

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

28 February 2020

May I wish you all a very warm welcome back to this half of term! For those of you who, like me, are feeling totally sick of the damp and dismal British weather may I buoy your spirits with this small chink of positivity: In just over four weeks we will finally have hit British Summer Time with the lighter evenings and, we hope, some sunny weather!

On the flip side, however, it does mean that we do have a great deal to fit in during this next half of term, especially for those who will be sitting their GCSEs or A-levels starting in May. Additional revision classes have already started in earnest and there will be more added during our long lunchtimes so I would urge everyone to seize these invaluable opportunities. Equally, if you or your daughter have any concerns or just need a little extra help with something, we are all here to help so please don't hesitate to ask.

That aside, I was delighted to hear that the ski trip to Austria during half term was such an enormous success and I am hugely relieved that everyone returned in one piece having had such fun. My thanks to those staff (Mrs Thorne, Miss Lavelle, Mrs York and Dr Rudling) who enabled the trip to happen by accompanying the girls and so ably creating such a relaxed and brilliant time for them all!

Our next big community event is the MPA Quiz Night taking place on Friday 6 March 2020 which is always a truly fabulous and fun packed night out, so please do come along and join us at what is also an important fundraiser for the school. I have to confess that I am always super impressed by all of the teams taking part and I know many of the staff are busily swatting up on their trivia in a bid to regain the title they surrendered in 2018! There's nothing competitive about that lot at all! Teams can sign up via Classlist or the attached form but, if you are short on numbers, the MPA can always slot you in with another team. As ever, there will be a fish and chip interval as well as a bar serving both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. I hope to see you there!





Our Under 18 Hockey team will be travelling up to the Olympic Park on Monday for the National Finals the following day. This is a really big deal and I wish them all the luck in the world for this major event. It is such an achievement to have even qualified through to this stage and I am sure that competing on a national stage at such a prestigious venue will be something they will remember for a very long time!

On to the week's news.

More brilliant Biz Whizz talks

We were treated to another fine set of careers talks by three brilliant speakers earlier this afternoon and our thanks to Dr Ceri Lewis, Dr Clare Leonard and our very own, Elise Hartopp, for their fascinating insights into their career histories so far. Ceri spoke to a packed room of girls wanting to find out more about her life as a Marine Biologist whose research centres on the impact of global changes and microplastic pollution in far flung corners of the world. She has also been a scientific advisor to the Blue Planet series as well as a recent documentary entitled 'Drowning in Plastic'.



Clare drew a select group of inquisitive girls eager to find out more about how she combines a love of food with a more scientific approach as the Global Director of Nutrition Science and Innovation at the Coca Cola Company. The girls certainly came away enlightened and inspired to follow their dreams and seek employment at similarly prestigious brands with all the benefits this involves.

As ever, teaching proved a popular topic and it was no surprise that Miss Hartopp drew such a large crowd to find out more about the profession. With her abundance of enthusiasm, it is no wonder that the girls left feeling inspired to follow in the footsteps of so many Old Maynardians who have since gone into teaching after leaving The Maynard - no doubt, the great teachers they encountered here were very influential in these choices!

We have only one more Biz Whizz session remaining for this academic year (on Friday 20 March) with another fascinating line up of speakers including a probation officer, the CEO of a major engineering company, a former human rights lawyer and now the curator of TedxExeter and a sports physiotherapist for the Exeter Chiefs.

Our enormous thanks, as ever, to everyone who has so willingly volunteered their time to share their professional experiences and, if you are reading this and would like to provide an insight into your career in the coming academic year, please do contact rachaelboard@maynard.co.uk

Year 5 trip to Escot

The Year 5 girls enjoyed a great day out at Escot House on the Thursday before half term where they enjoyed learning all about life in Anglo Saxon times as part of their new classroom topic.

They had the opportunity to carve words using runes, they ground flour and made bread. They also dressed up as Anglo Saxons and went into the forge to create their own Anglo Saxon piece of jewellery.

In the afternoon the girls met some of the animals at Escot including some wolves and a pair of lynx cats. Some of the girls also had a turn on the terrifying drop slide!



Final preps go well for the Under 18 Hockey team

The U18s had a great final training match against Exeter College on Tuesday in advance of their Tier 4 National Schools Hockey Finals next week. We wish the girls the best of luck for the tournament and congratulate them on all of their hard work to get to this stage of the competition.

Successful Junior School Swimming Gala

The Junior School Swimming Gala took place on Wednesday afternoon with all of Years 3-6 participating. The girls were superb; they swam brilliantly, provided excellent support for each other and showed real perseverance!

The results were as follows:

- 1st Haberdashers (161 points)
- 2nd Armourers (146 points)
- 3rd Merchants (135 points)
- 4th Goldsmiths (97 points)





Records were also broken by the following girls:

Sarah P - Y6 1 length freestyle

Sarah P - Y6 1 length breaststroke

Lydia H - Y6 Individual Medley

Our congratulations to them all for such camaraderie and sportsmanship!

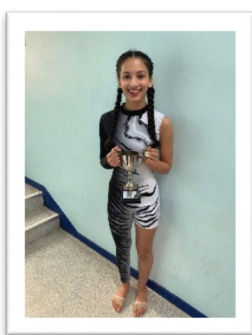
Junior School sports news

We had another busy afternoon on the netball courts yesterday with all of Year 3 and 4 playing competitive 'Bee Netball' at three different venues.

The Year 4 teams were at Exeter School playing against the hosts, St. Peter's and Exeter Cathedral in a high 5 tournament; it was so lovely to have some sunshine for a change. The girls really enjoyed themselves and are starting to play some really lovely netball - connecting their passes well, moving nicely and some fabulous shooting meant they had a super successful afternoon all round!



We are busy next week with X-country, more netball matches and also rehearsing for the Junior School Ballet and Modern Dance Showcase which is on Monday 9 March at 2pm in the Gym. Please do come along and prepare to be wowed!



Hannah scoops modern dance trophy

Congratulations to Hannah (Upper 4) who competed last Sunday against 37 other performers for the Martinovic Cup, a modern dance competition for dancers aged 13 - 21 years.

Following some very stiff competition, she was awarded first place with a mark of 87 out of 90. Very well done, Hannah!

Unable to make the bus?

We would be very grateful if you could give the school bus driver advance warning if your daughter will not be catching the bus in the mornings through illness or medical appointments. It would also be much appreciated when emailing school for request for absence if you could include a note to say that your daughter will not be on the bus so we can also relay the information to the driver. This is to prevent unnecessary delays which result in the other bus users potentially arriving late to school. Many thanks in advance!

More lost property ...

We are witnessing increased amounts of lost property at school, particularly in Bradley Hall. Our frequent reminders to check for any mislaid items seems to be falling on deaf ears so we would very much appreciate your support should your daughter return home without something. Please could you ask them to, in the first instance, check where they might have left it and if it still cannot be located, go to the school office where Mrs Drake will do her best to help.

We would also very much appreciate it if all items can be clearly named so we know who everything belongs to and then can make sure lost property is safely returned to the owner.

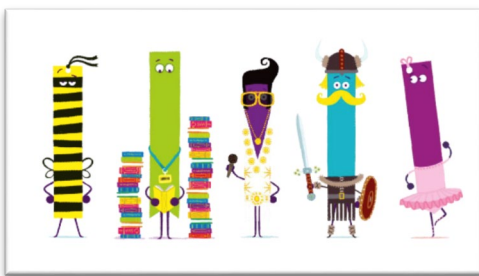
Date for your diary - Maynard's Got Talent

The much loved and incredibly entertaining Maynard's Got Talent will take place on Thursday 19 March in the Performing Arts Centre from 6pm. Organised by the South Africa Sports Tour girls, this is an important fundraiser with the money used to sponsor a young SA girl's education which her family wouldn't otherwise be able to afford.



Not only that, but it is a fantastic night out, showcasing some excellent acts that wouldn't normally be seen in the public eye - and there is always a good smattering of staff members in on the action! So please encourage your daughters to sign up either individually or with friends and do come along for a rip roaring night of brilliant talent mixed with the absurd and hilarious!

Get caught reading competition - celebrating World Book Day



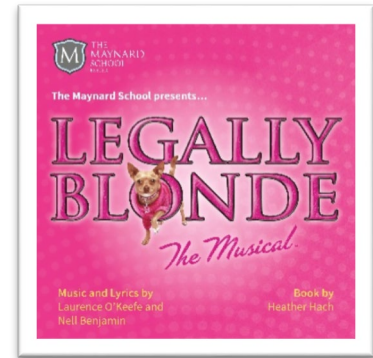
We are very much looking forward to celebrating World Book Day on 5 March, with our always fantastic Maynard School dress-up-your-door-as-a-book-cover competition, a staff photo competition, craft activities, a token for a World Book Day book for every girl, and the results of our whole school photo competition, 'Get Caught Reading'. As part of the celebrations, Crediton Community Bookshop will be bringing their Top Reads book fair to the library on Thursday 12 March (suitable for Y5 upwards).

There is still time to enter 'Get Caught Reading' and the closing date for entries is Monday 2 March. We've had some fantastic entries so far, including girls reading while sitting in trees, climbing, on skiing holidays, doing gymnastics and many more. There are several prizes up for grabs so please do send in your entries.

The photos should be emailed to Mrs Bean or Mrs Hourihan (Senior School) or Miss Lloyd (Junior School). The closing date is Monday 2 March and the winners will be announced on or soon after World Book Day.

Legally Blonde – almost sold out!

Tickets have flown out the door for our school production of Legally Blonde at The Barnfield Theatre (11 – 13 March 2020). Friday night has already sold out and very few tickets remain for the Wednesday and Thursday evening performances so, if you haven't done so already, do be quick to purchase your ticket from www.barnfieldtheatre.org.uk.



Have a great weekend!



Sarah Dunn
Headmistress
