

Mabel Prichard School

Weekly Newsletter

Message from the Headteacher

15th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Today we have had great fun raising money for comic relief. Thank you to those of you who donated money and supported our fundraising activities. There are pictures later in the newsletter, with some further detail of all the fun. If you would still like to donate, please use our link on: https://www.justgiving.com/page/mabel-prichard-1709295201243?utm_term=k9KQ9R955

We are about to start decorating our Ox from our previous fundraiser in aid of Sobell House. We will send pictures of the progress of the decoration over the coming week. You will be able to see the final Ox in the trail with the rest of its family, decorated by other schools in Oxford. We will keep you posted about when and how you can see the whole colourful herd.

Staffing updates

As shared earlier in the term, we say goodbye to our Assistant Head Teacher, Alex Wilson at Easter. He will be replaced by Kate Bishop, who is coming from Northern House, another Gallery Trust School. She joins the senior leadership team as Lead Practitioner for Practice and Pedagogy, and will continue with Alex's work on the Annual Reviews, as well as supporting staff with professional development.

We have been very fortunate to secure an additional leadership role, and after Easter we welcome Victoria (Tor) Broadley as Deputy Head Teacher, who joins us from Kingfisher School in Abingdon. She brings considerable leadership experience, having led the Kingfisher sensory pathway and careers education. She will lead our 14-19 pathway, including careers, and will support Alison Martin with leadership and improvement of teaching and learning across the school.

We are also saying goodbye to Annie Hawkins, our Titanium class teacher and 14-19 lead, who is moving to North Devon. Titanium class will be taught by Laura Hutton, who families and learners know, as Laura already works in the class. Our new Deputy Head, Tor Broadley, will also teach in the class a day a week and will work closely with Laura as part of her 14-19 leadership role.

After Easter, we also welcome Alice Stober as a class teacher, who joins us with experience as a mainstream and special school teacher, having worked at Iffley Academy. Alice will go into Bronze, to teach alongside Emily Andrews until the end of May, when she will go on maternity leave.

We wish Alex and Annie all the best and thank them for all their hard work over the years. I would also like to extend these good wishes and thanks to Zoe Franklin, who has worked as a TA with us since 2019 and leaves us on Friday 22nd March. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our new staff and we will be in touch early in the summer term with details of opportunities for you to meet them.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone.

With all good wishes

Lucy

Coming up:

Wednesday
27th March

Students break up
for Easter at 2.50pm

Thursday
28th March

Inset day. No
students on site.

April 15th
Students return to
school

Member of the



Skills Builder
PARTNERSHIP



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

News from the Classrooms

Orange Class

Orange class has had some great classroom improvements and the learners have enjoyed the new environment. We have a new reading den, which has been a new favourite corner in the classroom. We have also enjoyed the rotating books on the shelf and having a lovely daily storytime.



Our quiet room has also had a make over, and is now our own sensory room, with a bubble panel and neon gel floor squares. There is more to come but for now Orange class have loved the new toys and activities to explore. We also have a great new sensory table that lights up and it has been great fun playing in it with water and foam.



News from the Classrooms

Gold Class

Gold class are well and truly embracing the run up to spring. Never wanting to let the rain dampen our spirits, we have been busy splashing in puddles, twirling under umbrellas, and tasting raindrops as they fall on our tongues. Our artists have taken some inspiration from the flowers in our sensory garden and have been painting their own flowers to brighten up our classroom. In our cooking lessons we have enjoyed sharing some sweet treats with each other, and our musical talents have been showcased by some very enthusiastic drum beats and dance moves in our music sessions.



Our weekly trips to Rosie's Cafe have given us lots of chances to make positive selections, communicate our choices, purchase items, and enjoy sharing snacks with friends from across lots of different classes. We would like to say a very big thank you to Titanium's excellent team of baristas for all their hard work.



The Annual Consumer Challenge

Yesterday, Julian, Jamie, Libbie, and McKenzie formed the school's team to participate in the annual Consumer Challenge. This quiz is organised for SEN schools in Oxfordshire to test their knowledge about consumer rights. The team performed exceptionally well by answering some tricky questions and securing third place.

The rest of the class enthusiastically supported them throughout the competition, waving their banners and cheering them on. They also created our team's mascot, which won the mascot competition.





HEADTEACHER'S
AWARDS



Short Breaks

Please find below links to the March Short Breaks newsletters.



[Short Breaks Update for Families with Disabled Children and Young People March 24](#)

[Short Breaks update - Parent/Carer Support Groups](#)

Keeping Safe Online



Parents & carers

Advice for parents and carers to help support children and young people in their safe and responsible use of the internet.

 Childnet

[Childnet](#)



Homepage

Working with online safety experts, we're here to provide parents & carers with guidance, advice and support to keep children safe online

 Internet Matters /

[Internet Matters](#)



Parents and Carers

Tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your child safe online

 UK Safer Internet Centre

[Safer Internet](#)



Parents and carers | CEOP Education

Access information and resources for parents and carers on keeping your child safer online including...

 thinkuknow.co.uk

[ThinkuKnow](#)



Keeping children safe online

Learn more about children's online safety. Advice and support to help you learn about staying safe online as a family.

 NSPCC

[NSPCC](#)