



VE Day Party

Year 8 historians have been learning about the Second World War since February, starting with the invasion of Poland in 1939. Students are taken on a learning journey through six long years of war, learning about the courage and endeavour shown by their great-grandparents' generation during events like the Dunkirk evacuation, the Battle of Britain, and the Blitz. They then learn about the significant turning points in the war, such as Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and the Battle of Stalingrad. By the Summer term, Year 8 students have a good understanding of the suffering and sacrifices made by the peoples of Europe in their struggle against Nazi Germany, from the evacuees on the home front to soldiers on the beaches of Normandy, and therefore, why VE Day was greeted with such wild delight across Britain on 8th May 1945.



Students recreated a 1945 street party in history lessons, with lemonade, cakes, and flapjacks (but unfortunately no tinned spam!) Union flags were waved like crazy after listening to Churchill's 'Advance Britannia' speech, they enjoyed a World War Two quiz, and some even danced to music by Vera Lynn, George Formby, and Glenn Miller!

Mr Pressland



Student Achievement

Well done to Poppy Neill 11EM and her team Tottenham Hotspur Women's U16s who won the Professional Game Academy Champions Trophy on Saturday 12th April beating Blackburn Rovers 6-2.

You can read a match report on the Tottenham Hotspur website [here](#)



Clay Coil Tea Bowls

Year 7 students made some lovely functional bowls inspired by Japanese tea bowls. This is a hand built technique. We have also used glazes so that the bowls can be used and washed accordingly.

Lovely work Year 7,
well done!

Ms Bustin



Goodbye Year 11

Thursday 1st May was Year 11's last day in uniform and the afternoon saw the traditional shirt signing before their leavers assembly the following day. Students had a fun morning and behaved impeccably. In true Marlborough tradition they showed off some fantastic costumes before beginning their study leave. We wish all our students good luck in their remaining exams and for their future. You can see more photographs of this and other events on our website [here](#)



Good Luck!

Farewell Year 13

Year 13 students celebrated their time at Marlborough with a leavers assembly on Wednesday 7th May, their last day at school before their exams started. We wish them good luck in their exams and in whatever the future holds for them. More photos can be seen on our website [here](#)



Andalucia Spain trip : the home of Flamenco.

From the 5th—9th April during the Easter holidays, a group of *niños y niñas* went abroad to Andalucia Spain and it was definitely una experiencia muy divertida. We made and ate Paella, danced to Flamenco, visited a Moorish fortress y mucho más.



Day 1 :

We checked into our hotel on the outskirts of Málaga and explored La Cala De Moral (our home for five days). We also met our tour guide - Carlos - for the very first time. He stayed with us throughout our stay and was amazing ¡Qué guay! He helped us with our Spanish and taught us a little about the historical significance of the sites we were visiting . We attended the language school Escuela La Playa where we had Spanish lessons everyday and then hit the beach for some active beach sports. We then ate dinner at a restaurant (we had dinner everyday there) and they served a variety of foods from Paella to tapas.



Day 2:

We woke up bright and early to attend our Spanish classes and then later we cooked and ate Paella in the Andalucian sunshine . Afterwards it was a competition to be the first to complete the treasure hunt as we were split into groups and made to run around to answer various questions and interact with the locals to improve our Spanish pronunciation and overall speaking skills. Everyone appeared very friendly and talkative within the area which made things easier for us students to feel comfortable.



Day 3:

This was the day we were looking forward to the most, a visit to the Alhambra Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The views were serene and it looked so magical with the snow capped Sierra Nevada as a backdrop. After we left the palace we got free time to walk around the city of Granada. There were a variety of shops and my friends and I all bought these pretty matching dresses. ¡Que bonita! That evening Señora Cristina (our name for Señora Morrissey) had kindly bought a cake for a student's birthday which we all shared. It was a truly memorable experience. We then finished the day with a nice long walk. Fue muy relajante.



Day 4 :

In the morning after breakfast we went for what felt like a 1000 km walk to the Cueva del Tesoro which was at the top of the tallest mountain I have ever seen but it was definitely worth it as the caves were absolutely breathtaking. It was like the H2O Mako island pool, it was that amazing. On our walk back to the school we got an ice cream which we basically inhaled, that's how hot it was. We had a Spanish and English mixed quiz on famous people and had so much fun with the Spanish students during the student exchange. We all swapped insta's. Once the Spanish students had left, we had a Flamenco show and Rosalina was the chosen one to go and dance for us. It was spectacular. Everyone took part including Mrs Morrissey, Mrs Cuell and Mr Henshall.



Day 5:

We visited a Spanish secondary school where we talked and played games (in Spanish) with the students. It was really interesting to see how the school differed from ours. Many of us have made long lasting friendships. This helped our language skills develop. Afterwards, we visited the Picasso museum and the Alcazaba fortress and had a tapas lunch ¡Qué rico!

Overall, it was guay and it was a life changing, memorable and irreplaceable experience for both us as students and Carlos. (The guy loved all of us.) It definitely improved and enhanced our Spanish skills which will help us in our GCSE's. Muchas gracias to Señora Morrissey for organising and gracias too to Señora Cuell and Señor Henshall. As our dear Carlos would say...



COMO SE DICE.....un gatooo?



Written by,

Rosalina, Veronica (Papi) and Juanita

Shriyani Aravinthan 10PC, Alemah Hoque 10AD and Sophia Creanga 10MK



Normandy History Trip

From Thursday 27th to Sunday 30th March students from Year 9, 10 and 11 explored historical sites in Normandy including the beaches, the Pegasus Bridge and the German Battery at Longues sur Mer. The guide, military historian Steve Roberts, was so knowledgeable and enthusiastic about his subject that he really brought the trip to life for our students.



Supporting Our Staff to Better Serve Your Children

We understand that exceptional education requires exceptional staff support. We are pleased to share how our comprehensive staff benefits offering enhances your children's learning experience.

Investing in Excellence

Our teachers receive ongoing professional development through motivational speakers, training opportunities, and CPD programmes that bring fresh, innovative approaches to the classroom. Our Senior Leadership Team remains accessible to provide guidance, ensuring consistent educational quality across the school.

Prioritising Wellbeing

Staff wellbeing directly impacts student success. Our Mental Health First Aiders and staff wellbeing events create a positive atmosphere that extends to the classroom. We have also invested in a dedicated wellbeing benefit for all staff which includes 24/7 GP access, cashback toward musculoskeletal treatments and X-ray's, and counselling services. These health initiatives, along with supervision support, risk assessments and winter flu jabs, help minimise absences and ensure your children receive consistency throughout the year.

Practical Support

We provide practical benefits including HR support, legal advice, and comfortable staff facilities including free tea and coffee, to allow our staff to focus fully on your children's education. Free on-site parking and our cycle to work scheme ensure stress-free commuting, while occasional day allowances are thoughtfully planned to minimise disruption to learning.

The Benefits to Your Children

This investment in our staff translates to tangible benefits for your children: more consistent teaching, enthusiastic educators, innovative instruction, and a positive school environment. When staff feel valued and supported, students receive the best possible education. The comprehensive benefits shown in the image above reflect our commitment to creating an environment where both staff and students can thrive. By supporting the wellbeing and professional growth of our staff, we ultimately enhance the educational journey of every child at The Marlborough Science Academy.

Mrs Fuller



Sustainable Marlborough



With ground work on our school's new build due to start in the coming months, several of our eco-committee's Sixth Form students volunteered to spend one sunny lunchtime at the end of April out planting trees. In total 12 saplings have now been planted at the bottom of the school field.

Since 2024 all major developments in England must achieve a minimum 10% increase in biodiversity compared to the pre-development state. This is known as Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). The eco-committee's hard work here is the first step in making sure our coming new build is our Marlborough's most sustainable construction to date. A massive thank you to these students who's efforts will leave a lasting positive impact on the school grounds.

The Eco - Board

Our sustainable Marlborough eco - board is now bigger and better than ever! The board has now moved to the hallway just outside the LRC near DA Vinci hall, so if you are passing please do check it out to learn about all our eco-committee and their ongoing eco actions.



Blackout Day - Friday 23rd May

Blackout day is a voluntary initiative where staff actively aim to reduced energy consumption for one full teaching day. Instead of using artificial lighting, staff open blinds to maximise natural light, switch to textbooks instead of tech and encourage students to be mindful of energy use at school and at home. We hope blackout day will remind us all how small changes can make a big difference.

No Mow May



Grow it, don't mow it
For our bees, butterflies and wildlife

Doing nothing is Doing something for pollinators. Let that lawn grow!

#NoMowMay 

Here at Marlborough, we are showing kindness and compassion to our wildlife by setting aside spaces in our eco-garden and at the bottom of the school field to take part in No Mow May. So if you see long grass in these spaces...
Please do excuse our weeds as we are feeding the bees!



Blue Light Careers Day

On Friday 16th May, our Year 7 students took part in their Blue Light Careers Day – an inspiring introduction to the world of emergency services and community support. Students had the chance to hear directly from professionals in the Police, Army, Ambulance Service, and RNLI, learning not only about the variety of careers available but also about the vital role these services play in keeping our communities safe.

The day was carefully designed to blend practical activities with gentle careers advice, helping students to begin thinking about their own futures in a supportive and engaging way. This event marks the first step in each student's career journey at The Marlborough Science Academy.

The skills and insights gained will be further developed in upcoming PSICHE lessons and we hope the day has sparked some interesting conversations at home as well. Well done to all our Year 7s for approaching the day with courage and enthusiasm!

Mrs Golds



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. George Zhang 8RC — 6,379,925 words read
2. Samantha Mullinex 8RC— 3,219,199 words read
3. Eve Kilcast 8AS — 1,871,001 words read
4. Lucian Clements 8AN— 1,512,768 words read
5. Ali Reed— 1,148,752 words read
6. Esme Goldbrom 8RC— 956,730 words read
7. Elaina Ridolfi 8RC – 932,289 words read
8. Erin Cukaj 7KC – 923,606 words read
9. Faye Holt 8FC – 899,490 words read
10. Frank Singeton 7JH – 865,187 words read



Marlborough School Reads!

In May 2025, students have read...

213 Books

6,835,289 Words

for **27** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®

King's Trust Students Achieve First British Sign Language Qualification

We are thrilled to announce that students studying the Kings Trust Achieve Programme have successfully achieved the *Level 1 Award in British Sign Language (BSL 101)* – an exciting and well-deserved milestone after a year of hard work and dedication.



Throughout the academic year, students have been developing their signing skills as part of their BSL qualification. This achievement has been made possible thanks to their commitment and the invaluable support from our partnership with **Heathlands School**, a specialist school for deaf children.

The collaboration with Heathlands has provided our students with the opportunity to learn from experts and develop a deeper understanding of deaf culture and communication. It has been a fantastic experience that has broadened their skills and awareness.

But the journey doesn't stop here! Our students will be assessed for the next unit, *BSL 102*, in **June** – so watch this space for more exciting progress updates.



Congratulations to all our Kings Trust students – we are incredibly proud of you!

Ms Kelly

Staff Book Club

We relaunched our staff book club this half term, reading *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. This was an unflinching look at the role of women combat nurses in the Vietnam war and the lasting effects of the trauma suffered by all who served in the conflict. We all enjoyed the book and learnt a lot about that period of history.

Mrs Nixon



Leading the Way to a Healthy Lifestyle

This term, the Year 9 King's Trust Group have taken an active role in promoting healthy living. Throughout the unit, students have led tasks focused on healthy eating and physical activity - developing both practical skills and leadership along the way.



To begin, students explored the principles of a balanced diet, then worked in small groups to plan, shop for, and prepare a healthy two-course meal. Each team had to meet specific criteria: include all food groups from the Eatwell Guide in the correct proportions, feed a family of four, and stay within a set budget. This added an element of real-world decision-making, requiring students to carefully consider their choices during a group shopping trip.

Once back in the kitchen, the groups put their plans into action, of course considering the knowledge gained in their food hygiene assessments. Many students impressed with their culinary skills - some clearly seasoned home chefs! The fruit smoothie bowl emerged as a standout dish, winning high praise during the taste testing.



Next, the focus shifted to physical activity, another key pillar of a healthy lifestyle. Each group of students was tasked with planning and leading a



physical activity session for their peers. This

challenge helped them build confidence, hone their leadership abilities, and consider important factors such as safety and risk assessment.

Through this project, the Year 9 King's Trust Group have shown initiative, creativity, and a strong understanding of what it means to live, and lead, a healthy lifestyle.

Mrs Bassett



Catering Update

Don't forget that the school canteen is open for a short time after school every day. Many items will be available at reduced prices, with some discounted by up to 50%. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to get a snack before an after-school club, choose a treat for their journey home or purchase lunch for the following day.



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.



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.



This Week's Quote of the Week

“ Talent is cheaper than table salt. What separates the talented individual from the successful one is a lot of hard work.”

(Stephen King)

Word of the Week

credentials: noun—a qualification, achievement, quality, or aspect of a person's background, especially when used to indicate their suitability for something.

Value of the Week



LRC News

On Thursday 8th May students from Year 7, 8 and 9 spent the morning at Beaumont School discussing the Children's Book Award shortlist. The morning included time for students to produce a creative response to one of the books which are then collated into a portfolio for each of the shortlisted authors and illustrators. This award, which is organised by the Federation of Children's Book Groups, is the only national award which is voted for entirely by young people so this is a wonderful opportunity for students to let their voices be heard. We were joined by students from Loreto College and Hemel Hempstead School and also by Author Chris Vick who spoke about what makes a good story and how reading about other peoples lives can help you make sense of your own.



Students were asked to rank the three shortlisted books and the overwhelming winner for the students involved was Seven Million Sunflowers by Malcolm Duffy, the story of Kat, a Ukrainian refugee trying to adapt to life in the UK while dealing with the trauma of war. We will need to wait until June 7th when the winner is announced to see if the rest of the country agreed with us.



Mrs Nixon



'It was great to be a part of—we had some interesting discussions on the books and the author visit was very enlightening'
Eve Kilcast 8AS

'It was a really fun experience and I'm so glad we could talk about the books with other people'
Samantha Mullinex 8RC



'A great opportunity to unite over reading with other schools'

Beau Sweetman 8FC



James Cousins Company Dance Workshop

On Friday 25th April our Year 9 and 10 GCSE Dance students along with Gifted and Talented Year 8 dancers took part in a workshop led by the brilliant Ellie from James Cousins Company. The students learnt lots about the professional work 'Within Her Eyes' which is a contact duet performed outdoors by James Cousins Company; it is also one of the dance pieces on the GCSE Dance specification. The 3 hour workshop contained lots of contact work with students exploring different ways of being lifted and supported, learning movements directly from the piece. The students worked extremely hard, learning challenging technical choreography which they will be using to film their own duets using different locations around the school. Amazing work girls and thank you Ellie for a brilliant workshop!



Miss Fox



Year 9 Careers Day at Phasels Wood:

Building Employability Skills Beyond the Classroom

Last term, our Year 9 students had an exciting opportunity to step outside the classroom and into the great outdoors at Phasels Wood Activity Centre as part of our Careers 'Who Do You Think You Are?' day. This special event was designed to help students develop vital employability skills in a fun and challenging environment.

Throughout the day, students took part in a range of adventurous activities, including the high ropes course, rock climbing, aero ball, and archery. These activities were not just about having fun—they were carefully chosen to help students build teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and resilience.



In addition to the outdoor challenges, students participated in a classroom-based session, run by Services For Young People, where the students focused on employability skills and their importance in today's world of work. They learned how skills such as leadership, adaptability, and collaboration are valued by employers and how these can be developed both in and out of school.



The experiences and lessons from Phasels Wood will continue to be explored and developed in upcoming PSCHÉ sessions, where students will reflect on what they learned and how these skills can be applied to their future careers.

We are proud of all our Year 9 students for having the courage to face these challenges and making the most of this valuable learning experience!

Mrs Golds



Clubs

CROCHET & KNITTING CLUB - BEGINNERS WELCOME!

Friday Lunchtime - 1st floor - Fibonacci

BRING A BALL OF WOOL - LET'S GET STARTED

Mrs. Hale

If you have any unwanted wool, crochet hooks or knitting needles

- Please consider donating them to the new Friday Craft club
- We will be learning to Knit and Crochet and hope to inspire, as well as create a moment of tranquillity at Friday lunchtimes!

WE NEED YOUR

WOOL,

CROCHET HOOKS

AND

KNITTING

NEEDLES

UNUSED WOOL REHOMED!

Thank you from Mrs Hale!



Mrs Hale

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CyberFirst Club

Wednesday

15:20 – 16:30

Year 7 and 8 girls

By invitation

MFestival

This incredible Music Festival, now in its 15th year, celebrates some of the incredible talent we have at the school, alongside a huge array of local musicians. This year we have some brilliant cover bands in the line-up, from our headliner, Pump It Up! to Wider Load, a band featuring some former Marlborough pupils and, the ever-popular Electric Umbrella, who are Britain's Got Talent winners in our eyes! We hope you are looking forward to attending this year, don't forget to bring your families and friends for a wonderful day out. As you are probably aware there have been some changes to the ticketing policy this year - more details can be found on our website: www.mfestival.co.uk.



As ever the festival can only run with your support over the weekend, so the volunteer rota is now up and ready for you to give whatever time you can to help make this a huge success. For anyone who can offer 5 hours of their time, at least 3 hours of which must be during the festival, we are offering to refund your adult ticket price (up to the value of £26) after the festival. Please volunteer now at www.mfestival.co.uk/volunteering. Finally, if your company offers match-funding and you are able to volunteer on the day, please, please let us know! We look forward to seeing you in July.

The MFestival Team



M
Festival

SATURDAY 5TH JULY : 2PM - 10.45PM

BAND LINE-UP INCLUDES:

COMMON PEOPLE SIX GO MAD SINEAD QUINN PUMP IT UP!

Common People GO MAD Sinead Quinn Pump It Up!

FOR MORE INFO & TICKETS GO TO WWW.MFESTIVAL.CO.UK

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Visit Hertfordshire's Families First website:
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St Albans Community Bank



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For people in Herts




Support for Young People

Hertfordshire Mind Network offer support for mental health and emotional wellbeing for young people through their website withyouth.org This includes online support, group sessions, drop-ins, and counselling for children and young people in Hertfordshire.

The group offers drop in sessions at their [Haven Cafes](#) in Watford, Hemel Hempstead and Ware and has an instant messaging service from 2pm to 10pm every day (except Bank Holidays) if you just need to talk.



Click on the image below left to be taken to the website for more information.

DSPL7 Delivering Special Provision Locally

Parenting Support

Summer term 2025

Illustration of various family silhouettes.

DSPL7

St Albans District, Harpenden and Villages
Radbourtt, Wheathampstead and Kington

DSPL7 Delivering Special Provision Locally

The Pioneer Club
HEALTHLANDS DRIVE, ST ALBANS

Services for Young People

Emotionally Based School Anxiety Coffee mornings

These EBSA coffee mornings are for parents/carers with a child in years 5-6 at primary school or years 7-11 at secondary school, who are not attending school because of EBSA issues. This event is being run by DSPL7 with Services for Young People, and **young people are also welcome to attend.** This is a drop-in session with no need to book.

Coffee mornings take place at the **The Pioneer Club, Heathlands Drive, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 5AY**, at the community cafe, Suet Yard. Sessions run from 9:30 - 11:30am on the following dates:

Thursday 19th June 2025

✉ admin@dspl7.org.uk ☎ 01727 519229 🌐 www.dspl7.org.uk

UNDERSTANDING MY AUTISM/ADHD

Empowerment Course for Children and Young Teens in Hertfordshire

Join us for an online transformative 4-week group course designed to empower children and young teens with a diagnosis of ADHD or Autism. Through interactive sessions, participants will explore what being Autistic or ADHD means to them, identify strategies to support their well-being, articulate their needs, and celebrate their uniqueness.

COURSE DETAILS

ADHD SECONDARY Tues 10/06 - 15/07 (Ages 11-13)
ADHD PRIMARY Wed 11/06 - 16/07 (Years 3-6)
AUTISM PRIMARY Thu 12/06 - 17/07 (Years 3-6)

add-vance.org/children-young-people

Applications are now open for ADD-vance 'Understanding My Autism' & 'Understanding My ADHD' courses for children & young teens starting in June 2025. Click on the image left to find out more or to book on the ADD-vance website.



BARRACUDAS

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11-15 Aug

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4-6 Aug

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11-13 Aug

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SEPARATE & REUNITE



18-20 Aug

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WHEN

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Term Dates

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

Autumn Term 2025

Inset Day—Monday 1st September

Years 7 & 12 students only—Tuesday 2nd September

First day of term for all students—Wednesday 3rd September

Half term—Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October

Occasional Day—Friday 21st November

Inset Day—Monday 24th November

End of Term—Friday 19th December

Spring Term 2026

Inset day—Monday 5th January

First day of term—Tuesday 6th January

Half term—Monday 16th to Friday 20th February

End of term—Friday 27th March

Easter Break—Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April

Summer Term 2026

First day of term—Monday 13th April

Bank Holiday—Monday 4th May

Half term—Monday 25th to Friday 29th May

End of term—Friday 17th 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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