



# Magor Messenger

'Creating Strong Foundations, Developing Curious Minds'



## *Welcome to the July edition of our Magor Messenger!*

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the year draws to a close, we would like to thank all our parents and friends of the school for their support over the last year. We have enjoyed visits from all our school community including our Governing Body, St. Mary's Church, The Baptist Chapel, and local businesses and thank them all for taking the time to enhance our learning experiences in school. A huge thank you also to our incredible PTFA; without them, our pupils would not be able to have so many opportunities and we really do appreciate the time and effort that goes into all the events throughout the year to raise valuable funds for our school.

As we look forward to our summer holidays, we sadly say farewell to our fabulous Year 6 pupils. We have loved seeing you all grow throughout your Magor School journey and hope that you build on these 'strong foundations' in your future. Good luck in all that you do, we know you will continue to make us proud!

We would also like to take this opportunity to say farewell and thank you to the members of staff that will be leaving our school this term. A huge thank you to Mrs A. Jones, Miss Watts, Miss Baynton, Miss Rowe, Mrs Kukuruzza, Mrs Rehent, Miss Perkins, Mrs Hunt and Mrs Fox. We appreciate all that you have contributed to Magor School and wish you well in the future.

And finally...we hope you all have a very enjoyable summer holiday,  
Mrs Gordon and Miss Welsh.

### **Parent Questionnaires**

Thank you to everyone that responded to our parent questionnaires. We received 147 responses which was a great 'return rate' and we have taken your comments on board.

### **Trips and Visits:**

A few responses mentioned they would welcome further opportunities for their child to attend off-site educational visits. This year, we have utilised the school's own forest schools area, the local community, Magor Marsh, venues such as St. Fagan's and our older children thoroughly enjoyed their 2-night residential. We will continue to plan for off-site trips/visits to support learning in school next year in all our year groups, whilst also working hard to ensure costs are kept as low as possible as we are fully aware of the cost pressures facing families at this time.

Please keep an eye on your child's 'Learning Journey' booklets which are issued at the start of each half term as these contain dates and information specific to your child's class.

### **Collection and drop off arrangements:**

In response to feedback, we have decided to trial the following arrangements from September:

At morning drop-off, children will continue to enter the school yard gates from 8.50am. Children will then go directly into the school building and into their classroom. A member of staff from each class will be available to take important messages at the designated gate.

At afternoon pick-up, parents will be able to collect from their child's classroom door or classroom gate.

This will be at 3.00pm for Reception, Y1 and Y2 and at 3.15pm for Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6. On Friday 1st September, we will send out pictures of the collection points for each class.

(Please note, the teacher's priority at this time will be to ensure all children are handed over safely.)

### **Parent Consultations:**

Thank you to those of you that completed the follow up questionnaire regarding parent consultations. As a result of your responses, we have decided to introduce a hybrid system of either online or face to face appointments where you can choose the best option to meet your needs at that time. We will also continue to hold some 'Sharing our Learning' events where children can showcase their work in their own learning environment.

### **Other findings of the questionnaire include:**

99% of parents felt that we help children to settle in well, 93% of parents would recommend the school, 83% of parents felt that we communicate important information clearly, 99.3% of parents believe their children feel safe in school.

### **A Brilliant Sports Day!**

This year's sport's day proved to be a resounding success with so many family members and friends attending to cheer the pupils on. The rain held off until about 3.30pm so our prayers were answered and the day went as planned. The staff, children and PTFA put a huge amount of effort into the event and it was lovely to have so much positive feedback, both verbal and written.

Our Year 6, pictured below, were tasked with supporting the sporting events in the younger classes. They were so mature in their approach to the children, showing fairness, kindness and encouragement to them. It is amazing to see how they have flourished into such lovely individuals. Well done Year 6!



On another sporting note...A huge thank you to Mrs Cawte for providing our children with a range of Health and Wellbeing sessions including hockey, gymnastics and dance throughout the year. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and we are grateful for the expertise you have shared with us.

### **School Defibrillator**

Thanks to our wonderful PTFA, we now have a defibrillator located in our school foyer. The defibrillator was part funded by the charity 'Jack's Appeal ABUHB'. This charity was set up by Jack's parents following the tragic death of their son aged 15 from a sudden cardiac arrest. To date they have raised nearly £250,000 which funds defibrillators and training across Gwent.

(The photo is of June, Jack's mum, presenting our defibrillator.)

In September, the children from Y3-Y6 will also be taking part in the St. John's Ambulance 'Save a Life' campaign, which is a 2 hour course including assessing incidents, the recovery position and defibrillator awareness. Staff, PTFA members and Governors will also be attending defibrillator training in September.



### **Gentle Safeguarding Reminder**

A gentle reminder about school events - please be mindful that some children are not permitted to be filmed or photographed for safeguarding reasons. Therefore, please refrain from taking photos / videos of school events - we will endeavour to put as many photos and videos on our Twitter feed as possible for you to access.

Please can we also remind anyone walking into the school main entrance to use the pedestrian gate and continue down the steps / ramp, rather than use the double gate which are for vehicles only.

### Progression Step 1

#### **Nursery**

Nursery have been busy with a fun filled time. We thoroughly enjoyed an energetic sports day and loved the chance to welcome our spectators. This was closely followed by a wonderful celebration of Nursery as we sang through our Nursery journey and then shared delicious ice creams with our families. Fitted in around all of this we even managed to explore the science in the world around us.



#### **Reception**

Reception have continued thinking about our big question: Do all things grow and change? We have also been thinking about *how* things change as they grow. They have enjoyed learning about the lifecycle of frogs and watching the development of some real-life tadpoles; they have also had fun in and around our mini 'Grow More Garden Centre' - role playing and planting up their choice of seeds to grow, as well as planting and tending to some kindly donated tomato and courgette plants! Huge thanks must also go to Chepstow Garden Centre for their generous donations to make our mini garden centre and planting station such a success. The garden centre role play has also helped the children learn more about money: they have been practising their counting in tens, twos and fives using 10p, 2p and 5p coins in addition to 1p coins. We are going to miss all our Reception children next year, but we wish them lots of luck in Y1! We are sure they will fly high!



## Progression Step 2

### Year 1

We have been learning about our wonderful world and all the different ways we can look after it. We have been finding out how to reduce, reuse and recycle! We have been learning how to cross the road safely with Monmouthshire Practical Road safety Training Scheme. Year 1 enjoyed a lovely WOW Day in the forest schools area on a scavenger hunt then we made natural stick men and Mini roll stick men to eat at milk time!



### Year 2

Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed our 'Funfair' topic. They have shown such determination and perseverance and successfully made a moving carousel! They have explored changes of state in Science and made their own jelly. Throughout the topic they have been planning and preparing for our 'Wow' day, where they held their very own Funfair, designing and making games for their grown ups to play. (A huge thank you to parents and carers for making this a success for the children!)



### Year 3

Year 3 have enjoyed their topic 'Travel Agents'. They learnt all about flight from Mr Fox and dressed up ready for their virtual trip to Florida! They have also been exploring the value of thankfulness.



### Progression Step 3

#### Welsh Author Visit

The children in PS3 have had an exciting visit from Welsh author, Caryl Lewis.



#### **Year 4**

Year 4 have loved their Summer topic, 'Ready, Steady, Sow! We have been busy planting flowers in our outdoor space and learning all about different plants, trees and flowers. Our forest schools sessions have focused on creating nature art in the style of Andy Goldsworthy and writing sensory nature poems using the great outdoors as our stimulus. Camp out day was a huge success and we all had great fun putting up our tents together and running our stalls that we designed and developed in teams.



#### **Year 5**

Year 5 has had a brilliant Summer term that has been jam packed with lots of activities related to their topic 'Ready, Steady, Sow!'. They have delved into learning all about plants and completed plant dissections so they could get a clearer view of the structure inside. Year 5 have visited their forest schools many times this term to complete land art challenges and create artwork inspired by Andy Goldsworthy. They really enjoyed their WOW camp out day and it was great to see some of their enterprising skills coming out by creating stalls that were selling a service or product. Year 5 also enjoyed their taster day at Chepstow school, they took part in a science, product design and psychology lesson which they all thoroughly enjoyed.



#### **Year 6**

Y6 have had a very busy half term! All pupils have taken part in transition events as their time to leave Magor School approaches. The focus for this half term has been 'Media Madness', looking in detail at advertising and social media, along with the much anticipated Leavers performance 'I'm an 11 year old...Get me out of here!' To coincide with National Sports Week, Y6 pupils were given the opportunity to stage a 'Student take over', where they could showcase skills and warm up activities from the out of school teams they belong to. From athletics to basketball, cricket and netball, the pupils rose to the challenge and there are definitely some sports coaches of the future. Y6 also took part in a Primary Leavers event at Caldicot Castle, which was great fun.



### **Universal Free School Meals Provision**

So far this year, pupils in Rec - Y2 are now able to receive a free school meal at lunch-time. We are pleased to confirm the roll out of Universal Free School Meals for our pupils in Y3-Y6 from September. You must book meals on Parent Pay if you wish your child to have a free lunch - details on how to order a school meal for your child and FAQs can be found on our school website, <https://www.magorciwprimary.co.uk/school-meals-menus/>.

### **Pupil Leadership Teams Update**

Here is an update from some of our Pupil Leadership Teams:

**Young Climate Leaders** – The YCL have had a donation of tomato plants from our PTFA, which they have been caring for with regular watering and feeding! They are also developing planters around the school.

**WAVE Team** - Our Wave team have compiled a video of how they contribute to school life which has been presented to Governors. They continue to support with collective worship through their ideas and evaluations of worship.

**Senedd Ysgol** - Our School Council decided that they would like to focus on our beautiful Forest School area and to share some of their knowledge and ideas for fun activities with the Reception class. Each week they have prepared and delivered lessons, these have included PowerPoints that they have created, outdoor art sessions, matching games and minibeast hunts.

**Curriculum Champions** - Our Curriculum Champions continue to play a full part in all aspects of school life, including recently being part of our interview process for new members of staff.

**Digital Leaders** - Our Digital Leaders have led assemblies for the whole school around digital resilience. They shared ideas and books to support their messages. One of the books can be found here:

[Old MacDonald Had A Phone Heather Edwards - YouTube](#)



**Diary Dates:** Confirmed **2023/2024** dates for your calendar:

**Friday 1st September** - Training Day (School Closed)

**Tuesday 19th September** - Harvest Services: Years 1-3 1.30pm, Years 4-6 2.15pm - St. Mary's Church - Parents welcome. (Nursery and Reception will hold their own harvest celebrations in class)

**Friday 27th October** - School Photographs (individual)

**Monday 6th November** - Training Day (School Closed)

**Wednesday 15th November** - Years 5 and 6 to join service at St. Mary's at 10am for communion - Parents welcome!

**Monday 4th December** - Christingle Service for Nursery and Reception - 1.45pm at St. Mary's Church. AM Nursery welcome. More information to follow.

**Wednesday 20th December** - Christmas Church Services at St. Mary's Church: Reception and Year 1, 11.15am, Year 2 and 3, 1.30pm, Year 4-6, 2.15pm.

**Friday 22nd December** - Training Day (School Closed)

Term Dates: [School Times / Terms | Magor CIW Primary School](#)

More dates will be added as the term progresses. You can also check the school website calendar. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter for regular class and school Tweets!

*Next Messenger Date:* October 2023