



The Merlin Centre

Our new block, The Merlin Centre, was officially opened on Monday 26th November.



Upstairs is dedicated purely to our Post 16 students – it has a social space/café with a fully manned servery run by our caterers Edwards & Blake, a silent study area, two post 16 classrooms, toilet facilities and two offices.

"the silent student area has already meant I can make serious headway with my revision and exam preparation" George

"the social area is really stylish, the sofas are comfortable and provide a much needed comfort break after working so hard. The variety of food served here is also really good. The "choose your own filling" is a really popular idea with students" Yasmin



Downstairs we have a music classroom, IT classroom and a general teaching classroom.

It was a unanimous school decision to name our new block after Merlin Williams, a much loved and highly respected colleague.

Students were involved in the whole design and build process right from the start.



NEWS

Extraordinary AGM

Tuesday 4th December at 7pm

Meetings are held in the Boardroom.

Please help shape your child's school by getting involved in raising funds for extra equipment.



Second Hand Uniform Sale

Saturday 12th January, 10.30 - 12.00pm

(Sales are held in the Boardroom)

Good quality clean uniform for sale. All proceeds go to the PTA.

WANTED – Your old uniform!



Donations are welcome on the day or can be left at school reception during the week. Enquiries can be emailed to pta@marlborough.herts.sch.uk please put the subject as 'Uniform'

Children in need

The sports leadership team organised a Just Dance competition and a penalty shoot out in aid of Children in Need on Friday 16th November. An amazing £60 was raised by the students who had a fun time. The sports leaders involved on the day were; Amy Narramore, Faye Luckhurst, Estelle Basse, Hollie Thornton, Alex Noon and Raffi Roberts.



Year 8 Work Shadowing

Year 8 Students took part in a Work Shadowing Day on 8th November. They found out about careers, health and safety as well as finding out first - hand what it is like to work for a whole day.

Mrs Rutherford



The lads that we had on station were a credit to the school and as far as I'm aware had a good day – albeit I think the physical activity session was a bit of a shock to them all!

Coral Jobson
Youth Engagement Officer
Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service



Jason Brewer spent the day at Watford FC. Read his interview with Craig Cathcart [here](#)



Student Achievements

Massive congratulations to Mikie Ridgeway who recently competed in the National finals competition for Level 6 club grades in Birmingham.

Mikie achieved 3rd in the country in the individual all round competition.

This fantastic achievement helped his fellow East team members to a 1st place in the team event.

Mikie also placed 1st on vault, 1st on floor, 2nd on pommels and 2nd on high bar in the country for this level. This is Mikie's final year to compete at setwork where he will now focus on voluntary routines and looks to compete in the British championships next year.

Due to a top three placing in this competition Mikie has been selected to attend a performance pathway training camp at the National Sports Centre in Lilleshall.



We wish Mikie every success



Student Achievements

October Taekwondo tournaments saw **Rhianna Patel 9JI** and **Nikhil Patel 8RY** competing at the their toughest level before the British Nationals.

Training has been tough as they work hard towards the next goal.

On 30th September at Edmonton London International Open Rhianna and Nikhil both achieved a bronze.

As the Nationals approach the competitions become harder and more competitors from other countries also attend tournaments in the UK.

On 7th October The Cadet Selection Tournament, Aquila at the University of East London took place. Rhianna fought and reached the quarter finals. It was a tough match and she did well, gaining valuable experience. Nikhil had a very long wait for his semi finals and finals, he was very tired and fought hard but unfortunately lost out to an experienced opponent in the finals and took a Silver Medal - well done.



No rest at all as 14th October a very early start at 5am saw the Patel's on the road to Nottingham where the tournament took place at the Wildcat Arena—NTC Open International.

Another tough tournament, Rhianna made it through to the quarter finals, losing again by one point. She fought brilliantly. Nikhil fought extremely well and got a Silver Medal

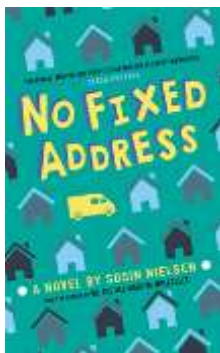
Both are training very hard preparing themselves for the British Nationals, mentally and physically as these fights are going to be the hardest of all the competitions they have attended.



Student Achievements



Well done to Rhianna Berryman who came 32nd out of 60 dancers in her first Regional Irish dance competition. It was a fantastic achievement to even be selected for this level of competition and we wish Rhianna every success in future contests.



LRC News

Ms Duncan's year 8 English class were invited to St Columba's College to hear author Susin Nielson talk about her new book No Fixed Address and share how she became a writer. The students all enjoyed the visit and were a credit to the school.



Year 7 & 8 students will be taking part in The Witchfinder Experience on 10th December with author William Hussey. This Horrible Histories-style event includes a recreation of a 17th Century Witch Trial in which students play major roles.

<https://williamhussey.co.uk/>



Good luck to Chloe Field, Ceitidh Clarke, Freddie Hobbs and Alex Clutton who will be representing Marlborough at the North London Heat of the Kids' Lit Quiz on Wednesday 28th November at Queenswood School, Hatfield



Remembrance at Marlborough



This year's Remembrance was special as it marked the centenary of the Armistice. Year 8 students have started learning about the Great War earlier than usual and below are some articles about what they have been learning. We are delighted the poppy garden project encouraged over eighty students to engage with their ancestry and find out more about their relatives who fell in past conflicts.

Sylvie Parfitt 7AT found out about her great, great uncle Tom Stot (pictured right) and Kiera Leece Blackett 8HF researched her great, great grandma's brother Harold Travers Dore.

Charlotte Joyce 8LM and Gracie Gibbins 8RY have written about the causes of 'The war to end all wars'. Click [here](#) to see their work on our website.



Year 8 work in St Stephen's church on Watling Street for their Great War history exhibition.



MFL en Tour - Normandie, France Octobre 2018

On the 27th of October 2018 Mr Henshall, Miss Simeone and Mrs Platt took 19 Year 9 and 10s on an unforgettable trip to Normandy in France. Having arose in the early hours of the morning, we were raring to go. On the six-hour ferry journey from Portsmouth we had plenty of things to do with a private cinema, an arcade and multiple shops and restaurants. In the evening, we finally arrived at the Château de la Baudonnière, our home for the next five days. The whole philosophy of the Château is a complete immersion in the French language and culture and it was full on right from the very start..



"La fabrication du pain était hyper-amusante"- Heather McCloy

On day two the real experience began. It started off with a breakfast of authentic pain au chocolats, croissants and brioche. Our first activity of the day was 'fabrication du

pain', otherwise known as bread-making, which we later ate for lunch! We all agreed that it was the most delicious bread we'd ever had. After lunch, we had a very chilled out French

**"This was the best trip abroad I've ever been on. Everything we did was great fun. I would love to do it again—
Benjamin Isaacs**

lesson which just consisted of talking to a French lady. Later we did archery. After dinner, we took part in a French quiz. Finally, we collapsed in bed after an exhausting day.

By the time day three rolled around, we were all already speaking and understanding more French. First stop was the D-Day Landing Museum in Arromanches, with the Battle of Normandy being the key point of



focus. As the museum is built on the site of the artificial harbour, we could see the vestiges of it in the sea and imagine the story the guide was telling us. Then we went to a 360° cinema where we watched a film in memory of all those lost during World War 2.

"I really enjoyed the trip as I got to see THE Mont St Michel and I got to eat snails too!!"- Clara Squire

"...a great trip.. learned a lot.. met some great people"- Molly Whiffin

"...amazing...loads of unforgettable experiences" – Raffi Roberts.

Next, we had a picnic. Afterwards, we visited an American war cemetery and memorial. The eerie beauty, size and respect of it all were incredibly overwhelming and humbling.



In the evening, when we returned to the Château, we had a talent and costume competition with another school from Wales, followed by a disco. We danced and sang for hours.

Now the day we had been waiting for had finally arrived – the French market and Mont St Michel! At the French market, we took the opportunity to stuff our faces with crêpes and macaroons. Then we had another picnic. Next, we visited the Mont St Michel (the number 1 tourist

attraction in France outside Paris). For the rest of the day we explored the little island, which is topped with a beautiful medieval monastery. The breath-taking location inspired awe within all of us.

Legend has it that the Archangel Michael himself insisted on the abbey being built. At the end of the day we participated in 'le Grand Trouvaille' or the Treasure Hunt, pushing our imagination and making us find the most random things.

"I enjoyed every minute of it, especially the talent show and our entries!" – Thomas Jobson

Day five arrived sooner than any of us expected. We had to say goodbye to our temporary home and get ready to start speaking in English. On the way back to the ferry we had the opportunity to see the exquisite Tapisserie de Bayeux, which depicts the events leading up to

the Norman conquest of England concerning William, Duke of Normandy and later the Battle of Hastings.

Sadly, our amazing trip had to come to an end.

Weronika Wrzesniak

"It was the best trip I have been on – so many amazing memories.. we created one big family" – Jade Albert

"C'était mega cool" – Joe Gentleman



"20+ years of running trips and this has to rank as one of the very best! Incroyable! Inoubliable! Mille fois merci a tout le monde." Monsieur H

House Pumpkin Carving Competition



Well done to Saturn House for winning this years competition. The Saturn Science teachers created some wonderful 'brain juice' which the photo doesn't really do justice to!

2nd Mars



3rd Mercury



4th Neptune



The Great Marlborough Bake Off

Year 9 had some tremendous entrants into the Bake off and some great fun baking! Over three weeks students had to make cupcakes that reflected something about, a technical challenge where they had to make cheesy bread rolls, and a showstopper round which was their own interpretation of a Bakewell tart. There were some fabulous products made by everyone which meant judging to find a winner was so difficult.

Star Baker for the cupcake round was **Anna Visegradi** with some amazing sesame street character cupcakes. The technical challenge was won by **Marthra Kapugama Geeganage** and the Showstopper was won by **Mitchell Robson**.



Our overall winner of the Year 9 Bake off was **Anna Visegrad** followed very closely by **Evie Summers**. Evie and Anna will now compete in the grand final against other years and the staff later on in the year. Well done to everyone!



Thank you to Pines and Needles who are donating a 6ft Nordman fir Christmas tree for the new Merlin Centre. Their pop up shop opens on 24th November at Verulamium Park, opposite Westminster Lodge, Holywell Hill, St Albans, AL1 2DL

See below for more information about the company and a code for a free gift when you purchase a tree from them.



A visit to one of our pop up shops is a great shopping day out for families. We aim to create a fairytale scenario with our beautiful lights and brilliant trees; and, of course, our kilt-bedecked Santa's helpers.



Christmas is a time of giving and receiving hope and love. Preparing for Christmas is also very busy and can be a little stressful at times. We aim to make everyone's tree-buying experience a beautiful and magical occasion with laughter and happy memories.

Here at Pines and Needles we are passionate about Christmas trees and all things green and good. Where possible, our trees are organically grown and come from sustainable British forests.



Families from your school can use the code 'FESTIVE18' to get a free gift with their purchase online as well as at our pop up shop. Our website is <https://www.pinesandneedles.com>

Understanding behaviour in your child with additional needs

Does your child have additional needs?

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To Book Contact:

Contact: The Bookings Team

Email: admin@natural-flair.com

Or Call: 01992 446 051

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- ♦ Tools for handling conflict
- ♦ Understanding physical and emotional development
- ♦ Teen brain development and teen culture
- ♦ Improving communication and relationships
- ♦ Dealing with challenging behaviour

Venue:

**St Albans Girls School
(STAGS) Sandridgebury Lane,
St Albans AL3 6DB**

Time 7pm – 9pm

Date Wed 27th Feb-3rd April '19



Natural Flair

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2018

Wednesday 5th September to Friday 21st December 2018

Half Term *Monday 29th October to Friday 2nd November 2018*

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th January to Thursday 4th April 2019

Friday 5th April – Inset day

Half Term *Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February 2019*

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April to Friday 19th July 2019

Half Term *Monday 27th to Friday 31st May 2019*

If you have any questions and not sure who to ask
please click here for the [general enquiry form](#)



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www.themarboroughscienceacademy.co.uk

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