rome and Juliet performance

The Year 6s have started their rehearsals for their production of Romeo and Juliet at the end of term, and are having enormous fun getting to grips with their roles and responsibilities under the direction of Mr Smerdon. A letter will be sent out to parents with information about dates and timings but, in the meantime, prepare to be wowed!



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### International Women's Day in the Pre-Prep and Junior School



As part of our celebrations of International Women's Day on Friday 8 March, we have written to all parents in the Pre-Prep and Junior School asking them to nominate the women who have most inspired and influenced their lives. However, we would love to hear from anyone, regardless of your daughter's age, so please do feel free to send your nomination to Mr Smerdon ([stevensmerdon@maynard.co.uk](mailto:stevensmerdon@maynard.co.uk)) if you have someone particular in mind for this project.

On the day itself, we are inviting all the Junior School and Pre-Prep girls to wear a purple item of clothing or accessory in support of woman's suffrage and emancipation so please do put the date in your diaries!

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### Sports Leaders hone their techniques

It's a busy time of year for our Upper 5 Sports Leaders and, having spent the Autumn Term developing their leadership skills and behaviours, they are now practising their communication, organisation and motivation techniques whilst teaching Year 2 multi-games at St Leonard's Primary School. This will culminate in hosting a sports festival here at the Maynard at the end of the Spring Term.



It's been a steep learning curve and the girls have made great progress in teaching new activities to a different group of children each week (come rain or shine), and they seem to be really enjoying the experience. A big thank you to St Leonard's for hosting us!

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### Upper 3 Wellbeing Information Evening



The Maynard hosted its first Wellbeing Information Evening this week with really positive feedback from the Upper 3 parents. As one attendee stated, "It was a great evening and I think you are doing wonderful things with the girls."

The evening informed parents of the new Upper 3 PSHE tutor programme which incorporates the 'Living Life to the Full for Young People' - an evidence based

CBT (cognitive behaviour therapy) course designed by Professor Chris Williams from the University of Glasgow. Using simple, accessible language and lots of practical strategies it equips the girls with the life skills to enable them to deal with every day stresses and worries, with the aim to develop their confidence and resilience.

Although we have only just begun the programme, we feel it has the potential to have a huge impact on the girls as they go through the school and we aim to roll out the programme to other year groups in due course.

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### Come along to the special Dick Moore Parent Talk: a truly unforgettable experience

We wrote to all parents earlier in the week inviting you to attend the Dick Moore ([dickmoore.org](http://dickmoore.org)) talk on Friday 1 March (5pm in the Main School Hall and free entry) and we are delighted by the take-up so far! Dick has previously visited the school to talk to students and staff and, such was the impact of his truly memorable talks, we have invited him back by popular demand. For anyone who missed the original letter, details of the talk are below and all we would ask is that you please let us know if you are coming by dropping an email to [marketing@maynard.co.uk](mailto:marketing@maynard.co.uk) Such is the nature of the talk we know it will appeal to a broad audience, not just parents at The Maynard, so do please feel free to invite anyone along!

**"Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, it is about learning to dance in the rain."**



*Who claimed that adolescence is just a phase? Who suggested that being a parent is easy? Dick Moore, the parent of four often errant children and a headmaster for almost 23 years, embarked upon a mission to discover more about what makes young people tick and what he could or should have done during the challenging times! He has a passion for the mental and emotional health and wellbeing of young people and will be exploring how young people think, why adolescence is an especially vulnerable time and about common issues which can arise when the going gets tough. Finally, he will offer some tongue-in-cheek tips for parenthood.....*

*Dick has spoken at over 350 schools, universities, businesses and conferences both in the UK and overseas. He is an instructor for Mental Health First Aid, a trainer for the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust and has attended an ASIST course in suicide intervention. He gave a TEDx talk in April 2015 and a Head Talk in 2018. He has also appeared on BBC Breakfast, BBC Radio 5 Live, various local BBC radio stations and ITN News with Mary Nightingale.*

"...his words were so powerful that I know they will have a long lasting impact on my parenting"

"...by far the best school parents' talk I have been to"

"...your words will stick with me for the rest of my life. I felt at times overwhelmed with sadness and inspired and hopeful."

"Dick Moore has breathed life into a dialogue between me and my son."

"...engaging and informative and powerful and moving and inspirational and very humorous all at the same time."

"I had to use a pair of my golf socks (clean from my handbag!) to wipe the tears! Loved what you said. Loved the message. You could feel the emotion in the room. It would have been easier not to come than to feel all that BUT it was so worth it."

"...what he had to say was life-changing...truly inspirational."

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### Dick Moore student wellbeing talks

In conjunction with the Parents Talk, Dick will be spending the entire day of Friday 1 March at school, delivering a series of specially tailored presentations to all students in the Senior School and Sixth Form. The Years 7 & 8 will have a one hour session in the morning, followed by a separate talk for the Years 9 & 10. He will then break for lunch with our Pastoral Team and Heads of Years before finishing the school day with a 90 minute talk to the Years 11, 12 and 13. We know from experience that these talks have been most beneficial to the girls and we are truly excited to be offering his wisdom and advice once again!

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### Exeter University Law student workshops

We have really enjoyed hosting the Exeter University Law students, who have run a series of three lunchtime workshops for students who are either interested in a career as a lawyer or just in finding out more about the laws of this country. The workshops have been both inspiring and educational. We have



covered why we have laws, scenarios that have tested our understanding of the law, learnt new legal terminology, thought in depth about the problems linked to cyber law, found out how to apply for a law degree and the difference between manslaughter and murder!

We have really enjoyed the sessions and are most grateful for the time and effort put in by the Exeter law students to make them so successful.

They will also be running a Mock Trial on 26 February 2019 to which all students from Lower 5 through to the Sixth Form are invited. Come along and find out about what it would be like to be a barrister questioning witnesses, examining evidence and delivering a verdict. The Mock Trial begins at 4.15pm, straight after school and will run until approximately 5.45pm.

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### A-level Art trip to London

At what felt like the crack of dawn on a chilly Saturday morning the Lower 6 and Upper 6 Art students assembled at the train station. Despite the hour, they were unremittably bright eyed and bushy tailed, eager to experience the cultural feast that lay ahead.

On arrival the girls explored the Tate Modern, the Upper 6 looking for exam inspiration whilst the Lower 6 were seeking insights and stimulation for coursework. Everyone went to the Pierre Bonnard exhibition. Bonnard was one of the great colourists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, imaginatively capturing the spirit of a moment and expressing it through his unique handling of colour and innovative sense of composition. Without exception, they all found much food for thought in the paintings, and afterwards returned to the vast and disparate thought-provoking delights of the many other collections housed at the Tate Modern.



We walked back along the Southbank, soaking in the busy atmosphere, people- watching, pasta- tasting and photographing the skaters in the park. The girls were surprisingly still full of beans and didn't wilt until we were curled up on the train home, (temporarily) tired but sated.

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### Fleur Hitchcock author visit



We are very excited to be welcoming Fleur Hitchcock to the school on Friday 15 March as part of our celebrations for World Book Day the week earlier. Fleur will be running workshops and giving a talk to the Lower 3, Upper 3, Year 6 and Year 5 students. We are delighted that the wonderful Education Outreach people at Crediton Community Bookshop will be supplying books for sale for this event, at a discount of 20%. Please could parents/guardians of girls in those classes look out for a letter which contains information about ordering books in advance, to be signed by the author on the day.

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### Accelerated Reader quiz reminder

Upper 3 and Year 6 girls are steaming ahead with Accelerated Reader, and so far we have 10 'word millionaires'!

Upper 3 girls can take their Accelerated Reader quizzes at home, so if they finish a book during the half term break, they don't need to wait until they return to school to take their quiz. We request that you ensure your daughter does not have her book with her when doing the quiz, to avoid the temptation to look!

The link to the school's Accelerated Reader website is: <https://ukhosted95.renlearn.co.uk/6700648/>  
The link to the Accelerated Reader Bookfinder website is: <http://www.arbookfind.co.uk>  
and if you enter the keycode QI659339 and search for a book, the Bookfinder will show whether we have it in the school library.

The full school library online catalogue is available here: <https://u010256.microlibrarian.net>  
Accelerated Reader information is shown for the books in the scheme. You do not need to log on to search the catalogue, but students can log on using their Maynard credentials to reserve books, write reviews, and check which books they have borrowed.

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### More cracking netball results!

Well done to all our many teams who have been out sporting the Maynard blue (and pink) this week.

The entire Year 5 played local rivals, Exeter Cathedral School, on Monday topping off some excellent play with equally fantastic results. The Under 10A won 6-3 whilst the Under 10B team posted an impressive 12-0 victory to consolidate just how much they have improved during the season so far!

We are also very proud of our Under 12 A&B team for working incredibly hard in tight and competitive matches against Exeter School on Tuesday. After suffering heavy defeats to them last year the girls were anticipating a tough, physical game. However, they all played out of their skins to show how much progress they've made with a very narrow defeat for the As of 10-11 in a brilliantly contested game, and a fantastic well deserved win for the U12Bs with a score of 12-4.

Equally, the Under 14 A & B teams were very dominant in their both matches against Exeter School on Wednesday, winning 45-10 and 30-10 respectively. This is a really talented, focused and hardworking group of girls as proven by these brilliant results.

The Under 15 B team also enjoyed a competitive game versus Exeter School but weren't able to continue the Maynard winning streak on this occasion, albeit a closely fought game that culminated in a 17-10 defeat. Likewise, our much depleted senior teams had very tough games against Truro school on Tuesday with only one managing to secure victory against these, our most competitive local rivals. Well



done to all those girls for giving their time and 100% effort – we always appreciate your commitment in representing the school so whole heartedly. Thank you!

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### Emma Declerck storms the Devon County Swimming Championships



Huge congratulations to Emma Declerck (Upper 3) who was super impressive at last weekend's Devon County Swimming Championships, scooping a total of six individual medals whilst also breaking her personal best in every race!

She won silver in the 200m and 50m backstroke and four bronzes for the 50m freestyle, 50m backstroke, the 100m breaststroke and the 100m individual medley. Not only that, but she also posted seven regional qualifying times and three regional consideration times despite the incredibly stiff competition from swimmers across the county! We are very much looking forward to seeing her in the pool when representing The Maynard in the Summer Term galas!

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### The drive to personal fitness steps up a beat

It is truly great to see so many of our girls enjoying their exercise, whether it be on a competitive platform or purely for individual fitness and wellbeing purposes. The body pump class with the senior girls on a Tuesday afternoon is proving a massive hit ... if somewhat sweaty! Likewise, the new Health and Fitness Suite is constantly busy and personal trainer, Chris, is certainly putting the girls through their paces and pushing them to their limits – which they are all loving!



### Come along to the MPA quiz night

The ever-popular and hugely competitive MPA Quiz Night returns again on Friday March 29 and we would love to see you all there! It's always a cracking night, with a bar, fish and chip van and plenty of hilarity. So please do come along and either join a team or bring your own!

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### Spread the word about our Forest School

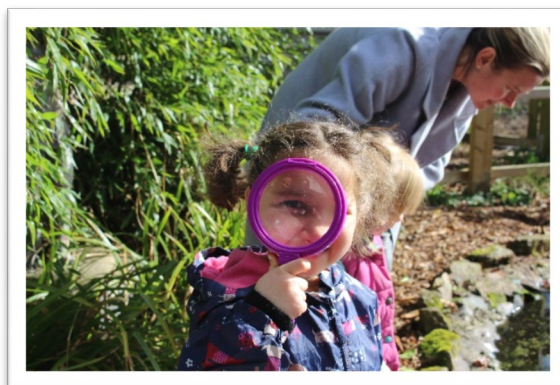
Our Forest School sessions are starting again on Wednesday 27 February 2019 with a five-week course open to all girls aged three and four.

Our beautiful city centre Forest School is situated on site here at The Maynard in a safe and compact area specifically adapted to suit the needs of every little explorer! Sessions will be run by Mrs Davey, our trained Forest School Leader and Mrs Riley, our Reception teacher.



These Pre-School lessons will run for five consecutive Tuesdays starting on 27 February (from 9.15am – 10.15am) and will take place whatever the weather – so please wear waterproofs and wellies!

Sessions are child-led and involve a lot of exploring and discovering nature, as well as activities such as helping to build a fire and using simple tools and natural materials for craft activities. We also take part in group stories and games, and there will be lots of hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows to keep us warm!



The course costs £25 per child and places are limited. Book online at [www.maynard.co.uk/forest-school](http://www.maynard.co.uk/forest-school)

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### Don't miss Discovery Morning!



Registration is now open for our next Discovery Morning on Saturday 9 March from 9.30am – 11.30am. Come and join us for a Celebration of the Oceans!

Our Discovery Mornings are exciting, interactive and fantastic fun! The school will be a hive of activity with a range of workshops on offer – from ballet, yoga and Forest School to art & craft, science experiments and coding.

This is a fantastic opportunity to experience the Maynard way of life, and find out more about what

it's like to be a part of our wonderful, happy and successful school.

All girls aged 3-11 years are welcome and sessions will be split into different age groups. A great way to spend a Saturday Morning! Discovery Mornings are free of charge.

Register online at [www.maynard.co.uk/discovery](http://www.maynard.co.uk/discovery). We look forward to seeing you!

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With our roving correspondent enjoying the start of half term today, we leave you this week with these gorgeous photos of the choux pastry swans that the Lower 4 created in their bake-off module this week. They almost look too good to eat .... but then we know this wasn't the case!





Have a lovely weekend!



Sarah Dunn  
Headmistress



**PERFORMING ARTS  
SPRING CONCERT**

**SPACE - THE FINAL FRONTIER**

Featuring such hits as: Moon River, Fly me to the Moon and Defying Gravity

**THURSDAY 21 MARCH 2019 AT 7.30PM**

Tickets on sale from Reception  
(£4 for adults and £2 for students)



 THE  
MAYNARD  
SCHOOL

**KEYNOTE 'ADVENTURE' LECTURE**

**ANNA MCNUFF**

**MONDAY 18 MARCH, 6PM**

**TICKETS £8**

PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

ANNA HAS BEEN NAMED BY THE  
GUARDIAN AS ONE OF THE TOP FEMALE  
ADVENTURERS OF OUR TIME, AND CONDE  
NAST TRAVELLER HAVE RECENTLY  
INCLUDED HER IN A LIST OF THE 50 MOST  
INFLUENTIAL TRAVELLERS IN THE WORLD.

THE LECTURE IS OPEN TO ALL ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN YEAR 7 AND ABOVE.



THE  
MAYNARD  
SCHOOL



THE  
MAYNARD  
SCHOOL  
EXETER

THE SENIOR SCHOOL PRESENTS...

THE CAUCASIAN  
Chalk Circle

6-8 March 2019 - 7pm  
Performing Arts Centre  
Tickets £7 (Adult), £5 (Child)

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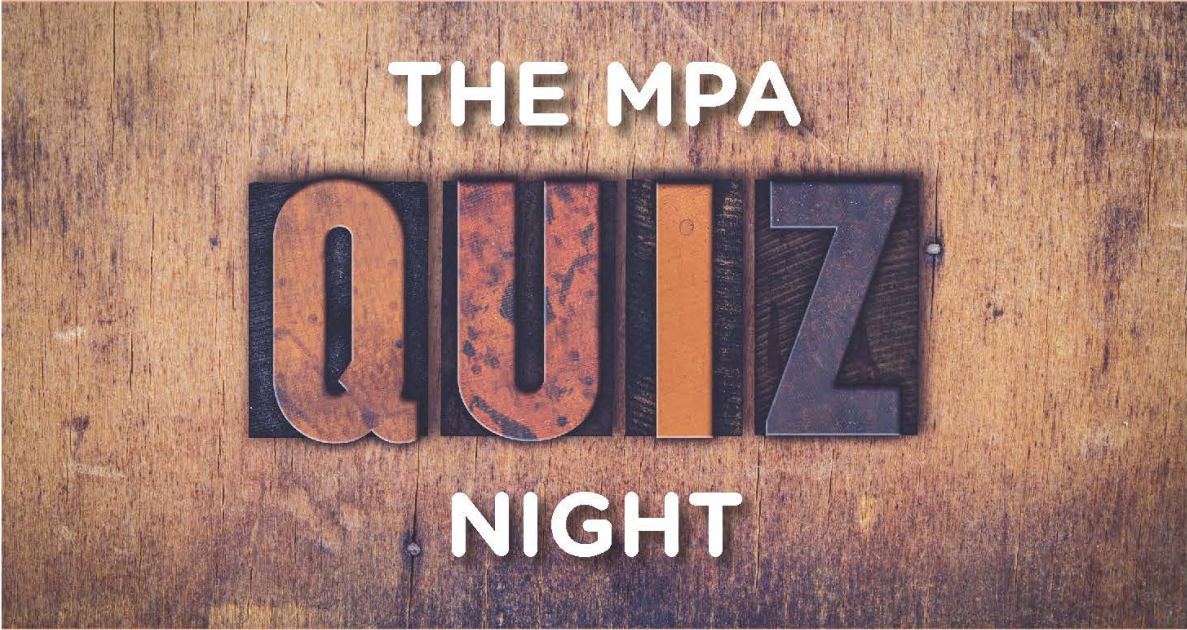
*A fantastic and fast moving play which follows the story of a young girl who makes a radical decision to rescue a baby from a war-torn city, and raises questions about the choices people make in times of need and peril.*

***'Terrible is the temptation to do good'***

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The Caucasian Chalk Circle (tr. McGuinness)  
The Caucasian Chalk Circle by Bertolt Brecht.  
Translated by Frank McGuinness





# THE MPA QUIZ NIGHT

**Friday 29th March 2019**  
7pm for 7.30pm start in the  
Performing Arts Centre  
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](https://www.classlist.com)).  
Alternatively please fill in the form attached.