

# Marlborough News www.themarlboroughscienceacademy.co.uk

**31st March 2017** 

Issue #69

Dear Parents/Carers,

And once again I am taken aback at the speed at which this year has progressed since January, light mornings, balmier weather and longer evenings are certainly more welcome but these last few months as always have sped by.

We say goodbye to one or two staff this Easter, au revoir to Mrs Wilson who leaves us for maternity leave next week and welcome back to Mrs Brotherton returning from maternity leave, we wish Mrs Wilson lots of luck going forward and lots of happiness ahead. We hope Ms Bradshaw, in the LRC, has a fabulous wedding day over Easter and know that she will indeed be a beautiful bride. We say goodbye to Miss Woods in DSEN who is re-joining her previous post and thank her for all her hard work and wish her every success going forward. We also bid farewell to Ms Kinnear, a most popular and much respected teacher of MFL who is leaving to move to a new area and a new post with her family, we wish her lots of luck, love and success going forward and I know you will join me in thanking her most profusely for all her hard work in ensuring students get a great learning experience and make the progress they can. Her teaching will be replaced by Ms Simeone and Ms Hard.

You will be aware following a previous schoolcomms message that there been some ups and downs regarding staffing in Science. In Ms Nugent's absence, as she is ill, Mr Eve has been doing a terrific job in ensuring good teaching and keeping standards high—I am very grateful to him for stepping in. I will keep you updated with any further developments but as it stands I am very confident that things have stabilised and there is some very good preparations going on in readiness for the exams. Whilst we are on the subject of exams I appreciate and would anticipate that Year 11,12 and 13 students in particular will be embarking on revision programmes staring in earnest it is hoped over these holidays. Your support in reinforcing the importance of doing their very best whatever their ability is crucial as it is ensuring a balanced approach to revision, management of anxiety levels and putting things in to perspective, sound preparation goes a long way in calming nerves as does healthy leisure activities and sharing anxieties with you as parents, a calm and methodical approach with some fun thrown in to break the monotony will, I know ensure success, every time! There will be ups and downs, there always are and if our support is needed in any way please do not hesitate to contact us. Please also see the important safeguarding update and request on page 3.

To conclude I hope you all have bright, happy and restful Easter breaks with lots of sunshine, fun times and of course...chocolate!

Ms Thomson

EASTER



On March 16<sup>th</sup> we took part in the BBC School News Day. 33 students took part in the day from Year 7 to Year 10 where they wrote, filmed, edited and presented the news. We were extremely lucky to have Eddie Stevens from the BBC to help support the students who commented, *'They are extremely ambitious.'* He even allowed them to use his camera to film the reports. Rhys Wernham and Daniel Bedoya Year 10 were the editors for the day and decided on the stories that were to be featured and organised the students. It was a fantastic opportunity for the students as they had to address

technical problems, work as a team and make some very difficult decisions. Many of the students enjoyed the day so much they are now thinking of a career in media and are hoping to be able to extend their skills that they have learnt even further.

There was a lovely atmosphere in the LRC and I was extremely proud of our students as they all worked well together . The programme they produced is available <a href="here.">here.</a>

Mrs Baker









Dear Parents/Carers

# Safeguarding update and request

A number of students attend, with our authorisation, sports events/training/tournaments during the school week, linked to their hobbies or interests.

As these events sometimes happen during the school week, there are a number of pieces of paperwork that we will need to be in receipt of so we can fulfil our statutory safeguarding requirements.

- A letter from you as parents outlining the arrangements for transport and supervision whilst in an event venue, also an assurance that you are confident safeguarding checks have been carried out.
- We will need to have an address and contact details for the venue so that we can a) be assured that your son/daughter is in attendance and that b) the relevant checks have been carried out.
- We will also arrange a visit to the venue after informing people first, so that we are absolutely certain that whilst not in school, during school hours of 08.30 15.10 we can be assured of your son's/daughter's safety.

I would be grateful if the details requested could be sent to me in the first instance so I can pass them on to the relevant designated teacher who has responsibility for Safeguarding. On receipt of these details, attendance can be recorded as 'P' recognising that this is a sporting provision and therefore counts as an attendance mark.

These checks do not obviously need to happen for clubs etc. outside of school hours, we know that you as parents would be doing this anyway as a matter of course.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Ms A Thomson

Anne Thomson

Headteacher

# **Bonjour Garden Fields!**

Students in Mademoiselle Kinnear's French class have been busy writing postcards to the students of Garden Fields Primary School who will shortly be going on their Year 6 residential to Paris. The postcards, which have been designed by Victoria Brown, Kiera Pegg Edward and Jarin Auddity, ask the Year 6s about themselves, detail what they adore doing and conclude by wishing them 'a bientot'. Hopefully we may even receive a postcard or two from France!

## Ms Redfern







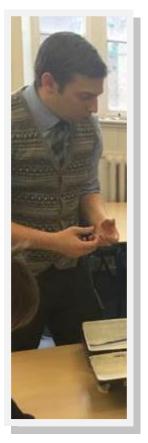


# Stepping back in history!

Mr Pressland visited St Michael's CoE school earlier this month to take the Year 6 students back in time! Armed with a World War Two time capsule complete with historical sources and props Mr Pressland took the students back in time. Students worked through documents and pictures, gas masks and props to ensure that they could infer as much as possible about the era. Students were encouraged to empathise with people who would have lived through the war years and then to explain their thoughts with reasoned evidence.

'I just wanted to say a huge thank you for coming in to St Michaels to run the WW2 workshop. The children (and staff) enjoyed every moment and I know that the children really benefitted from the activity. Handling the artefacts and considering the evidence was a great way of building on their skill of enquiry. I liked the way you added in the practical 'air raid' activity. This added a sense of anticipation to the lesson-wondering when you were going to sound the alarm!!'

Mrs Alcoe-St Michaels



# Congratulations to the following students: English Stars for March

Year 7—Max Gipps, Tom Brassington, Destiny Howell, Brogan Meads, Alex Stefanoaia, Macy Gibbs and Rhianna Patel

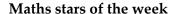
Year 8— Kaylei Callaghan, Chloe Mitchell, Amelie Hallam, Skye Cook, Kayra Karakus and Jamie Harbron

Year 9—Tom Vincent, Adam Hill, Hayden Pyne, James Aldridge and Hannah Rahman

Year 10—Rufaro Makwarimbo, Lauren Walker and Callum Lickfold

Year 11—Darcey Stachini, Jacob Kocis, Shoyful Islam, Joe Casali and Joey Arnott

Post 16-Luke Forster, Mika Brooks and Amy Chandler



Year 7—Miriam Iuga, Kallum Sohawon, Daniel Suleimanov, Scarlett Scott and Stanley Wilkinson Year 8—Jessica Jacobs, Serena Chikhila, Caden McEvoy, Cain Keller, Harry Bateman and Maria Bratan

Year 9—Bryn Wilson, Heather Grant, Ellarose Copley, Josh Forster, Jennifer Pooley and Rhys Bilson Year 10—Harriet Lindo, Maryam Khan, Millie Hughes, Noor Al-Khafaji, Hollie Burton and Leah Salmon



# **English Masterclass at Prae Wood Primary**

Nine Year 8 students accompanied Ms Redfern to Prae Wood Primary school yesterday to teach the Year 6s how to write PETE (Point, Example, Technique and Explanation) paragraphs. The primary students are currently reading To Kill A Mockingbird and Ms Redfern had been asked to lead a session on an analytical writing skills to help prepare the students for secondary school. Marlborough students acted as ATs ensuring that all of the primary school students were

able to complete every challenging activity and even able to write their own paragraphs by the end of the session. One of our students said, "it was great to be able to break PETE down and be able to see the younger ones really get how to do it". A Year 6 student also commented that it was "really good fun seeing what we would be doing in Year 7; it was good having students in too because they were really helpful".



# **Inaugural Big Book Quiz**

Thursday 23rd March heralded the first ever Big Book Quiz to be hosted by The Marlborough Science Academy. Local primary schools went head to head in a nine round literature quiz that saw ten teams of Year 6 pupils competing not only for glory, but for the winner's shield.

Rounds ranged from the obligatory 'Picture Round' to 'TMSA Student Round' and featured questions on

David Walliams to JRR Tolkein. Ms Redfern was assisted by seven Year 8 students who took charge not only of scoring the points but also making sure that everything ran like clockwork. The winning team was from Mandeville Primary school; the second Big Book Quiz will certainly prove to have some very stiff competitors.

Ms Redfern

#### **Post 16 PSHCE Sessions**

Last Thursday the PSCHEE session delivered by Charlotte Barton from Step, focused on dealing with stress and allowing the brain to relax without the use of electronic devices.

#### Mrs Rutherford

'The session really allowed me to detach from outside pressures and relax. It was very therapeutic and is certainly an activity I will be repeating to relax in the future. ' **Freddie Wernham** 

'It helped me find peace with my soul'. Mackenzie Port

'It helped me put things into perspective and was extremely useful'. Brad Slocombe

This week Post 16 students had a session on managing finances while studying at University. They were given the budget of £17,000, an approximate figure based on current student loans and grants, and had to cost in accommodation, utilities, internet/tv, general living and some leftover for the all important socialising fund. Phoebe Murray, a Year 2 student at Canterbury University was on hand to talk about her current experience of University and student life.

'I was asked to come speak to the sixth formers about life at university and how to budget effectively as well as how to balance a social life with uni work. As I study primary education at Canterbury Christ Church university, I was able to discus with students interested in this course the steps to applying, as well as what it entails and what would he expected of them.' **Phoebe Murray** 



## DINNER DELIBERATIONS

We would love to hear your family collaborations to the <u>question</u> we pose.

# Should respect be expected or earned?

We would love to hear your answers, simply email <u>c.burton@marlborough.herts.sch.uk</u> or h<u>.redfern@marlborough.herts.sch.uk</u>. The best responses will be published in the next newsletter and a Pinkie (20 achievement points) will be awarded to the best student and parent answer each time.



Congratulations to the Year 11 CoPe group who raised £75.40 at their Bake Sale last Friday.

They are supporting the local charity Open Door and as part of this they are asking for donations of adult clothes (no childrens' clothing). If you are able to donate any adult clothes please bring them to Reception before Thursday 6th April. Thank you.

# **Comic Relief 2017**



## **Student Achievements**

Congratulations to **Rhianna Patel 7PP** who recently attended tournaments in both Belgium and Bracknell in her new weight category and her new level as a cadet. She narrowly missed out on a medal in Belgium reaching the quarter finals. This weekend saw her at Bracknell, after an 8 hour wait, what an amazing fight she had in the semi final with a winning score of 29 to 7. In her final match she won 29 to 9, winning a well deserved Gold medal.





Congratulations to the Year 9 Boys Football team who won the District Cup Wednesday night with a 4-3 win over St Columbas College.





Well done to the Year 10 boys who finished 5th at the County rowing competition last week.



If you have any questions and not sure who to ask please click here for the general enquiry form





# ST ALBANS Support Group



St Albans Girls School (STAGS)
Sandridgebury Lane, St Albans, AL3 6DB
Second Friday of the month (term time only)
10am - 12pm

**SPACE** is a charity supporting Parents/Carers of children and young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and related conditions

We have regular professional speakers, workshops, social events plus a library of books to borrow

Come along to meet other Parents/Carers

We meet up once a month (term time only) at each of these locations across Hertfordshire:

BUNTINGFORD, CHESHUNT, HATFIELD, HERTFORD, HODDESDON, WARE, WELWYN, AND STEVENAGE

If you would like more information on our support groups please check our **website**, contact the **SPACE** team by **email** or alternatively find us on **Facebook** under the name of **SPACE** 

Supporting parents and carers of children with Autism, ADHD and related conditions

Registered Charity England and Wales no: 117 2178







# **Autism and Anxiety**

**Anxiety** is a normal **part** of children's development, but children with **autism** spectrum disorder (ASD) can experience **anxiety** more intensely and more often than other children.

This **FREE** course run by Sally Glossop and Sarah Ellis explores how we can support young people on the autistic spectrum manage their anxiety appropriately.

1pm – 3pm Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017 Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017

St Lukes School, Crouch Hall Lane, Redbourn, AL3 7ET

Free parking and refreshments provided

Information and bookings:
Sarah Ellis - 07507 851586 Email - ellispotential@gmail.com





# **Supporting Anxiety**

For parents of children in academic years 6 – 9

FREE course to help parents recognise and positively respond to your child's anxiety with solution focused strategies

9.30 - 12:30

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017 Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2017 Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Links Academy, Woollam Crescent, St Albans, AL3 6EJ

Free parking and refreshments provided



Information and bookings: Sarah Ellis - 07507 851586 Email - ellispotential@gmail.com





## www.spaceherts.org.uk

# https://www.facebook.com/groups/523248431177965/

# \*\*Dates For Your Diary 2017 - For The St Albans Group\*\*

St Albans Girls School (STAGS)

We meet on the second Friday of the month (term time only) between 10.00am and 12.00pm

March 10th - Amy Belfield & Kelly Shaw DSPL7 Autism Support Workers

### APRIL NO MEETING DUE TO EASTER HOLIDAYS

May 12<sup>th</sup> – Lydia <u>Ebsworth</u> Team Leader at The Owl Centre services for speech, language & communication difficulties and Occupational Therapy.

June 9th - Stacey Smith from SNAP (St Albans Mencap)

July 14th – Emma Paisley Wellbeing Access Worker for the Wellbeing Team

AUGUST NO MEETING DUE TO SUMMER HOLIDAYS

September 8th - Steph Curtis PDA

October 13th - Reece Goldsmith of Goldsmith Mancusso Education and Mentoring & Greenlight specialist youth group

November 10th - Sally Glossop Communication and Autism Team (CATS)

December 8th - Caroline Penn from HANDLE (Holistic Approach to NeuroDevelopmental and Learning Efficiency)

The St Albans group is supported by DSPL7

### **Term Dates**

Spring Term 2017

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January Beginning of term for staff and students

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February INSET Day

Half Term Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February

Friday 7th April Last day of term—finish at 3.10pm

**Summer Term 2017** 

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April Start of term for all students Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May Bank Holiday (May Day)

Half Term Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

Friday 21st July Last day of term

**Autumn Term 2017** 

Monday 4th September and Tuesday 5th September—INSET Days

Wednesday 6th September - Start of term for all students

Half term Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October

Friday 24th November—Occasional Day

Wednesday 20th December—End of term

Spring Term 2018

Thursday 4th January to Wednesday 28th March

Thursday 29th March—INSET Day

Half Term Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February

**Summer Term 2018** 

Monday 16th April to Friday 20th July

Half Term Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June



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Please contact Andrea Clegg on a.clegg@marlborough.herts.sch.uk for any information regarding the content of this or future publications.