

MJS NEWSLETTER

Friday 6th March 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

There are not many jobs where you can walk down a corridor and be passed by children in pyjamas, before being met with a group of Roman soldiers in uniform and with swords, just a few seconds later. It's what makes working in a school so much fun with no two days, or even hours, the same.

Book World Day was a success with children enjoying the opportunity to come to school in their pyjamas and dressing gowns and thank you for your support with the book fair. Year 3 have had a great time with Roman workshops immersing the children as part of their history topic.

The next three weeks continue to be as busy, with immersion day for Year 4 and trips for Year 3 and Year 5. It is also an exciting week for our dancers who are performing at The Hawth on Monday as part of Let's Dance and we wish them all good luck for their big night.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Best Wishes

Mr Pike

Headteacher

**Together
Everyone
Achieves
More
at MJS**

Monday 9th March 2026

Yr4 Rainbow Theatre & Dress up day

Let's Dance @ The Hawth

Forest Schools - 5GK

Y3 Boys Football (3HB, 3ST & 3ST)

Girls Football (Y3 & 4 AW)

Netball Club

Tuesday 10th March 2026

Forest Schools -4OC

Yoga Bugs Club

Y5 & 6 Girls Football

Yr 4 Craft Club (4JM & 4PG)

Book Club (Lower School)

Yr5 Hockey Club

Wednesday 11th March 2026

Yr 5 Harry Potter Studios

Forest Schools—Launchpad

Y4 Swimming (4GH & 4PG)

Y6 Boys Football

Y6 Chess Club

Choir (Finish 4.30pm)

Thursday 12th March 2026

Yr 5 Harry Potter Studios

Forest Schools—3HB

Dare Dance Club

Mindfulness Club

Friday 13th March 2026

Yr 5 Harry Potter Studios

Forest Schools—6SB

Storm Basketball

Cheneler Musical Theatre



WORLD BOOK DAY



YEAR 3 ROMAN DAY



YEAR 5 GIRLS' FOOTBALL

Two teams of Year 5 girls competed in the Crawley Year 5 tournament yesterday. Both teams performed exceptionally well, qualifying from their groups to reach the semi-finals where they played against each other. In a unique MJS v MJS game, one of the teams obviously qualified through to the final and went on to beat Milton Mount in the final. It was a great achievement for all of the girls involved and we are very proud of them.



YEAR 5 CROSS-COUNTRY

A team of 20 enthusiastic athletes took part in the Crawley Cross-Country competition on a very muddy course at Oriel. Using their experience of running the Maidenbower Mile, the children paced themselves brilliantly to all complete the race.

With each race position turned into points, we were delighted to find out that the team won the event, with the following children finishing in the top 20 of their respective race (out of 90 runners), meaning that they qualify for the county finals:

Boys - Dylan (2nd), Jack (3rd), Cayden (5th), Jaxon (8th), Veer (10th), Cody (13th), Max (19th)

Girls - Lana (3rd), Poppy (5th), Grace (6th), Valentina (13th), Aelia (15th)

Well done to everyone involved for a great team effort.



YEAR 3/4 GIRLS' FOOTBALL

A mixed team of Year 3 and Year 4 girls attended a football festival this week. Taking part in drills and playing some friendly matches, the girls had a great time and represented the school brilliantly. Special congratulations to Isla, who received a blue card which is a special award given out for fair play and kindness



HALF-TERM ACHIEVEMENTS

Well done to James in Year 3. His Sunday football team won the U8's Crawley and District Youth League tournament.

Well done also to William, Ronnie, Oscar and Gregor in Year 3, who won the Three Bridges tournament at the end of half-term as part of Maidenbower Colts Red team.



Y6 LEAVERS HOODIES

Our Y6 Leavers Hoodies are now available to buy from our uniform supplier Logo2threads.

All information and prices are available at <https://logos2threads.co.uk/>

The closing date to order is Friday 13th March 2026.



NON-UNIFORM DAY IN MEMORY OF KIRSTY HILLS

As those of you with connection to Maidenbower Infant School will remember, this time last year the school sadly lost their much-loved Teaching Assistant, Kirsty Hills. Kirsty was an important part of the school family and a cherished member of the wider community, including here at MJS.

To mark the anniversary of her passing and to celebrate the joy she brought to the schools and community, we will be supported in infant school by holding a non-uniform day on **Tuesday 17th March**. Children are invited to come to school in their own clothes (with as much sparkle as possible), and we kindly ask for a donation to support a special project in Kirsty's memory. Payment will be possible from next week.

The school are hoping to purchase a beautiful friendship bench for the infant school playground—something the children can enjoy for years to come. Any funds raised beyond the cost of the bench will be donated directly to St Catherine's Hospice, meaning your contributions will support two meaningful causes.

Thank you, as always, for your kindness, support and generosity. It means so much to the school, and to Kirsty's family.

ST CATHERINE'S
HOSPICE

CHILDREN'S WATER BOTTLES

Please can you remind your children to bring home water bottles and for them to be cleaned regularly. There have been some recent occasions where there has been stagnant water creating mould inside bottles. Thank you.

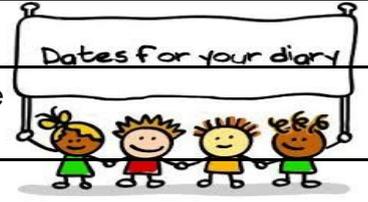
CHILDREN WALKING TO SCHOOL OVER THE BRIDGE

If your child walks to school and enters the playground over the bridge by the river, please can you talk to your child about the importance of being safe. There have been occasions when some older have been playing in a dangerous area right by the river edge. Children should be making their way directly onto the premises where we can supervise them.

PARKING REMINDER

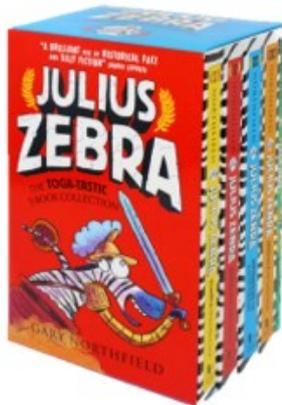
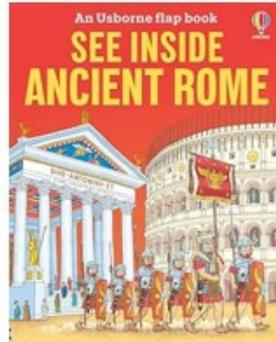
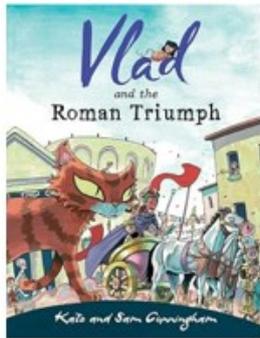
Please only use the visitor parking bays if you have permission from the school and have a permit displayed in your windscreen.

Date	Event
SPRING TERM 2026	
Monday 9th March	Year 4 Rainbow Theatre & Dress up Day
Weds 11th - Fri 13th March	Year 5 Harry Potter trips
Tues 17th March	Non-uniform Day—St Catherine's Hospice
Wednesday 18th March	Parents Evening, with afternoon sessions in this fortnight
Friday 20th March	Year 3 Fishbourne Roman Palace trip Y6 Crawley Town Trip
Monday 23rd March	Y6 Crawley Town Trip
Wednesday 25th March	Y3, 5 & Launchpad Pizza Day Y6 Crawley Town Trip
Thursday 26th March	Y4 & 6 Pizza Day
Thursday 26th March	Last day of term. 1:15pm finish
Friday 27th March	INSET DAY
Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
SUMMER TERM 2026	
Monday 11th May	Y6 SATs Week
Monday 25th - Friday 29th May	HALF-TERM
Monday 1st June	INSET DAY
Wednesday 20th May	Early Closure at 1.15pm due to Open Evening 4pm—6.30pm
Thursday 25th June	Lower School Sports Day am
Friday 26th June	Upper School Sports Day am
Wednesday 1st July	Transition Day
Tuesday 7th July 2026	Y6 Residential Trip
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of term 1:15pm finish.



NEW TOPIC RELATED READING SUGGESTIONS ...

Year 3 – The Romans



The Julius Zebra Series – Gary Northfield

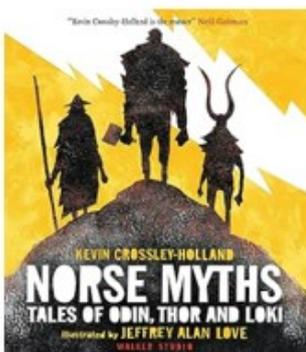
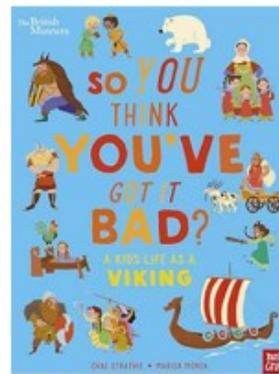
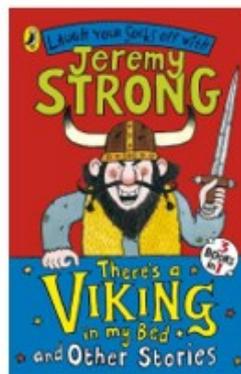
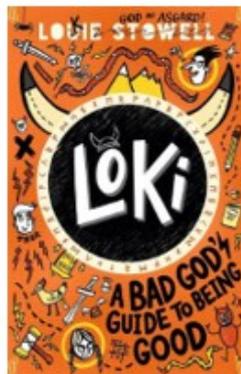
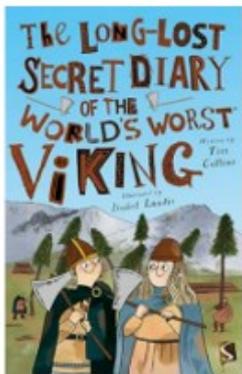
See Inside Ancient Rome – Katie Daynes

There Was a Roman in Your Garden – Bettany Hughes

Romans on the Rampage – Jeremy Strong

Vlad and the Roman Triumph – Kate and Sam Cunningham

Year 4 – Vikings



The Long-Lost Secret Diary of the World's Worst Viking by Tim Collins

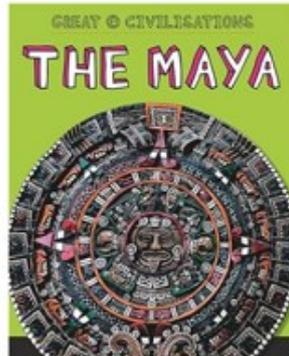
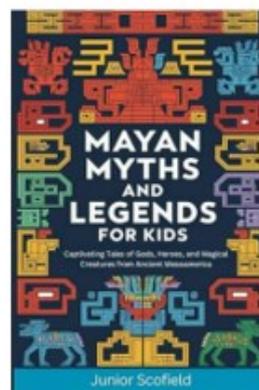
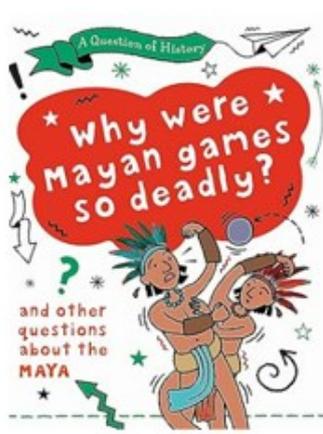
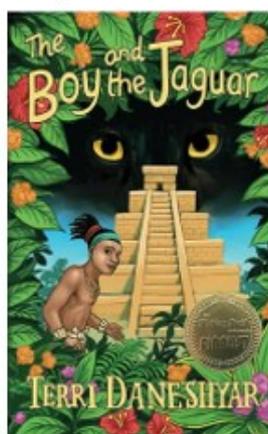
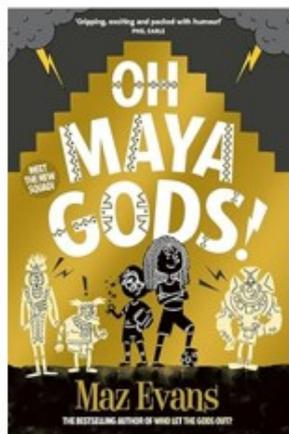
Loki: A Bad God's Guide to Being Good by Louie Stowell

There's a Viking Under my Bed by Jeremy Strong

So, You Think You've Got It Bad? A Kids Life as a Viking by Chae Strathie

Norse Myths: Tales of Odin, Thor and Loki by Kevin Crossley-Holland

Year 5 – The Mayans



Oh, Maya Gods! by Maz Evans

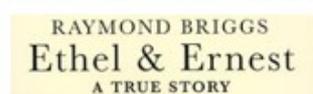
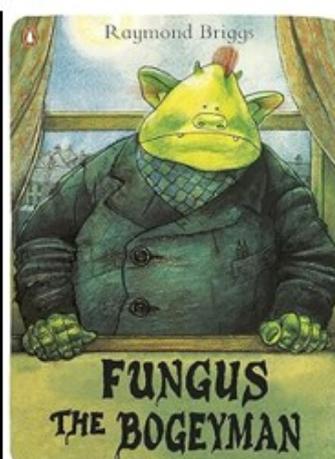
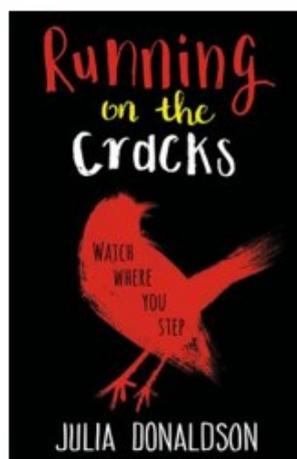
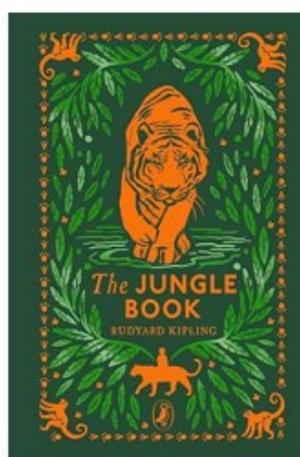
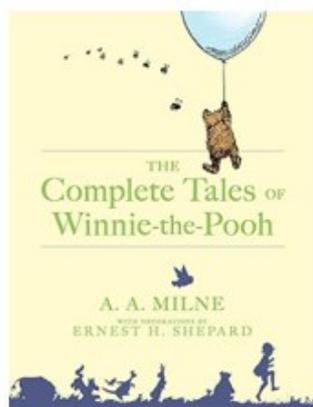
The Boy and the Jaguar by Terri Daneshyar

Why Were the Mayan Games So Deadly? by Tim Cooke

Mayan Myths and Legends for Kids by Junior Schofield

The Maya – Great Civilisations by Tracey Kelly

Year 6 – Books by local authors



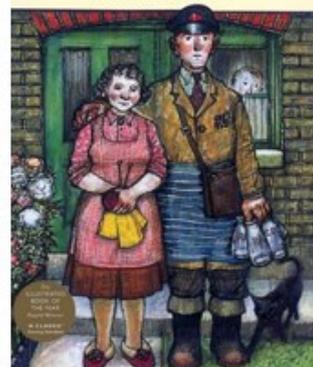
The Tales of Winnie-the-Pooh by A.A. Milne (from Hartfield)

The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling (from Burwash)

Running on the Cracks by Julia Donaldson (Steyning)

Fungus the Bogeyman by Raymond Briggs (Westmeston)

Ethel and Ernest by Raymond Briggs



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See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 28/02/26.



www.ppckd.com
info@ppckd.com



Children's Martial Arts classes in Maidenbower

Hello

My name is Martin and I have been running children's martial arts classes in the area for over 12 years in Maidenbower, Pound Hill and Balcombe and now have around 60 students training every week.

It is proven that martial arts training has many benefits for children including improved focus and concentration. It encourages respect and discipline as well as improved physical fitness, which is a challenge in these days of phones and social media! At our club we help to develop these characteristics in them at the same time as having fun.

Our club activities are highly inclusive with lots of teamwork and games included alongside the more traditional techniques which teach them useful self-defence in a controlled environment.

We currently have a few spaces in our Juniors class for 10 to 12 years and Adults /13 years + and Family Classes (where the whole family can train together)

Monday & Wednesday: Juniors 6.45pm – 7.30pm, Adults / 13 yrs + 7.30pm till 8.15pm.

Saturday: Family Class 10.15am - 11am

Venue: Maidenbower Infant School

We can offer a FREE no obligation trial - for details email me at: martinnew@ppckd.com

or call / text **07884 667173**.

Martin New
Chief Instructor
2nd Dan

Mindfulness Club

A nurturing, creative, fun

after-school club

for Maidenbower Junior School

For children in Years 3- 6

At Mindfulness Club we will:

- Explore our emotions using the arts and play
- Learn new ways to manage and explore feelings
- Have space to de-stress and be creative
- Find calm, peace and support
- Have fun and get to know ourselves and each other!

Mindfulness club will be run by the same child therapist every week.

Day and Time: Thursday's, 3.15-4.15pm

Dates: Summer term, 10 weeks, from 30th April – 9th July 2026

Cost: £9 per child, per week- **First payment via Eventbrite: deposit of £10, invoice for remainder to follow.**

Bonus for parents and guardians: If your child attends Creative Emotions club you will be given free access to the Your Space Therapies 'Overcoming Overwhelm' so you can learn key strategies to support your child's emotional and mental health.

To book please click this Eventbrite link:

[Maidenbower Juniors Mindfulness Club- Book Now!](#)



N.B We are unable to provide refunds for this club once spaces are booked. After we have received your booking, we will email you from bookings@yourspacetherapies.org with an essential registration form to complete. Thank you.