



Pumpkin Competition

Thursday 24th October saw our annual House Pumpkin Competition in the LRC. Members of staff from each of the four houses spent a frantic lunchtime carving and decorating their pumpkins which were then judged by Mr Vivian. Well done to all the staff involved and the students from their houses who helped with the decorating.

First place this year went to Saturn house for their spider themed pumpkin complete with a hot dog hand!



Gothic Showcase

Some of our talented Year 8 students shared their gothic stories with parents and staff on the evening of Thursday 24th October. All students presented their work brilliantly and the evening also included some Halloween themed science from Miss O'Krafka and Mrs Leinster and performances from guest storyteller Sarah Lloyd-Winder. Sarah also shared some of her tips for storytelling with students in a workshop earlier in the day.



The images above and left contain links to short videos of the experiments.



Thank you for the great afternoon and the lovely welcome to the school. The workshop was creative and fun and the students were very receptive. What a lovely evening event and how well supported by parents and friends. Thank you for inviting me and it was so good to see so many students happy to share their work and explore gothic images.

Sarah Lloyd-Winder Storyteller

Work Completed this Summer

Over the summer break there was lots of work going on in the school grounds including new paving and raised bed in front of the main entrance, refurbishment of the old English building now Hepburn and new murals in Hepburn and Pascal. Technology classroom B3 has also been converted into a new food tech room and floors have been replaced or revarnished in both of the halls.



PGL

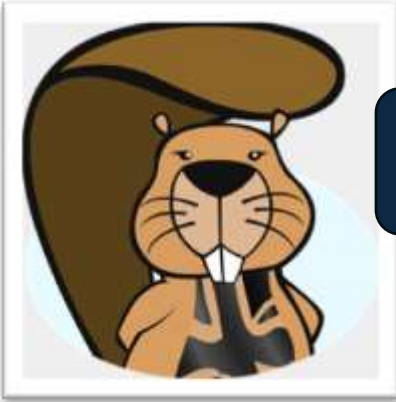
Our Year 7 students had an incredible time at PGL Liddington, Swindon from Friday 11th to Sunday 13th October. Accompanied by 18 members of staff, 180 students took part in a fantastic range of activities, including ziplining, canoeing, the giant swing, laser clay, the vertical challenge, and a fun-filled campfire evening. The weather was on our side, allowing everyone to make the most of the experience and form those everlasting friendships and team-building activities. Throughout the trip, our students were exemplary ambassadors for the school, making us very proud. It was truly a weekend to remember!

Miss Pounnas



Computer Science News

As a school we relish the opportunity to create opportunities for our learners and would like to announce that this academic year we will be participating in the Bebras Computational thinking competition with the Year 7 and Year 8 classes. This will expose learners to the concept of “thinking outside the box” and improve their problem solving skills; which will, in turn, strengthen their resilience.



UK Bebras Computational Thinking Competition

This is a fun method of learning key Computing concepts whilst problem solving puzzles. An example of this is seen below.

Magic Tree

Bain the Beaver has a magical tree growing near their home.

Whenever a bird lands on it (🐦), the tree grows 2 apples.

Whenever a squirrel climbs up it (🐿), the tree drops 1 apple (if it has any).

Whenever a snake visits the tree (🐍), all of the apples instantly disappear!

One morning Bain notes that the magical tree contains 25 apples.

Bain then spends the rest of the day drawing pictures of all the animals that come to the tree.

The drawings, in order, are:



Start of the day

End of the day

Question

How many apples are on the tree at the end of the day?

This is also an opportunity to discover latent talent that may not have been identified and will also lead into an exciting event which will be running next year.



This event is run by GCHQ and is aimed at increasing the number of women in technology, which currently sits at 17%! It is entitled the CyberFirst competition.

<https://www.security.gov.uk/cyberfirst-girls-competition/>

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

Year 7 girls will be invited to join the CyberFirst club which will run at lunchtime on a Monday. They will learn about Cyber security, networking, programming and encryption techniques. In November 2025 there will be an online competition where they will compete against others in the region for a place in the finals in March 2026. This event would be held in the regional area on a Saturday and participants tend to leave with some lovely goody bags having thoroughly enjoyed the day. I have been lucky enough to attend 2 of these events and have first hand knowledge of the benefits of taking on this challenge.



The boys are not left out as there is a BAFTA young game designer competition which will be for the Year 7 and 8 classes where learners get the opportunity to develop a game concept including rules, gaming mechanisms, creation of characters, backgrounds and incidentals in the game. This will provide the classes exposure to what goes into the planning of games and contains elements such as time management, problem solving and working as a team. These skills will be essential in their KS4 and

KS5 years in school. This event runs from November to March and will be incorporated into lessons to provide an equal opportunity for all students.

Mrs Hale



Former Student Achievement

Huge congratulations go to former Marlborough student Oliver Tarvet who became ITA (Intercollegiate Tennis Association) singles and doubles champion in Tulsa, USA in September.

Oliver is currently studying in San Diego where he has a tennis scholarship and he is the first player to hold both titles in since 2015 and only the 5th ever. He has now qualified for the NCAA championships which is the highest level of college tennis. Click on the image to read more about his achievement on the ITA website.



The M Store

Thank you to everyone who has 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. Non-perishable food items is now the greatest need.

Keep a look out for some exiting news regarding the M Store coming soon!

Kind regards

Emma Hicks

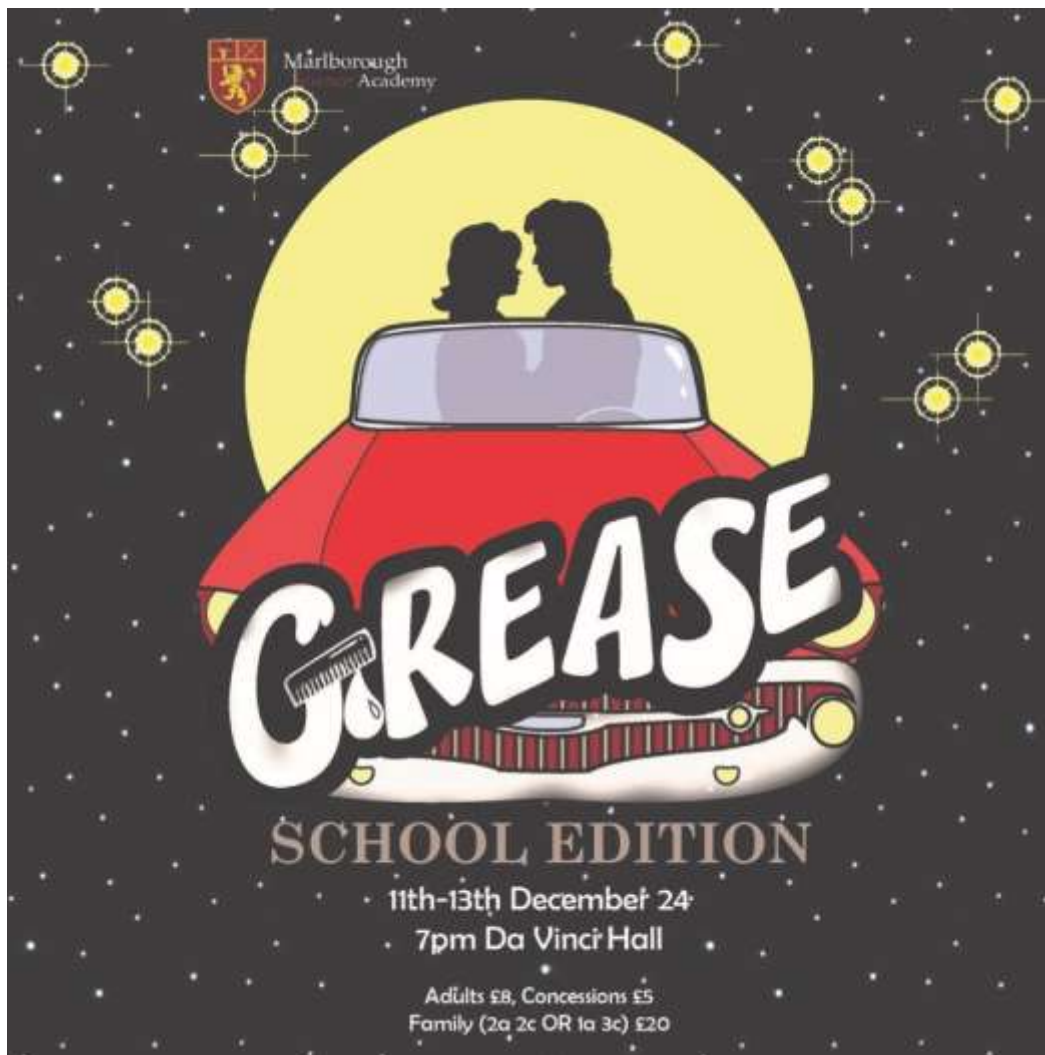
Family Engagement Worker and Poverty Prevention Lead

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



Save the Date



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. George Zhang 8RC – 2,776,264 words read
2. Erin Cukaj 7KC – 654,236 words read
3. Eve Kilcast 8AS – 644,773 words read
4. Hassan Hussain 7JH – 331,080 words read
5. Elaina Ridolfi 8RC – 325,932 words read
6. Samantha Mullinex 8RC – 255,575 words read
7. Sienna Chester 7JH – 198,204 words read
8. Eliza Holbrook 7RL – 1,008,055 words read
9. Esme Goldbrom 8RC – 169,889 words read
10. Brendan Cooney 7KC – 154,782 words read



Scholastic Book Fair

Monday 4th-Friday 8th November

We are running a competition to design a bookmark inspired by your favourite book. All entries will receive house points and the top entries will win a voucher to spend at the fair. Entries to the LRC by Wednesday 6th November.



LRC News

Before the summer break Year 7 book club students recommend children's or young adult books to staff to read based on their interests and favourite genres. You can read some of their feedback below. If you would like to join book club, currently 10 students in Years 7 & 8 meet on Thursdays after school in the LRC and you would be most welcome to join us.

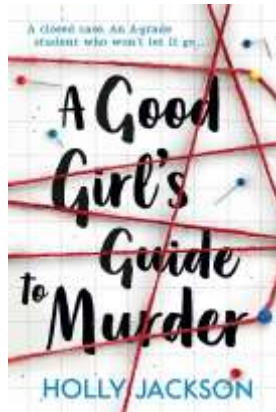
Mrs Nixon

The Secret of Nightingale Wood by Lucy Strange

I really enjoyed the book that was chosen for me by the Book Club students. I feel like the students really took in consideration the things I am interested and chose a book that really captured my attention.



Mrs Skirving



A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson

The book was really engaging from the start. I thought the plot was interesting as it focused on a sixth form student researching a cold case murder from her local town as part of her EPQ studies. The book was well written and easy to read and as a result I decided to watch the BBC adaptation of the novel, which was well acted.

Thank you for suggesting this book for me, I really enjoyed it!

Miss Smith

Code Name Kingfisher by Liz Kessler

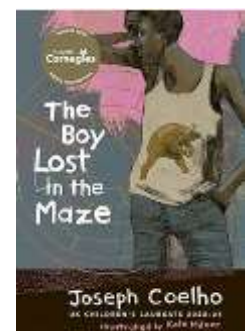
This was a perfect choice for me. I enjoy stories with historical references and especially how people lived during the world wars. This book was very interesting as it talked about 2 young girls during WWII as well as a teenager in current time who discovers facts about her family that changes her look on life and the people around her. The historical elements were sad to read but it also showed how people pull together and do all they can for each other. The Dutch resistance worked hard to hide Jewish children and then to move them to safe places and this was a big part of the book. Very interesting and a great choice!



Mrs Lepley

The Boy Lost in the Maze by Joseph Coelho

I really enjoyed the blend of ancient and modern in this clever verse novel which intertwines the story of Theseus and the Minotaur with teenager Theo's present day quest to find his father.



Mrs Metson

Sustainable Marlborough

Eco committee updates



A massive congratulations to the students of the eco-committee and everyone else who's efforts last year culminated in Marlborough being awarded the eco-school's green flag award for a second year in a row!

This year the eco-committee is back and as busy as ever. Our students have been discussing how they would like to further the school's positive social and environmental impacts and have chosen; Energy, School Grounds and Global Citizenship as the topics they would like to focus on in the coming weeks and months.

Meet the members:

The eco-committee currently consists of 9 student volunteers who are supported by Mr A Dwane, Miss E Broad the school sustainability coordinators. Our proud members are: James Baker(13HA), Nasim Islam (13RN) , Jody Neveling(13CG), Jasmine Oates(12SJ), David Sadie(10PC), Ella Stirrat(13CG), Milo Sydenham (9AS), Seamus Van-Der-Puye(12JM) and Sam Walsh(13AD).

We would love to gain a few more members from lower years, so if you are a student from years 7,8 or 9 reading this and think you might like to get involved, please let us know!

Get in touch:

If you would like to reach out or have any questions about sustainability at Marlborough, we'd love to hear from you. You can come find us or contact us at: sustainability@marlborough.herts.sch.uk

Be Green This Halloween

It is estimated that 15.8 million edible pumpkins will be thrown away this year in the UK, that's enough to rustle up 95 million meals - while 2 out of every 5 'trick or treat' costumes will only ever be worn once, fuelling the growing problem of textile waste. Here are some ways you can help reduce Halloween waste:

- Don't throw out those pumpkin guts!

You can separate and roast pumpkin seeds for a delicious and simple snack. Then all you have to do is boil the pumpkin guts in a large pot for about 30 minutes, strain it, and you've now got an amazing (and freezable) soup stock that you can use as a broth.

-Dispose of your Pumpkin shells responsibly

after the celebrations, keep pumpkins out of the general rubbish bin. Pumpkins make a great addition to a home compost bin or can be recycled using the weekly food waste service instead. But remember to remove any tea lights, decorations and wax first!

-Homemade and upcycled costumes

Halloween is a time when pretty much anything goes, so there are plenty of opportunities to get creative and with many shop-bought 'wear them once' costumes made from polyester derived from plastic, homemade costumes made from old pieces of clothing are a far more planet-friendly alternative. Also, remember donating outgrown costumes is a sustainable option.



Charity News

Reflecting our school values of kindness and compassion, staff, students and parents generously supported Jeans for Genes and Macmillan Coffee morning this term.

Genes for Jeans was the theme in assembly from 16th – 20th September and a coffee morning was held for Macmillan Cancer Support in both the LRC and the staffroom on Friday 27th September. Thank you to



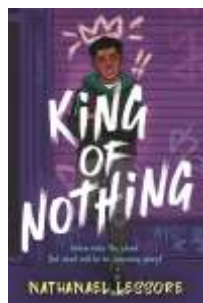
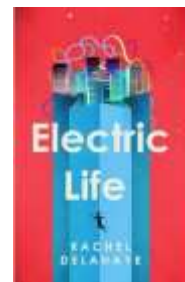
everyone who provided cakes for these events and for your donations which enabled us to support these charities. We raised £269.50 for Jeans for Genes and £650 for Macmillan.



St Albans Schools Book Award

This year's St Albans Schools Book Award will take place at Marlborough on 24th January 2025. Students from 8 local schools are invited to read the shortlisted books and vote for their winner.

Electric Life by Rachel Delahaye is a thought provoking dystopian thriller which follows gamer Alara on her mission to travel from the emaculate, sanitised city of Estrella to the long-deserted world of *London Under*.



King of Nothing by Nathanael Lessor is the funny and moving story of bully Anton's journey of self discovery and his unlikely friendship with loner Matthew.



The Clockwork Conspiracy by Sam Sedgman is a locked-room mystery packed with rooftop chases, hidden codes and mind-bending science.



Copies of the books are available to borrow from the LRC. If you would like to take part in the award you need to commit to reading all three of the books before the discussion morning in January. I am offering this first to Year 8 students but if you are in another year group and you would like to participate please come to see me in the LRC. Mrs Nixon

This Week's Quote of the Week

" Motivation will almost always beat mere talent."

(Norman Ralph Augustine)

Word of the Week

zeal: noun— *great enthusiasm or eagerness.*

Value of the Week



St Albans Abbey Visit

On Monday 7th October a some of our Year 7s joined students from other local schools at St Albans Abbey to celebrate 40 years of the Abbey's education programme. Students enjoyed a presentation from Cressida Cowell in which she shared her inspiration for writing and talked about her books including How to Train Your Dragon and Which Way to Anywhere.



Marlborough Science Academy

REMINDER

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

20 11 24

6:00pm - 8:30pm

“OUTSTANDING Sixth-form provision “ **Ofsted**

“The school's commitment to supporting pupils' personal development and well-being is exemplary

The poster features a background image of a modern brick building with large glass windows. The text is overlaid in various colors and fonts, including yellow, white, and red. The Marlborough Science Academy logo is in the top left corner. The Ofsted logo is in the bottom right corner.

Dropping off and collecting students

Unfortunately we have seen a marked increase in complaints from our neighbours not only in inconsiderate parking but also an increasing number of complaints regarding the attitude of parents when asked to move or to not park on driveways/verges which is incredibly



disappointing and embarrassing to the school. We are working closely with the council, councillors, police and parking wardens and so all the information we receive (together with any supporting photos) are passed straight through to them to deal with.

Please show some kindness and respect to our neighbours and park considerately and appropriately.



Collecting students from school clubs

Unfortunately, there are chaotic scenes within school grounds when collecting students from after school clubs. Cars are abandoned everywhere, parking on verges, pavements and yellow lines. Disabled spaces are ignored as are the coned off areas and minibus bay, which are there for your children's safety.



Please park in a correct space when collecting your child from school. If the area in front of reception is full then find another space to park in the other 120 spaces we have available.

Trades

We are always keen to see what trades we have available through parents at school and so if you are part of a company or have a trade that you think may be utilised at school in your professional capacity of course, then please let me know as I keep a data base of firms that we use.



Thank you

Mr Paice

Uniform Needed

Good quality, clean uniform especially blazers and PE Kit

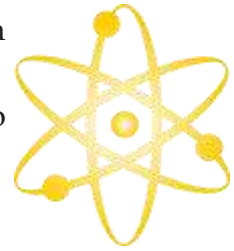
The PTA urgently need your donations. Please leave any suitable uniform with reception. Please mention it is donated to the PTA

2ND HAND UNIFORM SALE

Pascal hall
SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER
10:30 - 11:30

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 feel safe and well-protected at school, we would definitely recommend Marlborough to our friends. There are always lots of friendly staff on duty to talk to at break and lunchtime. We know how to stay safe online and know what to do if we are worried about anything.



Our learning is fun, challenging and exciting, we really enjoy our lessons. Some of our favourite lessons are Classics, Design and Technology, English, Food Technology, ICT, Languages and PE. Special mention to Mrs Moodley in Food.

Year 8 – Staff are really supportive and we feel safe in school. Our lessons are really interesting and engaging; every day is unique! We really enjoying working on our Chromebooks in lessons. We particularly enjoy our Art, Classics,



Design and Technology, English, History, PE and Science lessons. Special mentions to Miss King and Mr Samsami in History and Mr Simonelli in Maths.



Year 9 – We feel safe in school and are enjoying the challenge of our new GCSE learning, especially in our Art, Computer Science, Drama, Food Preparation and Nutrition and PE lessons. Special mentions to Ms Bustin and Ms Rickman in Art and Mrs Hale in Computer Science.

Year 10 – We enjoy our learning and find our lessons interesting. Special mention to Mrs Greenwood in Maths.



Year 11 – school is a safe space; we are enjoying our lessons and are engaged in the learning. We especially enjoy our Engineering, Maths and PE lessons.



Post 16 – all the staff are really approachable and we feel safe at school. We are enjoying our learning, particularly our Politics and Sociology lessons with Mr Atterton and Mrs Cline.

Mr Fitzgibbon



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

Hillydyke Community Centre
17 Hillydyke 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

Support our School

We know it's early but a great time to remind you of our fantastic Christmas tree delivery & recycling service that Christmas Treeasy offer through school.

For every tree sold through school, to both staff and parents, your relatives, friends, and work colleagues, we have raised our donations to between £3.50 and £6.50 (size of tree dependant) to your school/PTA fund. Christmas Treeasy specialise in only the very best top-grade trees available, the non-drop Nordmann Fir Christmas tree, which we deliver free of charge direct to your home.

Please see contact details below.

<https://www.themarlbroughscienceacademy.co.uk/school-news/latest-news/christmass-treeasy#>

or visit

www.christmastreeasy.co.uk

Christmas Treeasy



Revision Workshops

A screenshot of the HFL Education website banner. The banner features a dark teal background with a photograph of a student looking down at a book. The text on the banner reads: "GCSE maths and English and 'A'-level maths revision support for students for autumn 2024. Support your students with our revision and booster workshops". The website navigation menu is visible at the top, including links for "About us", "School improvement", "Business services", "MATs", "Training & events", "Shop", "Blogs", and "Join us". The breadcrumb trail below the navigation reads: "Home • School improvement • Secondary • GCSE English, maths and science remote revision support for students for 2024".

In order to support students with their revision for GCSEs and A-levels HFL offer English, maths and science specialist advisers offer a series of remote revision workshops and masterclasses in the spring to help ensure that students realise their potential in the summer exams.

This year we are running a range of additional revision and booster sessions in the autumn term 2024. Please click link to see what is available.

Cost for students is between £10 - £20 depending on the workshop chosen.









<https://www.hfleducation.org/school-improvement/secondary/gcse-english-maths-science-remote-revision-support-2024>

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
-  School attendance/anxiety
-  Money advice
-  Services for Young People
-  SEND Local Offer
-  Search local services
-  and much more



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

Support for Families



DSPL7 & Vista St Albans are hosting coffee mornings with a School and SEND 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. The DSPL7 SEND Lead will also be available for discussions. There is no need to book to attend the drop in.

Dates: 9th Oct, 27th Nov, 29th Jan, 19th March, 7th May & 25th June

Time: 9:15 - 11:00am

Venue: The Hub, Fleetville Junior School, 228 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW. The Hub is to the right hand side of the school building at the bottom of the car park. **There is no parking available onsite, but 3 hours free parking is available nearby in Morrisons supermarket.**

Appointments

Running alongside our coffee mornings, there is also the opportunity to reserve a 20-30 minute appointment to speak to the following professionals between 9:30am - 12:00pm.

To book an appointment:

Please email
admin@dspl7.org.uk

Dates	Professionals attending
9th October	Elaine Bridle - ADHD
27th November	Collette Garland - EBSA
29th January	Lyndsey Hooper - Mental Health Support Team
19th March	Faye Den Heijer - Ask Sali
7th May	Clare Tominey-Smith - Challenging behaviour at home
25th June	Niamh Cooper - First Steps ED

Vista contact details: 01727 519128 vistastalbans@gmail.com www.vistastalbans.org.uk
DSPL7 contact details: 01727 519229 admin@dspl7.org.uk www.dspl7.org.uk



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- BUILD RESPECT & ETIQUETTE
- IMPROVE SELF DISCIPLINE



LOCATIONS:

THE MARLBOROUGH SCIENCE ACADEMY AT 12:10PM - SATURDAYS
(MINIMUM AGE 5 YEARS & ABOVE)

BERNARDS HEATH JUNIOR SCHOOL AT 6:00PM - TUESDAYS
(MINIMUM AGE 7 YEARS OLD & ABOVE)



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Term Dates

Autumn Term 2024

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

Spring Term 2025

Inset day - Monday 6th January

First day of term - Tuesday 7th January

Half Term - Monday 17th to Friday 21st February

End of term - Friday 4th April

Easter Break - Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April

Summer Term 2025

First day of term - Tuesday 22nd April

Bank Holiday - Monday 5th May

Half term - Monday 26th to Friday 30th May

End of Term - Friday 18th July

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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information regarding the content of this or future publications.