

Jodie Nickel


**MAIDWELL  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**
**PTA**

Happy New Year to you all and welcome back after a more normal festive break with family and friends.

Firstly, the PTA would like to thank everyone for their support last term. The donations, volunteers and money spent at all events has raised in the region of £1000. This we be well spent on extra-curricular activities/visitors and additional educational and recreational resources.

This term we will be planning our usual and very popular pancake flipping and Easter hunt activities, continuing with the very well-supported tuck shop on occasional Fridays and release the date nearer the time for this term's cash4clothes collection.

Thank you to all those who borrowed books from the parent lending library at the Christmas fair. This month we will provide a timetable for regular times when the library will be available.

Also this term the PTA will help support the school ECO council with the start of one of their projects in bringing more biodiversity into the school grounds. This will be in the form of ground clearance to create a wildlife garden, the planting of fruit trees and resourcing and creating the garden from recycled materials. Any willing volunteers will be welcomed ... more information to follow.

When we have confirmed details for all of the above, we will send out a *Dates for the Diary* poster.

Thank you for your continued support

### Eco Council News

The ECO council would like to thank everyone who supported their stall at the Christmas fair. We raised £76 by selling repurposed T-shirts into bags, made by year 5 & 6 children. Handy sewing pouches made from recycled fabric designed and made by Sebby. Beautiful brooches and hanging decorations made from recycled denim fabric design and made by Mrs Grizzell and recycled birthday and Christmas gift bags.

Thank you to everyones fantastic efforts! The money raised will support the school in Uganda.

We are trying to create less food waste at school. One idea is that if our cook only served a combination of the children's three favourite vegetables, then they would eat them rather than throw them away. Last term we conducted a survey of the childrens favourite vegetables. The result was carrots and sweetcorn in joint first place, followed by peas. This has made a small impact but not enough, so we also photographed, weighed and recorded the food waste for 8 days. We will be using this in class to work out some data and statistics with Mrs Wake and then present it to the whole school. We are positive this will have an impact and less food will be wasted.

We have also been designing a reusable bag that we will be selling later in the term. With the profits we plan to fund each child at school with their own metal reusable straw.

We are also looking at ways where we can support marine life. Living inland doesn't mean we don't have an impact, so we are researching the items that we buy at home and school that harm marine life and looking at alternatives that we can suggest to school, parents and family.

Although we have lovely school grounds, we believe that we can do so much more to encourage wildlife into our environment. We have 5 fruit trees arriving soon and have plans to create a wildlife corner at the top of the field. The PTA will be supporting us by arranging volunteers to help us.

Thank you for supporting us and we welcome any ideas parents have to help us become more eco friendly!