

December 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

With a real sense of déjà vu I write again to celebrate getting to the end of a really successful term. I do so knowing Covid is still with us and as in my letter earlier this week we have lost a much respected long serving member of staff, Mr Ferguson. It didn't seem right not to mention him again in this newsletter; he was such a big character and a great teacher, he changed children's lives and that, of course is what I hold so dear about the profession I love.

As with every end of term we bid farewell to some colleagues; Mr Ivory in PE and Mr Armer in the Site team. Mr Ivory has been a great member of staff, always smiling and encouraging learning, we will miss him and wish him and his family much happiness going forward. Mr Armer has been here nearly as long as me (Jan '05) and is going on to pastures new, utilising his fabulous lighting and production skills. Mr Armer has played an instrumental role in elevating our productions to 'West End' quality and as part of that he has most generously given up his time to 'upskill' a number of our students who might never have got those opportunities. It goes without saying that he did huge amounts around the school – too much for me to itemise but there probably isn't any need to, he was just a great member of staff, a kind team player and a colleague who I know will be much missed.

As we all grapple with all the latest Covid guidance let me just focus for a moment on all the fabulous events that have happened this year – Anti Bullying week, auditions for productions, Eco Warrior foci across the school, exams, assessments, return of our beloved

Hepworth, new windows, new build, no 'bubbles' (hurrah!), huge amounts of clubs and activities going on and our new staff settled and already playing their roles in a most important job.



Have there been bumps along the way – of course there have, it would be unrealistic to have not expected some reactions to the last 18 months, but we are getting through successfully as always with your support.

We have developed a new Home Learning model which we will roll out on the first week of our return, I am very hopeful that it will reflect the changing needs of our learners and improve continuity.

So, to conclude, as always school life reflecting life, highs and lows (more joy I'm pleased to say) and thus we continue. Special thanks to all staff, governors and the PTA for all they have done to support us this term and special thanks to you all too for your unstinting support and kindness, it always means so much.

Take good care, be kind, have great fun, enjoy and tell your loved ones how much they mean to you.

Wishing you peace,

done Thomas

Ms Thomson Headteacher



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.

Stefan Jenkins 11HF, Ellie Carter 7MO, Henry Schmidt 7FW, Milic Pavic 10LG, Joely Brook 8EM, Alana Charran 9SB, Marnie Brian 7LO, Coby Harris 8SK, Emelia Dovey 9EM, Isaac Li 10HA, Danielle Traynor 11EM, Rose Parker 8AP, Maddie Scott 12SL, Jade Albert 13CJ, David Hardie 9CC, Emily Payne 11AK, Scarlett Gardiner 12PC, Ellie Stuart 7FW, Rudy Gilks 8VL, Max French 9KA, Grace Blow 10AD, Bradley Dixon-Smith 11KS, Khadijah Begum 7FW, Archie Greany 7RG, Vasile Baes 8SK, Sofia Summers 9KB, Joshua Francois 10AS, Lukas Watts 11AK, Cassie McNiven 7MR, Luke Bunting 8VL, Harrison Blackford 9EM, Litsa Veneti 10CG







This Week's Quote of the Week

" Nothing is impossible. The word itself says "I'm possible!"

(Audrey Hepburn)

Word of the Week

Consternation: noun – anxiety or dismay

Value of the Week

Endeavour

The Science Section

Science Stars of the Month

The students below have been recognised by their teachers as standing out in Science lessons this month. Congratulations to all of you for your hard work, effort and attainment.

Jamie Yon 13CG Max Pearson 11JG Darius Mafi 11JG Ruben Torozan Mares 11AK Libby Key 11EM Sabiha Jahan 11BA **T-Jay Bierman 9EM Elodie Clerembaux-Hulley 9CC** Chloe Grace 9CC chemistry Sophie Parry 7AD Matilda Goldbrom 7MO group

Scientist of the Month-Dame Elizabeth Anionwu

Elizabeth is a professor of nursing and health care administrator. She was born in 1947 in Birmingham, England. She dreamed of becoming a nurse after being inspired by the nursing nun who looked after her. Anionwu started to pursue her dream of becoming a nurse at the age of 16; she worked as a school nurse assistant. She then went on to study to become a state registered nurse at Paddington General Hospital. She became the first Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia nurse specialist in the UK. Both Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia are blood disorders, which people of African descent are at higher risk of inheriting than other ethnic groups. Some forms of Thalassaemia are also common in people of Southeast Asian, Indian, Chinese or Filipino descent. Elizabeth later became a professor of nursing and taught in many different universities; she also established a course at



the Institute of Child Health called 'Genetic Counselling for the Community: A multi-ethnic perspective'. This course aimed to educate people about the different ethnic groups who are at higher risk of certain inherited diseases, and disorders, to raise awareness. She was appointed as a Dame in 2001 for her services to nursing, and she was inducted into the Nursing Hall of Fame for her dedication to the development of nurse-led services; amongst other awards. Reference - go.pearson.com/science

The Science Section continued

Recommended Read

Flights of Fancy – Richard Dawkins (Illustrated by Jana Lenzova) Have you ever dreamt you could fly? Or imagined what it would be like to glide and swoop through the sky like a bird? Do you let your mind soar to unknown, magical spaces?

The author Richard Dawkins weaves a fascinating and beautifully illustrated account of how nature and humans have learned to overcome the pull of gravity and take to the skies.

In Flights of Fancy Richard Dawkins explains how nature and humans have learned to overcome the pull of gravity and take to the skies. From the mythical Icarus, to the sadly extinct but spectacular bird Argentavis

magnificens, from the Wright flyer and the 747, to the Tinkerbella fairyfly and the Peregrine falcon. But it is also about flights of the mind, about escaping the everyday – through science, ideas and imagination. Fascinating and beautifully illustrated, this is a unique collaboration between one of the world's leading scientists and a talented artist.

Year 8 Trip to Stem Discovery Centre

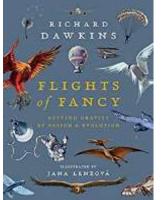
At the end of November, a group of our year 8 students had the privilege of visiting the STEM Discovery Centre in Stevenage. The STEM Discovery Centre is run by the Airbus Foundation and was a unique way for students to engage in STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) learning. To greet us was an enthusiastic science team and one of the lead engineers currently working on the UK Exomars Rover. The students learned of the current Mars Rover project that the UK is going to launch in 2022 and even got to see one of the rovers in action!

Students were challenged with programming their own mini-mars rovers that had to race through an obstacle course. Needless to say, it was a very close race. Time in the explorer zone was well spent as students explored themes of space, energy, materials, forces, and magnetism through hands-on activities. Before wrapping up the day students had the opportunity to decorate their own book bags through a combination of physics and chemistry. Using a chemical reaction to launch mini rockets filled with paint, some incredible artistic designs were produced which made great souvenirs for students to take home. As the second time the trip has run, it definitely was a success; one of the students reported the trip to be "the best day ever!"









The Marlborough Science Academy Cup



The Marlborough Science Academy Cup is most definitely back with the Core Subjects Quiz!





Each event offers our local primary schools the chance to compete in a friendly environment, meet some of our staff and our students.



Earlier in October, The Marlborough Science Academy hosted The TMSA Maths Quiz for keen and eager young mathematicians from our local primary schools. At the end of November, the school welcomed Year 5 and Year 6 students to the Core Subjects Quiz, with rounds covering: grammar, literature, physics, biology, and arithmetic to name a few!



Mount Pleasant Lane school were victorious, closely followed by Prae Wood and Mandeville in joint second place. We'd like to offer our congratulations to all who took part, they did themselves and their schools proud!

The next event will be in the new year when students will take part in a Humanties quiz. We wish all our future competitors luck!

Ms Redfern

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Our school production of Matilda Jr, will take place in March of 2022 and we are in need of volunteers.

Do you have skills or contacts in set building, costume, theatre lighting or sound.

Could you spare a few hours to help out in any of these areas?

If you would be interested in helping out, please contact Mrs Griggs for more information.

c.griggs@marlborough.herts.sch.uk

Classics Game Changer Day–Year 11



The LRC hosted a Classics Game changer day on Friday 26th November. In the morning Year 11 completed a 'crash course' in Virgil's epic poem The Aeneid, exploring literary themes such as love, war, travel, and heroism. The students already knew about the main character, Aeneas, from their GCSE course, and so the Game changer day allowed the class to find out more about his story after the Trojan war and how he became

the founder of the Roman race.

At lunchtime, students from all year groups

(including Year 7 Latin club and Classics club) were invited to an exclusive lunch where students enjoyed copious amounts of pizza whilst watching Disney's Hercules. It was a lovely opportunity to celebrate students' love of Classics within the whole school community.



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Ms Garrett

Classics Game Changer Day - Year 7 and 8

On Friday 3rd December a group of Year 7 and 8 students took part in a Game Changer Day in the LRC. The Classics themed day introduced students to cross curricula activities including

English, Classics, Art, History and Philosophy. Students learnt how to independently research particular subjects including the underworld, developing their independent learning skills. The students began by



creating a clay tablet, inscribing their names in Latin. They then completed a programme booklet showing how the Greeks affected and influenced today's society. I enjoyed it as it gave me a chance to see what the learners where capable of. The completing of the booklet went very well.

This group of students were inspiring, dedicated and euphoric at spending a whole day doing what they enjoy the most!.

Mrs Metson

The Game Changer day was very enjoyable! I learned lots of new stuff that I didn't know before. Personally, doing the diary entry, about your travel to the underworld, was my favourite because it was like actually being there.

All the new stuff I learned, from Greek Philosophers to Greek myths, was good to learn about. Thanks for the amazing day!

Lilly-Mae Coulman Lenderyou 8SK



LRC News

The Big Read 2022

Once again it is time for our TMSA Big Read and we are delighted to introduce this year's book – The Giver by Lois Lowry. The Giver, first published in 1993, won the Newbery Medal and has sold more than 12 million copies worldwide. It is suitable for all year groups.

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 explored the Big Read in Drama and Art. This year we hope to extend this to more subject areas.

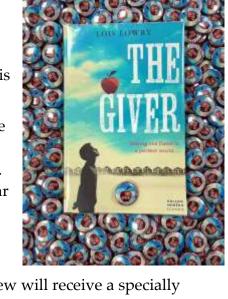
We are currently running a house competition for staff to read the book and we will be extending this to students in the new

year. Everyone who reads the book and completes a short review will receive a specially designed pin badge.

My review is below.

Mrs Nixon

THE GIVER **Book Review** The liver as our as there Big Read chase Il about in the story or + lunlans ab and staff -+0 be huma uje, both good an that 15 a book read FLIST MIS NIXON au neade Please return this to the LRC to claim your Badge



LRC News

Accelerated Reader

All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are enrolled in a reading scheme called Accelerated Reader. Students take a comprehension test to assess their reading ability and this helps to guide them to select appropriate reading material. When students finish a book on the scheme they can take a short online quiz to check their understanding of what they have read. Students earn house points for each quiz that they pass.





Students can take Accelerated Reader book quizzes at home Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 6pm. The link for Renaissance Learning, who host the quizzes, is in the useful links section of the school website. Students should know their username and password but if they have forgotten they can contact me on s.nixon@marlborough.herts.sch.uk

The top ten readers so far this year are:

- 1. Bernard Hornsby 8AP-2,304,219 words read
- 2. Toby Davies 9KA-1,793,501 words read
- 3. Lewis Cleaton 9EM-1,722,142 words read
- 4. Jacob Jennings 8AP-1,418,747 words read
- 5. Harrison Blackford 9EM-1,319,033 words read
- 6. Marielle Pollard 8RT—1,242,943 words read
- 7. Arbel Lifshitz 7MO–912,417 words read
- 8. Oliver Tomlins 8VL-848,715 words read
- 9. Sarah Kaya 8AP-814,743 words read
- 10. Ivy Sawyer 8DB-712,756 words read



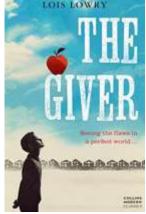
Book Club

A group of Year 7 students have been attending book club in the LRC on Tuesday after school. We will be reading our Big Read — The Giver by Lois Lowry over the holidays and discussing this next term if you would like to take part. Book club is open to all year groups.

Look out for information about what is going on in the LRC on our social media channels which can be accessed via the images below.

Mrs Nixon





Frantic Assembly

On Wednesday 1st December, Year 10 and Year 13 students had the opportunity to work with Frantic Assembly, a physical theatre company. The students explored teamwork activities and physical performance work in preparation for their Devising Drama project for their GCSE and A level courses.

Mrs Griggs



The Frantic Assembly workshop was really good. Personally, I enjoyed learning techniques for lifts and working with partners to create a chair duet. We were asked to work with people we were less familiar with and it was really fun to work with new people and create something we were all really proud of. I also think it will come in very useful when we come to do our devising work for GCSE drama. It was great fun and a really helpful day. - **Eleanor McWilliams 10CG**







You can see a short video of the day on Instagram @tmsa_drama <u>here</u>

Year 8 Dance and Augmented Reality Workshop

20 Year 8 students took part in a dance and augmented reality workshop on Tuesday 23rd November. It was led by dancer and choreography Jennifer Irons and audio visual artist Zach Walker on behalf of the BEEE Creative Exhibit 2020 partner organisations. BEEE Creative is a small arts charity working across Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire. The students had a fantastic day learning about how technology and dance work together. They were able to



create their own videos using an ipad and an augmented reality app to combine dance movements and moving objects. It was very

inspiring for the students to try something completely new!

Miss Fox

'What I loved about the workshop was that you could have two completely different interests and combine them into one creative modern new experience.'





Sana Patel 8MM

'I loved participating in this dance workshop! It felt great to work with new technology and dance at the same time. I also loved trying out different effects and different moves.'

Matilde De Sousa 8MM





December's TeachMeet

What is a TeachMeet? TeachMeets are organised in teachers' spare time and are designed to bring teachers together to: share good teaching practice, develop new skills and enhance their practice.



On Tuesday 7th December, the Teaching and Learning Support Team held their first meeting in the LRC. It was an amazing event where two of our fantastic teachers spoke about how they are using ICT in the classroom and shared some useful tips and ideas.



Ms McLaughlin explored how she uses quizzes to bring Maths to life and as a means to stretch and challenge students, the two websites she uses are Quizizz and Blooket, while Mr. Green spoke about how using 'LAN School Air' can help monitor student activity while using their Chromebooks and allow the teacher to share outstanding pieces of work with all students.



Quizizz

Quizizz is a website where you can use quizzes made by other people as a base for your own

quizzes. You can combine several quizzes, remove questions you don't like and set time limits for individual questions to customise your quiz for the needs of a class. Students use their own devices in class to complete a live quiz or they can be set as home learning to be completed in

their own time. Quizizz can be integrated with Google Classroom and produces detailed data about how the class performed. You can see how long each student spent on a question and how well the class performed on each question. Quizizz is brilliant for keeping track of student performance over a longer period and helping to plan where students need to focus in subsequent lessons



Blooket

Blooket is a quiz site where students answer questions as part of a larger game on their own devices in lesson. The quizzes are completed live in the lesson and students interact with each other, gaining an advantage when they get questions right or disadvantage for wrong answers. There are thousands of pre -made quizzes to choose from, this is perfect if you have a spare five minutes at the end of a lesson to test their knowledge.

LANSchool Air

LanSchool Air allows teachers to guide learning, promote collaboration and maximize teaching — with one key difference. LanSchool Air lets teachers connect with students using devices both in the classroom and remotely. Some of the best features of this are:

- You'll be able to monitor the screens of student devices that are online.
- You can use this to guide students through content and to easily determine when to step in to help.
- Consider using Web Limiting with an allow list to keep students away from websites that are not relevant to the lesson.
- Use Push Website to quickly get all students on the same page. Enter any URL, and LanSchool Air will open a new browser tab for the student and take them right to that site.

Our next TeachMeet is scheduled for January with a focus on retrieval practice. **Miss Fogarty**

Covid Update

As we have now finished for the Christmas break it is worth updating you on the changes to the Covid response at school and so here are some points of note:

Schools are no longer required to undertake any Contact Tracing of close contacts within the school setting. This is now done entirely by Test and Trace and we are only asked to assist where necessary. Therefore please make sure you tell the Test and Trace people everyone you may have been in close contact with in the event of you testing positive.

If you are in contact with a positive case (omicron or other variant) you no longer need to isolate if double jabbed/under 18 BUT it is 'strongly advised' to take a LFT every day for 7 days. Reminder : LFT tests are for asymptomatic people. If you feel unwell with Covid symptoms then you need to book and take a PCR which is more accurate. If symptoms then you need to isolate until you receive the PCR result back.

If you are travelling abroad over the holidays, please also be aware of the requirements upon return such as taking a PCR within 2 days of arrival and isolating until you receive the result.

Thank you as always with your support for everything we have done at school this year and hopefully you will have a peaceful and safe Christmas, as who knows what the New Year will hold. Merry Christmas. **Mr Paice** LANSCHOOL AIR





Please see below for information from Hertfordshire County Council regarding E Scooters

E Scooters are readily available to purchase, and sales of these are expected to increase over the Christmas period. Unfortunately the purchaser is often unaware of the current restrictions on riding e scooters and risk having them seized if caught by the police. The police also have the power to issue penalty points on a licence and charge a fine.

Many E scooters are currently being used illegally in areas such as on pavements and cycle paths, however due to the speed e scooters can travel, they can often have a negative impact on the safety of pedestrians and other road users.

To help educate parents and pupils on the rules of riding privately e scooters, we have supplied you a short animation clip which can be viewed <u>here</u>



Know your Scooters

Electric Scooters

- Illegal to use on public roads, cycle paths and pavements in Hertfordshire
- Electric scooters can be seized by the police, you could be fined and get points on your licence
- Can only be used on private land with the Landowners permission
- High cost

Manual Scooters

- Active and sustainable mode of travel
- Keeps you fit
- Low cost

Careers Information

The Prince's Trust TEAM Programme for 16-25 year olds

The Prince's Trust's 12 week TEAM programme is for people aged 16-25 who are not currently in employment or education. TEAM is designed to help young people to get back into employment or further education. Not only is there a qualification at the end, it's also free!

We are asking parents, relatives and friends to pass on these details to anyone they think our scheme could be of benefit to.

Students are encouraged to undertake a voyage of self-discovery, to grow in confidence and to boost their skills and experience. Learners are supported to:

- Take part in an outdoor activity team-building week
- Take on a local community project
- Build interview and presentation skills
- Write a CV
- Gain work experience, work placements and references.

• Achieve a nationally recognised qualification in Employment, Teamwork and Community Skills (Entry level, level 1 and level 2)

Training is free and doesn't affect jobseekers' allowance.

Courses run three times a year from five locations: Watford; Hemel Hempstead; Cheshunt; Stevenage/North Herts; and Welwyn/Hatfield.

Are you interested in taking part in the programme?

For more information or to register for upcoming courses, follow this link:

Prince's Trust Team Programme – Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service (hopinto.co.uk)

You can also email them at <u>hfrs.youth@hertfordshire.gov.uk</u> or find them on social media: Twitter: @HFRSYouth Facebook: Princes Trust Team Programme Hertfordshire

Download Associated Documents

Documents accompanying this message are linked below. Click to download and open a file which use the popular PDF format. If you experience problems downloading or viewing a file please <u>visit this help page</u>.

Princes Trust Recruitment Flyer (892 KB)



Careers Information

VIRTUAL EMPLOYER ENCOUNTERS

Webinars for students





In order to facilitate some meaningful encounters with employers during the pandemic Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership are running a series of live webinars for students covering a range of careers and industries.

The webinars take place on Thursdays 4:30-5:30pm. To access the webinar students will be asked to register via GotoWebinar – the process will be managed by Hertfordshire LEP.

All webinars are recorded and made available to view <u>here</u>

Subjects have included:

A Business Apprenticeship Physiotherapy Engineering Life Sciences/Pharmaceuticals Construction Film & Media Production Nursing Sports Coaching Bricklaying



More details can be found on the HOP (Hertfordshire Opportunities Portal) website below <u>https://www.hopinto.co.uk/explore-careers/webinars/virtual-employer-encounters/</u>

Careers Information

Immersive STEM & Medicine Summer Experiences

Use code SUMMER15 for 15% off by 31st December



Architecture | Dentistry | Engineering | Forensic Science | Investment Banking | Medicine | Nursing | Psychology | Tech | Vet

We are delighted to present 11 ground-breaking summer experiences in STEM and medicine-related careers for ages 12-18, which students can register for now. They include hands-on, highly-immersive experiences that students simply cannot find anywhere else. Examples include:

Young Doctor Summer Experience: we have secured exclusive access for our students to view a live surgery; the surgeon will talk through each step as it happens.

Young Engineer Summer Experience: we have privately hired a Boeing 747 jumbo jet; students will explore it alongside aerospace engineers from the likes of British Airways and Virgin Atlantic.

All experiences take place in London for up to 15 days, with UCL accommodation available.

Places are filling up already, register now to avoid disappointment. Use code SUMMER15 by 31st December for 15% off.

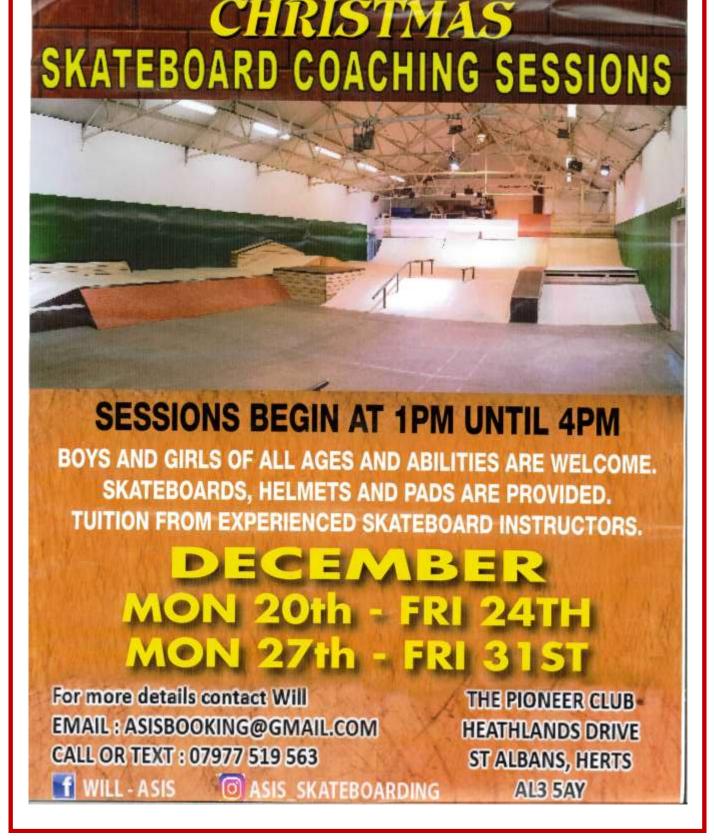
View All For Ages 15-18

View All For Ages 12-14

Community News

SKATEBOARD COACHING

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Modest!

OPEN CASTING CALL

Modest! Management, the team behind acts such as One Direction, Little Mix, JLS and 5 Seconds of Summer are holding open auditions for male and female singers aged 15-19 to be part of an exciting new project launching in 2022.

WHAT TO DO NEXT

1. Simply film a video of yourself singing and upload it to YouTube.

2. Snap a selfie (headshot) and email it along with a link to your video, your full name and DOB to <u>talent@modestmanagement.com</u>

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS 31st DECEMBER 2021



Click here to see the Terms and Conditions

Community News



Call Lauren on 07852 982753 Tuesdays 5-6pm Thursdays 6-7pm Fridays 6.45-7.45pm

Guided swimming sessions for children and adults who are competent at swimming lengths and would like to improve their fitness, technique and stamina

> Sign up for either 1 or more hourly sessions a week

THE MARLBOROUGH SCIENCE ACADEMY

Watling Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 2QA



www.watersplashswimschool.co.uk enquiries@watersplashswimschool.co.uk

Community News



Martial Arts for Teenagers!

Tang Soo Do classes run by
Master Meakins 7th Dan black belt
and ex pupil of the school.
Come along to improve your physical and mental
wellbeing by building up your fitness and
confidence.
Class details: Every Monday evening at 8pm-9pm
on Court 1, Main Hall at Westminster Lodge.
Price £7

Get fit Tone up Lose weight Gain confidence Learn to kickbox

Fun, family friendly classes across Herts and Middlesex Ages 8+ welcome - Any ability Instructors qualified in First Aid and CRB checked

Realise your potential!



Practical Self Defence, K1 & Freestyle Full Contact Sparring







Instructor: Molly Lawrence

Saturdays, 2 – 3 pm (Ages 8 – 14) Hertfordshire Combat Centre

5 The Dencora Centre, Campfield Rd, St Albans AL1 5H.

ww.shaolinkickboxing.com



@Shaolinboxing f /ShaolinKickboxing



Term Dates

Autumn Term 2021 Monday 6th September 2021 to Friday 17th December 2021

Spring Term 2022 Wednesday 5th January 2022 to Thursday 31st March 2022

Half term

Monday 14th February 2022 to Friday 18th February 2022

School closure in lieu of extra Spring Bank Holiday—Monday 21st February 2022 Inset Day - Friday 1st April 2022

Summer Term 2022 Tuesday 19th April 2022 to Wednesday 20th July 2022

Half term

Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June 2022

Bank Holidays - Monday 2nd May 2022 Thursday 2nd June 2022 Friday 3rd June 2022

> If you have any questions and are not sure who to ask please click here for the <u>general enquiry form</u>



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