

# Marlborough News

20th December 2022 Issue #129







December 2022

#### Dear Parents/Carers

Well, we've made it to the end of another term and what a term it has been; one of my finest memories will be the picture of the best part of 500 students playing in the snow on a hazy sun lit field last Tuesday. It was like a scene from the 60's; not a phone in sight and thankfully it was a lovely thing watching the children just being children and no injuries, not one!

The Year 11s have excelled themselves in the way they prepared and conducted themselves throughout their PPEs as have the Year 13s, they really did us and you proud. I look forward to seeing their results and rest assured that there is an exemplary programme of intervention ready to go from January to give a helping hand to those who find exams a struggle.

We are currently undertaking quite a significant piece of work looking at our curriculum from Year 7 upwards; in essence, is it fit for purpose and appropriate in preparing our future leaders for an everchanging world. We understand that this will be of particular interest to our Year 8 cohort but news of how this is going to look for them will come out very soon in the New Year, we have had some fantastic ideas from staff including the introduction of an accreditation in sign language which we are very excited about.

Of course as always there have been some blips along the way and signs of the economic climate really having an impact, I am indebted to Mrs Hicks in particular and Mrs Aylward for their relentless pursuit in gathering items to stock our new shop 'The M Store' which has proved to be a little bit of a life line for students/families struggling to provide some of the little extras as well as some of the basics. As a school

we will continue to do all that we can to support. Our biggest job of course, with your support is to prepare all our young people to face the world with confidence and the qualifications needed to make their way in the world.

The West End has seen nearly 200 of our students (Year 8) this term at some of the top shows to hopefully assure them that good behaviour and positive attitudes are rewarded. Ms Branagan took Year 7s to the pantomime in Milton Keynes (oh no she didn't, sorry, couldn't help myself) and everyone had a great time. As I write I am preparing for my role today which is chief roast potato server (over 400 Christmas lunches will be served) and then going straight in to the mayhem that is our Christmas Fair and no, I am not wearing a Christmas jumper.

Special thanks must go to the production team who with such vision and serenity led by Mrs Griggs, produced 'Oliver' quite simply outstanding and one could not fail but be in awe of the eclectic mix of talent on stage and backstage. It's always a team effort, Mrs Day, Miss Whitbread, Miss Fox and Mrs Whitlock all do their bit to put a staggeringly good show on for the school and what with lighting and sound support by Mr Coates and Mr Isaacs and refreshments provided by Mr Cline and his life skills team it really was a joy, even better because there is still snow on the ground and I always think 'Oliver' to be a bit of a Christmas classic that might just be me!

We say farewell to Mr May, Cover Supervisor who is off to train as a PE teacher, being one of our exstudents we are very proud and wish him all the best. We say farewell to Miss Pugh in science who as a technician was brilliant but is off to follow her dreams and also farewell to Mrs Desai who is off to work in a medical centre. We wish Mrs Mayers all the best too and thank her for all her hard work in music. I thank them all for their contributions to the school and wish them all the best.

This holiday season can be a strange one for many of us, I hope that between the mayhem and perhaps some worry you will find time for some happiness and love, keep warm, keep safe and stay kind.

We know communications directly to you this year have been less than perfect, please be reassured that we are working with Arbor to ensure their part of the deal improves, and quickly.

We're back on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January, full school uniform in tip top shape after the concessions made last week and all ready again to crack on with the business of learning (and hopefully some fun).

Every best wish from me and our Chair of Governors, Mrs Walker-Smith.

Ane Thomas on warer south

Ms Thomson Mrs Walker-Smith



# **House Pumpkin Carving**

On Monday 31st October the LRC hosted the annual house pumpkin carving competition. It was fiercely contested as usual and Mars House were once again victorious with their depiction of the Grim Reaper. Well done to Miss Shaw,

Miss Broad and the team and to all the staff who took part and the students who supported their houses.

















1st

2nd

3rd

4th

Mars

Mercury

Saturn

Neptune

#### **William Hussey Author Visit**

On Monday 31st October Year 7 students had a Halloween appropriate Horrible Histories style presentation from award winning author William Hussey. William talked about his journey to becoming a horror writer which began with his dad buying him some scary comics for his 6th

Selected Year 8 students took part in a Gothic Master Class which linked to their unit of work last term in English. This concluded with a Dracula vs Van Helsing quiz in which

good triumphed over evil.

birthday. Students then learnt about the witchfinders and recreated a 17th Century witch trial. The session concluded with a reading from William's book Haunted and a chance for students to ask questions.

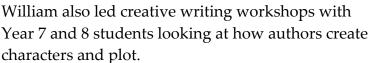


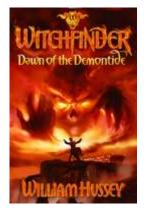














#### William Hussey Author Visit

The day concluded with an evening of ghost stories organised by Miss Fogarty. Parents and carers were invited to hear Year 8 students share stories they had written in their English lessons. This was a fantastic evening which also included a short story written by Mrs Claridge and read by Mr Griggs, some Halloween inspired science experiments demonstrated by Miss O'Krafka and delicious refreshments including cup cakes made by Miss Fogarty and Miss Branagan.



#### LRC News

#### Accelerated Reader

All students in Years 7 and 8 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. These are added at the end of each half term.

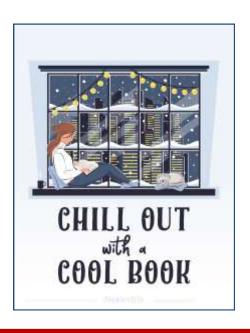




Students can take Accelerated Reader book quizzes at home at any time. The link for Renaissance Learning, who host the quizzes, is in the useful links section of the school website. Students should know their username and password but if they have forgotten they can contact me on s.nixon@marlborough.herts.sch.uk

The top ten readers so far this year are:

- 1. Dylan Jennings 7LG-2,002,482 words read
- 2. Hannah Tomlins 7LP—1,640,203 words read
- 3. Tom Baker 7LG-1,019,033 words read
- 4. Nicole Rees 7LG-897,346 words read
- 5. Willem Pollard 7LG—883,088 words read
- 6. Davud Rehman 7MT—799,166 words read
- 7. Beatrice Blackford 8RH–647,644 words read
- 8. Thomas Cooper 7LG 527,529 words read
- 9. Bella Kerbey 7KS-472,725 words read
- 10. Anjali Monet 7EM-451,747 words read







#### Britannica Magazine Schools Club Challenge

Well done to Ellie Carter 8MO, Ellie Woodroof 8LO, Jacob Jennings 9AP and Bernard Hornsby 9AP who took part in the Britannica Magazine Schools Quiz Challenge on Wednesday 9th November.

If you would like to subscribe to print copies of the magazine please see details on the right of how this can help provide nonfiction books for the LRC. You can read digital copies <a href="here">here</a> using the password **britannica** 

#### Mrs Nixon



# Subscribe to Britannica Magazine & help your child's school receive £1,000 of FREE books!

#### Here's all you have to do:

- Visit britannicamagazine.co.uk
- 2 Sign up to our annual or six-month subscription to Britannica Magazine you will receive a free book as a sign up gift and your school will receive a £10 (annual plan) or £5 (six month plan) book voucher to spend on non-fiction books for the school library.
- 3 At the checkout, remember to select your school from the list, to ensure they receive their book vouchers.
- Pepending on how many parents take advantage of this unique special offer, your child's school can receive up to £1,000 of FREE books!

If you have any questions or would like to find out more, please email us at schools@britannicamagazine.co.uk

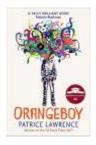
#### Your child will receive:



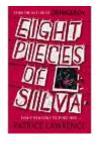


#### **Patrice Lawrence Author Visit**

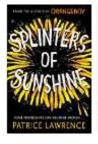
On Wednesday 7th December Year 9 heard from award winning author Patrice Lawrence about representation in books, her influences and her journey to becoming a writer. Patrice's debut novel for teenagers Orangeboy, published in 2016, won both the Waterstones Children's Book Prize and the Young Adult Book Prize. It tells the story of 16 year old Marlon who is determined not to follow his older brother into the violent gang culture of his London neighbourhood but unwittingly finds himself caught up in this world after a date goes horribly wrong. We have lots of Patrice's books available to borrow in the LRC.







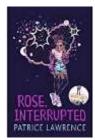












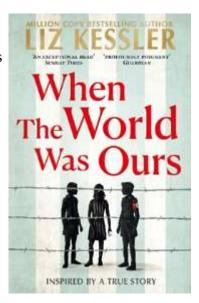




#### The Big Read 2023 – When the World was Ours by Liz Kessler

Once again it is time for our TMSA Big Read and we are delighted to introduce this year's book – When the World was Ours by Liz Kessler. The book won the Children's Book Award for older readers in 2022 and was inspired by the true story of how Liz's father escaped from Nazi-occupied Europe. It is suitable for all year groups, however as there are some upsetting themes covered in the book there will be plenty of opportunity for students to discuss the story with staff and each other during their lessons. More information will be sent out in the new year and we hope to have a virtual visit from the author in the spring term.

#### Mrs Nixon





TMSA commitment to change



# Commitment to change

"Let us create a sanctuary where all students feel safe at Marlborough." Ms Thomson's message to all staff at the beginning of the school year.

As a part of INSET day, we explored the concept of colourism. If you are wondering what colourism is, it is a form of discrimination based on skin tone. People with lighter skin tones are usually treated more kindly than those with darker skin tones. This open discussion has equipped teachers to fully understand colourism around school and report these incidents.

# "I have a dream.."

Martin Luther King Jr, an African American civil rights activist who peacefully fought against discrimination against Black people in America, inspired a whole school activity. Each form group wrote a statement explaining how they would like the school to further develop its diverse and inclusive nature. We were influenced by the famous 'I have a dream' speech by Mr. King Jr, who delivered this speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, where he called for an end to racism.

One of our year 13 form class wrote the following statement: "We have a dream that the school can create a respectful school where everyone feels safe.".

Through education and awareness events, the diversity group is working towards actualising these dreams and creating a safe space for all.



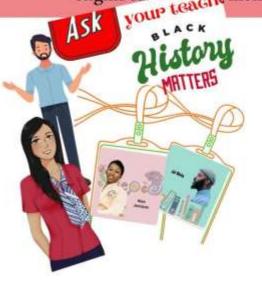
In October, we celebrated Black History Month. Our diversity group wanted students to learn more about the effects of racial discrimination in the UK. During form-time, students learned about the brave efforts of Paul Stephenson and those who stood up to the Bristol bus company fighting their employment policy. This boycott resulted in the 1965 first Race Relations Act, which outlawed discrimination in public places. Their determination was instrumental in bringing about change in the UK. Students were unaware of this and appreciated learning about civil rights activism in the UK.

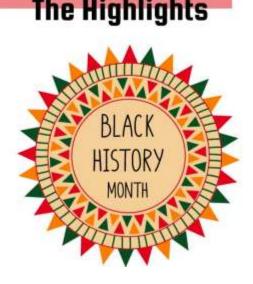
Teachers dedicated lessons in honour of Black History; our Art department focussed on celebrated Black artists and exploring their work. The MFL department taught about the dancer Josephine Baker and explored her life achievements.

The students enjoyed learning about different Black personalities as all staff championed influential Black figures from the past and the present throughout the month.

Our canteen manager executed a week-long menu featuring Afro-Caribbean cuisine. The menu was a huge hit with both students and parents.

On the 10th of October, the UK recognised World Mental health day; the diversity group felt it was important to highlight how racial discrimination has affected young men in Britain. Our year 11's were enthusiastic about encouraging male students to seek support, as they acknowledge the stigma surrected men asking for help.





## **English Stars of the Month for November**

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

Nicole Newman 7MT, Norah Willcocks 7EM,
Alice Joyce 7PA, Elodie Blomfield 7KS,
Milo Sydenham 7AS, Jake Rimmer 7KS,
Harry Ryan-Proudfoot 7MT, Juliette Paice 8RH,
Joe Pegg 8FW, Junior Mitchell 8RG, Joey Wild 8RH,

Sammy Sutton 8AD, Finlay Plater 8RG, Aimee Lee 8MR,

Marielle Pollard 9RT, Bradley Katemba 9VL, Adriana Manby 9RT, Vivek Jagatia 9AP, Tom Newby 9RT, Ollie Wallace 9EM, George Jones 9AP,

Elodie Clerembaux-Hulley 10CC, Florence Van Huet 10KB, Ryan Tandy 10EA, Alice Key 10SB, Sani Hussain Bukhari 10EA, Ellie Law 10JG, Luke Rumsey 10EM, Sophie Fry 11AS, Matheus Vieira Coelho 11ES, Nina Brook 11AD, Gavin Mariemoutou 11CG, Claramae Collins 11AS, Nour El Gharib 12EC,

**Amy Bilson 13SL** 

## **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 October:

Jake Magnus 7EM, Gabriel Ioannou 7LP, Anabel Elmer 7MT, Ayman Shelley 8MR, Laila Khan 8MO, Alex Carter 9AP, Marley Meads 9EM, Elena Photo 9DB, Katie Coleman 10KA, Toby Davies 10KA, Tilly Denyer 11CG, Holly Vincent 11HA

## **GCHQ Christmas Card**

Thank you to one of our Year 7 parents, Mrs Webster for sending in this Christmas card from GCHQ. If you click on the image you will open the card which has some puzzles to solve.



#### **Learning Counts**

At the heart of everything we do at The Marlborough Science Academy is high quality Teaching and Learning. Each week members of our senior leadership team meet with a selection of students from different forms and year groups to discuss how they feel about their learning, what good practice looks like and voice their opinions on what areas could be improved; we value the voice of our students.

Please find their recent feedback below:

Year 7 – ours is a kind school, we feel safe and love the learning. We like science experiments and want to do more! The Key Stage 3 suite is great and the food in the canteen is good. We love using Chromebooks in lessons and enjoy online learning, it helps our computer skills and is used really well in our PSHCEE, English and PE lessons. We especially like Graphics, Maths, English, History, swimming in PE, creativity in Art and group work in Drama.

Year 8 – Marlborough is a great school with great teaching. It is a welcoming school with a community feel and we feel safe here. We especially enjoy our IT, Music, PSHCEE and Design and Technology lessons. Our English lessons are great, Miss Mitchell and Ms Jones are really supportive.

Year 9 – We would definitely recommend our school to others. We like to start studying for our GCSEs in Year 9 as it gives us more time to prepare. We like the new resources that are available and staff are really nice, everyone supports you with your learning. Shout out to Miss Sutton, Mr Cline, Mrs Griggs, Miss Branagan and Miss Fogarty for making learning fun.

Mr Fitzgibbon

#### This Week's Quote of the Week

"The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate."

(Oprah Winfrey)

Word of the Week

accomplishment: noun—something that is successful, or that is achieved after a lot of work or effort

Value of the Week

Endeavour

#### **Oracy at TMSA**

At Marlborough we actively encourage our students to find their voice and have an opinion. So much so, that each Thursday forms engage in a discussion based on the value of the week. Being able to discuss ideas, share views, build arguments and listen with tolerance are key life skills, and we are proud that we are helping our students to become confident and articulate young adults.

Since September our students have discussed many issues, and after a quick Google Poll we are able to see the collective views of our school community. Below are just a few of our results.

55% think it is more important to be a better local citizen than a global one.

71% believe compassion is better than tolerance.

92% think Armistice Sunday is still relevant in modern Britain.

52% believe you can do anything you set your mind to.

85% believe difficulty also offers you an opportunity to learn something new.

71% believe that it is okay to pursue your own goals.

76% of our school community were inspired by the Queen's life of service.

80% believe that all students should participate in after school activities.



#### **School Communications**

Thank you for your patience and support with our communication system. Just a reminder that the vast majority of our communications will now be sent via Edulink One. If you have downloaded the app, you will receive a 'push' notification to let you know when a new message has been sent.

An email has been sent to all parents/carers containing login details for Edulink One, if you have not received this please email me at m.fitzgibbon@marlborough.herts.sch.uk and I will resend this to you.

If they have not yet done so we would appreciate it if you could encourage your children to download the Edulink app; we have now switched home learning assignments onto Edulink One so students will be able to receive push notifications when home learning is set, along with

reminders of when items are due for completion. Any pre-existing house points that were accrued last year have also been logged onto Edulink One by our Pastoral team and these will be available for students to spend in the normal way.

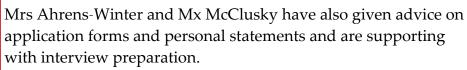
Thank you again for your support.

Mr Fitzgibbon



#### News from the Maths Faculty

Mrs Ahrens-Winter has been working with students looking to apply for Maths/Engineering and Maths related subjects at Oxbridge and supporting them through the admissions process. She has been helping students with the TMUA (Test of Mathematics for University Admission), with extension material in her Further Maths lessons.





The maths faculty's subscription to Integral (supporting all A-level Maths, Further Maths and Core Maths classes) offers modules on the additional examinations needed for Oxford and Cambridge applications and these modules give students a fantastic insight to the rigour and high standards required for these assessments.

#### **Miss Smith**

#### **Parent Governor Vacancy**

We have a strong team of Governors working together to help the school and currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. No formal qualifications are required; you just need common sense, time, enthusiasm and a commitment to working as part of a team to make a difference for all the children at our school.

In order to carry out its core functions our governing body needs people with a wide range of competencies and skills. We are keen to recruit parents/carers coming from 'all walks of life' and representing all groups in our school community.

If you are interested in applying for this role I would encourage you to contact the school and we will arrange for one of the Governors to talk to you so you can gain an understanding about what the Governors do at Marlborough and the commitment required to be effective in the role.

# Jane Walker-Smith Chair of Governors











Dear Parents and Carers,

We are all aware of how difficult situations can be during this time with the cost of living going up considerably . Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Aylward on 01727 731339 or Mrs Hicks on 01727 731364 if you require some help with foodbank vouchers. We are both here to support all our students and families through difficult times.

Kindest regards

Mrs Aylward



#### **Greenpeace Panel**

On the Friday 2nd of December, Marlborough hosted a Greenpeace conference, where myself and Sean Neveling 13JM from the Marlborough Eco Committee had the honour of being on a panel along with prominent local figures such as Daisy Cooper, MP for St Albans. The panel aimed to discuss the cost-of-living crisis, sustainable energy sources and how we must change our day-to-day living practices to better react to these tumultuous times. We tackled how the curriculum must adapt to prepare students for the environmental needs of the future, and how our institutions of energy generation must switch to greener means and what needs to be implemented for these changes to occur. In response, the Eco Council is working closely with several organisations to help make students more aware of what they can do in their own communities to help us all deal with what is quickly developing into a global crisis.

#### Mathra Kapugama Geeganage 13SL





#### Lille Trip

Early on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December, Year 7 students were bravely huddled against the all consuming dark and cold of the school carpark - awaiting the "get away vehicles" to whisk them off to Lille, France. For many of them this was their first time abroad and the excitement was clearly palpable.

The schedule was jam packed for the day with an early departure aboard the Eurotunnel whisking us to France in 35 minutes with no fishes or sharks in sight. It scarcely felt like we were moving. The children were mesmerised to see how the intrepid driver managed to squeeze a double decker coach onto a train carriage. Mr Paice was also adept at manoeuvring the school mini bus.



Once in Lille it was an hour on the ice. Ms Pierseca took to skates like a duck to water despite never skating prior to this. Mrs Griggs also showed off some impressive moves while Mr Henshall, Mrs Jubb, Mrs Morrissey, Mr Salih and Mr Eve all observed from a safe distance! The students loved it.

For many this was the highlight, that is until they saw the Christmas market.

A visit to a French restaurant savouring some

French cuisine was also on the agenda. Flams though definitely not Pizza.

The students all behaved brilliantly and enjoyed the day despite the early departure and late arrival back to school.

#### **Mrs Morrissey**

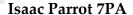
"Une journee fantastique avec des amis" Nicole Rees 7LG

"The best pary of the Lille trip was the ice skating -it was so fun!"

Jack Bingham 7HF

"Lille was amazing! All of the activities were so fun and the Christmas market was spectacular. The pizza was certainly unique" Leia Page 7KS

"Lille was very enjoyable because we got to do things like trying new food and riding a bus from one country to another"



"Une journée, génial avec des etudiants formidables et des bons amis"

#### **Madame Morrissey**





#### **Key Stage 4 Winter Showcase**

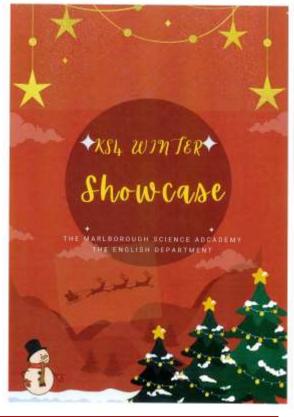
Following the successes of the Key Stage 3 Gothic Showcase, earlier this month the English department were proud to hold a Winter Showcase for Key Stage 4 students. The LRC was turned into a festive lounge complete with open fire, carols, mince pies and Christmas decorations.

Students from Years 9 to 11 read poems, short stories and creative descriptions they had written to an audience of parents, grandparents and Marlborough staff.

You can see a short video of the event on Instagram <u>here</u> and click on the image below right to see the anthology of work.

#### **Miss Fogarty**









#### **Careers Information**



The Marlborough Science Academy invites you to attend our

Apprenticeship, Careers &

Higher Education Fair

Wednesday 8th February 2023

4.30pm - 7.30pm

Da Vinci Hall & LRC

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











The Marlborough Science Academy Ltd - Watling Street
St Albans – Hertfordshire - AL1 2QA
Tel: 01727 856 874 Email: admin@marlborough.herts.sch.uk
www.themarlboroughscienceacademy.co.uk

#### List of exhibitors

NHS Herts Fire and Rescue

Health & Care Academy Premier Foods

BAM Construction West Herts University

Royal Navy Simmons Bakery

AECOM Aldi

Services for Young People The Waterman Group

Oaklands College Wagada Digital Marketing

Hertfordshire Constabulary Computa Center

MBDA Sporting Futures

Oxford Brookes University Atlas Translations

Specsavers University of Hertfordshire

The University of East London UCFB



Visit the stands and explore the opportunities available.

We look forward to seeing you.

#### **Careers Information**

#### VIRTUAL EMPLOYER ENCOUNTERS

Webinars for students





In order to facilitate some meaningful encounters with employers, 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 webinars 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>. You do not need to register to watch the recordings.

You can watch the latest webinar about careers in cyber security by clicking on the image on the right.

#### 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 <a href="https://www.hopinto.co.uk/explore-careers/virtual-employer-encounters/">https://www.hopinto.co.uk/explore-careers/virtual-employer-encounters/</a>

#### **Careers Information**



# **HEMEL HEMPSTEAD**

Saturday 5 November 9:30am - 12:30pm Saturday 25 February 9:30am - 12:30pm Saturday 17 June 9:30am - 12:30pm

# WATFORD

Saturday 12 November 9:30am - 14:00pm Saturday 4 March 9:30am - 13:00pm Saturday 24 June 9:30am - 13:00pm

→ westherts.ac.uk

# **BOOK NOW**



→ 01923 812345

#### Oliver Jr

We have ended the term with our school production of Oliver Jr.

57 students from Year 7 to Year 13 have worked together since September to create a fabulous show. Each and every student has demonstrated commitment through attending rehearsals alongside their normal lessons, cast and crew have worked together to make the show great. Being a part of the process is so much more than just a performance it's new friends and lasting memories.

#### **Mrs Griggs**



"I love the school productions because I always make so many friends and become so social, everyone doing it always makes it so much better. Overall rehearsals have just been a really fun place to go and be myself in." - Daisy Year 12

"When I joined the cast, I knew it would be such a memorable journey that I would never forget. I have made so many new friends, in older years, that have been so welcoming and made the cast such a kind environment. I can't wait for next year!" - Holly Year 7

"It has been a privilege to be in this production and others in previous years. The shows fill me with joy as I experience the wonderful acting performed by the cast supported by the lighting and sound crew. The consistent quality directed by all the teachers is a credit to this school and I am thankful for being a part of it." - **Thomas Year 10** 





"Oliver, like all the other productions, has been such a fantastic opportunity for so many of us. I can't describe how happy I am that I go to a school that puts so much effort and hard work into letting students express themselves like this. The yearly production is something so special and creates so many memories for everyone, thank you so much to Mrs Griggs and all the other staff that go through so much stress and hard work to allow us to have this." - Jamie Year 11

"I have really enjoyed doing Oliver. I've made so many new friends and caught up with some that I met during Matilda. I have made so many memories here and overall loved this experience. Thank you to the cast and especially the crew who have spent their own time helping us make this wonderful performance." - Chloe Year 10

"Auditioning for Oliver was the best decision I made this year, I have become closer with so many people and it has been amazing being a part of it. After watching Matilda last year I knew I wanted to be a part of it." - Robyn Year 9

"Being in Oliver has been absolutely amazing, what a great experience! I've loved making friends, watching characters develop

and just being in some sort of community. I think these shows are so important for creativity and confidence and everyone always enjoys it. It is a break from schoolwork and an amazing creative outlet. The show is so important to so many people and I'm so glad it's open to everyone in Marlborough!" - Flo Year 10



"This year's musical has meant so much to me and done so much for me as a person. It's an experience that I will never forget and has been one of the best times of my life. I think that playing Fagin has improved so many of my skills both within theatre and out, and has been such a strong motivation to keep trying to improve. He's such a fun character to play and has been made even more enjoyable in the friendly environment that the performance creates. Rehearsals have brought me so many amazing times and friends that make it hard to imagine how school life without rehearsals will be for the rest of the year! Everyone involved in the production brought it to life better than I could ever imagine, and I owe so many amazing memories to them all." Ivy Year 9



# **Winter Fun**

The students (and Bertie) enjoyed playing in the snow on Tuesday.

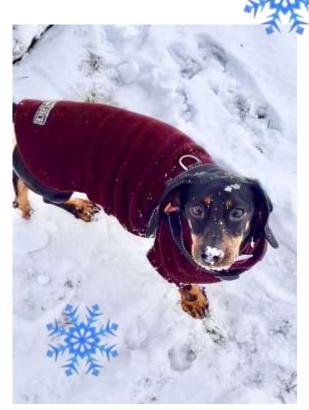
















# **Shoebox Appeal**

Thanks to the generosity of students and staff at TMSA, we have assembled over 40 shoe boxes full of beautiful gifts. The thoughtful contributions will be distributed to children in need in the

St Albans area over the coming weeks by Mss Hicks, Family Engagement Worker.

Thank you to everyone who donated to this appeal.

#### **Mrs Keat**





#### **Rotary Young Chef Competition 2022**

On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November The Rotary Club of St Albans hosted the Rotary Young Chef Competition 2022. Three Year 9 students Artemis Chivers, Charlotte Hardcastle and Abigail Stirrat did an amazing job when they entered the contest. Their task was to plan, prepare, cook, cost up and present a healthy meal for two on a budget.

Each of the girls planned a fantastic meal. On the evening of the 16<sup>th</sup> November they went to Oaklands college and along with 14 other competitors had to cook their foods. What a brilliant evening they had. All the girls made the most mouth watering of foods and worked in a calm

and collected way in the professional kitchen at Oaklands which was no mean feat when you have never cooked in that environment before. All girls proved to themselves and to those who were there just how talented they are.

When they presented their food at the end of the evening to the judges I was very proud of what they had achieved and I know their parents were too. Mrs Mitchell who came along to the evening to support was also delighted to be a part of such a fabulous evening. Well done all of you! I was so impressed with everything you did. I can't wait until next year when hopefully you will be part of it again.

Mrs Cuell





Judging time!



Abbie Stirrat 9VL



Charlotte Hardcastle 9AR



Artemis Chivers 9AP

#### Art Remote Learning on the Snow Day

Students were asked to build a snow sculpture and definitely rose to the occasion. Ms Bustin's example is pictured left and Cassie Lepley 7LG created the snowman on the right.





#### Staff Litterati Golden Litter Picker

Mr Milne won the staff Litterati competition by picking up and uploading the most litter over the winter half term. He won with 84 bits of litter collected. His prize included the elusive golden litter picker, a certificate and some chocolates.

Mr Armstrong



#### The LIFE Project

This Year's LIFE Project, (Local Intervention Fire Education) was held from 5<sup>th</sup> December at St. Albans Fire Station. Students from Year 8, 9 and 10 joined the St. Albans Fire Service for the

week. The LIFE project is an interactive experience for students who have faced challenges to learn transferable skills through firefighting activities.

Specially trained Fire Fighters deliver the LIFE project; it is an intensive five-day work experience course in a disciplined and well-focused environment. With the help of the friendly trainers, the students learnt the job of a real firefighter through taking part in a range of activities that



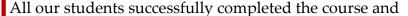
included using ladders, breathing apparatus equipment, and learning casualty rescue techniques.



There were some classroom sessions too where the students learnt about social responsibility, and how different behaviours can impact on the community, their families and themselves with the intention of getting them to adopt a new set of values and understand the consequences of their behaviour and the

choices they make in everyday situations.

By the end of the week the students had gained resilience, self-esteem, confidence and an ability to improve on their life skills.



received an AQA accredited certificate from John Boulter, Head of Protection, Herts County Council at an official Passing out Parade attended by their parents, carers and families. Well done to all our students who participated!



You can see a short video clip <u>here</u>













#### M Festival

We are delighted to confirm that M Festival is back next summer!







We realise how money is tight at the moment and are offering tickets at 2022 prices if you buy your tickets in our super early bird or early bird offer. We have also introduced discounted prices for one parent families this year.

As usual, we have lots of great music on our Main stage with some fantastic headliners already secured, plenty of activities, some of which are free including the arts and craft stall, circus skills workshop, wildlife shows and mini golf. We also have funfair rides and giant inflatable activities which we guarantee will all be reasonably priced. There will also be a host of competitively priced local food and beverage stalls.

There are many reasons to bring your family and friends along to M Festival on Saturday 1st July as it has established itself as a fantastic local community event. You have helped us raise more than £110,000 over the last 14 years, with all the profits benefiting our students at the school.

#### **GET INVOLVED**

We have plenty of sponsorship and programme advertisement opportunities for local businesses to get involved in supporting M Festival. If you know anyone that may be able to help us, please pass the message on about our local community festival. More information can be found by clicking here.

We are looking for volunteers to help on the day. It would be amazing if you could give as little as an hour to help our community festival. This year we have a very simple hourly slot booking system across a number of activities/stalls. Click here to sign up.

We hope you can join us for a great day! M Festival Team www.mfestival.co.uk





TICKETS: ADULT TICKET STUDENT TICKET		SUPER EARLY BIRD £22.00	EARLY BIRD £26.00	ONLINE PRIGING £30.00	
		E11.00	E13.00		
FAMILY OF 4	E CHARLES	E55.00	€65.00	£75.00	
FAMILY OF 5	300min	E66.00	€78.00	£90.00 *Under 5	

**BUY TICKETS** 

INSTAGRAM

FACEBOOK

#### Stay safe in winter – the dangers of frozen waters

Over the last few days Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue have attended water and ice incidents where people have been at risk of falling through frozen lakes and rivers due to rescuing a pet or not seeing the dangers of such activities.

Children and pets are particularly at risk when tempted to play on the ice formed on open water, and adults can find themselves at risk in attempting to save them.

Taking a nice walk in cold weather with your family, friends or dogs in tow can be really refreshing, just make sure you know some simple tips on how to stay safe in winter.

Areas with frozen lakes, ponds, canals and reservoirs can be beautiful places to visit during the winter months but all too often many people risk their lives by venturing onto frozen water.

Here are some useful tips to help you know what to do in an emergency.

#### Teach children not to go on the ice

Teach children not to go onto the ice under any circumstances.

#### Don't go on the ice to rescue a dog

Don't go onto ice or into the water to rescue a dog, move to somewhere that the dog will be able to climb out and call them towards you.

#### Keep dogs on their leads

Keep dogs on their leads when near ice and don't throw sticks or toys onto the ice.

#### Only use well-lit areas

Time your walks to make the most of the daylight; if you need to walk in the evening only use well-lit areas or take a route not alongside water.

#### Keep back from the edge

When walking alongside water keep back from the edge.



Please visit the RLSS website on this link, to see useful tools on how to get your children talking about winter water safety:

<u>Winter Water Safety | Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK)</u>

#### **Attendance Procedures**

#### Parental Procedure for Informing School of Absence

Student Illness

Parent/carer to inform the school in

Other Exceptional Circumstances

Parent/carer to contact the school by 8.20am on the morning of each absence.

Contact can be made in either of the following methods

- 1. By phone to the attendance line on 01727 731368
- 2. By email at attendance@marlborough.herts.sch.uk

Please provide your child's name, form and reason for absence and expected date of

advance of the medical appointment

Contact can be made in either of the following methods

Medical Appointments

- 1. By phone to the attendance line on 01727 731368
- 2. By email at attendance@marlborough.herts.sch.uk

Please provide your child's name, form and reason for absence and expected date of return

For reasons including absence due to funerals, weddings, sporting trips etc. parents/carers must write directly to the headteacher for consideration.

By law, only the head teacher can authorise your child's absence and will therefore make a decision whether the exceptional circumstance can be authorised.

If your child is frequently absent due to illness and/or medical appointments, the school may request permission to contact your GP for confirmation that they are too ill to attend school. Medical evidence maybe requested for each absence







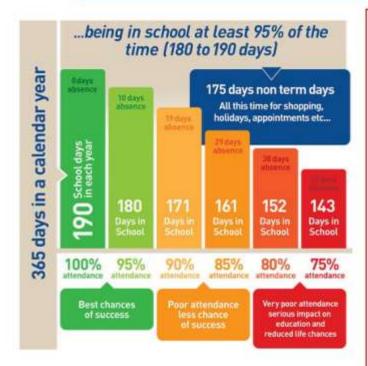






Devisied July 2022

#### How Does Absence Affect Academic Progress?



#### How will absences from school affect my child's progress at school?

Attainment Levels

The quality of school work and qualifications gained will be significantly lower if attendance is lower.

School Routine

Your child's learning could be disrupted by the missing of vital class work.

A young person's well-being and long-term life opportunities may be adversely affected by the missing of positive experiences associated with school and learning.

The School expects all students to aim for 100% attendance. 96% attendance is regarded as good and can be achieved with some illness, Any attendance that creates cause for concern would initiate intervention by the school.













Revised July 2022

#### **Community News**





Commencing 14<sup>th</sup> January 2023



Free Art & Design Club, Saturday mornings at our St Albans Campus. Scan the QR code for details and to join.

#### Join the Club

It's **free** and 13–16 year olds of all abilities are welcome.

- · Develop new skills
- · Discover your talents
- · Learn from industry experts
- · Build your confidence
- · Explore a subject you love
- · Meet like-minded people
- · Find out about careers

Social Chair





St Albans & District Foodbank are opening a **NEW** distribution centre at The Cottonmill Community & Cycling Centre, this week. It will open from **Wednesday**, 20th July 2022, from 13.00-15.00



Several of the distribution centres are now able to offer a CAB officer to talk with clients on a regular basis. At the moment they have been attending New Greens, London Colney and Harpenden distribution centres every two weeks.

#### There is no longer a centre at St Stephen Church, Watling Street.

Local distribution centres are as follows:



#### **Monday Morning**

The Vineyard Church 7 Brick Knoll Park, St Albans, AL1 5UG 10.00am- 12.00pm

#### **Monday Afternoon**

Redbourn Methodist Church, North Common, AL37BU 2.00pm-3.30pm

#### Tuesday

Christchurch, New Greens
1.00pm – 3.00pm
3 High Oaks, St Albans; AL3 6DJ

#### Wednesday

Cottonmill Community Centre 12 Old Oak, Cottonmill Lane St Albans, AL1 2EF 13.00-15.00

#### Thursday

Hilldyke Community Centre
17 Hilldyke Road, Wheathampstead
AL4 8TU
12.30pm-2.30pm

#### **Friday Morning**

London Colney Parish Council
Caledon Community Centre, Caledon
Road, London Colney, AL2 1PU
10.00am-12.00pm

#### Friday Afternoon

Crabtree Church-Harpenden 139 Crabtree Lane, Harpenden AL5 5RD 1.00pm- 3.00pm

## St Albans & District Foodbank - Christmas and New Year's Opening Hours

The St Albans and District Foodbank's Distribution centres will run all sessions as usual during the week prior to Christmas.

We will be closed on:

Monday 26th December Tuesday 27th December Monday 2nd January 2023

WEDNESDAY morning 28th December 22 - FEED - 10:00 - 12:00.

Vineyard Church, 7 Brick Knoll Park, St Albans, AL1 5UG

WEDNESDAY afternoon 28th December 22 - Cottonmill - 13:00 - 15:00.

Cottonmill Community & Cycling Centre, 12 Old Oak, Cottonmill Lane, St Albans AL1 2EF

THURSDAY 29th December 22 - Wheathampstead - 12:30 - 14:30.

Hilldyke Community Centre, 17 Hilldyke Road, Wheathampstead AL4 8TU

FRIDAY morning 30th December 22 – London Colney – 10:00 - 12:00.

London Colney Caledon Community Centre, Caledon Road, London Colney AL2 1PU

FRIDAY afternoon 30th December 22 - Crabtree Church - Harpenden - 13:00 - 15:00.

Crabtree Church 139 Crabtree Lane, Harpenden, AL5 5RD

#### Distribution centres open from Tuesday 3rd January 2023

TUESDAY 3rd January 23 - Christ Church - New Greens - 13:00 - 15:00.

Christ Church, 3 High Oaks, St Albans, AL3 6DJ

WEDNESDAY morning 4th January 23 - FEED - 10:00 -12:00.

Vineyard Church, 7 Brick Knoll Park, St Albans, AL1 5UG

WEDNESDAY afternoon 4th January 23 - Cottonmill - 13:00 - 15:00.

Cottonmill Community & Cycling Centre, 12 Old Oak, Cottonmill Lane, St Albans AL1 2E

THURSDAY 5th January 23 – Wheathampstead – 12:30 - 14:30.

Hilldyke Community Centre, 17 Hilldyke Road, Wheathampstead AL4 8TU

FRIDAY morning 6th January 2023 - London Colney - 10:00 - 12:00.

London Colney Parish Council, Caledon Community Centre, Caledon Road, London Colney AL2 1PU

FRIDAY afternoon 6th January 2023 - Crabtree Church, Harpenden - 13:00 - 15:00.

Crabtree Church 139 Crabtree Lane, Harpenden, AL5 5RD











# FREE ONLINE SPRING 2023 WORKSHOPS FOR HERTS PARENTS/CARERS

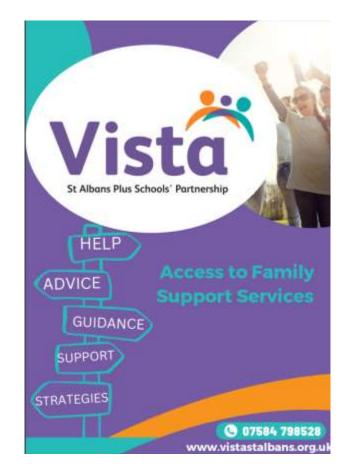
Online Workshops funded by HCC	Audience	Day	Date	Time
Diagnosing ADHD and/or Autism	Parents/carers	Thu	5.1.23	10:00 - 11.30
Understanding ADHD	Parents/carers	Mon	9.1.23	10:00 - 11.30
Caring for Your Child (and Yourself)	Parents/carers	Tues	10.1.23	10:00 - 11.30
Tips & Tools to Build Self-Esteem	Parents/carers	Wed	11.1.23	10:00 - 11.30
Tips & Tools for Sleep	Parents/carers	Wed	11.1.23	19:00 - 20:30
Working in Partnership with School	Parents/carers	Mon	16.1.23	10:00 - 11.30
Tips & Tools to Support Communication	Parents/carers	Wed	18.1.23	10:00 - 11.30
Understanding Autism	Parents/carers	Wed	18.1.23	19:00 - 20:30
Applying for an EHCP	Parents/carers	Mon	23.1.23	10:00 - 11.30
Understanding PDA	Parents/carers	Tue	24.1.23	10:00 - 11.30
Tips & Tools to Teach Emotional Literacy	Parents/carers	Wed	25.1.23	10:00 - 11.30
Tips & Tools for Toileting	Parents/carers	Wed	25.1.23	19:00 - 20:30
Preparing for an EHCP Annual Review	Parents/carers	Mon	30.1.23	10:00 - 11.30
Understanding ADHD in Girls	Parents/carers	Tue	31.1.23	10:00 - 11.30
Tips & Tools to Support Learning	Parents/carers	Wed	1.2.23	10:00 - 11.30
Support for Dads	Parents/carers	Mon	6.2.23	19:00 - 20:30
Understanding Autism in Girls	Parents/carers	Tue	7.2.23	10:00 - 11.30
Tips & Tools to Manage Everyday Change	Parents/carers	Wed	8.2.23	10:00 - 11.30
	Half Term			
Supporting Siblings	Parents/carers	Mon	20.2.23	10:00 - 11.30
Understanding Challenging Behaviour	Parents/carers	Tue	21.2.23	10:00 - 11.30
Tips & Tools to Manage Anger	Parents/carers	Wed	22.2.23	19:00 - 20:30
Supporting Transition into Primary School	Parents/carers	Mon	27.2.23	10:00 - 11.30
Understanding Sensory Differences	Parents/carers	Tue	28.2.23	10:00 - 11.30
Tips& Tools for Self Harm	Parents/carers	Wed	1.3.23	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Sensory Differences	Parents/carers	Wed	1.3.23	19:00 - 20:30
Supporting Transition into Secondary School	Parents/carers	Mon	6.3.23	10:00 - 11.30
Understanding Anxiety	Parents/carers	Tue	7.3.23	10:00 - 11.30
Tips & Tools to Support Puberty	Parents/carers	Wed	8.3.23	10:00 - 11.30
Tips & Tools to Manage Anxiety	Parents/carers	Wed	8.3.23	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools for Positive Behaviour	Parents/carers	Mon	13.3.23	10:00 - 11.30
Preparing for Adulthood (14+)	Parents/carers	Wed	15.3.23	10:00 - 11.30
Understanding Neurodiverse Teens	Parents/carers	Wed	15.3.23	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to teach Social Skills	Parents/carers	Mon	20.3.23	10:00 - 11.30
Thinking About College?	Parents/carers	Tue	21.3.23	10:00 - 11.30
Thinking About University?	Parents/carers	Wed	22.3.23	10:00 - 11.30

**01727 833963** 

☐ herts@add-vance.org

http://www.add-vance.org/

Book your FREE ticket on http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/ or visit our website These workshops are funded by Hertfordshire County Council and are open to residents of Hertfordshire only





#### **ABOUT THE GROUPS**

ADD-varice runs regular support groups which provide an opportunity for you to meet other local parents and discuss specialist ADD vance coaches We welcome parents and carers who have a formal diagnosis for their child, as well as those who do not have a formal diagnosis but would like to learn more about. neurodiversity.

#### TIME AND PLACE

General Primary Aged Children Support Group Tuesday 10/01/23 - 1-2 pm

General Secondary Aged Children Support Group Tuesday 17/01/23 - 1-2 pm

Support Group for Parents of 16-24 year olds Tuesday 24/01/23 - 7.30-8.30 pm

General Early Years Support Group Tuesday 31/01/23 - 10-11am

**PDA Support Group** Tuesday 07/02/23 - 1-2 pm

ALL ONLINE VIA ZOOM



#### **ABOUT THE COURSE**

This interactive course is designed for parents & carers of children aged 5 or suspected diagnosis of 7 - 9 pm ADHD and/or Autism (or

BE ATTENDED

#### TIME AND PLACE

Thursdays 5th January to 9th February 10 am to 12 pm BEDMOND VILLAGE HALL, WD5 0QP to 14 yrs with a diagnosis Thursdays 5th January to 9th February

ONLINE VIA ZOOM

4 & already in reception). Understanding Girls with ADHD & Autism ALL SESSIONS MUST Fridays 6th January to 10th February 10 am to 12 pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM

23 herts@and-ence.org # http://www.mdo-ence.org/ ticket on http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/ or r website http://www.add-vance.org/



#### **ABOUT THE COURSE**

This interactive course is designed for parents/carers of children aged 12 to 15 yrs with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of ADHD and/or Autism.

#### TIME AND PLACE

#### Thursdays

5th January to 9th February 10 am to 12 pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM

#### Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Workshops (January - March 2023)

Workshops are open to all young people & parents/carers of children and young people who attend a school or are registered to a GP in Hertfordshire. A referral is not needed to access a workshop.

All workshops are currently being delivered online via Microsoft Teams. For more information about what each <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-school-nursingservice-hertfordshire-33494371787">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-school-nursingservice-hertfordshire-33494371787</a>

Workshop	Date & Time			
Emotional Wellbeing (For Young People 11-16)  A workshop focused on adolescents managing their own emotional wellbeing and things parents/carers can do to help.	Wed, 18 <sup>th</sup> January 18:00 Wed, 15 <sup>th</sup> March 18:00			
Supporting Adolescents with Self-Esteem A workshop focused on adolescents improving their self-esteem and what parents can do to support.	Thu, 26 <sup>th</sup> January 18:00 Thu, 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 18:00			
Supporting your Child's Self-Esteem A workshop focused on parents/carers supporting their child to improve their self-esteem.	Thu, 12 <sup>th</sup> January 10:00 Thu, 9 <sup>th</sup> February 18:00 Thu, 9 <sup>th</sup> March 10:00			
Supporting Adolescent with Sleep Difficulties  A workshop focused on adolescents managing and improving their sleep difficulties and how parents/carers can help.	Wed, 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb 12:00			
Supporting your Child with Sleep Difficulties A workshop focused on parents/carers supporting their child with sleep difficulties.	Tue, 17 <sup>th</sup> January 10:00 Thu, 16 <sup>th</sup> February 18:00 Tue, 14 <sup>th</sup> March 10:00			
Developing your Child's Emotional Literacy  A workshop focused on parents supporting their child with developing emotional literacy.	Tue, 10 <sup>th</sup> January 10:00 Tue, 7 <sup>th</sup> February 18:00 Tue, 7 <sup>th</sup> March 10:00			
General Emotional Wellbeing and Regulation Tips for Parents A workshop focused on parents supporting their child's general emotional wellbeing and emotional regulation.	Tue, 24 <sup>th</sup> January 18:00 Thu, 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 10:00 Tue, 21 <sup>st</sup> March 18:00			
Exam Stress A workshop supporting children and adolescents with managing exam stress.	Wed, 4 <sup>th</sup> January 10:00 Wed, 25 <sup>th</sup> January 18:00 Tue, 14 <sup>th</sup> February 10:00 Wed, 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 18:00			

To access the recorded Emotionally Based School Avoidance Webinar please visit: <a href="https://www.hct.nhs.uk/ourservices-a-z/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-service/">https://www.hct.nhs.uk/ourservices-a-z/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-service/</a>





#### **Term Dates**

#### Spring Term 2023

Start of Term - Thursday 5th January 2023

Spring Half Term - Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2023

Last Day of Term - Thursday 30th March 2023

Inset Day - Friday 31st March 2023

#### Summer Term 2023

**Start of Term** - Monday 17th April 2023 **Bank Holiday** - Monday 1st May 2023 **Bank Holiday** — Monday 8th May 2023

Summer Half Term - Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023

Last day of Term - Friday 21st July 2023

#### **Autumn Term 2023**

**Staff Inset Day** - Friday 1st September and Monday 4th September 2023

Start of Term - Tuesday 5th September 2023

Half Term - Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October 2023

Occasional Day - Friday 24th November 2023

End of Term - Wednesday 20th December 2023

#### Spring Term 2024

Start of Term - Thursday 4th January 2024

Half Term - Monday 19th - Friday 23rd February 2024

End of Term - Wednesday 27th March 2024

Inset Day - Thursday 28th March 2024

#### **Summer Term 2024**

Start of Term –Monday 15th April 2024

Bank Holiday —Monday 6th May 2024

Half Term Monday 27th– Friday 31st May 2024

End of Term Friday 19th July 2024

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



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

Please contact admin@marlborough.herts.sch.uk for any information regarding the content of this or future publications.