



11th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the first half of the spring term, I wanted to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and relaxing half term break and to thank you for your continued support and patience during these unusual times. We are pleased to have been able to move towards a more 'normal' school experience since we returned in September, however, as you will know, we have had to adapt our plans at times. Below are some updates for the spring term.

### **Welcome to new staff**

We were joined last term by Mrs Parrott in the secondary phase who joined our teaching assistant team, and in January, we were joined by Mrs Rawstorne, our new primary phase receptionist.

### **Extra-curricular activities**

We are very pleased to let you know that our primary phase clubs will be running again in spring 2 as follows:

From Tuesday 22 February - Calm Club and Choir will resume

From Wednesday 23 February - World Cinema Club will resume

From Monday 28 February - Craft and Art Club will resume

Y6 Playground Leaders will resume their afternoon break time activities for younger pupils after half term. This is very popular with our younger pupils and also provides leadership opportunities for our older pupils. Year 5 and 6 pupils will take part in Bikeability when we return after half term which involves two days of training to equip our pupils with the skills and confidence to cycle either within the school grounds or on local roads depending on their level of cycling proficiency.

Secondary phase lunch clubs will resume after half term. Currently on offer is Science Club, Film Club, Board Games Club and Reading Club. Dungeons & Dragons Club will continue and our Duke of Edinburgh groups will continue to work towards achieving their awards.

Secondary phase Wellbeing Champions will continue their good work after the half term. After a 6 week training programme which included anxiety & depression, nutrition, exercise & nature and resilience, our Wellbeing Champions are ready to tackle anything in their support of our secondary phase pupils.

Headteacher: Mrs L Edwards BA(Hons), PGCE.

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## MAHARISHI SCHOOL

CONSCIOUSNESS - BASED EDUCATION

After the success of the first edition of The Inspirer, our secondary phase magazine team is busy preparing the second edition which will be available very soon filled with articles and advice to inform and entertain us.

We are very proud of all of our pupils' contributions to the many activities both within and outside of the classroom and would like to send a special thank you to our staff whose commitment and creativity make all of these activities possible.

### Curriculum

At the primary phase, we have updated and begun implementing a range of new schemes of work since the start of this academic year. Our art, geography, history and music curriculums have all been updated to ensure that our pupils continue to access a broad and balanced range of subjects to motivate and inspire them. In addition to subscribing to the Charanga music scheme for primary, we are keen to introduce an opportunity for our pupils to have the option to access affordable musical instrument lessons as an extra-curricular activity. As soon as we have more information, we will let you know.

### Fundraising

Thanks to all who were able to join us in December for our very first outdoor Winter Fair. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as we did. It was wonderful to be able to invite you in to see what your children had been preparing for you. Thanks to your support and generosity, we raised around £2000 which will go towards reading books and design technology resources, amongst other things that we would not be able to do without your support.

### Communication

Across the primary phase, we are continuing to use Class Dojo to inform parents about any class activities or reminders. Although we have used Dojo for a number of years in our youngest classes, it is a new initiative to have this communication option throughout the primary phase. We hope that it is working well and is providing an easy route to find out about what is happening in your child's class. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher via Class Dojo. Please remember that messages will only be read between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm and it may not always be possible for staff to respond the same day.

### Absences

Please continue to contact the school office to report any absences, up-and-coming appointments or for any formal communication. Remember to provide a copy of an appointment card or letter if your child misses school to attend an appointment. Please also remember to give full details if your child is absent due to illness.

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### **Term-time holidays**

Please remember that we do not authorise term-time holidays, except in exceptional circumstances. Please contact me in advance of booking a term-time holiday to discuss whether the circumstances would be considered as 'exceptional' as a penalty notice may be issued by the local authority if an unauthorised holiday is taken. When booking a holiday, please remember that we generally have a longer summer holiday than most other schools. Prices are often cheaper during this time, so please try to book family holidays outside of term-time.

### **Parents Evenings**

Primary and secondary parents evenings will take place during the last week of the spring term w/c Monday 28 March. We hope to be able to return to face-to-face parents evenings, however, we are aware that the convenience of remote parents was appreciated by some parents. Therefore, we will endeavour to offer a choice of remote or face-to-face and will be in touch after half term with more details.

That's all for now. Please get in touch if you have any questions

With warm wishes



Lisa Edwards

"Whatever we put our attention on will grow stronger in our life."  
Maharishi



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