



Marlborough News

www.themarboroughscienceacademy.co.uk

16th February 2024 Issue #136



The Marlborough
Science Academy



February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Whilst I know we are breaking up for half term later than many other areas I am hopeful that next week will bring about some lovely weather. I am hopeful too that the school site will dry out a little (a lot!) and will be less muddy, I can only apologise for the state some of the students shoes have been as a result and hopefully they will have time to get them polished next week.

School life as always has been exceptionally busy and we are working hard to support our exam students to get ready emotionally and academically for the next few months ahead, your support as parents/carers is crucial with this and if we can do anything to support you please let us know. Behaviour in school with the majority of our children has been, as per our Ofsted grading exceptional over the last few weeks but sadly there have been a minority for whom our code seems challenging, we will continue to work hard to ensure all students understand the importance of rules and boundaries and welcome your support with this. I would urge you also to pay close attention to what your children are doing next week in their free time and I know I repeat myself constantly; please be mindful of what they are accessing in their use of social media. Of concern too is the number of rumours and whispers being generated re: dangerous behaviours in school; these are unsubstantiated and I would urge you to contact us to determine the facts before fuelling said rumours or taking to social media. Thank you as always for your support, students can sometimes get things wrong.

As a consequence of Ofsted, I have been invited to contribute to the Global Inclusive Schools' Forum in Paris this March. This is a fantastic validation of all the hard work all our staff undertake every day to support learning and well-being and I am looking forward to meeting Headteachers from all over the world so that we can continue learning and improving. I am so proud of all that we have achieved and hope too that you will join me in sharing our sense of pride in receiving such recognition.

I wish the ski trip and the trip to Rome all the very best for next week, I hope everyone has a fabulous time and thank you to all the staff who give up their precious holiday time to offer such marvellous opportunities. Very envious of the trip to Rome, sadly skiing is not my thing!

So, have a great week, let's look forward to some sunshine ready to return to school in correct school uniform and ready for learning. Link to uniform policy <https://www.themarlbroughscienceacademy.co.uk/parents-uniform#>

Take care and be safe,



Ms Thomson
Headteacher

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www.themarlbroughscienceacademy.co.uk Company No: 08003969



This Week's Quote of the Week

"Openness may not completely disarm prejudice, but it's a good place to start"

(Jason Collins)

Word of the Week

compassionate: noun—*feeling or showing sympathy and concern for others.*

Value of the Week

Compassion

Marlborough In The News

Ofsted 2023

We retained our grading after our Ofsted inspection in November 2023 and were judged outstanding in four areas. Please click on the image below to read the article published in the Herts Advertiser.



Holocaust Memorial Visit

On Tuesday 30th January, to mark Holocaust Memorial Day (January 27), we welcomed Maralyn Turgel, the daughter of Holocaust survivor Sam Gardner, to speak to Year 10 students about her father's experience during World War Two. To read the article in the Herts Advertiser, please click on the image below.



Student Achievement

Rotary Club Competition Winners

On Wednesday 15th November, a debate competition was held by the local Rotary Club. Seeing what a great opportunity this was, three of us in Year 7 decided to join. We wrote interesting (and in many cases, rather comical) speeches about our chosen topic: 'Cats or dogs: which is the better animal?' - and practised them to the best of our ability. Mr T, who was organising it, helped by giving feedback on both our speeches and presentation skills; so when the big night came, we were ready to give it our best shot.

"As we were walking up to the debate, I was quite stressed about it... but as time passed, I became more comfortable talking in front of the crowd," said Tavor Lifshitz 7RC, one of the young debaters, who played the role of chairperson in the debate.

These feelings were certainly felt throughout the group, but no one had any idea what would happen next . . .

Having done our very best, we knew we could be proud of ourselves, no matter what the outcome was. However when the result was read out, we found – quite incredibly - we had won!

Eddie Walsh 7RC, another debater, said *"I always knew that we were good enough to win, but it was still amazing to hear it! This is an excellent memory to have and I cannot believe this outstanding opportunity!"*

This is the first time that Marlborough has ever won the preliminary round, and the second time that we have ever gone through to the district competition - and with our promising pupils writing and rehearsing new speeches, who knows what the next achievement will be!

Samantha Mullinex 7RC

The MO

The MO is our student magazine, written by students for students.

Click on the image to read the latest edition, you can also find all previous editions on our website [here](#).

In this edition:-

Here she's a woman, here he's a man: Claude Cahun

HALO Ops of the Vietnam War

Who is the monster of Wall Street?

The limping lady

Say 'Hi' to the World

The Conservative Party – Thirteen years with little to show for it!



Student Achievement

Royal Marine Cadets

Congratulations to Thomas Pegg-Edwards 10RT a member of St Albans Royal Marine Cadets. On Saturday 10th February his troop travelled to Newark in Nottingham for an area drill competition. The team of 8 cadets which also included Gabriel Vargas 11KB and Christopher Charlton-Green 11PC carried out an 8 minute drill which earned them second place in the competition. It was a long day but well worth the early start.



We have a selection of books for students to take home and enjoy FREE in the English Block Seacole. Please help yourselves.

Group of students from year 7-9, enjoying flipping pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. Looks like fun, hopefully none were dropped!!



Year 10 Art

Year 10 art students produced these beautiful sketchbook pages for home learning as they start a new project on Portraiture. Well done to:

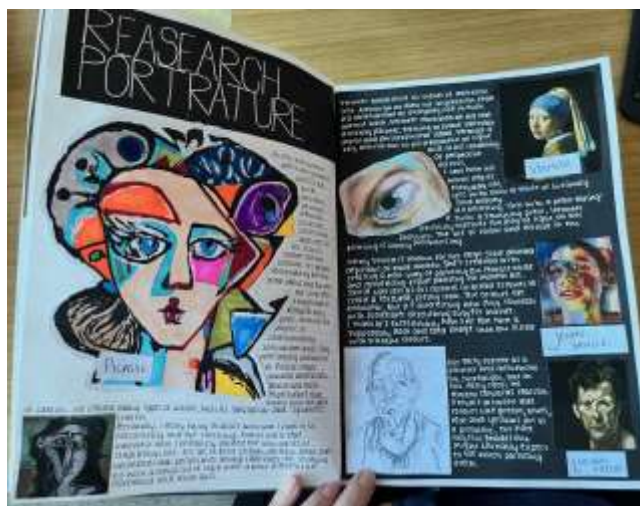
Charlie Chalice 10SK

Alexis Manyangadze 10VL

Amelia Jenkins 10MM

Lola Himsworth 10AP, Jessica Reed 10AR,

Emily Constable 10AR, Robyn Goh 10AR.



The Big Read 2024

On Friday 12th January we launched our latest Big Read, Twitch by M G Leonard with a visit from the author herself. Students in Year 7 & 8 heard how the idea for the story came about and had the opportunity to show off their bird knowledge by identifying all of the thirty birds mentioned in the book.

We were also joined by 12 students from Mandeville School Chatterbooks group who wrote the following article for their school newsletter.



Author Visit

On the 12th January 2024, Chatterbooks were invited to attend a talk by M.G. Leonard the author of a tetralogy of bird watching mystery books starting with 'Twitch' (a favourite of the Chatterbooks group.)

When we first arrived (at Marlborough school) we were escorted to the hall where we were kindly offered front row seats. The year 7's filed in



and the talk began. It started with the author introducing herself and her well known books such as Beetle Boy and her co written series of Adventures on Trains.

The Chatterbooks group learnt that Maya (M.G. Leonard) had a pet beetle and is a birdwatcher. We also learnt how she writes her stories planning them as if you've already written the book and now you are casting people to be characters. Gabriella Brancazio, a new member of Chatterbooks, said "It's nice to see that someone else uses the same method as me to plan a story."

We then heard some exciting news. Feather, the final book in the tetralogy, is coming out in February 2024. When the presentation was over the we got to meet the

author and have our books signed and then the school was generously given three signed copies of M.G. Leonard's books. It was a great experience and we really enjoyed learning about the process of a published author.

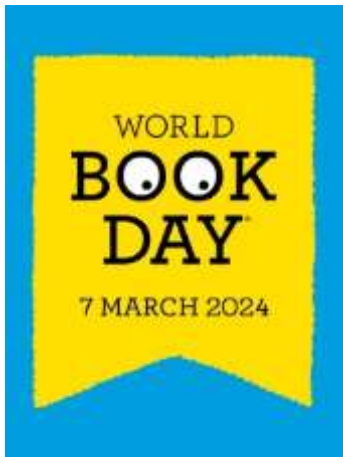
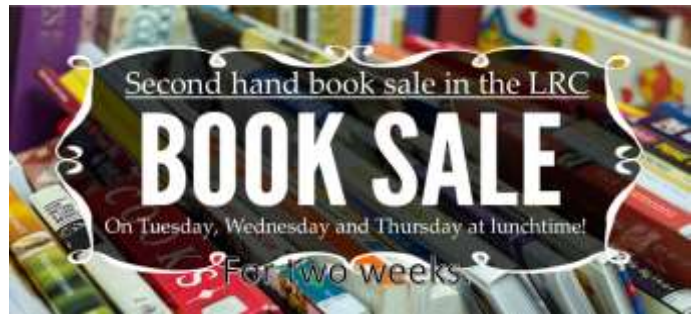
by The Chatterbooks



LRC News

Book Fest 2024—Monday 26th February to Friday 8th March

For the first two weeks after half term we will be holding our annual celebration of reading. There will be lots going on including a second-hand book sale, 'Who's Behind the Book?' competition, book return



raffle and a Big Read themed

scavenger hunt in the LRC. All Year 7 & 8 students will be offered a free World Book Day book and £1 voucher to spend and we will have vouchers available in the LRC for other students who would like them.

On World Book Day itself, we will have a photobooth in the LRC for students to dress up as book characters and some of our staff will be wearing costumes too!

Come along to the LRC at lunch time to see what we have going on for Book Fest!



Staff will be displaying what they are currently reading to encourage book related conversations and all Year 7 and 8 students will be taking part in the Read for Good Readathon. We hope that all students will read at least one book, comic or graphic novel during this time and

although there is no obligation for students to ask family and friends to sponsor them, all money raised will help Read for Good provide new books and storytellers for children's hospitals in the UK.



Who's Behind The Book?

Guess who the staff members are and win prizes.

Come to the LRC Monday-Friday
26th Feb—8th March

#Book Fest 2024.



Parents and carers will be able to donate through School Gateway if their child is taking part but if anyone else would like to support this worthwhile cause you can donate directly to Read for Good via the following link from 26th February. <https://readathon.my.salesforce-sites.com/sponsor>

Mrs Nixon

SAVE THE DATE



"Staff in the sixth form teach students the specific skills needed to be successful. Teachers have strong subject knowledge"

Ofsted 2023

THE MARLBOROUGH SCIENCE ACADEMY



J
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N
E

This year's sixth form taster days are on the 27th and 28th June 2024. Ofsted have rated our sixth form 'Outstanding' in a recent inspection. Come and find out for yourselves what a great sixth form we have on either of the two taster days. We look forward to welcoming you. More information to follow. Please click the image to visit our sixth form pages on our website



SIXTH FORM TASTER DAYS

Our sixth form is Ofsted rated Outstanding

[MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW](#)

PTA News

On Friday 9th February a quiz night organised by the PTA took place in the LRC. It was lots of fun and raised an incredible £465! Thank you to quiz master extraordinaire Mr Atterton and everyone who helped to make the event a success.



Next second hand Uniform Sale: Saturday 23rd March 10:30-11:30 in Pascal Hall

Next meeting: Wednesday 6th March 19:15 in Seacole

*'The more that you read, the more things you'll know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.'*

- Dr. Seuss



Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are running a **Read for Good Readathon** and we'd love your child to join in.

It's been proven that children who read for pleasure are more likely to be successful and happy throughout their lives (OECD, 2002).

The charity **Read for Good** encourages children to read through its unique motivational approach that inspires reluctant readers to give reading a go and keen readers to read more widely. Pupils can choose whatever they want to read - from comics to classics and audiobooks to blogs - they are not being assessed, it's all about reading for fun! And, they are motivated to read because the money they raise in sponsorship helps to provide a regular supply of brand new books and a resident storyteller to every major children's hospital in the UK.

The evidence from other schools is clear: teachers, parents and pupils all say that the freedom to choose what to read, combined with the knowledge that they are directly helping children in hospital, makes participation easy and compelling.

All you have to do is:

Take a look at what they plan to read, or help them complete their list of books to read. Remember they can read whatever they want: books, e-books, poetry, comics – anything goes! Sharing books is fine too (in fact recommended!) as well as listening to audio books.

Help your child find sponsors among family and friends. The easiest way to sponsor a child is at <https://readathon.my.salesforce-sites.com/sponsor> (which family and friends can use too).

Please support your child's sponsored read as much as you can. They'll be helping kids in hospitals get books, as well as helping themselves, and our school receives free books worth 20% of our grand sponsorship total, so there really is something in it for everyone.

For more information, check out your child's sponsorship card and visit www.readforgood.org.

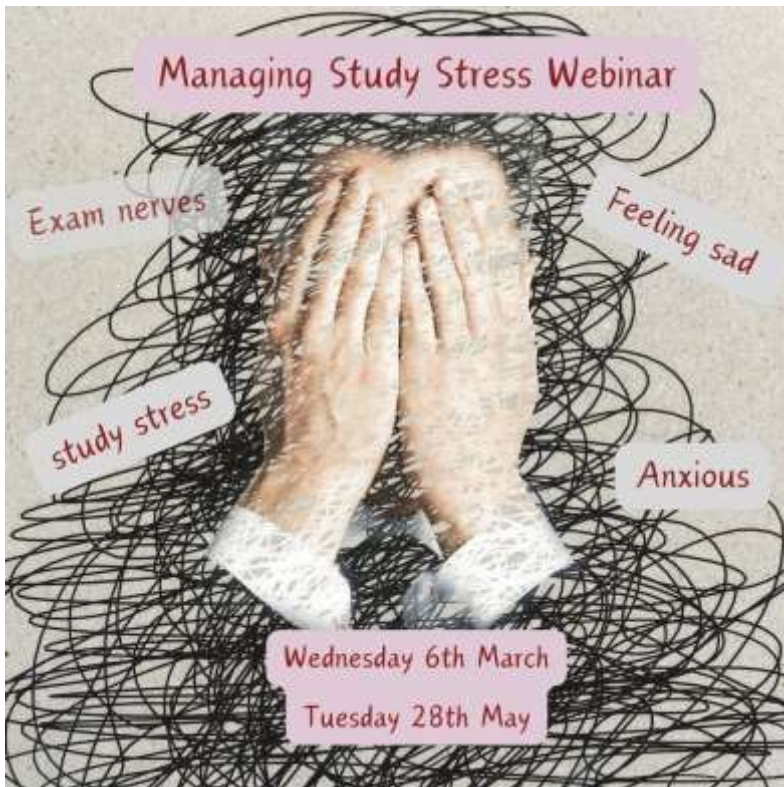
**Thank you for your support - helping your child to keep
reading, raising
and being amazing!**

readforgood.org    

26 Nailsworth Mills, Avening Road, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire GL6 0BS tel: 01453 839005

Readathon® and Track My Read® are part of Read for Good®, registered charity no.1130309 (England and Wales) no.SC041036 (Scotland).
Read for Good is registered with the Fundraising Regulator.

Support with Study Stress



We are pleased to invite you to a free online 'Managing Study Stress' webinar, which offers valuable insights and practical guidance on coping with stress during exam preparation and coursework completion. This webinar, provided by Hertfordshire and Mid Essex Talking Therapies, is open to students aged 16+ and will cover common stress triggers, symptoms, and effective cognitive and behavioural techniques to manage stress. The webinar is on: Wednesday 6th March 16:30 – 17:30 & Tuesday 28th May 15:00 – 16:00

Please follow link to register & for more information.

<https://rb.gy/wycjey>



**Hertfordshire and Mid Essex
Talking Therapies**

Please also explore the free resources on their website. We encourage all students 16+ to join the webinar and use the resources which will undoubtedly be beneficial to them.

Careers News

Premed Projects are offering hospital work experience courses for future doctors, nurses, midwives & dentists aged 14-25

Please click on the image for more details.



Community News

London Colney Girl Guiding are reintroducing a Guide Unit to the already existing Rainbows

'Guides is the most adventurous thing... It gives you the opportunity to meet people and see things you wouldn't normally see, and it's just an amazing experience'

Bryony



Guides
1st London Colney

**Girls laugh, learn and
expand their horizons**
for ages 10 to 14

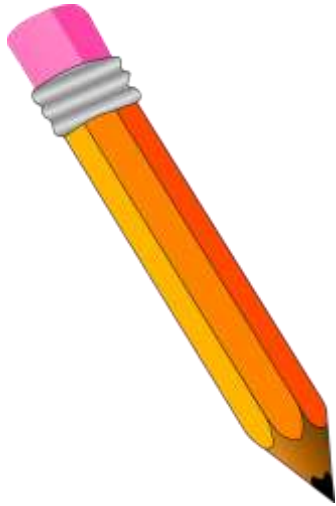
At Guides, all girls are welcome to enjoy our fun-filled space, where she'll make good friends, learn to be herself, explore what she loves and do stuff she's never done before!



Registered charity number: Excepted from registration

Join a local Guides group girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

Half Term Activities



THEOLLIEFOUNDATION.ORG

Do you like drawing?

Want to try something new this half term?

Join us for **Zentangle** a FREE 90-minute mindful drawing session where participants can enjoy creating a unique and beautiful piece of art.

Fri / 23 / Feb
4.30pm to 6pm

No artistic ability needed!

You only need a scrap of paper and pencil and can join from your phone!

Online via Zoom FREE

To book visit:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/818208763437?aff=oddtcreator>

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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 – we love everything about the school, and the food is great! Our lessons are really engaging, especially in Art, Design and Technology, Drama and English. Special mentions to Miss King in History and Mr Dean in Geography.



Year 8 – ours is a great school! The staff are always available to help and support with any problems you might have. There is lots of different equipment available to use in lessons. We like the range of subjects that are available to study in Post 16, although it will be a long time before we get there! We really like our Design and Technology, English and Maths lessons. Special mentions to Mrs Baker, Ms Redfern, Miss Murphy and Mrs Jones in English, Mrs Greenwood and Mr Stanton in Maths, Mrs Griggs in Drama, Mr Fitzgibbon in PSHCEE and Mr Kanyera in Geography.



Year 9 – we really like our school; all the staff are really supportive. Special mentions to Mr Salih in Media Studies, Mrs Cuell in Food and Mr Cockram in Graphics.

Year 10 – we would definitely recommend coming to our school. We like how much investment is going into the school, especially the new modern facilities. The school does everything it can to support you and the teaching is great. We especially enjoy our Art, Design and Technology, Geography, Graphics and PE lessons. Special mention to Mr Cockram in Graphics.



Year 11 – our school is fantastic. Special mentions to Mrs James in Geography, Mr Milne and Mrs Leinster in Science and Mr Simonelli in Maths.



Year 12 – we would recommend to our friends coming to our school. We feel safe and respected, our teachers are supportive and we enjoy our learning. The transition from Year 11 to Post 16 has been smooth and we appreciate all the advice we have been given. Special mention to Mrs Cline in Sociology.

Support for Families

St Albans & District Foodbank

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

1.00pm-3.00pm

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

The M Store

The 'M' Store is our onsite foodbank which was established to support our school community with the increasing cost of living. We now provide basic non-perishable food items as well as toiletries and hygiene products.



We now have a labelled wheelie bin which is located outside the school gate from 8am to 5pm for any donations.

Thank you to everyone for your support.

We always require more Items such as...

- Toothpaste • Toilet rolls • Toothbrushes • Deodorant • Soap • Shampoo • Conditioner • Laundry detergent • Tins of beans, vegetables, spaghetti and fruit • Pasta • Rice • Squash/ bottled water • Crisps • Cereal • Cereal bars • Long life milk • Cook in- sauces • Crackers • Biscuits • Tea • Coffee • Hot chocolate •

Any other non-perishable food/drink items •

Any clean school uniform

Thank you so much,

Emma Hicks—Family Engagement Worker and Poverty Prevention Lead

Please contact me in the following way with any enquires related to the M Store:

*e.hicks@marlborough.herts.sch.uk 01727 731 364
07916 038 784*



Lost Property

We have many items of unnamed uniform and coats, together with a selection of water bottles in our lost property cupboard.

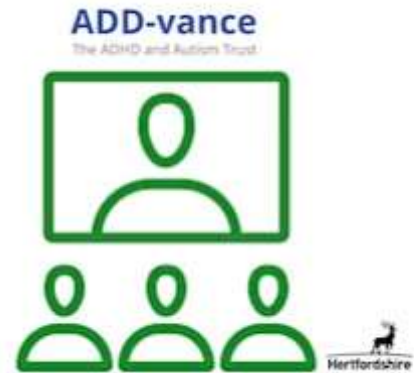
If your child has lost anything please ask them to come to Student Services to check the cupboard.

If these items are not claimed they will be donated to charity.



Support for Families

ADD-vance are running a number of online webinars next half term to support parents of children with ADHD and Autism. Click on the image to see details on their website.



To register, please click image



Emotional Based School Avoidance

Suitable for parents/carers of children in year 7 - 11, in DSPL7 & 8.

This EBSA coffee morning is aimed at parents and carers who have a child in year 7 - 11 who is not attending school as a result of emotional, mental health and wellbeing issues. The children and young people can also attend. This event is being run by DSPL7 & 8 with Services for Young People.



This will be taking place at Hemel Hempstead Young People's Centre, 1st Floor, XC centre, Hemel Hempstead, from 9:30 - 11:30am on the following dates:

- 19th October
- 21st March
- 28th November
- 7th May
- 25th January

There is no need to book this event.



admin@dspl7.org.uk



01277 519229



www.dspl7.org.uk

Support Share Grow



About Us

Parent Networks are a mixture of free in-person and online support groups for parents of children and young people with SEND, where it is safe to share tips, stories, advice, or have a chat with others who truly understand how challenging family life can be. Lottery-funded and therefore free support and information for parents caring for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and inclusive of those on assessment pathways and with or without diagnosis. Our Parent Network community is warm, welcoming, and friendly. As parents ourselves, we recognise how isolating it can be living with daily challenges and we simply want you to feel comfortable and connect with other parents who live in families similar to yours. Our Parent Network community support groups are open to all parents whose children may have a diagnosis or are on assessment pathways.

Wednesday 10am-11.30
29th November
20th December
24th January
28th February
27th March

St Albans Cycle Hub
Cottonmill Community and Cycling
Centre
Old Oak, Cottonmill Lane St Albans
Herts, AL1 2EF

Families in Focus CIC on Facebook



Delivering Special
Provision Locally

Revision: strategies for young people with SEND (Year 10 & 11)

Supporting young people with SEND to revise effectively can be difficult and a source of frustration & conflict.

We will cover:

- Common barriers to revision for young people with SEND
- Developing a shared vocabulary to talk about revision
- Understanding of Executive Functions - what are they and how can you help
- Templates, resources, techniques

The event is for parents and carers

Facilitated by Laura Hussey, Post 16 Transition Coordinator and Secondary SEND Lead at DSPL7

**Wednesday 20th
March**

6.30-7.30pm

**The Hub, 228
Hatfield Road,
Fleetville Junoir
School, St Albans,
AL1 4LW**

Sign up here:
[https://forms.](https://forms.office.com/e/QjwYUgRiMh)
[office.com/e/](https://forms.office.com/e/QjwYUgRiMh)
[QjwYUgRiMh](https://forms.office.com/e/QjwYUgRiMh)



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early help, brighter futures

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Visit Hertfordshire's Families First website:-
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/familiesfirst



DSPL7

Delivering Special
Provision Locally

The Hub

ASC/SEND Coffee Mornings

Vista St Albans are hosting coffee mornings with a School Family Worker to help support Parents/ Carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, diagnosed or not. This is an informal and safe place for Parents/ Carers to share information and chat.

Time: Coffee Morning starts at **9.15am** until **11.00am**
(no need to book)

Venue: The Hub, Fleetville Junior School, 228 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW
(The Hub is situated to the right hand side of the School building)

For more information, please call Vista/St Albans Plus on 01727 519128
Email: vistastalbans@gmail.com



Dates:

Wednesday 31st January 2024

Wednesday 13th March 2024

Wednesday 8th May 2024

Wednesday 26th June 2024



www.vistastalbans.org.uk
www.facebook.com/Vistastalbans

On Tuesdays at 7.30pm in our Da Vinci Hall we have Clubbercise, a fitness class, in the dark with glow sticks and disco lights set to 90's club tunes. It's £6.95 and can either be booked on line at <https://app.gymcatch.com/provider/1405/events> or pay on the door, subject to availability.

Everyone is welcome.



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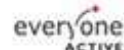
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Term Dates

Spring Term 2024

Start of Term - Thursday 4th January 2024

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

End of Term - Thursday 28th March 2024

Easter Holidays - Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April 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 - Thursday 18th July 2024 – **Please note this is a change of date.**

Autumn Term 2024

Inset Day – Monday 2nd September

Start of Term Year 7 & 12 only – Tuesday 3rd September

Start of Term Year 8-11 & 13 – Wednesday 4th September (photograph day for years 7, 9, 11 & 12)

Half Term - Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November

Occasional day - Friday 22nd November

Inset day - Monday 25th November

End of Term – Friday 20th December

Christmas Holidays - Monday 23rd December 2024 – Monday 6th January 2025

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

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