



# MPS Head's Newsletter

Reflecting the Kingdom of God by Enriching and Transforming Lives

## Summer Term

Changes to  
previous  
newsletters  
are in green

May	
4th	Bank Holiday - no school
6th	Archdeacon of Wandsworth Collective Worship visit Earth Day entries deadline – The Power to Grow, Reuse and Save
8th	2.30pm Share my Earth Day – parents welcome
11th – 15th	SATS Week National Tests for all Year 6 children <b>No Rock Steady</b> - will be a different day
11th	Year 5 Relationships, Sex Education (Session 1) Year 4 swimming
12th	Year 1 and 2 Trip to Wisley Gardens
15th	8.40am PTA Meeting Founders Day Chetwynd Stapleton's Birthday
18th	Year 5 Relationships, Sex Education (Session 2) Year 4 swimming
20th	British Wildlife Photograph Competition deadline – to be judged by Yr 6 captains
22nd	Rainbow Own Clothes Day School ends at 3.15/3.20pm
<b>25th to 29th May - Half Term</b>	

### A Note on Mindful Parking & Community Respect

As we head into the bank holiday weekend, we would like to share an important reminder regarding parking around the school gates. Unfortunately, we were informed of an incident this week involving a parent and one of our neighbours concerning driveway access.

We want to ensure our students arrive and leave school in a safe and harmonious environment. We kindly ask that all parents avoid blocking or partially obstructing private driveways, as even a brief stop can prevent residents from leaving for work or attending to emergencies. It is equally important to refrain from parking on yellow lines or mounting pavements, as these actions significantly reduce visibility and create unnecessary hazards for our pupils.

Our school prides itself on teaching children the value of courtesy, and we ask that our parent body models this same behaviour when interacting with our neighbours. We aim to be a school that the local community is proud to host, and we can only achieve this with your continued cooperation. Thank you to the vast majority of our families who already park safely and thoughtfully every day; your consideration is greatly appreciated.

### Lunches

To help our kitchen team prepare, please remember to order your child's lunch via ParentPay by the evening before. You can easily verify your order by looking for the green highlighted days on your calendar.

We have a very limited number of spare meals available each day, so pre-ordering is the best way to ensure your child gets their preferred choice.

**PTA meeting - Friday 15th May** - come along to hear all about our fundraising plans for the summer term, as well as the chance to hear about how you can be involved with the Family Fun Day.

Malden Parochial PTA  
[ptamaldenparochial@gmail.com](mailto:ptamaldenparochial@gmail.com)

## Educational Excellence at Malden Parochial What is happening in schools these days?

### Our Smartphone-Free Policy & The Role of Learning Apps

As we continue to build a focused and vibrant environment for all our pupils, we want to address a topic that often comes up in our digital age: our smartphone-free policy for children and how it coexists with our recommendation of certain educational apps.

We recognise that it may seem like a juxtaposition to be "anti-smartphone" while being "pro-app." However, this distinction is at the very heart of how we teach our pupils to navigate the modern world.

Our policy is not about rejecting technology; it is about choosing the right environment for that technology to be used.

#### Why We Are "Smartphone-Free"

The decision to keep our school a smartphone-free zone is driven by our commitment to your child's mental wellbeing, academic success and prolonging their childhood by not embracing social media.

#### Why We Still Support Learning Apps

While we do not support pupils having personal smartphones, we find that specific digital applications offer immense benefits. The difference lies in the intent of the software:

- Active vs. Passive: Social media is designed for passive "scrolling." In contrast, the apps we suggest (for mathematics and phonics) require pupils to be active participants, solving problems and building skills.
- Utility vs. Addiction: Unlike social media, which uses "infinite scroll" to keep users online, educational apps have clear lesson end-points. They are tools to be picked up, used, and then put away.
- Safe Growth: The apps we recommend are closed systems. They provide the benefits of the digital age - instant feedback and interactive learning - without the risks of public broadcasting or cyberbullying.

### Musical and Djembe Drumming Workshop

The Sounds of the Musicals session was a masterclass in performance, even those who I thought would be reluctant, joined in and loved it. It wasn't just about dancing; it was about finding the character behind the lyrics. The instructor created such a supportive environment that everyone, regardless of their experience level, felt comfortable to give their all.

There is something deeply grounding and exhilarating about playing in a drum circle. We learned complex polyrhythms that, at first, seemed impossible, but Martin broke them down so naturally that we were playing as a cohesive unit within minutes, even Nursery participated.

Many thanks to the PTA for funding these two workshops.



### London Mini Marathon

A massive well done to our incredible students who took part in the London Mini Marathon this past Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April!

Running alongside 20,000 other children through the streets of London is no small feat, and seeing our pupils tackle the course with such energy and determination was truly inspiring. Every participant has been awarded a finisher's medal to mark their achievement, and they should be incredibly proud of the determination they showed from start to finish.



### A Request to Year 6 Families

As we prepare for the end of the school year, we know many of our pupils are excited to start secondary school. However, we also know some families are still waiting for a confirmed place, which can be an anxious time.

If your child has secured a place, you are happy with, please formally release any additional offers you may still be holding by notifying the local authority admissions team.

Releasing unwanted offers immediately helps:

- Free up places for other children in our school community.
- Reduce uncertainty for families on waiting lists.
- Ensure a smoother transition for everyone ahead of upcoming move-on days.

Even a few released places can make a life-changing difference to those still waiting. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Councillor Diane White visited today and enjoyed collective worship and a tour of the school. We used the fingers on our hands to pray. I wonder if your child can tell you what that looks like? We talked about 'being in it to win it'. We hope your child will enter their Earth Day invention as well as the photography competition.



Thank you to everyone at  
.....**MALDEN PAROCHIAL SCHOOL**.....  
for raising  
.....**£71.00**.....  
We are so grateful for your support and  
generosity. The money raised will help to change  
childhoods across the UK.

*K Fudge*  
Katie Fudge  
School Fundraising Manager

**THANK YOU!**



**#NumberDay**



Number Day is supported by Maths Circle and Oxford University Press, led by NSPCC.

**EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR**

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"We are excited to serve as a pilot school for this new messaging service, designed to streamline the information you receive about school activities. Please use the [feedback form](#) to express your interest. Thank you!

**QDrop**

## The Right Answers, Right Now.

**Parent communication that finally works.**  
Reduce admin overheads, calm those noisy WhatsApp groups and reach every parent in their language, even those who never check their email.

**QDrop**  
Yes, it's on the back field at 4pm

**Lisa**  
Is there football practice today?

**Lisa**  
When do I need to pick them up?

**QDrop**  
At the main gate at 5.30pm

### How it works

**For Schools**  
Share the documents, calendars and emails, you want parents to be able to access, with QDrop.

**For Parents**  
Drop your question in your personal QDrop WhatsApp channel for an instant, verified answer in any language.

**Benefits to schools**

- No more misinformation
- Reach every parent
- Quiet the 'toxic' group chats

**Benefits to parents**

- Instant answers 24/7
- Multilingual
- Stress free school info access

**Simple and Secure. Your Data, Your Rules.**

Manage everything from a central dashboard in a GDPR-compliant environment designed specifically for the education sector's high-security requirements.

[hello@qdrop.com](mailto:hello@qdrop.com)

**JOIN OUR BETA**

[qdrop.com](http://qdrop.com)

We are proud to announce that Hadley has been awarded a Distinction in the final round of competition, earning her the prestigious title of Archimedes Fellow. Well done!

### Good Work Bags given out this week

- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
|           | Year 4 |
| Reception | • Owen |
| • Siheon  |        |
| • Elise   |        |

### 25, 50, 100, 125, 150, 175 and 200 Reads Completed!

Mieke (4)	Caden (R)
Suanne (4)	Ayana (R)
Finn (4)	Phoebe (R)
Ibby (4)	Luca (R)
Charlie (4)	James (R)
Aiyla (3)	Alba (R)
Olly (3)	Olivia (R)
Owen (4)	Owen (R)
Erin M (4)	Eli (1)
Elise (R)	Thomas (1)
Verity (R)	Zayd (1)
Mabli (R)	Renza (1)
Aydin (R)	Jack (1)
Enoch (R)	
Kendra (R)	
Adam (R)	

### Celebration Station

Congratulations this week's Class Stars! (Y6) Archie (4) Aiden (3) (Y2) Thansiya (1) Finn (R) Ivy

We also had children receive Values and Bee A Blessing certificates. Aylan, Ayla, Araya, Nathan, Alissiana-Rose, Owen, Sophie

Well done everyone!



**MPS Feedback Form** – [click here](#) if you would like to give any feedback or comments to share with Mrs McMullan. If you would like a response, please leave your name so we can get back to you.



# ONLINE FOOD ALLERGEN & INTOLERANCE FORM

At Caterlink the safety of our pupils is our number one priority, and we take catering for customers with food allergies and intolerances very seriously.

The below information details how to complete our online form for pupils who require a special diet menu due to allergens, intolerances or medical conditions.

**STEP 1** You can request a special diet menu by completing our online Allergy & Intolerance Form – [CTL – Food Allergy & Intolerance Form V2](#)

This needs to be submitted with supporting medical evidence from an NHS professional (a GP/consultant or registered dietitian). This can be a letter, copy of medical notes, an Allergy Action Plan signed by a medical professional or a screenshot from the NHS app. Medical evidence is an industry-wide requirement, recommended by the Lead Association for Catering in Education (LACA).

Please ensure that when you enter the school name that the unit number and postcode listed are correct for your school.

**STEP 2** Whilst waiting to see if a special diet menu has been approved any children with food allergies or intolerances can be provided with a 'safe meal' – jacket potato with baked beans, vegetables and fresh fruit salad (if suitable for the pupil's allergies).

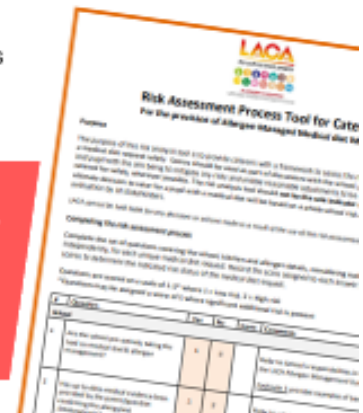
If you would like your child to have a 'safe meal' please let your school know.

**STEP 3** The Caterlink team will review the request and check that it is safe to cater for using the LACA Special Diet Risk Analysis Process for Caterers where required. The risk analysis looks at the pupil's requirements, the medical evidence, the capability of the kitchen facilities and the school environment to determine if the request is low, medium or high risk.

**STEP 4** If deemed safe to cater for by our Caterlink nutrition team will then develop the special diet menu, with at least one suitable meal option daily. This can take up to four weeks from receiving all of the information required.

Should your child's allergies or intolerances change, you should request the link from the school and choose 'Updated Request'.

If your child has become allergic or intolerant to additional foods, please ring the school immediately and request a safe meal.





## Burlington Junior Governor Vacancy

**Give a little time, make a big difference**

We are looking for volunteers to join our Governing Body and help us continue to make our school the very best it can be. Being a governor is a rewarding way to support children's education and bring your skills to benefit the whole school community. Whether your background is in finance, HR, law, education, business, or community work – or you simply have enthusiasm and commitment – we'd love to hear from you! Full training and support are provided. If you're interested, please contact [clerk@burlingtonjunior.org](mailto:clerk@burlingtonjunior.org) or visit our website [Governor Vacancy](#)



# May Half Term

26th to 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026

AM

PM

Mon

Closed for Bank Holiday

Tues

Space  
Cadet

Ultimate  
Frisbee

Lego  
Adventures

Dodgeball

Weds

Messy  
Mayhem

Sports  
Action

Sublime  
Slime

Mini  
Olympics

Thurs

Origami

Cricket

Jewellery  
Making

Tag  
Rugby

Fri

Pottery

Sports  
Action

Fun Day Friday

Book through our website

<https://fun-fest.co.uk/kingston/>  
<https://fun-fest.co.uk/worcesterpark/>

For more information phone 07359380777

Scan me for Websites



Kingston  
University  
London

Developing  
Minds  
*Exploring Cognitive Diversity*

Calling all young minds!



# YOUNG SCIENTISTS EVENT 2026



27th-28th May



We invite you and your children (ages 6-16) to join us at Kingston University for an exciting half-day of hands-on activities and a glimpse into the world of developmental psychology.



For further information and to book - please scan:



or visit:

<https://www.kingston.ac.uk/about/events/young-scientists-2026>



### **Applications are open to join the Royal Ballet and Opera's Youth Opera Programmes.**

We are inviting young singers aged 8–11 (on 1 September 2026), to apply to join our **Young Voices** programme and **Youth Opera Company** this September. Applications close at **midnight on Sunday 10 May**.

Both programmes are **free** and offer an exciting opportunity for young people to develop their singing, performance skills, and confidence.



#### **Young Voices (Ages 8-9)**

A six-month singing training programme developing vocal skills and musical understanding, with performance opportunities in showcases at the Royal Opera House.

#### **Youth Opera Company (ages 9–11)**

A multi-year programme offering all-round training in the performing arts. Members develop vocal technique, language, stagecraft, musical literacy and creative skills. They also have opportunities to create and perform their own new operas, and to audition for the Children's Chorus, who perform in productions on the Royal Opera House main stage.

#### **Schedule and location**

Sessions take place on **Saturdays during term time** at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, with additional and extended sessions around performance opportunities.

Young Voices: 10:00–12:00 (September–Easter)

Youth Opera Company: 13:00–16:00

#### **Current members say:**

*"It has been one of the most amazing experiences of my life. Before I joined YOC, I was a bit hesitant about opera, but I now really enjoy it!"*

— **2025 Youth Opera Company member**

*"YOC is really special because I've met lots of other young people who like singing, like me. I've also loved performing on the Royal Opera main stage in The Magic Flute and in Hansel and Gretel."*

— **2026 Youth Opera Company member**

#### **Find out more and apply here: RBO Youth Opera Programmes**

**Applications close at midnight on Sunday 10 May.** If you have any questions, or run into any issues completing the application form, please do get in touch at [youthopera@roh.org.uk](mailto:youthopera@roh.org.uk).