

Marlborough News

28th March 2024 Issue #137



Marlborough Science Academy



March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

It doesn't seem that long ago since I wrote my last newsletter but at least today there is a glimmer of sun and no rain (sadly the site is still muddy though!), scrap that sentence it has just started to pour down ...

Despite its brevity Marlborough as always has been busy with trips, reviews, rehearsals, and of course exam preparation and revision for the last few weeks.

We have also been interviewing for our new Student Leaders, what an impressive group of young people they were too, powerful ambassadors of the Values of our school, many congratulations to Tegan, Alice, Holly and Gaby. A massive thank you to Ms Arrol and Mrs Redfern for their part in this and thank you also to our exiting Student Leaders, Shion, Ishika, Gracie, Daisy, Sabah, Selin & Grace, we wish them all the luck in the world on the next leg of their learning journeys.

As always we bid farewell to a few members of staff, Mr Zafar in Science and Miss Williams our Cover Supervisor, we wish them every best wish in their new posts. We are also saying farewell to our two exceptional Design & Technology Technicians, Mr Clark and Mr Smith, as they head off into retirement, we hope that life will treat them kindly and their days will be full of fun; their expertise and skills however will be hugely missed.

We are desperately short of Invigilators for this season's exams; if any parent/carer is interested please contact Mrs Tyson for details, your help even if only for a few days would be gratefully received. To conclude, I wish you and your loved ones a happy holiday, there is absolutely no point in me saying go easy on the chocolate I am writing this eyeing up a rather splendid Cadbury's mini egg monster!! And just as a final thank you, the LRC team led by Mrs Nixon have been quite simply fabulous this half term with all they have done to encourage a love of reading. A special thank you must also go to Mrs Golds who has orchestrated, with great success a whole raft of external speakers and work experience events to open up the world to KS4 & KS5 students.

I say it every half term but I am truly blessed, I work with fabulous staff and engage everyday with the funniest, friendliest, and engaging young people,

Take care and be safe,

Ane Thomas

Ms Thomson Headteacher





Our Headteacher, Annie Thomson at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris speaking at the Inclusive Schools' forum to over 500 participants about Inclusion in our school and community. Ms Thomson said "inclusive education is not an option and diversity is to be celebrated" Her message is clear; to improve the quality of education for all. Annie has also been asked to lead the UK Inclusion think tank which she is very excited about.



This Week's Quote of the Week

"Nothing about us without us."

(Neurodiversity Collective)

Word of the Week

parochial: adjective—showing interest only in a narrow range of matters, especially those that directly affect yourself, your town, or your country..

Value of the Week

Compassion

Student Achievement

An amazing achievement for Ethan Ogilvie 10VL, who competed at the British Gymnastics Championships in Liverpool on the weekend of March 16th. Ethan had an outstanding competition and held his own with clean rounds on all pieces, placing 23rd overall in Britain, and 6th on vault.

This was a fantastic experience for Ethan to compete on the highest national stage in the UK in the sport he loves and has given him lots to aspire to as he returns to the gym and training for his future.

Congratulations Ethan, what an achievement! Your determination and commitment to your training and the sport is incredible, you should be extremely proud of yourself as we all are.







Student Achievement

These lovely crocheted book covers were made by Arwen Thomson 9MR





Congratulations to Stanley Beale 8HF who recently had the privilege of being a mascot at Chelsea FC. He got to walk out with Alfie Gilchrist his favourite player, who plays in the same position as Stanley.

Our latest endeavour in Social Club was the creation of a DIY bird feeder made from recycled plastic bottles! In our ongoing commitment to sustainability and supporting local wildlife, with ingenuity and a dash of creativity, we transformed discarded plastic bottles into functional and environmentally-friendly bird feeders.

Our newly crafted bird feeders have been hung around the school site and we are pleased to see that they are already being used , especially those in the lower car park. **Mrs Mitchell**





The social club comprising of : Sophie Ahern 9AK, Sophie Argyrou 7FC, Izzie Belloni 9LO, Gethin Goold 9LO, Albie Percival 7FC, Annie Tasker 9RG and Hannah Tomlins 8LP.





PE News

A group of Year 7 students and Year 10 PE leaders took part in the 'This Girl Can' festival on Wednesday 20th March at Wodson Park in Ware. The students had a fantastic day developing a variety of core skills whilst taking part in sport and physical activity. The day started with an introduction from the inspirational Kylie Grimes MBE. Kylie is a triple Paralympian of the London, Rio and Tokyo Games and became the first woman to ever win a Paralympic Gold medal in Wheelchair Rugby when GB beat USA in 2020. Kylie's journey is incredible and the students learnt so much in such a short space of time about the link between core values in sport and everyday life. The day then consisted of a variety of workshops in roundnet, pickle ball and activities on developing these core values such as trust, communication, diversity, courage, team work and determination.

The students came away from the day so inspired - their word to describe how they felt at the end of the day was, empowered! Thank you to Kylie and all the School Games organisers for giving the students this opportunity. The next challenge for our Year 7 students is to create a club with the help of their two Year 10 leaders, Chloe and Mio.



Students: Chloe Nuttall 10AP, and Mio Evans 10EM, Elina Nowruzi 7AS, Amila Begum, 7EW Faye Holt 7FC, Ioanna Veneti 7EW, Aliyah Trulock-Faulkner 7AR, Lucy Stuart 7AS, Indya-Panayia Boulter, Jess Greany 7GJ

Art News

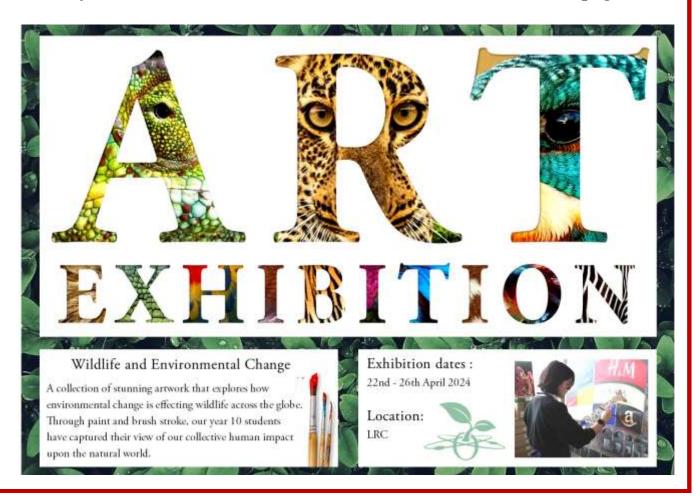
My Year 10 Students have been exploring the effects of environmental change on animals and wildlife. For some, this has resulted at looking further into mankind's interaction with the animal world and our relationships with other living creatures be this issues around pollution and plastics, de-forestation, animals used for entertainment or looking at endangered species etc.

The students, although starting from the same point have chosen areas to delve into that have been of personal interest. My students have shown remarkable maturity, compassion and understanding in representing their visions, I am in immensely proud of their visual outcomes but more importantly hearing their voices through their work.



Ms Bustin.

We will be holding an exhibition in the LRC after Easter for students and staff and you can see some more of the fantastic artwork on the next page.















The Stitch Festival

On Friday 22nd March our Year 9 Design & Technology students visited the annual Stitch Festival at the Business Design Centre in Islington, London. They were able to meet, take part and see the best contemporary dressmaking, sewing and stitch designers and brands and anyone whose anyone from the Great British Sewing Bee to be inspired, creative and make contacts.

One of our own Marlborough students Jenny Price 9MR, who had entered the dressmaking competition the show run yearly, had a dress on show at the exhibition. Jenny's design was shortlisted in the young sewer category and it was very exciting and impressive for all of us and especially Jenny to see the dress exhibited along with the other entries from a variety of schools and colleges.

On Sunday Jenny and her mum returned to the show for the final, where there was a catwalk showcasing the finalists' garments. This was judged by sewing bee alumni Tony Rea and

Lauren Tedstone, Laura Casas of Marcon Court Project and the Colèchi team.

I am delighted to announce that Jenny won her category which is fantastic news and well deserved, especially since some of the contestants were aged 18!

Clearly the judges noted Jenny's keen eye for detail, accuracy, and variety of construction details on her dress, including

her contrast integral pockets and her own binding.

Mrs Smead







ТНЕ







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.



Accelerated Reader



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. George Zhang 7RC 3,090,272 words read
- 2. Samantha Mullinex 7RC 2,564,837 words read
- 3. Tom Baker 8LI 1,702,359 words read
- 4. Eve Kilcast 7AS 1,574,904 words read
- 5. William Harris 7RC 1,104,326 words read
- 6. Riley Haigh 7AR 1,065,500 words read
- 7. Allie Reed 7RP 1,030,364 words read
- 8. Amin Lafi 7RP -1,008,055 words read
- 9. Faye Holt 7FC –996,944 words read
- 10. Samuel Drew 7EW 944,424 words read

Well done to Summer Fagence 8KE, Alexie May Miller 8KE and Hannah Tomlins 8LP who successfully identified all the staff hiding behind a book and won themselves an Easter egg.







The Big Read 2024

Students have been completing work linked to our Big Read in History, Geography and Art. In History, students learnt about the use of carrier pigeons in World War I and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of sending messages this way. In Geography Year 7 looked at the map of the fictional Ave's Wood in Twitch and compared it to the map of Cromwell Bottom Nature Reserve on which Ave's Wood is based. Students then created their own map based on a real place.

In Art, Year 7 looked at the bird illustrations of American artist Charley Harper and then created their own bird pictures.

Twitch intertwines the themes of protecting wildlife and being kind to one another and links with our sustainability ethos and our values.





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







SIXTH FORM TASTER DAYS Our sixth form is Ofsted rated Outstanding 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





Sustainable Marlborough

Eco-Committee update

As we continue to strive towards our goal of attaining the eco-schools green flag accreditation for the 2023/2024 academic year, our eco-committee have been hard at work brainstorming and planning exciting initiatives to foster a more sustainably conscious school community.

Over the past several weeks, our dedicated eco-committee students have been working hard to raise awareness of the detrimental impacts of litter on our local environment. Students have conducted a thorough 'recycling bin availability survey' to assess the accessibility of recycling points both within our school buildings and outside on our grounds as a whole. The data these students gathered has since allowed us to identify under provisioned areas and is helping us apply a more targeted strategy to improving our school's recycling infrastructure. The eco-committee haven't been scared to get their hands dirty too; armed with bags, litter pickers and determination, they've rolled up their sleeves and been out on more than one lunchtime, taking an active role in keeping our school tidy.



With the anticipated arrival of warmer weather in the coming weeks and months, we are eagerly awaiting the opportunity to break ground on our eco garden project. The area at the back of B7 is currently an unused corner of land. We hope to turn this space into a biodiverse, communal garden that promotes wellbeing by allowing students to surround themselves in nature and provides a refuge to native insect and birdlife. Preliminary work has been ongoing with the area-development club striving to create seating for the garden over these winter months. We look forward to updating you soon with the progress of our garden.

DIY Birdfeeders

Check out these awesome birdfeeders our social club have made to put up around the school!

If you want to have a go, these are easy to make and an excellent way to upcycle some common household waste items.





Do you know how to Recycle? Test your Knowledge

We all know recycling is important. It's a simple thing each of us can incorporate into our daily routines to help keep our planet healthy. But are we as good at it as we think we are? Do we really know what to do with our greasy pizza boxes and bottle caps?

To tie in with The International Day of Zero Waste (March 30th) the following quiz was shared with both students and staff. We believe there is no age limit to learning how to be better to our planet.

You can test your knowledge here:

https://recyclesmartma.org/quiz-1-0/

Andorra Ski Trip

During the February half term break 35 students from Year 9 to 11 took part in our annual ski trip which was to Andorra.

The students all had a great time. Many hadn't skied before while others took the opportunity to improve their skills.

Off the slopes we visited the Caldea Thermal Spa to ease our aching muscles, went bowling and enjoyed some time shopping in the town as well as Mr Hodge's quiz.

The weather was lovely and sunny, which is great for après ski but not so good on the mountain!

Well done to all our students and a big thank you to the

teachers who accompanied them!













Careers News

On Friday 1st March, Year 12 students visited the UK University Search Fair at The Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

The event provided our students with the opportunity to speak to over 120 exhibiting universities and apprenticeship providers, including Russell Group, red brick and modern institutions, as well as apprenticeship providers and colleges. It was the perfect way for students to begin shortlisting universities and apprenticeships.

The fair also featured a wide range of seminars including: UCAS Personal Statement & Application Advice, Why take an Apprenticeship, Choosing a University Course, and Higher and Degree Apprenticeships.

The event inspired our students who are now beginning to consider their post-18 education and career choices.

Ms Redfern



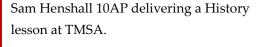
Careers News

During the week of Monday 4th—Friday 8th March, Year 10 students took part in a week of work experience. Students had a wide variety of placements both in and out of school some of which are pictured below.





Ethan Ogilvie 10VL receiving a certificate for his hard work with the London Fire Brigade from the Deputy Assistant Commissioner.





Cameron Day helping the science technician by mixing solutions in the science lab at TMSA



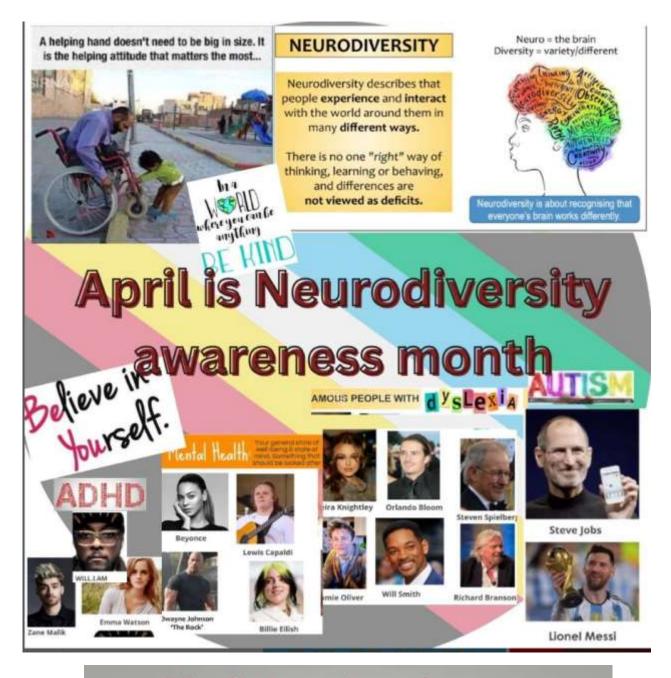
Jude Haisman-Bolt 10MM at Marks and Spencer



Nisreen Bnichou 10WD and Fahima Akter 10WD at Toddlers In Nursery School



Riley Mafi 10AR and Tharshikan Aravinthan 10WD doing an amazing job at St Adrian's Primary School



Anti bullying drop in sessons

Who are we? We are the anti-

bullying ambassadors for Marlborough. Bullying occurs in every school, in different capacities. We want to Educate our community and find ways to help tackle bullying

What do we do?

- Our job is to raise awareness of bullying behaviour
- Provide a service to educate & support those who have experienced bullying



- We are trained ambassadors
- so you can Talk to us in a safe environment



Mondays

S7

• 1:30 - 2:00pm

Student Leader Conference

On Thursday 29th February Marlborough's Student Leaders attended the Alban Partnership Student Leadership Conference at the Vineyard Church in St Albans. After an opportunity to mingle with other Student Leaders from the consortium schools during breakfast, the students engaged in a variety of ice breaker tasks including bingo and catch a cup.

The day began with an inspirational 'Ted Talk' from Mike Palin, who captivated our Student Leaders with some thought-provoking information. People are living longer if they live in the 'blue zones' across the globe. Why is this though? It's not just as a result of lifestyle factors such as exercise and diet, but belonging to neighbourhood with a strong sense of community and togetherness. This lit a spark in our students and when given the opportunity to reflect, they were challenged to think about how they could develop a sense of community within their own schools. Our Student Leaders were delighted that this is something that they have already begun to develop through one of their aims 'improving inter-year links', in particular, through beginning to raise the profile of the house system.



The idea of a conference led by the consortiums Student Leaders was introduced to them. An opportunity to bring the local schools together and inspire a generation to develop a sense of community in their schools. The Student Leaders worked with students from the consortium to plan the conference and present to the rest of the group, taking questions at the end. Not only did our young people step out of their comfort zone and share ideas with people who they did not know, they were able to stand confidently in front of the rest of the group and use their public speaking skills to enthuse their listeners.

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To finish the day, the students were introduced to members of the church who work to provide food for the local community. They were given a tour of the food bank, the storage units and the shops that accompany these that allow members of the community to use this support. The students saw first hand who donates to these banks, the processes these items have to go through before they are made available to those who need them and the restrictions that come with this. This hit home for many and our young people were shocked to hear that many thousands of food banks are running in our country. Having said this, there was a heart warming moment to see the emotions of one of the members of the church who explained how rewarding it is to help her community in this way. What might seem so little to some, is so much to someone else.

It was a really insightful day for all. Students came away with a real sense of purpose and determination to make their school environment a welcoming one and one that everyone should feel a part of.



Here is what Daisy Banham Warren 13OZ had to say about the day;

"The student leader planning conference was a great experience! It was lovely being able to meet with and get to know peers from other schools in hopes to make a change amongst our schools, it was a very welcoming and warm environment. Knowing they all had similar aspirations and goals was reassuring!"

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



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

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

Thank you to all the families who have contributed so generously to the M Store. All contributions have been distributed to people within our school community who are currently in need of that extra bit of support. Please continue to support us if you are able and don't forget, you can just pop any donation into the red M Store

Wheelie bin by the main school gates for ease of access.

Kind regards

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 36/07916 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.



Staying Hydrated

With warmer weather hopefully on the way, students should ensure they bring a water bottle to school to stay hydrated during the day.





ADD-vance The ADHD and Autism Trust





FREE ONLINE SUMMER 2024 WORKSHOPS FOR HERTS PARENTS/CARERS

Online Workshops funded by Hertfordshire County Council	Audience	Day	Date	Time	Location
Identifying ADHD and/or Autism	Parents/carers	Mon	15.4.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding Autism	Parents/carers	Wed	17.4.24	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Supporting the Transition to Primary School	Parents/carers	Mon	22.4.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Supporting the Transition to Secondary School	Parents/carers	Wed	24.4.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding ADHD	Parents/carers	Mon	29.4.24	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Understanding Autism in Girls	Parents/carers	Wed	1.5.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding ADHD in Girls	Parents/carers	Tue	7.5.24	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Understanding Challenging Behaviour	Parents/carers	Wed	8.5.24	10:00 - 11.30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage Anger	Parents/carers	Thu	9,5.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding Sensory Differences	Parents/carers	Man	13.5.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage Sensory Differences	Parents/carers	Wed	15.5.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Support Learning (Executive Function)	Parents/carers	Thu	16.5.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Build Self-Esteem	Parents/carers	Mon	20.5.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding PDA	Parents/carers	Wed	22.5.24	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Half Term					
Understanding ADHD and Autism in the Early Years	Parents/carers	Tue	4.6.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Support Social Skills	Parents/carers	Wed	5.6.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage Eating Difficulties	Parents/carers	Tue	11.6.24	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Support Emotional Development	Parents/carers	Wed	12.6.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Support Communication	Parents/carers	Mon	17.6.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage Everyday Changes (Transitions)	Parents/carers	Wed	19.6.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding Medication Options	Parents/carers	Mon	24.6.24	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Understanding Anxiety	Parents/carers	Wed	26.6.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage Anxiety	Parents/carers	Thu	27.6.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Understanding Neurodivergent Teens	Parents/carers	Mon	1.7.24	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Manage Self Harm	Parents/carers	Wed	3.7.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online
Tips & Tools to Encourage Positive Behaviour	Parents/carers	Mon	8.7.24	19:00 - 20:30	Online
Supporting Siblings	Parents/carers	Wed	10.7.24	10:00 - 11:30	Online

"What a fantastic workshop - thank you so much! I've taken away a wealth of information" "That was so amazing, I have done many training sessions about ASD through my work but that was the most honest & informative session I have ever had" "Absolutely incredible workshop, it has been extremely beneficial to my child"

Hertfordshire County Council funded workshops - Recordings are sent to all registered participants to view for 7 days, even if you don't attend live.

6 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's Targeted Parenting Fund and are open to residents of Hertfordshire only

Get the right help at the right time



early help, brighter futures

Need advice and support for your family?



Relationship support



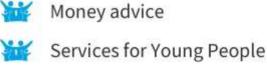
- Parenting Advice & Courses
- Emotional & Mental Health
 - Staying healthy

Early help, brighter futures

School attendance/anxiety

amilies

Irst



- SEND Local Offer
- Search local services
- and much more



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





ASC/SEND Coffee Mornings

The Hub

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

Term Dates

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 <u>general enquiry form</u>



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.