



Marlborough News

www.themarboroughscienceacademy.co.uk

9th February 2018 Issue #85

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, what can I say, that was a fine end to a half term if ever there has been one. You will appreciate I know that I am unable to reveal any Ofsted outcomes, I will expect this news in three or four weeks (according to the Lead Inspector) but this is a rough estimation. As I said in my schoolcomms message yesterday, whatever the outcome the school was spectacular yesterday (as it is every day I hasten to add!) and as mentioned particularly impressive were your sons and daughters. Your response to Parentview was 'exceptional' and way above the national average so thank you for taking the time to do that part of the process. We don't get to see any of your views but the inspection team were most complimentary. Staff on every level were just extraordinary, I was told by the inspectors that it was a privilege to have been in our school and I think that says so much, the school was so calm, vibrant and purposeful—it was just wonderful.

In the middle of all the above special mention must go to the staff and students who were here until late on Wednesday for the Performing Arts Evening—talk about the show must go on and I have to say with good humour and a genuine desire not to let students or children down, special mention must go to Ms Eastwood, Ms Haines, Ms Fox, Miss Bullock, Mr Salih, Mr Armer, Mr O'Sullivan, Ms Gustafson, Mrs Little, Mrs Day and Miss Arrol.

We bid fond farewell to Mr Cockram who is leaving us today and setting out on his own in business as a tiler (we have been assured 'mates rates' apply) but he is, I believe, already fully booked. Mr Cockram was a fabulous tutor, a warm, kind and caring colleague, the students loved his lessons and will miss him. I would like to thank him for all his work on the 'House System' set up at Marlborough, an instrumental step in firmly establishing us as the community we are today.

As always I have no clue where this half term has gone but as always it has been packed with enrichment activities, opportunities to step out of your comfort zone and let's be honest sometimes it's just about the business of cracking on with your learning. I hope the ski trip and Italy trip go well and that everyone has a safe, kind and restful half term.

Best wishes and thank you, we'll do it all again from Monday 19th February.

Ms Thomson
Headteacher

News from the Art Department

These last two weeks Year 10 have been busy working on some beautiful studies by the artist Mark Heard who is a British illustrator. The students made their own collage papers by painting plain paper or rolling paper with coloured inks to create textures and tones that could be used for their collages. The Art department has been very excited to see these beautiful pieces emerging. The work below by Saad Hussain, Lily Hughes, Izzy Wilmott, Mia Kelly and Alex Courtney are some lovely examples. Well done Year 10.

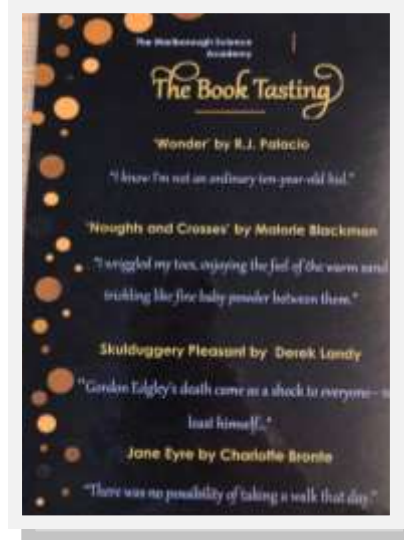
Ms Bustin



Teaching and Learning at Marlborough

As part of every Tuesday's staff briefing I disseminate different teaching and learning ideas as well as passing on resources or lesson activities created by staff.

Miss Fogarty recently turned her English lesson into a literacy themed restaurant. She got her students to be involved in a book tasting and turned S5 into a restaurant with a flickering fire and ambient music playing in the background. Students had 10 books to choose from but had to choose their book based on the first line - which were placed on a specially designed menu. Students then read a new book and tried a different genre. Once they were finished they completed a mini book review. I am sure her students will remember this for a long time.



Another way we disseminate good practice and ensure high quality learning is to conduct learning reviews where members of the leadership team visit lessons to look at how our students are learning, talk to them and look at their books. We recently reviewed Post 16 provision with the following comments shared below:

English

- Lovely atmosphere - good engagement, good level of debate, great engagement and great one to one.
- Great subject knowledge

Maths

- Revision lesson. 2 colour coded questions, students making revision maps which they found useful. Colour coding key parts. Worked examples provided, excellent climate for learning.
- Excellent climate for learning. Students participating well, asking questions to clarify any misconceptions they had. Clear worked examples, students helping each other. Great student knowledge.
- Excellent climate for learning, lots of questions asked, good neat notes made, clear explanations.
- Behaviour for learning is great. Use of My Maths to check learning, instructions and explanations clear.
- Excellent climate for learning even with a change of classroom. Difficult question on board, problem broken down into 3 help sections with worked through solutions. Students then given time to answer a question, all but 1 got it right. Good use of students to support the one who made an error.

Teaching and Learning continued

Science

- Excellent planning and well executed practical lessons. Clear plan of the lesson. Lots of feedback in the books.
- Clear explanations, general recall questions being asked at the start of the lesson. Assessment recently completed and marked. Specific questions given to individuals - pushed students further. Good pace. Note books are acknowledged marked.
- Regular feedback, mainly stamp used; students' green pen responses. Clear assessment criteria shown and highlighted. Good parts highlighting, clear routine for responding to feedback. Behaviour for learning excellent. Student test stuck in books for today's lesson. Assessment sheet well marked.
- All students engaged. Lots of clear detailed notes with feedback from teacher.
- Clear resources being used on the PowerPoint. Student notes are clear - well presented - students working in exercise books - marking with extension/NOW tasks seen.
- Books show evidence of marking. Clear explanations of key weaknesses in exams.
- Excellent climate for learning. Excellent questioning and student responses. Target sheet completed and well above target, well organised learning. Everything relating and linking to learning objective. Superb learning.

Humanities

- Fantastic engagement. Great feedback from teacher, very detailed. Targets are long term and to be included in the next essay so no evidence of green pen but still clear progress.
- Clear structure, students researched different aspects ready to do presentations in the second lesson. Students work with books or folders so work kept together. Good question and answer section.
- Clear task for student on globalisation - students using two articles to consider the pros and cons. General notes are not marked but student books include two more formal assessments including on more recently.
- Detailed feedback for students on first coursework draft - level and tick lists, improvements.
- Engagement/preparation/relationships. File was well organised, evidence of assessments and feedback.
- Great pace, dynamic teaching, strong subject knowledge. Assessments marked well, excellent demonstration using props, great student contributions.

ICT

- Revision lesson for the PPEs - students are clear about what is to be tested in the PPE, summary exercise building to a matching exercise to identify key areas ideas. All students report that they complete exercises using questions from past papers. Notes checked each lesson.
- Students keeping learning journal of work completed including S/A. Students responding to test marking to increase scores to full marks for each question.
- Clearly going through exam assessment criteria with the group, all displayed on student scores, key words displayed giving examples for students. Turned assessment criteria into clear questions students could ask about their work. Used google classroom to show previous evaluations to support the lesson. Google classroom shows the students work with clear staff responses that can be accessed from anywhere. Students get nearly instant feedback which they like and you can track and amendments made. Behaviour for learning was excellent.

First Day Calls

BBC News last week featured the tragic story of teacher, Helen Daykin. In October 2016, Helen was working away from home when her husband, Chris, died suddenly whilst looking after their young children. After his sudden death from heart failure in the house, Helen's little girls, four and two, spent almost 24 hours with the body of their father.

The older girl had recently started school, and when she didn't arrive, the school rang their father, to no avail. Tragically, they didn't then follow up with a call to the girls' mother, 200 miles away in London. The alarm wasn't raised until tea-time when Chris' mother visited the home.

Helen is telling her heart-breaking story to raise awareness of the importance of first-day calls, and the importance of responding to school if contacted. With this in mind I thought it would be useful to remind everybody of what we do to help safeguard our community.

Dear Parent,

I am writing to make you aware of the school procedure for children who have unexplained absences from school. There have been public cases in the past where schools have not chased up the reasons as to why children are off of school. It has then transpired that there have been tragic circumstances around these absences, e.g. illness of a parent and a child unable to seek help. We will do everything we can to prevent such situations occurring as I am sure you would agree that your child's safety is paramount to us all.

If your child is not going to be in school please call the office on 01727 731368 or email the school on attendance@marlborough.herts.sch.uk to report their absence. Please do this before 08:30 on the first day of the absence.

If we have not heard from you by 09:15am, then we will start to send school comms text messages and emails and call all the contact numbers that you have provided in order to gain an explanation for the absence. If we still have not been able to ascertain where your child is then we may well make a home visit. However if we still haven't been able to get a response then we will report it to the police as your child will then be classed a 'missing child'.

This procedure is to ensure that we know where your child is and that you are all safe. Please let us know in good time why your child is absent from school. If you would like to talk to me about this please make an appointment to see me.

Mr M Fitzgibbon
Deputy Headteacher

The Marlborough Science Academy First Day Call Procedure

- Registers taken promptly.
- Attendance team listen to absence calls, read absence emails and check school comms messages.
- Registers collated, lates, absence calls - produce the list of children absent with no explanation (these will be N marks on SIMS).
- Any discrepancies will be chased up in school.
- Send school comms (texts and emails), if no response start first day calling for children absent without explanation, call everyone on the contact list until you get an answer. Leave messages if there is a voicemail option.
- If an overseas ring tone, a check is made with DoLs and the Head teacher to see if there has been any contact for holiday authorisation.
- If no replies at all consider whether any children have additional agency support, such as a social worker, contact them.
- Speak to any family members in school to ask about the child's whereabouts.
- Call the contact list at least twice and send out another set of school comms at PM registration if we have not had any communication.
- Make a prompt home visit if we have concerns.
- If you cannot get an answer from the home visit refer to children's services / MASH / Police and request a welfare call.

Holocaust Memorial Day

Saturday 27th January saw Holocaust Memorial Day being commemorated across the globe. This date was chosen as it was the date on which Auschwitz, the most infamous concentration camp, was liberated. Holocaust Memorial Day is the day used to remember the 17 million people, including 6 million Jews, murdered during the genocide from approximately 1933 – 1945.

Here at Marlborough, we remembered the victims of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides including Rwanda, Srebrenica, Cambodia and Darfur during our school assemblies.

Our Year 10 History students also took part in the Holocaust Educational Trust's annual Survivor Testimony Webcast. They saw Holocaust survivor Janine Webber tell her story, which included having to hide in a hole dug under a wardrobe, as well as the loss of her father, brother and mother to the cruel Nazi regime.

Miss Warr



Finance Office

The Finance Office is currently experiencing a high volume of students asking for hand written receipts for revision guides that have paid for via School Gateway.

Please may we request that you print off payment confirmations wherever possible so that your child can show these directly to their subject teacher – they will then be given the relevant books.

Payment confirmations can be accessed by logging into your School Gateway account and clicking into the Payment History section. Every transaction will be displayed and by clicking into a transaction it will then show a breakdown of what that particular payment covers.

Your child can then either take a photo on their phone (if they have one) or you can print this information by right- clicking and choosing the print option.

Thank you

The Finance Team

Safer Internet Day



This Tuesday was Safer Internet Day. Through a series of assemblies students were reminded of the safe and proper use of social media.

There is a useful video link [here](#) for parents and carers and also one for 11-14 year olds [here](#) .

Top Tips for Parents and Carers [here](#)

We hope you found the '[Smartphone health check](#)' that was sent out on Tuesday helpful.

In ICT lessons we are asking the students to complete a 'digital lifestyles' survey investigating how they are using their digital devices.

Finally, just as a dog is not only for Christmas, online safety awareness is not only for Safer Internet Day. Throughout the year please take every opportunity to discuss online safety with your children, not only to help prevent them becoming vulnerable to the many risks that it poses, but also to help you learn from them as they are usually several steps ahead of us!

Rocket to the Future

Years 11, 12 and 13

Are you on **twitter**?



Twitter is just another way to find out what's out there. Follow the universities, colleges, the companies who post their vacancies and training opportunities and find out more about Industry Insight Days. Find those companies and industries that you are interested in and follow them on **twitter**.

'Twitter isn't about friending—it's about following'

Have you got a LinkedIn profile?

Build a LinkedIn profile and let employers find you

Whether you are thinking of apprenticeships, college or University it is all about connecting, networking and getting noticed.



[@Getuptree](#) Professional network for young people

Platform for future talent to connect with inspiring opportunities:

- Careers • Work Experience • Events

'I learnt so many new things about a company that I always hear about, but never knew what they did. I also learnt about the different options that are out there for higher education other than university.'

PSHCEE Sessions

National Citizen Service



Year 11 recently had a very lively and exuberant Will Bramble, Senior Youth Engagement Officer from NCS, present an assembly to them about the NCS summer placements available.

They have the opportunity to spend three or four weeks over the summer on an NCS journey which is over 4 phases including the first week of adventure, living away from home at an outdoor activity centre, second week is discovery to develop life skills, confidence, leadership and communication while staying in the University of Hertfordshire halls. Phase 3 is action—time to make your mark! All their NCS experience comes together and they and their team will deliver a community project about the issues that matter to them and the final phase is celebration! They will enjoy a well earned reward for doing something incredible in their community. This is an amazing CV and personal statement boost and at the same time giving them many important life skills. All this for £50!

We were impressed with the number of students that signed up last Monday but it's not too late. Will has promised to come back for another Year 11 assembly but if you want to find out more click [here](#) or call them on 0121 386 6910.

'Fantastic year group—they are very switched on and engaged. I wish them all the best in the future.'

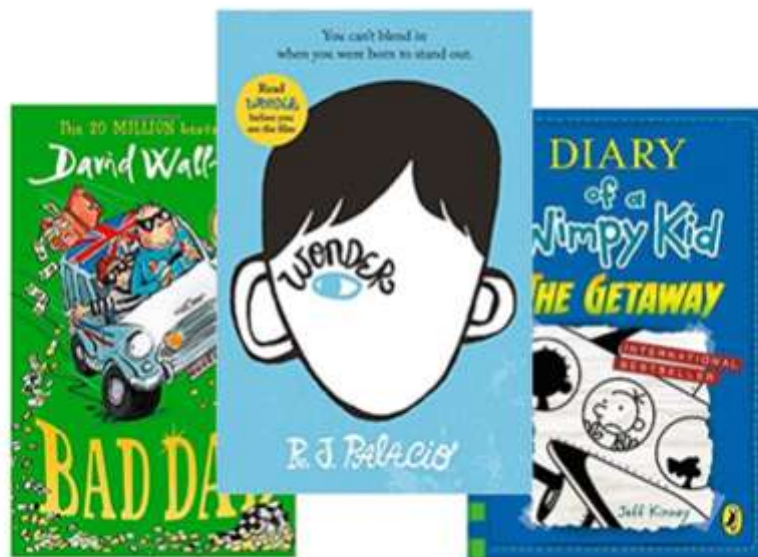
Will Bramble

Design a Book Cover Competition

For your chance to win a book voucher to
spend at the book fair

1st Prize £10

3 x runner up prizes of £5 each



Return your entries to the LRC by
Wednesday 21st February

Please click [here](#) for the book cover template

BOOK WEEK

26TH FEB - 2ND MARCH

Lunchtimes in the LRC

Monday

Bookmark Making and
Second Hand Book Sale

Tuesday

Year 7&8 Karaoke

Wednesday

House Book Cover
Competition

Thursday

Second Hand Book Sale

Friday

Author Pete Johnson will
be chatting to
students and signing
copies of his books

Second Hand Book
Sale Monday
& Thursday
Lunchtime



Book doors

Form
Competition



Big Read

Thursday
form
time



Accelerated Reader

free for all.

Get quizzing!



KARAOKE

Tuesday lunchtime

Year 7&8



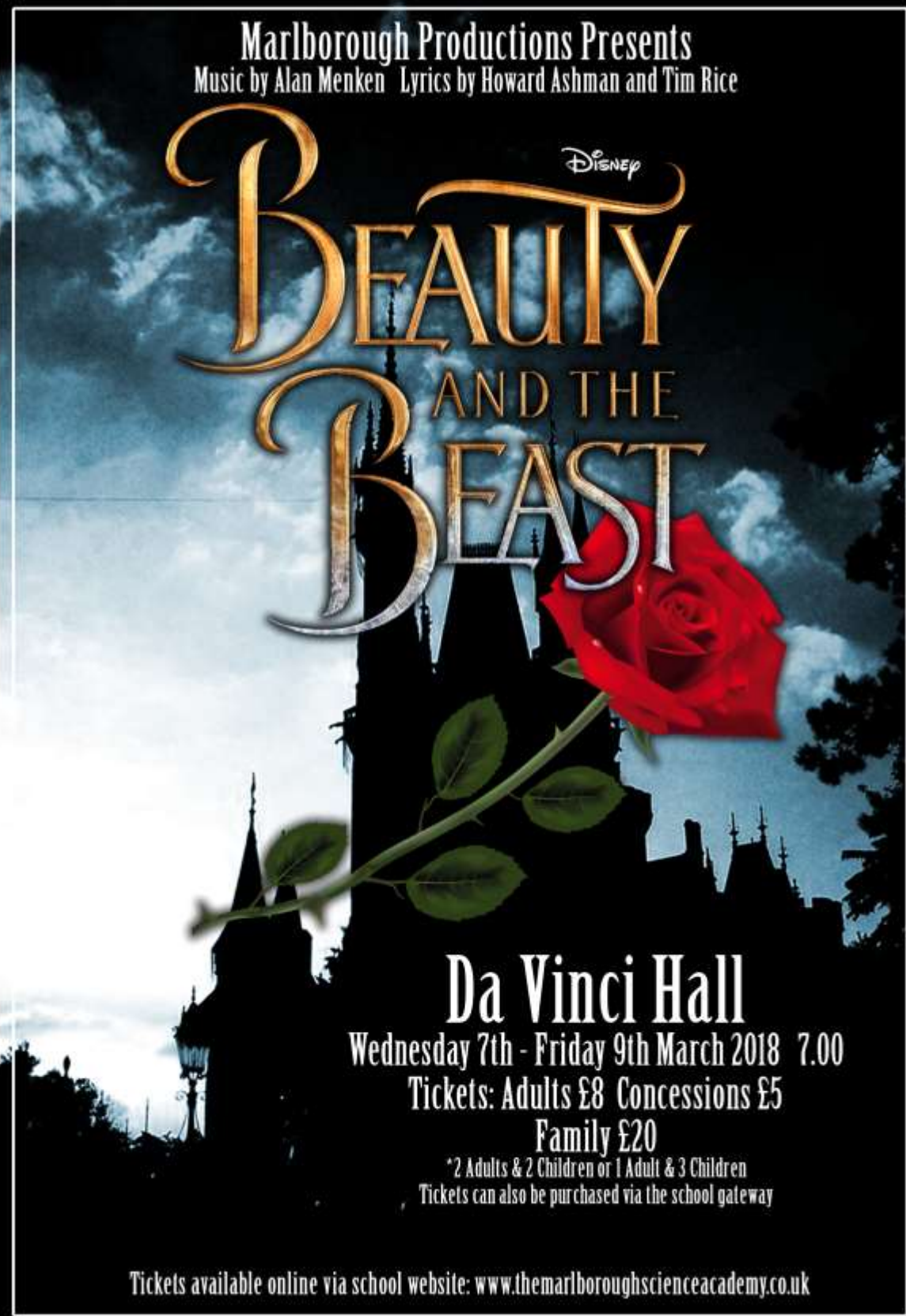
Book return raffle

Bring back those
overdue
books



Year 7&8 will be
meeting Author
Pete Johnson
On Friday





Marlborough Productions Presents
Music by Alan Menken Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice

Disney
**BEAUTY
AND THE
BEAST**

Da Vinci Hall
Wednesday 7th - Friday 9th March 2018 7.00
Tickets: Adults £8 Concessions £5
Family £20
*2 Adults & 2 Children or 1 Adult & 3 Children
Tickets can also be purchased via the school gateway

Tickets available online via school website: www.themarlbroughscienceacademy.co.uk

Learning Counts

Every Friday tutor time a member of the Senior management team meets with a selection of students from Years 7-11, Ms Thomson meets with Year 7s to ensure transition is successful and other year groups meet with their SLT link. The sole purpose of these meetings is to ensure that students feel they have a voice, that they can talk about anything and that we can understand how their learning is going. We feedback to staff all the positive comments and action any areas of concern. We are rigorous in ensuring students know how to keep themselves safe online.

Year 7 said 'there is unity in the school and that they try to be outstanding students.' They said 'the rules are fair and strict when they need to be.'

Year 8 said that 'they think the school is a fair school and students have the freedom of choice.' 'They like that we showcase their work and think we have brilliant facilities e.g. swimming pool.' They said 'that their teachers make the difference to their learning in lessons.' 'They feel safe and the school is amazing.' 'They are allowed a voice and encouraged to debate issues.' They made special mention to trampoline lessons.

Year 10 said 'they are proud of their school and that their teachers are really good.' 'They like that their achievements are shown on their grade cards and made special mention to their Music, History and Art lessons.'

Year 11 said they 'are proud of their school' and made special mention to Science lesson on global warming and also to their Chemistry and English lessons.

Equipped for Learning



Please can we remind parents and carers that all students should come to school prepared for their lessons. They should refer to page 20 in their planners if they need reminding of the expected equipment they should have with them every day. If they are without a vital piece of equipment they can buy these items from the Finance Office. School bags should be big enough to fit their school books and equipment.

Thank you for your support.

Apprenticeship Fair

Thank you to all the companies that gave their time to talk to visitors at Marlborough's Apprenticeship Fair last week. It was especially rewarding to hear from two ex students John Battams and Tiffany Duran who have gone on to follow their chosen pathways via an apprenticeship. John is working at BRE and Tiffany after speaking to Dickinsons Chartered Accountants at last year's Apprenticeship Fair and a week of work experience was successful in starting an accountancy training programme with them. It was interesting to find out about the different pathways there are for young people from the age of 16 onwards.

'There is something different every day , high pressured but really enjoyable in a young office and there is always someone at the next level who can support you. You need to have a love for numbers but there is also a mix of business and economics.' Tiffany



'As a parent I found it really helpful and interesting. We are in the dilemma of following a degree at University or via an apprenticeship and this evening certainly made up our mind, that with no debt someone can still achieve the same qualifications within certain sectors. Thank you for putting this event together.'

Year 13 Parent

Football

The boys have been hugely busy in recent Saturday mornings playing block fixtures against Roundwood Park school, Samuel Ryder, Townsend and St Albans School. The dedication of the boys has been excellent and has set each team up well for the district cup matches starting soon.

Results have been encouraging across the board.

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Roundwood Park | Samuel Ryder | Townsend | St Albans school |
| Year 7 Won 5-3 | Year 7 won 8-0 | Year 7 won 8-2 | Year 8 lost 2-1 |
| Year 8 lost 3-2 | Year 8 lost 2-1 | Year 8 won 7-1 | Year 9 won 5-2 |
| Year 9 lost 3-2 | Year 9 won 2-1 | Year 9 drew 2-2 | Year 10 won 3-2 |
| Year 10 lost 5-0 | Year 10 lost 5-0 | | |

Mr Packard

Student Achievements

There have been some amazing swimming achievements by **Daniel Martin 10BS** and **Matthew Martin 8NS**. They both swim for City of St Albans Swimming Club (CoStA) and have done since the ages of 7 and 9.



Over the weekends of 13/14 and 20/21 January they competed in Hertfordshire County Swimming Championships. The competition has an age and qualification time that they need to meet in order to qualify and only the fastest 24 entrants in Hertfordshire can compete.

Dan chose to compete in 8 of the events that he qualified for and made all 8 finals, finishing 3rd in the 100m and 200m freestyle and winning a bronze medal for each. He finished 4th in the 100IM narrowly missing out on a medal.

Matthew chose to compete in 7 of the events that he qualified for and finished 5th in the 200IM and made the top 10 and top 15 in his other races. A fantastic achievement for them both in a tough competition with the best swimmers in Hertfordshire.



Rhianna Patel 8PP and **Nikhil Patel 7RY** both attended the World Taekwondo Europe Presidential European Cup in Stuttgart, Germany last weekend. There were over 300 teams taking part from all over Europe. This was Nikhil's 1st tournament at the cadet level, he had 40 competitors in his category. This was a tough event and he had to go through 5 fights to get to the finals. He did amazingly well and in his first fight but lost 7 - 15, well done Rhianna also had 40 competitors in her category with 5 fights losing to a fighter from Croatia, well done to her as well. This was a tough match for both of them and this year they have



another 4 cadet matches to go through to be then selected for the British Cadet Team. Good luck to them both.

New Sixth Form build



Please click on our Sixth Form Build [link](#) to see our regularly updated photo gallery of the progress of the new build.

Follow us on twitter and facebook @marlboroughsch @TMSA_PE

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



Raise free funds every time you shop online.

We're using easyfundraising to raise free funds, sign-up today and help us raise money this year.



Raise money with the things you're already buying online



Groceries



Holiday



Insurance



Travel



Electronics



Gifts



Entertainment



Fashion



Business



Days out

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/themarlbroughsa/>

Over 3,300 shops and sites including...

amazon.co.uk



Viking

ebay

Sainsbury's

John Lewis

Please click [here](#) to go directly to Marlborough's easyfundraising link.

Term Dates

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

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 Friday 5th April 2019

Half Term Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February 2019

Friday 15th February—Inset Day

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April to Friday 19th July 2019

Half Term Monday 27th to Friday 31st May 2019



Marlborough News
www.themarboroughscienceacademy.co.uk

An official publication of The Marlborough Science Academy Ltd,
 Watling Street, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 2QA #08003969
 01727 856 874 | www.themarboroughscienceacademy.co.uk

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