



# Marlborough News

www.themarboroughscienceacademy.co.uk



18th December 2020 Issue #113



The Marlborough  
Science Academy



Dear parents and carers

18th December 2020

I am utterly convinced that you will by now be growing weary of communications from me that sometimes are trying to be chirpy, sometimes lacking in clarity (despite my best attempts at decoding various dictats) but mostly trying to re-assure you that as always your children come first and always will do.

So here is the news about Covid as of today! From Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 the day when we are due to return to school, only Year 11s and 13s are expected to be here. Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 12 will be asked to work at home and staff will set work and teach remotely as has worked so successfully the last few weeks when we shut down due to lack of staff.

For Year 11 & 13 their timetables will run the same way, their break/lunchtimes will operate the same way and there will continue to be staggered starts; if any of this changes over the holidays I will of course let you know. All staff will be in school and lessons will be delivered to the normal high standard according to our policy and procedures (please see website).

As we will be entering into Tier 3 you must also ensure that your children (Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 12) are not out and about during the school day and are keeping themselves and you safe. As in previous lockdowns the children of key workers who fall into the following categories (below) are of course welcome into school but again please will you give the names to the following staff. This information would be most useful by Christmas Eve (I know I'm sorry!).

You are a key worker and have no childcare

Your child has an EHCP

Your child has a social worker

KS3 (Year 7 & 8) [m.fitzgibbon@marlborough.herts.sch.uk](mailto:m.fitzgibbon@marlborough.herts.sch.uk)

KS4/5 (Yr 9, 10 & 12) [d.crook@marlborough.herts.sch.uk](mailto:d.crook@marlborough.herts.sch.uk)

I am so sorry about the lack of notice but as you will have been watching the news, reading the paper etc you will know I was given the information yesterday. Mr Paice has provided more information re: mass testing however there are many caveats to this operationally that we will need of course to consider.

Included too within this newsletter is some advice re: Covid/advice and guidance and we are on duty re: track and trace until Christmas Eve should you need to let us know in case other staff or students are affected as it is school related. There is also information about the re-introduction of Tutor Time and the knock-on effects of that on the timetable and different finishing times for each year group.

Some lovely news to share is that Mrs Dyde has had a beautiful baby girl, all safe, well and glorious. Miss Garrett had a lovely little boy and with the finest head of hair I have ever seen in one so tiny and Mrs Vitale has also had a gorgeous little boy. What a fine first Christmas they will all have!!

We bid farewell to Mrs Platt who has been a highly regarded Assistant Teacher and wish her every success as she starts journeys anew, she really has made such a difference to so many children – particularly with their maths and has been a great team player too.

It would be ridiculous of me to end this message as I would normally do as things are far from normal and there is so much worry out there for so many reasons, and for those reasons I fear my sentiments would have a hollow ring.

I am however going to end by saying let us hope 2020 has shown us that kindness is what matters to help us in our darkest days, that our friends and family are so important and that even on a wonky day here one of your children will always make me smile, laugh and in some cases shed a tear or two.

Just be safe with the ones you love – that you can be with; I will keep in touch of course should things change re: our opening dates or anything else in January as soon as I am made aware.

Whatever holiday you celebrate I do so hope it will be a happy one.

Take care

Ms Thomson



PS: Many thanks to my Governors, they have been extraordinary even to the extent of helping with Christmas lunch – a true Marlborough group activity!! Special mention too must go to my caring team and every single member of staff who continue to work their socks off!

## Information from Mr Paice – Pandemic Co-ordinator

### Holidays and COVID

If you receive a POSITIVE COVID test result between now and the return to school, please follow the advice below:

Positive Test Received	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December – Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> December – Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2021
Action Required	Notify the school via EDULINK as soon as the result has been received. The school will notify the persons who may have been in contact with the positive case. All notified individuals will be required to isolate for 10 days from last contact.	Unless testing was delayed following onset of symptoms whilst still at school, there is no need to contact the school.  However, do contact the school on Monday the 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 if your child will be isolating.

**Parental responsibility** – parents are still required to notify close contacts, family and friends of a positive case and must follow the advice applicable at the time and appropriate to the various Tier restrictions.

### Changes in the new School Year.

#### Testing within Schools

There has been exciting news released regarding tests that will be available at school in the New Year. These are called Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) and should be available in January. I will provide more information in January but it will mean that less staff and students have to isolate if a positive test is reported at school and more importantly it will ensure that students can remain at school and receive the teaching and learning that we all strive to give them in the knowledge that they are safe to do so. The World Health Organization have always said that the way out of this virus is to 'Test Test Test' and I am so pleased to say that this is exactly what we can now do.

In line with this news and after a full review of the Covid Safe measures we have in place, we feel that we can now change a couple of areas to provide greater support for the students in both their wellbeing and welfare.

## Form Time:

From next year we will be reintroducing Form Time. This contact is vitally important and is something that we identified we desperately needed to reintroduce the notion of positive relationships with students and of course you as parents; it has been a noticeable miss from our timetable as a consequence of this finishing times only will change to the following:

Year	Finish time ( <i>with effect from 4 January 2021</i> )
7	14.50
8	14.55
9	15.00
10	15.05
11	15.10
12	15.15
13	15.15

## Form Tutors and Form Rooms

Mr Pressland	7AP	A7
Ms Rickman	7AR	D3
Mr Brennan	7DB	A3
Miss McLaughlin	7EM	P12
Mrs Morrissey/Mr Griggs	7MM	P6
Mr Theivamanoharan	7RT	S1
Mrs Laing/Ms Gibbs	7SL	F5
Mrs Leinster	7VL	F3

Mr Akintola	8TA	F8
Mrs Curtis	8CC	FB4
Mrs Gustafason	8DG	P5
Mrs Metson	8EM	S3
Mr Takyi-Amuah	8KA	F2
Mrs Wood	8LW	M3
Ms Ahrens-Winter	8EA	P4
Miss Branagan	8KB	S4

Mrs Griggs/Mr Leib	9CG	D1
Miss Arrol	9HA	M1
Miss Sutton	9AS	P2
Miss Duncan	9FD	S7
Mrs Day	9AD	A6
Miss Frost	9EF	F4
Mr Vivian/Mr Ramen	9RV	FB1

Miss Yasin	10RY	F6
Miss Mitchell	10EM	S6
Mrs Keat	10AK	A2
Miss Leggatt	10LL	D4
Miss Bullock/Miss Shaw	10LB	M2
Miss Fox	10HF	A4
Mrs Greenwood	10JG	P3
Mr Armstrong	10BA	F7

Miss Fogarty	11SF	S5
Miss Warr	11EW	A8
Mr Ivory	11JI	D5
Miss O'Neal	11MO	P7
Miss O'Krafka	11LO	F1
Mr Green	11RG	FB2
Mrs Douglas	11DD	B4

Mrs Thompson/Mc McCarthy	12LT	P1
Mr James/Mrs Jubb	12JJ	A1
MrAgbanyo	12PA	B3
Mrs Jegede/Mrs Rutherford	12CJ	M5
Mrs Afford	12AA	P11

Miss Garrett (Mrs James)	13AG	A5
Mr Lewis	13SL	B1
Ms Bustin/ Mr Diby	13JB	D6
Mr Szabo/Miss Jones	13PS	B7
Mr Milne/Mrs Westgarth	13JM	P8

### Use of Halls for lunch and Break:

It can be difficult for both staff and students in managing break and lunch times when very cold or wet and we have had to identify safe areas for the students to congregate at these times to provide suitable social distancing. We have therefore decided that we will now open Pascal Hall during these times for the students to use. The area will be cleaned after each use and of course there will be supervision

The use of this area does however come with a small word of warning. As the students will be in closer proximity than they are at the moment, in the event of positive case it is anticipated more students could-be required to be isolated due to their closer contact with this person.

### Uniform

In year 6 and in-year admissions, all students and parents sign a home school partnership agreement committing to our code, standards and uniform. For 99% of our community these standards are adhered to, there are however a considerable few who constantly let their school down and show no regard for the uniform rules.



This stops in January. There is plenty of time ahead to ensure coats are the right colour (black) and shoes are as presented in the uniform list and are **not** trainers. Should there be a financial reason why these purchases are difficult due to other commitments like the buying of mobile phones etc please contact Mr Stanton [a.stanton@marlborough.herts.sch.uk](mailto:a.stanton@marlborough.herts.sch.uk) so we can negotiate a package to help you. Students in the wrong uniform will be sent home once we have contacted you.

Thank you

The Pastoral Team



## REMOTE LEARNING GUIDANCE

Remote learning is going to continue to be an important component of our educational provision.

To help make this process as easy and effective as possible, we have updated our website with help and guidance on how to manage remote learning.

Please visit:

<https://www.themarlboroughscienceacademy.co.uk/students/remote-learning-support>

If you have any concerns or questions about remote learning procedures please contact Mr Rutherford. If it is a question about a specific task for a lesson please contact your child's class teacher directly.





## Marlborough Memories



Our Marlborough Memories book includes items from students, staff and parents written during lockdown. There are a limited amount of books that can be purchased on the School Gateway [here](#) for £10. There's also the option of donating an additional sum. All of the profits will go to support the NHS Charities.

You can see some extracts from the book on our website [here](#).



## The MO

The latest edition of The MO is now available to read [here](#). This issue includes articles about body image, education and gender inequality all written and illustrated by our students. There is also an interview with Blue Hour a local group made up of current and former Marlborough students.



## Student Achievement

Year 10 students produced some fantastic work at home recently whilst completing their remote learning.



*Estelle Basse 10HF*



*Annabel Little 10EM*



*Emily Payne 10AK*



## Student Achievement

My Year 10 food group made these amazing gateaux for Christmas. The pace in the lesson was incredible. Every student absolutely worked to their potential and beyond. They all had the basic sponge ingredients listed, and each student could decorate the top and coat the sides as they liked. I was so impressed at the end of the lesson. Well done all of you ... you should be proud of yourselves!

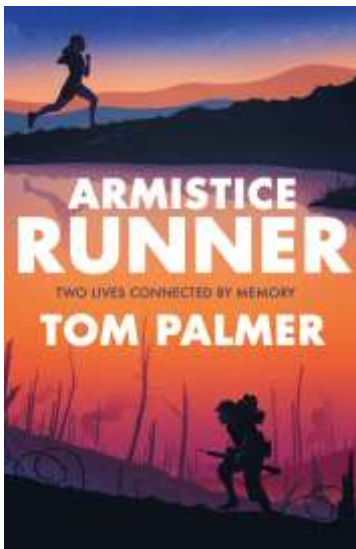
Mrs Cuell



## The Big Read 2021

We are delighted to announce this year's Big Read will be *Armistice Runner* by Tom Palmer. You can see a short film that Tom has made for us on the LRC page of the school website [here](#) and details have also been sent out by Edulink.

The Big Read is a scheme which we hope will involve the entire Marlborough community of students, staff, parents, and governors, reading a single book by the end of this school year. Last year we extended the scheme to explore the book in Drama and Languages before being cut short in March by the pandemic. This year we hope to extend this to more subject areas.



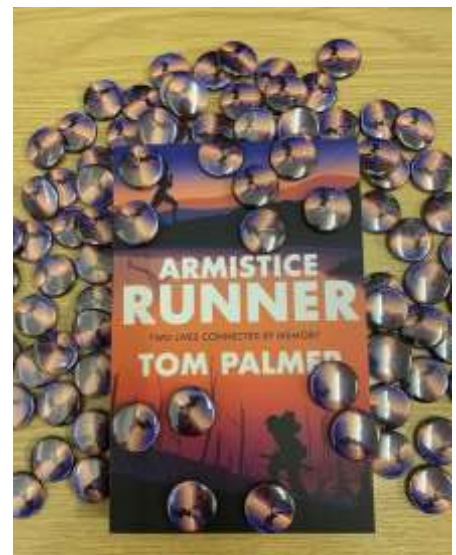
**WINNER FCBG Children's Book Award 2019 (Older Readers Category)**

*Lily has lots of worries. She's struggling to compete in her fell-running races and, worse, she's losing her gran to Alzheimer's. But then she discovers her great-great-grandfather's diaries from the First World War. Could his incredible story of bravery help her reconnect with her gran and even give her the inspiration she needs to push through and win?*

We have lots of copies of the book available to borrow from the LRC and you can reserve your copy [here](#) but if you would like to purchase a copy you can do this on the School Gateway [here](#). Details of how you can do this have been sent out by Edulink.

As we are not able to host an in person visit from the author Tom will sign personalised bookplates to go in the books and we will hold a virtual visit in the spring term for Year 7 students.

As in previous years we have exclusive pin badges for anyone who reads the book and writes a short review. Selected reviews will also be published on our social media platforms.





## Competitions

### Staff House Christmas Tree Competition



Well done to Miss Shaw and her team for their fabulous Grinch themed Christmas tree which won the staff house tree decorating competition. Saturn were second, Neptune 3rd and Mercury 4th. The trees are on display in Pascal and have certainly brightened up the area.



Mars 1st

Saturn 2nd

Neptune 3rd

Mercury 4th

### House Christmas Card Design Competition

Well done to Izzy Chambers 9RV for her winning design in the Christmas card competition. Izzy's design has been used to create thirty professionally printed cards as part of her prize. Runners up were Robyn Goh 7AR, Bethany Knowles 7RT and Fenton Voisey 8TA. Everyone who took part earned themselves a pinkie and a chocolate treat.

In the house competition Mercury and Mars were joint first followed by Saturn and then Neptune.



## Charity News

We received this lovely card from the Guide Dog fundraising team to thank us for our continued support. They hope to be able to visit school again next year with the puppies which is always a popular event with students and staff.



To All the staff and pupils  
at Marlborough Academy,  
Wishing you a very happy  
Christmas and a  
healthy New Year!  
Thank you for your  
continued support.  
from Jackie Day and all  
the Guide Dog fundraising  
volunteers in St Albans.

Thank you to everyone who  
bought their Christmas trees  
from Christmas Treeasy. You  
helped raise £62 for the school.



Over 750 items of food, toiletries, toys,  
pencils and colouring books were  
collected for St Albans and district  
foodbank . Thank you to everyone who  
donated items to support local families  
this Christmas.





## English Stars of the Month for December

The following students have been recognised by their English teacher for their hard work, consistent effort and pleasing work in December.

Grace Burke, Megan Adams, Umor Chowdhury, Oliver Farmer, Nathan Kleiner-Mann, Arvid Saxholm, Nicholas Giles, Freddie Law, Katie Pett, Sana Patel, Kieran Rickwood, Bao Allibon, Sophie Silson, Hamim Meah, Charlotte Hardcastle, Jenan Sakkejha, Isaac Li, Ellie Mae Dunleavy, Reece Toomey, Martha Cooper, Daniel Salmon, James Storey-Brown, Luke Bunting, Ross Hermon, Iqra Bibi, Rosie Vass, Jon Dajci, William Young, Litsa Veneti, Reilly Richards, Alisha Uddin, Mia Hinds, Libby Kortas, Katy Held, Xavier Clements-Kelly



### This Week's Quote of the Week

**"Compassion is an action word with no boundaries."**

**(Prince)**

### Word of the Week

**Leviathan** ( noun) A massive sea monster.

## Celebrating Hanukkah

Hanukkah - a celebration of dedication and light is an eight day Jewish festival which this year began on Thursday 10th December.

In honour of Hanukkah the school has been covered in lights and a special menu served in the Brasserie including traditional potato latkes served with sour cream.

Miss Begum created this lovely display in the Brasserie to inform students about the festival.



## Competitions

### 24 MILES: 12 CODES: 12 DAYS—26 DECEMBER - 6 JANUARY

This holiday season, we have an exciting challenge to participate in as a school by getting involved in **Operation Bletchley: Christmas in Berlin**. This is a fundraiser for ABF The Soldiers' Charity (formerly the Army Benevolent Fund) running over the Christmas holidays and we would love to have as many individuals as we can join in! Please read on to find out how to get involved and what you need to do to complete the challenge.



### HOW IT WORKS

1. Sign up for just £10 and link your phone or fitness tracker to your fundraising page (you can also record your miles manually if you prefer)
2. Start walking at your own pace (from 26 December 2020)
3. Receive updates and codes to crack after every two miles completed - three levels are available - Junior, Codebreaker or Cypher Expert
4. Codes will be delivered straight to your inbox and you can select your level then
5. Solve the codes to decipher the hidden message
6. Complete the journey and deliver the message by the midnight on 6 January 2021.

Please use the following link to join the school team-

<https://events.soldierscharity.org/join/TheMarlboroughScienceAcademy>

We look forward to cracking codes with all of you over the holidays!

**Mrs Gustafson and Mrs Thompson**  
**Numeracy and Enrichment Coordinators**



## Cultural Capital Enrichment Opportunities

We have developed an exciting new area on our school website on cultural capital for students to access and get involved in to expand their interests, knowledge and cultural experiences including virtual tours and exhibitions, films, research opportunities and enrichment activities.

Students who take part in the activities will develop key competencies including resilience, independence, creativity, research skills and critical thinking skills. They will also expand their knowledge and cultural awareness enabling them to develop their interests and widen future opportunities available to them.

Marlborough believes in shaping futures and developing the whole student. We pride ourselves on doing this well through a wide range of extra-curricular activities, trips and visiting speakers and whilst these are limited at the moment we will be continuing with these as soon as we are safely able to. The Cultural Capital activities are designed to complement these.

There are activities available for all year groups although we are currently concentrating on Years 7-10

Year 7 and 8 students should email their completed activities to Mrs Wood at [KS3CC@marlborough.herts.sch.uk](mailto:KS3CC@marlborough.herts.sch.uk)

Year 9 and 10 students should email their completed activities to Miss McClusky at [KS4CC@marlborough.herts.sch.uk](mailto:KS4CC@marlborough.herts.sch.uk)

If a student has any interests or wants to develop a particular skill they can also send in an email to request this and we will do our best to gather the relevant materials.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs Wood and Miss McClusky  
Cultural Capital Coordinators

<https://www.themarlbroughscienceacademy.co.uk/students/cultural-capital#>

**Below is an example of the activities available on the website.**

### The Secret Annex

Take a look around and discover the Secret Annex where Anne Frank hid for more than 2 years during WWII and where she wrote her diary. In July 1942, the Frank family went into hiding. The Van Pels family followed a week later. The two families already knew each other.

Hermann Van Pels worked for Otto Frank's company. Four months later, they were joined by an eighth person, Fritz Pfeffer, an acquaintance of the Frank family.

[www.annefrank.org/en/anne-frank/secret-annex](http://www.annefrank.org/en/anne-frank/secret-annex)

Write a small description of the Annex, what do you think it would be like to live there. What is the one item you would take with you?





## Drama News

### Sixth Form Playwrights

This academic year we have been lucky enough to have a sponsored place for The National Theatre New Views Playwriting competition. A level Drama and English students have been working to write their own 30 minute plays, which will be submitted, along with others from schools across the country, to The National Theatre. The overall winner's play will be performed by professionals at the National as part of their summer events season. Runners up will get a professional table read of their play.



This week the students took part in a 2 hour digital workshop with playwright Georgia Fitch, who took the students through a variety of exercises to create narrative, character and develop dialogue. These tools will support the student's with their script writing as well as in their Drama and English lessons.

After Christmas, each of the students will get some time with Georgia to read through their plays and gain some feedback on their ideas before they begin redrafting their work.

The students have really enjoyed the experience so far:

*"It was great to talk to Georgia and see how she makes a start writing her characters."*



Georgia Fitch and some of her plays.

*"The tasks we did with Georgia will be useful for creative writing in general as well as for this play-writing project."*

*"I love creative writing and this project seemed like a great opportunity to focus my writing on a specific story."*

We are looking forward to hearing their ideas and plays as their work develops.

### Year 11 Blood Brothers Workshop

On Monday 30th November Year 11 had a 'very 2020' experience by taking part in a drama workshop delivered digitally over Google Meet. The students worked with Michael and Steve, who have played Mickey and Sammy in the West End Production of Blood Brothers.

The focus of the workshop was getting students to consider the vocal and physical choices made by the actors and what this communicates to the audience. This is something that will support students with their written exam for Drama.

Thee students also had a chance to ask questions of Mike and Steve regarding their experience of playing the characters in a professional production.





## Year 13 Performance



Year 13 drama students have been working to create their own piece of theatre from scratch.

Returning to school in September the student's were really interested in the impact the lockdown had had on people and decided that this would be the focus of their performance.

Working in the style of The PaperBirds Theatre Company, they set to work interviewing people about their experiences of lockdown and then used these interviews to create their script.

Character's ranged from first year university students who had been impacted by the lack of exams to NHS staff who worked the front line, to teachers and a new mum whose baby was born in lockdown. They worked hard to gather their information and wanted to give a voice to people who don't often get heard.

The piece was a huge success and I am very proud of the students.



Mrs Griggs

## Year 8 Mask Project

Year 8 have been exploring the use of masks in their drama lessons and how they were used to define characters in Commedia dell'Arte a type of theatre popular in Italy during the Renaissance. Students created their own masks in this style and one winner and three runners up were chosen from each class as follows;



**Winner**

Tilly Moody 8CC

**Runners Up**

Maddison Dixon 8KA

Samia Islam 8EA

Spencer Pateman 8LW



**Winner**

Alisha Choudhury 8EM

**Runners Up**

Georgia McKenna 8EA

Anthony Caulfield 8DG

Elodie Clerembaux-Hulley 8CC

## Wellbeing

The Young Minds website has lots of information to support young people, parents and carers with their mental health. Click on the image below to access the Parents Helpfinder.



This year has been extra stressful, especially if you're a parent. With so much uncertainty, it's entirely normal for your child to be finding things difficult, and for you to be unsure how best to look after their mental health and wellbeing, as well as your own. It's not easy, but you're doing the best you can and you deserve credit.

But whatever you and your child are dealing with, you are not alone. We're here for you and we have lots of advice and practical tips that can really help. Use our new Supporting Parents Helpfinder to find the support that is right for you and your child, whatever they've been going through during the pandemic.



## Just Talk Campaign

Here is another website with lots of resources to support mental health. Click on the image below to watch a short film with some simple ideas to help you look after your wellbeing.



## Careers News

Please click on the image below for details of courses beginning in January at Oaklands College.



## VIRTUAL EMPLOYER ENCOUNTERS



Please follow the link below to view recordings of the Virtual Employer Encounters webinars from the Autumn term on the HOP (Hertfordshire Opportunities Portal). These cover many career options including Physiotherapy, Engineering, Motor Trade, Medicine and Finance and further webinars will be arranged in the new year.

<https://www.hopinto.co.uk/explore-careers/webinars/virtual-employer-encounters/>







The Marlborough  
Science Academy  
*'shaping futures'*

*The Marlborough Science Academy  
invites you to attend our virtual  
Apprenticeship, Careers &  
Higher Education Fair*

*on Wednesday 3rd February 2021*

*This is an opportunity to find out more about  
apprenticeships and what training providers and  
companies have on offer.*

*Details of the confirmed companies can be found overleaf*



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Email: [admin@marlborough.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@marlborough.herts.sch.uk)

Website: [www.themarboroughscienceacademy.co.uk](http://www.themarboroughscienceacademy.co.uk)



## Who will be attending:

<i>ASK – Ask about Apprenticeships</i>	<i>NHS Trust/HCPA/HPFT</i>
<i>Amthal</i>	<i>NCS Hertfordshire</i>
<i>Army Outreach</i>	<i>Oaklands College</i>
<i>AECOM</i>	<i>Premier Foods Ltd</i>
<i>Arts College – London</i>	<i>Royal Mail</i>
<i>Amazon</i>	<i>Specsavers</i>
<i>BAM Construct</i>	<i>Sporting Futures Training</i>
<i>British Airways</i>	<i>Sainsburys</i>
<i>British Gas</i>	<i>Tesco</i>
<i>BPP</i>	<i>The Waterman Group</i>
<i>Boots</i>	<i>TKMaxx</i>
<i>Cyber Prevent</i>	<i>Transport for London</i>
<i>De Vere Hotels</i>	<i>The University of Hertfordshire</i>
<i>GlaxoSmithKline</i>	<i>Toni &amp; Guy</i>
<i>Google</i>	<i>University Campus of Football</i>
<i>Herts Social Work</i>	<i>Business</i>
<i>Herts Fire and Rescue</i>	<i>Virgin Media</i>
<i>Jaguar/Landrover</i>	<i>Warner Media</i>
<i>MBDA</i>	<i>YC Hertfordshire</i>
<i>Morgan Sindall</i>	
<i>MI5</i>	
<i>Marks &amp; Spencer</i>	
<i>Morrisons</i>	
<i>McDonalds</i>	



# The Marlborough Science Academy

## Select us as your Coopcause



The Marlborough Science Academy PTA has been selected to take part in the Coop Local Community Fund. This is an excellent fundraising platform for the PTA with the support of the Coop. So we need your help to support the fund.

1. Please become a Coop member using this link [membership.coop.co.uk/causes](https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes)
2. Select The Marlborough Science Academy PTA as your local charity to support
3. Swipe your Coop card or QR code [Coop App](#) every time you shop at the Coop

This will add to the fundraising for our PTA

### We're part of the Local Community Fund

When members buy selected Co-op branded products and services, the Co-op will give local causes a helping hand. Go online [coop.co.uk/membership](https://coop.co.uk/membership)

When members buy selected Co-op branded products and services, 2p for every pound spent goes to our members and we'll split the same between like minded organisations and local causes. Co-op members will then be able to select from time to time which local cause they want to support. For full T&Cs please visit [coop.co.uk](https://coop.co.uk) on how this is calculated.





# Christmas Services



## St Stephen's Church

Watling Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 2PT

*Sunday 20th December*

**8.00am Holy Communion**

**5.00pm & 7.00pm Carol Services**

Featuring a group of singers and a selection of seasonal music - 5pm service will be livestreamed on our YouTube channel. ♦ Book by 17 Dec

### *Christmas Eve*

**3.00pm Open Air Nativity Service\***

In place of our usual crib services and to accommodate more people safely we will run one large gathered service in the churchyard. You are invited to come dressed as a character from the nativity story. Bring your own torches. This is a community-wide service and social distancing will be maintained between household groups.

**11.30pm Midnight Mass**

Welcome in the joy of Christmas Day together.

♦ Book by 22 Dec

### *Christmas Day*

**8.00am Holy Communion**

**10.00am Family Communion\***

Join us to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

This service will be live streamed on our parish

YouTube channel. ♦ Book by 22 Dec

## St Julian's Church

3 Abbot's Avenue, St Albans, Herts AL1 2HY

*Sunday 13th December*

**4.00pm Carol Service**

Featuring a group of singers and a selection of seasonal music - online on our YouTube channel.

♦ Book by 10 Dec

### *Christmas Eve*

**4.00pm Crib Service\***

We tell the Christmas story in an engaging and fun way. ♦ Book by 22 Dec

### *Christmas Day*

**10.00am Holy Communion**

Join us to celebrate the birth of Jesus

♦ Book by 22 Dec



You would be most welcome to join us celebrating Christ's birth at any of our Christmas services

**\*services suitable for children**

♦ Due to current attendance restrictions, please reserve a place at these services via our Parish Office: [office@ststephenandstjulian.org](mailto:office@ststephenandstjulian.org) For more information visit: [www.ststephenandstjulian.org](http://www.ststephenandstjulian.org)



St Stephen  
with St Julian

*Outdoor*  
**CAROL  
SINGING**  
*in Cottonmill*

**SATURDAY 19 DECEMBER , 4 – 5PM**

**at St Julian's Church**

3 Abbots Avenue, St Albans, AL1 2HY

Come to enjoy singing carols together  
(socially distanced) in the lead up to Christmas.  
All ages welcome. Bring a torch!





# *Open air* **Nativity & Carols**

**CHRISTMAS EVE AT 3PM**

**at St Stephen's Church**

**Watling Street, St Albans AL1 2PT**

Come dressed as a character from the nativity story and enjoy singing carols together (socially distanced) at this festive service. Bring a torch!





# DSPL7 SEND Update



## Parent/carer Issue 2 – December 2020



### National Updates

#### Post-16 provision

Those of you with secondary aged children may be interested in a new report released on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>, which outlines key recommendations for improving post-16 provision. These include:

- More collaboration between post-16 FE and other providers and the LA
- Better transitions between secondary schools and FE and beyond
- An improvement in the content of post-16 EHCPs

The full report can be read by [following this link](#)

### Hertfordshire Updates

#### New guidance for making ASD referrals

Schools have received a range of updated guidance and information to support them in making referrals for CYP in educational settings: Guidance for making referrals, ASD School Questionnaire (completed by schools to initiate referral process), ASD Parent/Carer Pre-assessment Information (completed by parents with support from school) and a copy of the ASD referral Form which is then completed by a GP/Health Professional once Parent and School Info has been received.

<https://www.thegrid.org.uk/info/welfare/nhs/index.shtml#asd>

#### Parenting Courses

There are a number of parenting courses to support families across Hertfordshire, including:

- Anger in the family
- Parenting children aged 5-14 with ASD/ADHD
- Parenting children with SEND
- Dealing with teens challenging behaviour

Courses are offered across the county. You can search for courses in HCC's Parenting Directory at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/parentingsupport](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/parentingsupport)

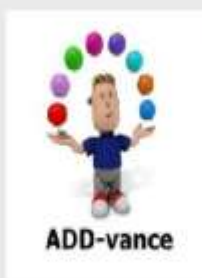
A full list of the online parenting courses for the Spring term can be found [here](#).

Families in Focus are also delivering a wide range of training, which can be booked through their website <https://www.familiesinfofocus.co.uk/>

#### ADD-Vance ASD/ADHD online training

ADD-vance have released dates for a number of online workshops covering a range of topics. Book through [eventbrite](#)

### Understanding ADHD and Autism



An online course from Add-Vance

Mondays	4 <sup>th</sup> January to 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	10 am - 12 pm and
Mondays	4 <sup>th</sup> January to 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	7 - 9 pm
Wednesdays	6 <sup>th</sup> January to 10 <sup>th</sup> February	10 am - 12 pm
Thursdays	7 <sup>th</sup> January to 11 <sup>th</sup> February (Parents/carers of girls only)	10 am - 12 pm
Fridays	3 <sup>rd</sup> January to 12 <sup>th</sup> February	10 am - 12 pm
Saturdays	9 <sup>th</sup> January to 13 <sup>th</sup> February	2 - 4 pm (Dads and male carers only)



## Parent/carer Issue 2 – December 2020



### Children and Young People's Therapies Advice Line

Due to COVID-19, there is reduced service capacity at this time for Occupational, Physio and Speech and Language Therapies. There is a dedicated advice line for parents, carers and professionals to speak to a therapist about a new referral or a child's development. This line is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Messages should be left on the Advice Line and a therapist will contact you.



**Children and Young People's Therapies Advice Line**

The Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech & Language Therapy pages on our website [www.hct.nhs.uk](http://www.hct.nhs.uk) have lots of useful information and advice.

However, if you still have concerns why not call our **Advice Line** and leave us a message. You will be contacted by one of our Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists or Speech & Language Therapists.

The Advice Line is open to parents/carers or professionals who have a query or who want to discuss a potential referral.

\*If your child is already known to our service please contact:  
01992 823193 for SLT  
01923 470680 for OT/PT

**01992 823093**

Free to care for you

Care Quality Commission

NHS Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust

### DSPL7 Updates

#### New Post 16 Transition Co-ordinator (SEND)

DSPL7 has appointed Rachel Robin to our new role of Post 16 Transition Co-ordinator. Rachel will be supporting vulnerable students in Y11 with SEND but without an EHCP for whom transition post 16 to college or an apprenticeship may prove difficult. Students are referred by schools in the DSPL7 area and will be supported through their first year of college or apprenticeship. Rachel will work with the student to explore post 16 options and support them through the transition process, ensuring that they make a successful move to their new learning environment.



It has been a busy term at DSPL7. Our SEND Family worker has supported 58 families with a range of strategies to support them to manage their child's needs at home. She currently has a waiting list of 13 families who will be contacted in the New Year. Our KS3 Mentor has worked with 20 young people from Y7-9, our Down Syndrome Advisory teacher has visited 9 schools to give advice and our new Post 16 co-ordinator has already received 14 referrals and made initial visits to schools.

### ...and finally...

It has been a long and difficult term for everyone and I am sure you are all in need of rest and recuperation. Everyone at DSPL7 would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas - we hope you manage to have a good break and enjoy some time off with family and friends.



## Term Dates

### Spring Term 2021

**Monday 4th January 2021 to Thursday 25th March 2021**

*Half term*

*Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2021*

*Inset Day—Friday 26th March 2021*

### Summer Term 2021

**Monday 12th April 2021 to Friday 16th July 2021**

*Half term*

*Monday 31st May 2021 to Friday 4th June 2021*



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



## Marlborough News

[www.themarboroughscienceacademy.co.uk](http://www.themarboroughscienceacademy.co.uk)

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