



# The Marlborough News

December 2016 Number 63

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## From the Principal...

Welcome to the December edition of the Marlborough News. Christmas seems to come earlier every year, but it is worth remembering that we are now into week 15 of our school year since September – and a lot has happened in that time as the pages of this newsletter will testify. The experiences and achievement of our young people are clear for all to see, but there are so many things that happen here in school that make it such an exciting, challenging, stimulating and rewarding place to be. As 2016 draws to a close, it is important to reflect on how, in uncertain times, we look to the beliefs and behaviours that define us as a school and the strong foundations upon which our community is built. I have seen numerous examples of our young people demonstrating all the values we espouse here at Marlborough: from being fantastic ambassadors for the school at Open Evenings and trips abroad; challenging themselves to develop new skills in Science Competitions, the Blenheim Palace Festival of Literature, Film and Music and the King Prize for Creative Writing; behaving in a respectful and thoughtful way for our Service of Remembrance; and once again, coming together to support charities chosen by the students in our fantastic Charities Week.

There have been important moments however, when the school has been able to spend some time in quiet reflection amid the hustle and bustle of everyday school life. I was incredibly impressed by a number of student-led assemblies we have had this term, both for year groups in introducing our chosen charities, and in Whole School Assembly where students spoke

*(continued over)*

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The choir singing at Blenheim Palace

confidently and eloquently about their own beliefs from a range of cultural and religious backgrounds. Our temporary prayer and reflection space in RE allowed students to articulate and reflect on their own life experiences – with deeply moving results. To share that experience with our young people was a genuine privilege.

Last night I attended our Christmas Carol Service at St Mary Magdalene Church where our choir and student readers once again did themselves and the school proud. This idea of empowering our students to have a voice, to be confident enough to stand up in front of their peers and to be completely sure that they will be listened to and respected is exactly the culture we are building here at the Marlborough. Young people who are confident, motivated, enthusiastic and passionate about what they are learning and what they believe in, demonstrating an ambition to achieve the very best they can and at the same time show awareness of our responsibilities to the local and global communities of which we are a part.

The school continues to grow and develop in exciting ways. I would like to thank all of you who completed our survey of staff, parents and students – we had nearly 700 responses in total. In virtually every measure, from every group, the school was rated as either ‘good’ or

‘outstanding’. However, I know that there remain areas of our organisation and practice that we need to keep focussing on and I will be communicating more frequently and directly with parents on some of those issues in the New Year. Please be assured that as a school, we are never complacent and are determined to address any areas of perceived weakness to ensure that we are creating the best learning environment for your children we possibly can. We also know that a strong and successful school relies on the support of parents and carers, and we are fortunate and grateful for the support you give to me, the teachers, the support staff and most importantly, your children. I continually remind staff that ‘everyone is somebody’s child’ and that the welfare and safety of our children – and their dreams, hopes and ambitions – are the most important things to us here at Marlborough. I am uncompromising in my expectations of everyone here and determined we will do the best for the children in our care. I am proud of them and of what they have achieved this year. I am confident there is still more to come.

In the meantime, let me wish you all a peaceful, happy and joyful Christmas.

Mr A Hanlon, Principal

## Christmas Message

Do you write a Christmas letter? A ‘round robin’? We do – a short one, nothing too boastful (I hope), just a few nice things we’ve done, health update, one or two family things, Happy Christmas.

I’ve just finished writing this year’s letter. And I’m conscious of how small our little achievements and happenings seem in a year where global and national events have felt overwhelming, overpowering, and often deeply disturbing. The referendum, the US election, Syria, Mosul, migrants drowning, children abused – it puts our lives into a different perspective. It all feels weird, and out of control. One Church of England bishop said to me that, if he could arrange it with God, he would ‘stop the world, because he wants to get off’. I know how he feels.

Despite all the trappings we’ve thrown at it, the first Christmas was as small an event as you can imagine. Bethlehem was tiny back then, a backwater. Mary, an unmarried mother with an extraordinary story to tell. Joseph, an older man, who had bravely taken her on, despite knowing that he wasn’t her child’s father. A birth in a back room, an animal feeding house. None of this made much impact at the time.

Not at the time – but the consequences of this birth turned out to have an extraordinary impact. And still can, if only we will let its truth touch us, and its message inspire us. The way forward is all there in the carols we sing:

*Where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.*

*Man at war with man hears not  
the love-song which they bring:  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
And hear the angels sing.*

*What I can I give him -  
give my heart.*

The poet Louis MacNiece wrote that ‘world is crazier and more of it than we think’. Not half. And if that’s how you feel, immerse yourself afresh in the smallness of the Christmas story this year. The greatest Love imaginable can be found there. May it give you strength and peace in this holy season, and throughout the new year.

The Reverend Canon Adrian Daffern  
Team Rector of the Benefice of Blenheim



# The Marlborough School Association



Thanks to the help of parents, friends and staff, the MSA has had a really positive year. The November Quiz Night was well supported and hosted by School Governor The Reverend Canon Adrian Daffern, the Year 7 and 8 Disco proved great fun for the lower years and our Christmas Evening provided plenty of seasonal good cheer. The money raised from these events supports those little extras school budgets can't always run to such as theatre visits, sports kit, trips and IT equipment

The MSA is always pleased to welcome new members. If you can spare a little time we would love to see you at our planning meetings and events. Please consult our website page for further information.

The MSA wish all staff, students and parents a very happy Christmas.

Paul Williamson, MSA Chair.

## Remembrance Service



Our annual Remembrance Service was held on Wednesday 9 November involving the whole school community. This service of reflection was led by Reverend Canon Adrian Daffern and was represented by the standard bearers and chairman, Gordon Hollis, of the Woodstock branch of the British Legion. The last post was movingly played by Edward Pick in Year 10.



13 - 16 OCTOBER 2016



# BLenheim PALACE FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE FILM & MUSIC



former editor of the Oxford Times and Kevin Crossley-Holland, author.

The judges were extremely complimentary about the high standard of writing of all the entries and after much deliberation awarded :

1<sup>st</sup> Prize to Charlie Knight, 11S, who wrote a 'powerful and chilling piece on the importance of the honey bee and the potential consequences of not taking action to prevent their decline' (story on page 6)

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize to Fergus Dyer, 11R, who wrote ' informatively about mass extinctions in the history of our planet'.

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize to Emma Shaw, 9U, who wrote a 'persuasive piece on the importance of staying connected to nature for our well-being'.

Highly Commended were Rachel Williams, Louis Fox and Yoshi Smart.

All prizes were kindly donated by local resident, Blythe Campbell, which included £150 to the School Library.

S. Whittaker

The annual Blenheim Palace Festival of Literature, Film and Music was held in October and proved to be an early highlight in the school's calendar. The school was delighted to host four fascinating workshops led by six well-known authors, illustrators and the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Carey as described below.

The Festival's Educational Programme, sponsored by Owen Mumford, launched a non-fiction writing competition to all students at the Marlborough School on the theme of 'Nature and the Environment' and an external panel of judges reviewed six short-listed entries. On the panel of judges was Professor Simon Koveski, Head of Department of English and Modern Languages at Oxford Brookes University, Jarl Severn, Managing Director of Owen Mumford, Derek Homes,

## Kevin Crossley Holland and Jane Ray - Heartsong

Author Kevin and Illustrator Jane joined us in the MEC to explain how they had come together to work on one of the most beautiful books that I have seen for a long time. Heartsong is part social history, part mystery and part haunting love story this haunting story is simply stunning. An extraordinary illustrated tale, set within the dark mystery of Venice and composer Vivaldi's life, about an orphan who finds her voice and future through the healing power of music. Students asked a number of questions before they bought copies, which were signed for them.

J. Onions





**Dr Tom Moorhouse and Lucy Christopher**

*Wisp of Wisdom* had an unusual birth. It began when a conservation research team in central Africa collected folk tales from their local chiefs and elders. It ended with eleven children’s authors, an artist and a publisher joining the project to help retell stories from the Korup region in Cameroon.

Why? Good question. The answer is that Korup has rich stories, full of the animals that live in their precious forests. But the oral tradition that hands these stories down is being lost. And people in Korup have no books. (We mean this. No books. None.) And so the stories are being lost.

The original idea was to collect the tales and photocopy them, so the children would have something to read. The original idea...grew.

Wouldn't it be good, we thought, to make a proper book. And to have lots of authors. And to illustrate it beautifully. And to raise the funds to print at least 2,000 copies of that book in Cameroon. And for the conservation team to then give the book back, for free, to the children of Korup. A *Wisp of Wisdom* is that book. Tom and Lucy led a workshop with Year 7 students who enjoyed hearing all about the project and experiencing the fun and enthusiasm Tom and Lucy brought to the session.

J. Onions

**Lord Carey  
The Importance of  
Failure in Life**

The former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Carey, spoke to students in the Sixth Form about the importance of failure in life. Exploring questions such as why is it OK to fail sometimes? What can it teach us about life and how can we use failure to make our lives more successful?



**Lucy Atkins – The Writer’s Life**

Novelist and critic Lucy Atkins gave a talk to the Sixth Form about being a writer, journalism and writing as a career. Lucy was informative and funny, explaining to us all the jobs she did before making a breakthrough into journalism. She was very impressed with the questions she was asked by students and their input on how to promote herself over the internet.

J.Onions





## Out of Honey? By Charlie Knight

The life of a worker bee is a complex, deeply fascinating, and melancholy miracle, without which the human race could indeed lose everything, and yet this incredible race is dying out at an untold rate, and we seem to be doing nothing to save them. A queen bee must lay up to 2,000 eggs a day in order to replace the worker bees that have been lost, an entire hive of bees must fly a total of 55,000 miles in order to produce only one pound of honey, not to mention the incredible mathematics involved in proving that the hexagon shape of the beeswax is in fact the optimum shape to store the most amount of honey using the least amount of resources. And yet, this miracle of life is unappreciated, uncared for, and when a species so vitally tied to human existence is going extinct with very few in a position of power willing to do anything about it, it is an image that promotes very little hope for the future of the human race.

Neonicotinoids are quite a new type of insecticide, used to protect plants from a wide variety of pests, however, it has also been linked to the alarming deaths of bees and other incredibly important pollinators that help keep crops alive and are crucial to biodiversity. It is because of this that many Neonicotinoid based pesticides have at least partial bans on them in many countries, however the news is not all as good as this. Recently, the UK government has given in to pressure put on them by the agriculture industry and has lifted a ban on Neonicotinoids, with little regard for the dangers it poses to bees and other pollinators, and even less knowledge of just how different the world would be without bees, and just how catastrophic the extinction of this species could turn out to be.

Pollination is a crucial part of plant reproduction, wherein pollen grains move from the anther of one flower to the stigma of another flower, which allows the ovule to be fertilised and the plant to reproduce. We depend largely on pollination by insects, and one of the world's largest pollinators is the honey bee, meaning that without it, much of the world's food would be lost, as well as many other things.

The importance of the bee, as a species, is often overlooked by those in power, traded instead for the advancement of agriculture and the use of pesticides that have a devastating effect on the population size of bees. There is no doubt that the human race needs bees, and yet, although we know this, we do not act like it. This needs to change.

So allow me to paint you an image, for it is one that I hope will show you just why bees are arguably the most important species on this earth, by showing you a world without them.

At first, very little changes, we run out of honey, dozens of beauty products that have honey as a key ingredient go off the market, but we can still survive. Then what? Commercial beekeepers go out of business, people lose their livelihoods, their incomes, possibly even their homes, but there are more jobs, aren't there? Surely the loss of a few beekeepers isn't the end of the world. At least, not until you realise that the loss of beekeepers means that farmers will no longer be able to pollinate their fields. And then, all across the globe, harvests fail, crops die out, the majority of fruits and vegetables become scarce, almost impossible to get a hold of. We have people falling ill without the kind of nutrients they need in their diets, riots and fights breaking out in our supermarkets over who gets the last loaf of bread, and as supermarkets lose money, more people lose jobs and incomes and homes. It doesn't stop there. Almonds don't seem very important until you realise that they are often used as feed for cows, and this doesn't seem very important either until you realise that almonds will be one of the first crops to fail and die out if honey bees went extinct. And if cows don't get the food they need, the production of milk, and therefore all dairy products, gets very difficult. We have no meat if we can't feed our animals, and since alfalfa fields all across the world would perish as a result of the extinction of bees, they would no longer be able to be harvested as hay to feed cattle. Not only that, but more than half of the world's diet of fat and oil is lost, as many oilseeds are incredibly dependent on the effects of bee pollination. We lose a large amount of our cotton seed, and with it a huge amount of clothing and household items.

And so what does that leave us with? We have a rising population and nothing to feed them with, nothing to clothe them with, we have companies going bankrupt and entire industries failing, taking entire nations down with them. We have no jobs, no money, and everything we have just about managed to scrape together is sold at exorbitant prices, because the few that are left standing are about to topple and with less to sell, things have to be sold for more. Economies collapse, and as the world tries desperately not to cave inwards, nations go to war over land, over food, over money because everyone wants to feed their people and nobody has enough to do so. Humanity is running out of hope, and almost everything we have left is being poured into a way to bring them back, bring back the bees, bring back the crops and the food and the life that once ran throughout this beautiful earth. And the last of humanity dies in a world without flowers.

## HRH Duke of Gloucester

We were very pleased to welcome his Royal Highness, The Duke of Gloucester (Patron of the Festival) to the school as part of his tour to local organisations and businesses. His Royal Highness attended the Lord Carey presentation, met with the Principal, Governors, Head Boy and Head Girl, Year 7 representatives and local dignitaries.



## Drama

### Wendy and Peter Pan 26 - 28 January 2017

DS1 has been reverberating to the whoops of Lost Boys (Big and Little) and growls of angry pirates (Master and Apprentice) since mid-September, as the casts rehearse for January's production of The Royal Shakespeare Company's Wendy and Peter Pan. That's right: 'casts'. It's not a typo, but a response to the overwhelming enthusiasm of students in Years 7-12: the show has two casts, each performing twice over the four show run. This modern production places Wendy

(Georgia Worsfold, Y9) at the heart of the story as she follows Peter Pan (Jazmine Flowers, Y12) to Neverland in search of her lost brother, Tom. There she finds herself caught between the battling Lost Boys the Pirates, led by the debonair but ruthless\* Captain James Hook (Mr Buckmaster), and must decide whose side she will be on. Don't miss your chance to see what will surely be another sell out show in the MEC.

J Pelling



### Y10 GCSE Drama

Congratulations to all the Y10 drama students following the new AQA GCSE specification for their hard work in producing powerful devised performances inspired by the experiences of women during WW1 and WW2. Due for final performances in the New Year, these pieces have been shaped by the students themselves, and based on detailed research into the periods. This is a talented cohort who have risen to the challenge not only of creating their own work, but analysing it, too. We look forward to seeing the final pieces.

J Pelling

### Malborough Youth Theatre

Through the Looking-Glass, is a novel by Lewis Carroll, the sequel to Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (1865). The Marlborough Youth Theatre has been working hard over the past weeks to rehearse its version of the play. Set some six months later than the earlier book, Alice again enters a fantastical world, this time by climbing through a mirror into the world that she can see beyond it. Multiple Alice's took on the role and produced their own lovely Alice characters. MYT's version of Through the Looking-Glass took on other fantastical characters with great creativity. Humpty Dumpty was precariously balanced and hilariously performed, whilst Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee showed themselves as a great comedy duo. Other lovely moments came from the ensemble cast with their garden of flowers, the lion and the unicorn, the princes and not to forget the King, Queen and Haigha the hare.

Well done to all involved for a lovely and festive end to this term.

C Cutter

## King Prize for Creative Writing

The prestigious King Prize for Creative Writing competition has celebrated its fifth winner: Helen Ridout. While Helen was the outstanding winner this year, it was a very competitive short-list, including Ezinne Uzueto-Anthony, Eva Morris, Joe Roberts, Joseph Monaghan and Daisy Stone.

With a £100 prize generously sponsored by local authors Melanie and Ross King, this competition is only open to Marlborough School students in Years 10, 11 and 12. This year we were fortunate to have four acclaimed authors as our judges:

- Julie Summers, who is the author of 11 books, one of which, *Jambusters* (2013), has been made into the ITV drama *Home Fires* which is being made into a second series.
- Prajwal Parajuly, an Indian/Nepalese author who divides his time between New York and London and has published a book of short stories, a novel and is completing a further novel.
- Melanie King, a prolific local author who has published books with intriguing titles like 'A curious history of death' and 'Secrets in a dead fish'.
- Ross King, the award-winning and bestselling author of books on Italian, French and Canadian art and history.

We are hugely appreciative of the generosity of Melanie and Ross King to our school – not only for the substantial cash prize – but also for the time they and the judges put into reading the increasing number of high quality entries we receive year on year, long-



listing, short-listing, and deciding on a winner. We feel incredibly privileged by their involvement with our school and the opportunity that is provided to our budding creative writers. We would love to see entries from any students in Years 10, 11 or 12 next year - the deadline will be 30 June 2017.

## Strange and Sudden (how the world changed) By Helen Ridout

Kate Forman was 49 years old when she realised that she was bored. She tapped at her desk in annoyance, and she thought to herself quietly with her eyes half-closed. That was the thing about her, Kate grasped, she was always too quiet.

She was 49 years old and tired. She hated working in customer relations, and hated the chattering of the silly hens beside her, those who thought a wild night was adding a scoop of real coffee mixed in with their decaf. Kate had taken this job because it was a job, and they were hard to come by. But she wished that she never had; she had given ten years of her life to this company, and they sent a perfunctory Christmas card every year. It was a life, Kate felt, that she had lived too long, wishing

for something different but staying with the monotony despite it, afraid to step outside her self-imposed comfort zone. Within her, she gathered courage that she didn't know she had for weeks – going home and staring at travel brochures on her laptop. She had always wanted to go to Scotland.

Every day now, Kate walked up and past to the door to her supervisor's office, clutching her letter of notice in one hand, too scared to knock. He was walking out to a meeting one day, catching her daily stroll past the office. She fought the urge to run, steeling her strength. "Kate." He barked, mouth curved upwards like a knife slash. "What are you doing? Get back to work." She was about to comply, but stopped, breathing

hard and heart pounding with her own audacity. “No,” she said in a thin and quavering voice, her legs jelly. Her supervisor narrowed his eyes, face twisting. She controlled herself, remembering the young headstrong girl that she had once been.

“I want to give you this,” she said, thrusting the notice at him. He stared at it, disbelieving. Gulping, Kate continued, “effective immediately.”

His eyes bulged unattractively. His tone turned wheedling, “Now, Kate, dear, think about this – we’re in tough economic times –“

Shocking herself, Kate said firmly, “Goodbye, Dan,” turning away, skittering to her desk, and picking up her briefcase. She practically ran out the door, ignoring the whispers rising around and about her like steam, breaking into the open air. Breathing in deeply, she smiled, wild and feeling free, clouds looming and foreboding rain, but Kate laughed and twirled there in the street like a woman half her age.

The wind was raw and hard, but Kate walked with a jaunty step, eyes wide and open.

As she sat down in her car, Kate thought about Scotland and its horizonless skies and grey-blue rocks and its clear biting air.

She thought again about how much she wanted to go there, and grinned wider.

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Scotland was cold and fierce and wonderful. In her cheap hotel room, there was a radio, which rumbled and hissed with static, storm-like in its consistency. The radio in her car had broken, so Kate now took the hotel’s radio with her on her journeys without asking, and felt daring.

Kate went to castles, ignoring the tours, walking by herself, venturing past scarred walls and thinking. Under churning clouds, she felt free of the office politics and tenuous romance that had hung over her. Whilst eating alone in small cafes, she scoffed at the notion that she had ever been held back by such trifling matters.

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Tantallon Castle grew in front of her car, building itself anew, while the hotel radio hissed and popped with mentions of rain and sun. The sea was roiling beneath the cliff, the wind tugging with greedy fingers at the manes of the waves as they crashed into the base of the rock face. Sheep dotted the land around the castle, snatching flowers from the heather bushes.

As she pulled up in the near-empty car park, Kate felt a bump on the front of the car, and heard a squealing sound that set her teeth on edge, breaking the gentle quietness of her world. Looking up, she saw a tall young man, with ash-blond hair and nervous green eyes. He looked horror-struck, and in his limp hand he held keys.

Irritated that her reverie had been broken, Kate thumped the door of her car, brows drawing down in anger. She folded her arms, and waited.

The young man burst out, “I—I’m sorry!” Stuttering, he tugged on his sleeve, hiding one of his hands. “I didn’t mean to, I’ll pay you back, it was all my fault and I should have been more careful with my keys, I’m really sorry!” His lips trembled and he looked close to tears.

Abruptly, something softened inside Kate. In him, she saw herself, young and confused, yet so full of potential. She looked at the scratch. It carved a curving silver line in the black of her car’s paint. It was nothing, unimportant.

She breathed out, “It’s okay, kid. It’s only a car,” he smiled at her uncertainly. She smiled back, certainly. And Kate realised that it was okay. It looked messy, and interrupted the matte black of the rest of the paint, but it glinted in the intermittent sun. Rather than detracting, it added lightness to the dark. Inside the car, the radio rolled like thunder.

Behind them, the castle climbed the wind to the sky behind them, defying its own weight. “I’m Kate,” she said, holding out her hand.

“Nathan,” he replied shyly. As they shook hands, Kate felt kinship to this man. Scotland, it seemed, was the place for reworking and changing and growing. A place for the confused and tired and broken.

“Let’s go see the castle,” Kate said. Nathan walked beside her. Kate smiled, and felt the future stretching out before her.

In front of them, the castle rose with broken battlements, and crumbling walls, but still, it stood, against the wind and the sea and the sky.



Art by Jessica Warner-Buttery

# Marlborough Winners at the Oxfordshire Schools Film Awards 2016

The Oxfordshire Schools Film Awards 2016 were held at Wheatley Park School on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November. A number of schools from Oxfordshire were represented at the event with over 30 films being entered for the following awards.

- Best Fiction
- Best Music Video
- Best Promotional
- Best Overall Production

Helen McGregor and Gary Shenton, professionals from the world of media were judging the entries.

Helen is a novelist, poet and experimental filmmaker with over 20 years' experience in Film Education. She is an Associate Tutor at the National Film and Television School and was Head of Screen Arts at the Met Film School. She is currently doing a PhD in Film Theory at Kingston University.

Gary has been at Film Oxford for almost 15 years. Working in his role as Production Development Manager he has produced or overseen the production of over 80 short films, many of them getting national and international festival exposure. In addition, he has executive produced cinema features including the highly acclaimed 'Anyone Can Play Guitar' and the award winning 'Thank You Skinhead Girl'. He manages the BFI Film Academy at Film Oxford, a programme for aspiring young film makers to gain experience of the industry and has also recently supported young local film makers to produce short films for C4 /Arts Council Random Acts strand.

The Marlborough School entered five productions; all of which can be viewed via our YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/marlboroughmedia](http://www.youtube.com/marlboroughmedia). We were immensely pleased and proud to win 'Best Overall Production' and 'Best Film Opening' we were also highly commended for our music video entry 'Change in the House of Flies'. Affirmation of the level of creativity and technical skill our students are capable of. Please use the links below if you would like to view the award winning videos for yourself.

**Best Overall Production** – 'Bloom' by Jordan Bunning, George Moore and George Young

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TPkXSD9eMeY>

**Best Film Opening** – 'Siblings' by Jay Ford

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bs7vYFWJpuw>

**Highly Commended** – 'Change in the House of Flies' by Charlotte Hawkins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQ59VhCA9M>

Many thanks must also go to Guy Stanley, Head of Media Studies, Joanna Botha, Arts Manager and students at Wheatley Park School for organising and running such an exciting event.



# Charities Week

On 14<sup>th</sup> November a very special week started, Charities Week. This was a huge success resulting in an enjoyable week for all. During the course of the week, we had multiple stimulating events such as penalty shootouts, cake sales and even movie showings. Each was a massive success as we managed to raise an amazing amount to give to each of our worthy charities.

We decided to support four charities: *Just Like Us* - a charity that supports LGBTQ kids who need counselling and support as well as sending volunteers to schools to talk in assemblies-many of you may have been present in an assembly that was put on by the charity. We then had *Friends of the Ormerod* - a charity that works very closely alongside us in order to help the students at our school get a much-needed new minibus; *See Saw* - a bereavement charity to help children and families with the death of a relative/friend; *Clic Sargent*- a charity to help provide housing and support for children with cancer. We chose each of our charities carefully and decided they would be most in need of our donations.

The cake sales were one of the most profitable events. Each day of the week we had astoundingly long queues just to try the cakes generously donated by Marlborough students and teachers. We also were selling candy canes throughout the week. This was a particularly inventive idea suggested by one of our staff, Mrs Griffin. The students bought candy canes and wrote a short but sweet message and during the following week we delivered the candy canes to the expectant receivers.

We also had penalty shootouts for each year against its Head of Year which was an excellent idea as many students enthusiastically signed up for a chance to hit their Head of Year with a football. On top of all this excitement we had a showing of the new movie, *Alice Through the Looking Glass*. This went down really well as many of the younger student turned up to watch the movie as well as have some lovely popcorn.

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>, the Annual Fun Run was successfully completed by the wet but willing Marlborough students. The theme wigs and wellies was appropriate as the weather decided that as we were all in wellies it was time to send torrential weather our way. Nevertheless we all safely finished the fun run with full hearts and full wellies.

Finally, 'Marlborough's Got Talent' was a roaring success with acts such as singing, rapping and even a dancing elephant. The student winner was Amelia Jones for an invigorating and inspirational dance, and the staff winners were the *Jim Jams*; a rapping band which included Mr Minton and a very talented guitarist in Year 11. They were very effective and had succeeded in making a very funny and entertaining act which was enjoyed by all.

I think it's safe to say that this year's charities week was the most entertaining and exciting one yet and we hope that next year's is going to be even better. Thank you for participating in our wonderful charities week

Written by Katie Everitt 8R



**Total so far:  
£7219.58**



# MARLBOROUGH MATHEMATICS

here have been many successes during the year and here is a selection of some of the activities.....



Welcome to the  
**United Kingdom Mathematics Trust**

The UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) is a registered charity whose aim is to advance the education of children and young people in mathematics. The UKMT organises national mathematics competitions and other mathematical enrichment activities for 11-18 year old UK school pupils. It was established in 1996 and last academic year over 600,000 pupils from 4,000 schools took part in the three individual challenges, the UK's biggest national maths competitions.

### **Senior Maths Challenge for Years 12 and 13:**

Congratulations to Marcus Rees (Year 12) and Simeon Bayer (Year 13) who qualified for the Senior Kangaroo Paper meaning they were in the top 25% who took the senior challenge.

We had another 5 students SILVER and 7 BRONZE certificates.

### **SENIOR TEAM MATHS CHALLENGE**



Our team consisted of Helena Job (Year 13), Vicky Grimshaw, Toby Wood and Harrison Woodin-Lygo (Year 12). They came 11<sup>th</sup> overall in the regional finals held at Oxford University in November.

**WELL DONE!!**

### **MATHS CLINICS**

If any pupil would like extra help with maths – either classwork or homework – there are drop in clinics held every week.

**Tuesday Lunchtimes** – in R6 (Maths Block) – all years

**Thursday after school** – in M3 – KS4  
– in M6 – KS5

### **NEW GCSE MATHS EXAMS**

Our Year 11 students are the first to be sitting the new specification GCSE.

Examining Board: AQA

Three papers each 1 hour 30 mins

Paper 1 – Non Calculator

Papers 2 & 3 - Calculator

Revision Guides, Workbooks and Exam Practice workbooks available from the Finance Office at £2.50 each

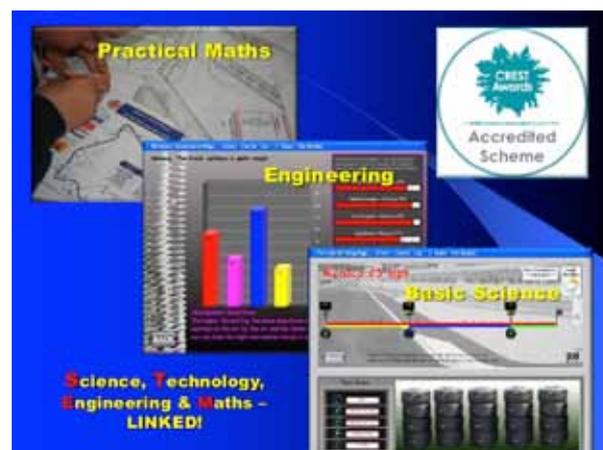


*impossible until its done.*  
*- Nelson Mandela*

During the Jaguar Cars Elective, all twelve students built a virtual car and competed to have their car represent the school in the 'Christmas Challenge Race'.

Congratulations to **Jamie Rendell** (Year 8) whose car was put forward for the National Final.

Also congratulations to **Kirk Fasanmade** who got the fastest lap time **NATIONALLY** on the Catalunya track in October. Also to **Merhawi Hlamikal** on the Baku City track and **Dan Lyel** on the Circuit des Platanes track (both Year 10).



## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD WITH MATHS AT HOME?

### WHY TIMES TABLES ARE STILL IMPORTANT

Mathematics is a lot about confidence. Knowing facts like times tables helps a student to not only answer multiplication questions, but also division questions. However it is important that the facts are learnt as a number sentence, e.g. '6 times 7 is 42'. This is because we now also know that ' $42 \div 7$  is 6' and ' $42 \div 6$  is 7'.

Research has shown that knowing times tables helps students to be faster and less stressed in exam situations, giving them more time to tackle more complex thinking / problem solving type questions.

Government guidelines state that all students should 'know their times tables up to  $12 \times 12$ '. However, in reality few are particularly fluent with these facts so it is a skill we work on and encourage all through Key Stages 3 and 4.

If you would like a parents guide to helping your child learn their tables please contact me with your details:

[Jdic8788@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Jdic8788@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk) 01993 811431 ext 253

Jo Dickson (Lead Teacher Mathematics)

### ACTIVITIES TO DO WITH YOUR CHILD

- Decide on a times table to practice and use some cards (one suit) from a pack. Shuffle them and as you turn each one over, your child has to answer as quickly as they can. Start with cards ace (one) to ten, then as your child gains confidence include the pictures; Jack = 11, Queen = 12, King = 13.
- If you use recipes, get you child cooking with you and ask them to adapt the recipe for a different number of people. For example, if the recipe is for 4 people, how much of each ingredient do you need for 6 or 10. (Topic = ratio)
- Play darts and ask your child to add each score and subtract it from their balance (mental arithmetic)
- Play maths countdown (do not keep to the 30 second time limit!) Either record the daily TV show or use this link:  
<http://happysoft.org.uk/countdown/numgame.php>

NEXT WORKSHOP

## Marlborough Maths Parent Workshops

THURSDAY 29<sup>th</sup>  
JANUARY 2017

We have held several workshops now, where parents and students from Year 6 to Year 10 have taken part in maths games (ask about 'Lobster Pots'), been amazed by some maths magic and solved various problems together. Some pupils and parents have come along and asked for help on particular topics being covered in class. Some parents have just wanted to get a better understanding and feel more confident about maths generally.

Sessions are open to everyone and if you would like more information contact Jo Dickson via email

[jdic8788@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:jdic8788@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk) or call 01993 811431 Ext 253 (Maths Dept)

## PUZZLE CORNER..... to exercise your brain!

### REMAINDERS:

Charlie is thinking of a number.  
His number is both a multiple of 5 and a multiple of 6.  
**What could his number be?**

Allison is thinking of a number.  
Her number is a multiple of 4, 5 and 6.  
**What could her number be?**

Charlie is thinking of a number that is 1 more than a multiple of 7.  
Allison is thinking of a number that is 1 more than a multiple of 4.  
**Could they be thinking of the same number?**

Charlie is thinking of a number that is 3 more than a multiple of 5.  
Allison is thinking of a number that is 8 more than a multiple of 10.  
**Could they be thinking of the same number?**

Charlie is thinking of a number that is 3 more than a multiple of 6.  
Allison is thinking of a number that is 2 more than a multiple of 4.  
**Could they be thinking of the same number?**

#### One final question:

We know that

- When 59 is divided by 5, the remainder is 4
- When 59 is divided by 4, the remainder is 3
- When 59 is divided by 3, the remainder is 2
- When 59 is divided by 2, the remainder is 1

Can you find the smallest number with the property that when it is divided by each of the numbers 2 to 10, the remainder is always one less than the number it is has been divided by? Don't forget to explain your reasoning.

#### LAST EDITION SOLUTIONS:

*The students walked about 7 miles (7.27 to be precise)*  
They have walked 4 miles in the time the car takes to travel 40, they then walk approximately another 3.3miles in the time the car takes to travel 33 miles back .

**THE ANSWER TO THIS EDITION'S PUZZLES WILL BE IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE MARLBOROUGH NEWS.**

Or Email Jo Dickson at:

[Jdic8788@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Jdic8788@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk)

# French trip to Château du tertre

We set off from Marlborough school at 5:30am and we arrived in France after a long bus ride. Our bus driver, Chris, who had a dry sense of humour, was of a French origin. We made several stops including the Eurotunnel where we were allowed off the bus and encouraged to run around our carriage. When we were in France we stopped at a service station for lunch. It had a massive spiralling tower surrounded by a river; in the river were the biggest fish we have ever seen.

## Lundi

After we arrived we were shown our dorms. Each dorm had at least two sets of bunkbeds, a set of shelves and an ensuite bathroom. We were sent to dinner in a big hall. We had to order our food in French, but most of us just pointed and said 'ça' (that)! After a delicious dinner, we were giving a tour of the facilities. There were loads of awesome fun things to do such as a gathering around the magic tree or using the basketball court. In the evening, we did an activity in the centre: we had to create a safe carriage for a water balloon and we had to say a sentence in French, in order to get tape. If our water balloons didn't break we got to throw them at our instructor, Rob (also known as Tabitha). We had an early night at 9:30 and slept peacefully till morning.



## Mardi

On Tuesday, it was the amazing Martha's birthday. After breakfast, we did some morning activities: trapeze first. It was very challenging but after all working together and supporting each other, we all gave it our best shot! Next we did archery! This was fun!

In the afternoon, we went to a local bakery and were shown how to make croissants and pains au chocolat. We even got to eat some French pastries! Then we came home and we made crêpes after dinner - we made them from scratch and then put lemon and sugar on them. To celebrate Martha's birthday we had a birthday cake with a beautiful biscoff icing on top made by PGL .



## Mercredi

We woke up, enjoyed breakfast and then went to a local market. We were put in groups of six and were given 12 euros to buy the ingredients for a balanced healthy lunch. Then, we went back to the centre to prepare it.

In the afternoon, we did abseiling and fencing (both were really good fun). Ben and Thomas won all of their fencing matches and everyone in our group did the abseiling. Most of us even did it twice.

After dinner, at around seven thirty, we walked down a long path through the woods that lead to a big field where we had a camp fire. The PGL staff told us some funny stories, about bricks, penguins and looking before you cross the road. We had to find





some sticks for marshmallows or if you didn't like marshmallows you could eat a really nice bread dough, that we toasted on the fire.



### **Jeudi**

After breakfast, we got on the bus. We drove for about an hour to one of the biggest castles in Europe in the town of Fougères.

After a twenty minute trek up a massive hill, we went into the town and were challenged to go round and interview the public in French.

After a stop in a supermarket, where we bought lots of French sweets and chocolate, we went to the island of Mont Saint Michel.

We had to go on a special shuttle bus to get to the

island. Our PGL rep, James, told us a little bit about the history of the place: a church was built on the rocks at the beginning of the 8<sup>th</sup> century. More building work was done until the 15<sup>th</sup> century. There is a monastery at the top, where monks still live now.

Once we got there, we started walking up the narrow streets and we had a picnic in a park. We were given some free time to explore the place and buy some souvenirs. It was beautiful.

After dinner, our instructor James gave us snails to taste. Opinions were divided, but a lot of students really enjoyed the garlicky taste!

As it was our last night at the centre, we had a disco in the evening.

### **Vendredi**

It was time to say "au revoir"! Both students and teachers had a very fun week in Normandy.

By Nate, Amber, Martha, Katie, Libby



# Ormerod News

## Ormerod minibus appeal

Thank you to everyone who is supporting the Ormerod with their fund raising efforts for a new mini bus. We would like to especially thank Gail Girvan for climbing Scafell Pike, Anna Albrighton for running the Oxford half marathon, Olswick Morris, and to Sebastian Johnson's family and friends for their fund raising this term.

A special thank you also goes to the Marlborough School charities committee, for choosing us as one of their charities this year.

If you can, please consider supporting us in one of the following ways:

- Sign up to The Giving Machine and choose: The Friends of Ormerod as your chosen charity, then whenever you buy anything on line, we receive a donation. <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk> Search for The Friends Of Ormerod.
- MyDonate- so can receive gift aid on donations. <https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/thefriendsofmerod>

The minibus appeal page is here: <https://mydonate.bt.com/events/ormerodminibusappeal/341371> do have a look and see how it's going!

Don't forget to look for us on Facebook and hopefully it won't be too long before we have a brand new bus...

Thank you to all staff, students and parents for contributing to the Link to Hope shoebox appeal.

We filled and sent 9 shoeboxes from the Ormerod base.

## Falcon Rowing Club

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November in the afternoon I rowed in a race with Falcon Rowing Club. It was the Isis Winter League and I raced with a boy my own age for the first time – I used to need one of the older boys helping me before. Luca and I rowed from Donnington Bride to Christchurch Meadows and back. Emily cycled along the path keeping us in time whilst Mum and Dad watched. I felt very pleased that I rowed independently with someone my own age and we were in the same race as Oxford College crews. After the race we had some mince pies!

Sebastian Johnson

## Work Experience

Hi everyone, my name is Henry Knight. I'm in the Sixth Form at The Marlborough School in Woodstock. I'm enjoying my work experience at Tower Playbase in Cowley. One of the things I enjoy doing is researching on the computer; for example I had to find out how much it costs to go to various theme and trampoline parks. To get into Chessington World of Adventures it costs £27.60 for each individual to get into the park. Also to get into Flip Out Trampoline park in Stoke, it costs £10.00 for entry to the park.

I go every Tuesday from 10:30am to 3:30pm.

It is helping me to think about what type of work I can do in the future.

## The Ashmolean Museum

With Steve, specialist creative arts therapist, Leo, Oliver and James made three visits to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford.

The students had to look around the museum and think about which areas they liked and why. They then had to think about what could make things better for them for example being able to touch artefacts would bring the visit to life and make it more accessible and help them to understand what they were looking at.

Ollie liked the small statues especially an animal with a long mouth which he thinks was a crocodile.

Leo liked the blue and white plates with the different shapes on them and the music room full of violins. He wanted to touch the violins but this was not allowed.

Steve is hoping to work with the museum to make it more child friendly for children with disabilities.

Leo and Oliver





Getting ready for the climb, the highest point I've been in my life.

At the peak of the difficulty on the high ropes course.



The telephone pole of doom, it's a bit like the celeb get me out of here challenge Ascent trail, but there's a last man standing when you reach the top.

I can exclusively reveal that I won. Toby Turner 7V

### My Iceland Visit

On November 5th my mum, dad and myself began our holiday in Iceland. Our intention was to see the Northern Lights and to go Whale watching. Although the Northern Lights didn't perform as we hoped, we enjoyed chasing them with our fantastic tour guide, in an amazing jeep. We chased them from about 7 till 11 in the evening but it just didn't happen!

When we were out in the jeep we saw one of Iceland's volcanoes. I think it was the largest one, Katia. It was amazing to see some of the Magma that had erupted from it. I can only describe the magma as looking like embers from a fire.

We were also unlucky whale watching. Despite going out in the boat for most of the afternoon, they were nowhere to be seen. However, we did see some dolphins which kind of made up for not seeing the whales - they were so beautiful!

I found the Icelandic people very welcoming and luckily most of them spoke English, so communication wasn't a problem. I enjoyed the food but it was very expensive. Their version of fish and chips plus soft drinks, cost dad £80!

I thoroughly enjoyed my holiday in Iceland and we hope to return very, very soon - in fact it may be as early next February!!

Ethan Browne

### What is wiki?

Wiki can be used by anybody able-bodied and disabled alike.

It can be found on the website [Rix.org/wiki](http://Rix.org/wiki).

Wiki is used to show different aspects of people's personality and life in the form of a slideshow. You can make as many as you would like and also write whatever you would like about the particular slideshow.

I had to showcase my wiki to ambassadors and other wiki users at Unipart House, Oxford.

This is one of my wiki pictures with Dick and Dom

Here's another one, when I met Peter Andre.



Hamzah



### Cooking Elective

On a Wednesday afternoon for my Elective I cook with Maisy, Leo and William in the Ormerod kitchen. Last week we cooked muffins. We beat the egg and milk, flour, sugar then added the blueberries and put the mixture in muffin cases.

We have also baked pizza, flapjack, cheesy straws and cheese cake.

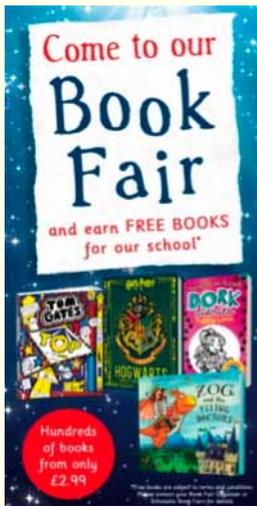
I like learning to cook because it is fun and I am learning to mix, use a sharp knife and bake. My favourite was flapjack.

By Katie Herbert 10v



## Scholastic Book Fair

At the end of November we held a Scholastic Book Fair in the Library, with help from a group of enthusiastic student volunteers. They worked hard selling books, posters and stationary, counting the money, keeping track of the stock, etc., and I would like to thank them all. £876.94 was spent, entitling the Library to 60% commission to spend with Scholastic Books over the next 18 months.



## New coat hooks

Jaydn Mortimer has been working alongside Site Manager, John Tomalin, and has produced some much needed coat hooks for the Library. The Library often has 50-60 students in the lunch break including a regular wheelchair user so this will make a big difference.

Thank you both.



## Sainsbury vouchers

Thank you for kindly passing on your Sainsbury vouchers, we have found the number of vouchers has dropped dramatically this year with comments being made that vouchers were not readily handed out at the tills. The vouchers make it possible for the PE & Cookery staff to use their budgets on bigger pieces of equipment not offered by the scheme. Some of our Year 7 students posed for the camera holding some of the equipment and looking great in their very smart new uniforms.

As a huge thank you for our ongoing support, Sainsbury's sent some extra equipment, absolutely free, the week before Christmas.

The Sports Department were thrilled to accept an assortment of balls, netball bibs, badminton rackets etc. for everyone to use in the new year. Thank you Sainsbury's.



## Student Helpers

A happy band of students have volunteered to help in the Library this term with the older students, who have worked for 2½ years, now training the younger students. They particularly enjoy working on the desk stamping out and returning books. The older students can be relied on to do any other tasks needed. Thanks to all.

I would also like to thank our very willing volunteer Angela Prior who has been such a tremendous help.





## Owen Mumford

A group of Year 10 students was invited to visit Owen Mumford in Woodstock to see how they design and manufacture diabetic testing kits and retractable epi-pens. Students learnt about the company's products, including devices for checking blood glucose concentration and for injecting a range of biologics such as insulin and human growth factor. They met the design and engineering team who use cutting-edge computer technology to ensure that the products are safe and viable, observed a 3D printer in action, and visited the factory where the products are made. We were also joined by Jill Dunsmore, a school Governor and liaison for the Blenheim Palace Literary Festival, which Owen Mumford have sponsored.

We would like to thank Jarl Severn Managing Director, Modestino Graziano Group Operations Director and the entire team at Owen Mumford for a really interesting and enjoyable morning. The visit will have inspired some of our young scientists to pursue a career in engineering.

C. Poon

## Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch and Carols

It is always a joy to see our Senior Citizens attending the Christmas lunch and Carol singing. They greet friends, staff and students with warmth and affection and are always complimentary about the Library and lunch. It is also tinged with sadness as familiar faces are no longer able to visit, for whatever reason. Students, Connor Beesley, Michael Franklin, Charlie Mann, Caitlin Hollis and Liam Fitchett produced and sold mini Christmas cakes, spiced plum chutney, shortbread, hot chocolate jars and chocolate truffles. The money is ploughed back into the COPE group funds for further enrichment activities as part of their Certificate of Personal Effectiveness. Sixth Formers were involved serving sherry and fruit juice in the Library, and then serving the lunches in the Dining Hall. J. Onions



## Why RE?

Recently 8U, as part of their Religious Education lesson, explored the question 'Why RE?'. We discussed and debated whether you need to be religious to study RE and the importance of studying RE in today's society.

We explored how RE allows young people growing up in a diverse society to understand the views and opinions of people whose beliefs and values differ from their own.

We talked about how RE can provide a space for young people to share and reflect on their own views and develop their own thoughts about questions of meaning and ethics. Following this, students were invited to design and create a display piece for the notice board at the entrance to the school.

As you can see from the photograph, they produced some really amazing work. The students put a lot of effort into their work and both myself and Mrs Hoyland are extremely proud of their efforts. Well done 8U!

Mrs Griffin



## Year 7 'Faith in the Community' Elective

During the first school term, students in Year 7 visited three different Woodstock Churches to find out how different Christians practise religion and explore ways that Christians contribute to the wider community.

The opportunity to visit each of the different churches (C of E, Baptist, Methodist) enabled students to build on their study of different Christian denominations and the work Churches do within the community.

Each visit was led by members of the church and so students were able to ask lots of questions about the church and also why faith is important.

The Methodist Church was quite small. It was decorated with paintings and work that the children have done.

The Baptist Church was the smallest church we visited. It had a main hall for services, a kitchen and a play room. It had a cross in the middle of the church which lit up. The Baptist pool was underneath the floor hidden like magic under the carpet: it was shaped as a cross and was quite big.

St Mary Magdalene's Church, (Church of England) was the oldest church we visited. It was huge and it was the only church with stained glass. When we went inside the priest made us lie on the floor and look up at the ceiling to see what we could see and hear. When I lay there I could see the wooden ceiling with different stone faces. The church had lots of decorations like pillars, tapestry, stained glass and lots more.

My favourite church was St Mary Magdalene's Church because there were so much decoration and it was really big. Thank you to Mrs Griffin who led this elective.

Evie Langley 7T

When we went to the Methodist Church, as well as us being new, the priest was new as well! We were warmly welcomed. In my opinion, the favourite part of the church would be the altar because it was beautiful: the design on the wood was intricate and detailed.

The second church we went to was the Baptist Church. I was fascinated by how small it was but how much stuff there was in it! The services that take place there, are Sunday school, prayer club and even a children's club. From outside it looked like a modern-day house but when you walk inside it turns into a church.

St Mary Magdalene's Church was a lot bigger than the other two churches we went to. Did you know St Mary Magdalene's Church has all different parts that have different ages. One part is 800 years old but the rest was from 500-600 years old.

When we got there the priest got us to lie on the floor if we wanted to (even Mrs Griffin lay down!) and look up. When we got back to the pews (seats) she asked us 'What was it like?'. We all replied with a few fascinating answers.

I learnt a lot about Christianity and how people pray and get baptised.

By Michael Bottley



# Prayer Space

For a week, the RE department hosted a Prayer Space for students to visit and take part in during their lessons or during break and lunch time, run by willing and passionate volunteers from the local Church community, all overseen very effectively by Mr Bodinham. The response from students has been fantastic, with all classes who have had the opportunity to use the space being engaged with the activities run, and taking some time away from their busy school lives to reflect on things and people that are important to them, using a range of excellent activities that encourage reflection or prayer, in which ever way students felt comfortable in responding.

Well done to all classes involved for your calm, focused attitudes and your willingness to engage with the activities. Mrs Hoyland

*"I found that the prayer space was very useful and created a calm and peaceful environment for reflection and thoughts. It gave people the chance to think about things that have, are and will happen."*  
Natasha Fisher-Resende 10S

*"I found the prayer space was very calm and peaceful. It helped me to reflect on things that are happening in the world and in my life. I found it interesting learning the different things that Christians do to communicate/talk to God."*  
Ellie Oliver 10T

*"I really liked the prayer space because you could express your feelings and it's a time to reflect on things you regret and it's a time to forgive people. It was very relaxing and calming and helps you to think about things in the past and what you're grateful for."*  
Evie Langley 7T

*"As an atheist, I thought that prayer space would be boring and cheesy, but I was wrong. It helped me reflect on my life and others around me, and was very relaxing, which was a welcome change from a normal lesson."*  
Anonymous 7T

*"In the prayer space, there were many things to take part in with the sorry sand, the pipe-cleaners, thank-yous as just a few examples. It was really calm and relaxing with the music on in the background as one of the only noises. It wasn't designed purely for people with faiths; there was plenty of activities for non-believers too. It gave everyone a chance to share their ambitions, wishes and mistakes and in the case of the sorry sand, it helped people rectify their downfalls. Everybody took part and everybody was included in the stations. It had a very calming atmosphere and I think it gave everyone a fresher piece of mind."*  
Bella Wheeler 8U

*"I really enjoyed my experience in the prayer space. There were lots of nice comments everywhere and there was lots of space to reflect. My favourite part was the comments on the world map as you could write a message to a family or friend and place it where they were on the world map. I also think the sorry sand as you could be forgiven for the bad things you have done."*  
Elliot Rees 8U





Gracie Edwards 7T



Issy Whitfield 7V



Astor Bridges-Martin 7W



Safia Badawi 7U



Tabatha Webb 7S



Thomas Dominguez-Walker 7U

## Christmas Card Competition

This term, students in Year 7 have had two opportunities to design and enter a competition for a Christmas card: Oxford Diocese Christmas card, a Christmas card for Reverend Canon Adrian Daffern for St Mary Magdalene Church, Woodstock, and a card for Mr Hanlon for the school's Christmas card.

Year 7 students were outstanding in their creative entries, with a clear message on the meaning of Christmas. The panel of judges (Mr Hanlon, Reverend Canon Adrian Daffern, and Mrs Hoyland, Head of RE) were overwhelmed with the quality of the entries, and decided on the following winners. All winners received a Divine Chocolate advent calendar, kindly donated by St Mary Magdalene Church.

7R – Ella Davey

7S – Tabatha Webb

7T – Gracie Edwards

7U – Thomas Dominguez-Walker

7V – Issy Whitfield

7W – Astor Bridges-Martin

- Diocese runner-up, and picked for Reverend Canon Adrian Daffern's Christmas card – Ellen Campbell, 7V
- Winner for the school Christmas card – Caroline Robertson 7U
- Special effort award for creativity – Safia Badawi 7U

Many congratulations to Caroline and Ellen, and to the winners of each tutor group.

Mrs Hoyland



Ellen Campbell 7V



Ella Davey 7R



Caroline Robertson 7U

# Electives in Action

The autumn Elective programme has seen Marlborough students take part in a number of activities on Wednesday afternoons. Students have learned different aspects of dance such as hip hop with Dance Generation; a range of cookery skills; “Jaguar Cars” – this involves combining specifically designed computer software with Maths skills to design and race cars on virtual racetracks; creative activities including card making; make and create; art workshops including tie dye activities as well as drawing comic book characters through comic book art. In Radio club students have been developing their own blogs and students in Science have been working towards the Science Crest award. “Mini-whistlers” have supported our local primary school children with their PE activities; students have taken part in a range of sporting activities including hard court soccer, rugby; 11-a-side football and ultimate Frisbee. A number of our students have been on work placements in the local area through our community work Elective. A popular Elective has been Film Club where students have watched and critiqued action themed films. In November we saw our students take part in a very successful Charities week. In preparation for this, students in the Charity Leader Elective have been busy organising and promoting these events. A large number of Year 10 students have been preparing and have taken part in The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. Students have also been honing their drama and theatrical performances in Young Theatre. Students in music have had a busy term: practising and rehearsing for their performance for the Christmas concert on Wednesday 14th Dec in the MEC, as well as preparing for carol concerts and performances at Blenheim Palace in the Great Hall and at the Illumination trail.

Year 7 students have been taking part in a range of different activities. Students have been learning about “faith in the community”. This is an important element in developing our student’s appreciation of their own community and their local churches. Other Year 7 activities involve health and fitness; music; maths problem solving; Library skills and learning about science. Students taking part in the outdoor





education module have been given the opportunity to explore the outdoors. They learned to develop survival skills through our shelter building and bush craft sessions where they are challenged to work together to survive using basic materials and natural resources upholding the ethos of “leaving no trace.” They explored the local area using their recently acquired navigation and orienteering skills on a short stomp across open fields and beautiful countryside. Finally hearing tall tales of world explorers and working together on team building challenges



Other off-site activities include: Skating at Oxford Ice rink; Bowling at Bicester Bowl; Fitness and Squash at Kidlington Leisure Centre; Rowing at Hinksey Rowing Club; Sailing at Farmor and Golf at Witney Lakes.



Many of our Year 11 students have opted to focus on Electives in order to support their learning; these include coursework; art extension; specific RAG groups for English; Maths and Science. In addition to this, a number of Year 11 students are putting together memories to form the Year Book. In addition to all of these we also run triple science classes and languages!





## Music

The Music Elective group has been rehearsing its performance for the Christmas concert on Wednesday 14 Dec in the MEC. There will be a mixture of groups from KS3, 4 and 5 lessons performing as well as soloists and extra-curricular clubs.

We have a busy Christmas term coming up including carol concerts and performances at Blenheim Palace in the Great Hall and at the Illumination trail.

In November, we held a GCSE Open Mic Night where groups performed to each other in an informal setting and were able to support their peers in performing. It was a real success and everyone worked so hard for it.



## Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Many thanks once again for the contributions to this year's Link to Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal. We donated 53 boxes, and a particular mention goes to the exceptional contribution of Year 8, who between them donated about half of those boxes! Your generosity really will make a more special Christmas for families and elderly people living in poverty.

Thank you. C Poon

## Sailing Elective

Congratulations to the Autumn/Winter term's sailors who all achieved their Youth Sailing Scheme qualification. After learning how to rig a boat from scratch, launch, come alongside and recover, trim the boat and sails, dry and wet capsize and sail an upwind course, they showed their skills on a tricky, blustery final day at Farnoor.

**Stage 1:** Luke Williams, Brandon Allen, Morgan Fennymore, Sam Billings, Blossom Tustian, Anwen Jameson

**Stage 2:** Jamie Conway, Max James, Libby Smithson

**Stage 4:** Jack Tosh



## Gifted Scientist Programme

A group of gifted scientists from Years 7-9 have been invited onto our Gifted Scientists programme, where they take part in after-school sessions on Biology, Chemistry or Physics. Recently this involved investigating diffusion in differently shaped unicellular organisms, discovering the science of dissolving and explaining how static electricity works using the van der Graaf generator. How did the students find it?

*"I enjoyed the chance to learn something new but to have fun while learning. I learnt things I wouldn't have learnt otherwise."*

Elizabeth Waugh, 7S.

*"I thought that it was very interesting. We used agar to find out what rough shape is best for diffusion. I found it fun, and would definitely go again."*

Sam Payman, 7S.

# Marlborough Sport

Xmas 2016  
Edition

## Cologne Marathon 2016

The Marlborough runners took to the streets for the 20th Cologne Marathon (our 12th). It was a perfect day for running and the atmosphere in Cologne was electric with over 15,000 runners on the course.

The teams put in 100% effort, with many of them running PB times for their distances. In a race of 300 school teams we finished 2nd and 20th in times of 2.59:40 (a new fastest time) and 3.12:33.

Well done to all of the runners, it was once again a great trip and we are all looking forward to October 1st 2017.

### Runners

Adam Ede, Polly Hipkiss, Mia Thomson, Martha Cadwaladr, Maddie Phillips, Amber Morris, Zak Gibson, Carry Rice, Jack McManus, Charlie Ward, Jak Vokins-Nugent, Bertie Warr, Jess Penton, Matt Doran and Ellie Broome.



## U16 Rugby

The side of Year 10 and 11 boys took part in a floodlit competition against Chipping Norton at the Rugby Club there. With the opposition having home advantage and pre-match preparation on line-out success, the task looked harder. This was made even harder by the imbalance of numbers; our 14 to their 19.

All of this proved irrelevant as the side from Woodstock played superbly from start to finish, demonstrating excellent defensive displays from our forwards and stretching the opposition with our backs threatening with every try. The team prevailed in a 10-5 victory that summed up the collective and individual excellence. Man of the match went to captain and double try scorer Jack McManus. Well done boys.



## County Table Tennis

Monday nights in the sports hall can be an interesting place these days, with table-tennis balls flying everywhere from development to 'experienced' tables. As a result of the success of involvement, Marlborough dipped its toe in the competitive side of table-tennis by hosting the County team event.

Representatives from BGN, Gosford, Magdalen, Bartholomew and Warriner competed in the U13 and U15 competitions. Marlborough claimed victories in both age categories, but the U15s, in particular, narrowly missed out on a finals place through successive draws against strong opposition from BGN and eventual winners Gosford. It was an excellent start to a new venture in competitive table-tennis.





# Marlborough Rugby



## Year 7

It has been a solid start to rugby for our Year 7 fledglings. The team has trained well, and built up nicely to compete in three fixtures this term. The team began with an excellent defensive display before overpowering tries from Oli Giles-Brogan, Archie Thomson and Ruari Ward which ensured a victory over Cherwell. Tries from Jed Smithson, Ethan Cape and Freddie Holloway also helped the side to achieve victory against a powerful BGN team.

In our most recent game, Chipping Norton, our opponents proved too strong, but we battled back well to only lose by one try. These are positive signs for the side moving forwards in the New Year.



## Year 8

Year 8 rugby team has had another stellar year following its unbeaten run in Year 7. The side has had strong victories over our West-Oxfordshire partnership schools (Burford, Chipping Norton, Bartholomew, Carterton, Wood Green and Henry Box) and subsequently won the West-Oxfordshire league. The side's strength in depth across the field has been particularly pleasing, and means we can field strong squads, not just the 15 on the pitch.

The team was looking to repeat its exploits last year at the County rugby tournament, but a tough season had taken its toll and the team succumbed to narrow defeats to Lord Williams and Burford to finish the season as the 3rd best County side.

Excellent displays this year have come from Harry Gascoyne, Sam Tomlinson, George Dawson, Max Brand-Wiggins, Sam McManus and newbie Alex Preston. Well done to all the team for another fab year.



## Year 9

The Year 9 side has had a fantastic year in rugby, with a glut of fixtures allowing the team to develop both individually and as a squad. The team win and lose collectively, and have shown an excellent attitude all season, with the depth of our team being the most pleasing aspect. In the West-Oxfordshire league, defeats to Burford and Carterton have been the only blemishes to the competitive season with victories over Gosford, Matthew Arnold and John Mason ensuring the side won the County plate trophy.

The season has been a series of highs, with noticeable mentions going to Lucas Ward for his try-scoring exploits, Ryan Spittle, Jack Silversides, Ethan Baughan and Theo Lonsdale for their excellent defensive displays and Ryan Broome, Lloyd Offord, Connor Fagan and Josh Swadling for their inventive and dangerous attacking displays. We still await Luke Newman's maiden try...





# Marlborough Football



## ESFA & County Cup Girls Football

Our U13 girls side have had a fairytale run in the national cup, beating Didcot Girls school 3-1, and Deneified School from Reading 6-3, before a bitterly unlucky 3-2 defeat to The Oxford Academy. The side is however, in the County Cup final following a 2-1 victory over Oxford Academy in the reverse fixture last week. Best of luck in the final girls.

Our U14 side lost in the 1st round to Cotswold School in a thrilling 6-5 defeat, whilst our U15 team has had an excellent run in the National Cup, with strong displays against Oxford Academy (7-1) and Headington School (7-0) the side went away to Bedfordshire and lost to Vandyke Upper School 5-1. An end to the national cup has only meant the start of the County Cup, and victories through the rounds have ensured the girls are vying for the title in the New Year.

U16 girls lost in the ESFA 2nd round to Royal Wootton Bassett following a 10-0 trouncing of Cherwell School. The side, however, go forwards knowing it has the capacity to defend its County Cup title from last year. Excellent displays have meant Ella Dawkins, Jess Penton, Annie Mundy, Mia Thomson, Polly Hipkiss and Lauren Smith have all been selected and representing the U16 girls county squad. Well done girls.

## ESFA & County Cup Boys Football

### Year 7

The Year 7 side has trained and started really well in its first outings as a team. We have had well over 40 boys to training regularly which made the process of selection difficult. The side played Gosford in the first round of the National Cup and despite hitting the goal posts twice and lots of chances, we came away with a 2-0 defeat.

### Year 8

The Year 8 side has really developed as a team, with players growing well into positions and a strong depth of players meaning that rotations will not hamper the side. The team this season has had an unfortunate 7-3 defeat to Oxford Academy in the National Cup, but a 4-1 victory recently against Cherwell. The latter is a good basis to push on from with league and cup fixtures after Christmas. Keep going boys.

### Year 9

Year 9 has enjoyed a mini-cup run this year, surprising both themselves and fans with victory over Matthew Arnold (2-1) and a defeat to Highworth School (5-2). The spirit in the team is strong, and excellent keeping from Josh Abbott is supported by excellent defensive work from Dan Pilston and attacking threats from Jack Barron, Kirk Fasanmade and Toby Chapman. Best of luck defending the West-Oxfordshire league title boys.

### Year 10

The Year 10 side has had the misfortune of facing a strong Gosford side who are a strong outfit. Despite this, and a depletion of key players, the side still battled hard throughout. We look forward to the West-Oxfordshire league fixtures after Christmas.

### Year 11

The Year 11 side has had a fantastic campaign, with victories in the ESFA national cup against Banbury Academy and Shenley Brook End before going down to a 5-2 victory against Cherwell. Excellent commitment shown by Callum Rolfe, Blayne Oliver and Nick Dawkins, whilst new additions Theo, Arturo and Louis have strengthened the squad. Well done boys.

### Sixth Form

The side have come together strongly, overlooked by the stewardship of Jed Rivett to compete well collectively. Victories this year have come against The Bicester School in the ESFA, North Oxford Academy and D'Overbrooks in the county league. Excellent performances have been seen from Raffy Rice, Tom Goymer, Will Spackman and Ciaran Northwood.





# Sport in the New Year



A reminder that all sports fixtures are on the schools website.

Football, basketball, rugby and netball fixtures, along with all other sporting events can be found on the schools calendar at:  
<http://www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk/212/school-calendar>

## Year 7 - 9

	4/1 - 3/2	6/2 - 10/3	13/3 - 7/4
1	Football	Basketball	Table Tennis
2	Basketball	Table Tennis	Football
3	Table Tennis	Football	Basketball

### Single Lessons: Health Related Fitness

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
1	Continuous / fartlek Training	Circuit Training	HIIT / Tabatha
2	Circuit Training	HIIT / Tabatha	Continuous / fartlek Training
3	HIIT / Tabatha	Continuous / fartlek Training	Circuit Training



## Mini-Whistlers

This year's crop of mini-whistlers has been our best yet, managing events and tournaments at our local schools to allow many primary school students the chance to play football. The group has managed to successfully run and referee the West-Oxfordshire U9 and U13 girls football tournaments in Baltic conditions.

The group has also been touring around Kirtlington, Bladon, Woodstock, William Fletcher, Stonesfield and Combe inspiring the young to get involved in football. A great effort from a great bunch of pupils.



# Netball

# Inter-form

# Rugby

## Year 7

Player of the tournament

Ellen Campbell

- 1st - 7V
- 2nd - 7T
- 3rd - 7U
- 4th - 7R
- 5th - 7S
- 6th - 7W



Player of the tournament

Oliver Giles-Brogan

- 1st - 7W
- 2nd - 7U
- 3rd - 7V
- 4th - 7S
- 4th - 7R
- 6th - 7T



## Year 8

Player of the tournament

Elise Newell-Bracey, Libby Smithson

- 1st - 8R
- 2nd - 8U
- 3rd - 8W
- 4th - 8T
- 5th - 8V
- 6th - 8S



Player of the tournament

George Taney-Scott

- 1st - 8U
- 2nd - 8V
- 3rd - 8R
- 4th - 8W
- 5th - 8S
- 6th - 8T



## Year 9

Player of the tournament

Amelia Dawkins

- 1st - 9T
- 2nd - 9R
- 3rd - 9V
- 4th - 9U
- 5th - 9W
- 6th - 9S



Player of the tournament

Ethan Baughan

- 1st - 9R
- 2nd - 9V
- 3rd - 9T
- 4th - 9S
- 5th - 9U
- 6th - 9W



## Year 10

Player of the tournament

Arnalaine Caniedo

- 1st - 10U
- 2nd - 10V
- 3rd - 10W
- 4th - 10R
- 5th - 10T
- 6th - 10S



Players of the tournament



# Community Education Courses 2016-17

We are now taking bookings for the Spring term. For more comprehensive information on the courses below please download a full brochure which is available from our website: [www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk), or we can send you one by post. It is advisable to book or register your interest early as some courses fill up very quickly.

## A Quick Guide to What's on When...

Mondays:	
Course	Time
Yoga (January, May) £85.80	09.40-11.10
Pilates (January, May) £62.70	11.15-12.15
Spanish Improvers (January, May) £86.90	17.00-18.30
Body Love: Learn to Love Your Body (February) £30	18.30-20.00
Badminton for Improvers (January, May) £52.50	19.00-20.00
Yoga (January, May) £93.50	19.30-21.00
Book Club (once a term second Monday) FOC	20.00-21.30
Badminton for all levels (January, May) £52.50	20.05-21.05

Tuesdays:	
Course	Time
Yoga (January, April) £93.50	16.30-18.00
Singing for the Terrified (January, May) £39.50	18.00-19.00
Tai Chi (January, May) £65.00	18.15-19.15
Drawing and Painting for Beginners (January) £79.00	18.30-20.30
SongThreads Beginners Choir (January, May) £39.50	19.00-20.00
Italian Beginners (January, May) £105.00	19.00-21.00
Italian Next Steps (January) £105.00	19.00-21.00
Italian More Steps (May) £105.00	19.00-21.00
Italian Improvers (January, May) £105.00	19.00-21.00
SongThreads Improvers Choir (January, May) £50.00	20.00-21.15

Wednesdays:	
Course	Time
Acoustic Guitar for Improvers (January, April) £79.00	18.45-19.30
Cooking through the Seasons: The Wonders of Winter (January) £106.00	18.50-21.00
Cooking through the Seasons: Spring into Summer (May) £106.00	18.50-21.00
French Next Steps (January) £79.00	19.00-20.30
French More Steps (May) £79.00	19.00-20.30
An Introduction to Psychology (January) £79.00	19.00-21.00
Yoga (January, April) £93.50	19.00-20.30
Italian Conversation (January, May) £79.00	19.00-20.30
Life Drawing (January)	19.15-21.15
Acoustic Guitar for Beginners (January, April) £79.00	19.45-20.30

Thursdays:	
Course	Time
Yoga (January, April) £85.80	09.30-11.00
Pilates (January, April) £62.70	11.15-12.15
Pilates Blitz (January, April) £36.70	12.35-13.05
Watercolour Painting - Beginners (January, April) £67.00	13.15-14.45
Watercolour Painting – Improvers (January, April) £67.00	15.00-16.30
Spanish Beginners (January, May) £105.00	19.00-21.00



## Saturday Workshops

January 28th	
Sewing Machines – Learn to Love your Machine £41.00	09.30-16.30
Badminton £10.00	10.00-11.00
Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT) / Tapping: An Introduction £20.00	10.00-12.30
Back, Neck and Shoulder Massage £20.00	10.00-12.45
Restorative Yoga Workshop £20.00	10.00-13.00
AppleMac for Beginners £31.00	10.00-15.00
Drawing with Confidence £35.00	10.00-16.00
Italian Cookery: Tuna Pate with Homemade Mayonnaise and Chocolate and Walnut Cake £39.00	10.00-16.00
Stained Glass £41.00	10.00-17.00
Archery £10.00	11.05-12.05
Home Herbal – Making Herbal Teas, Tinctures and Herbal Infusions £20.00	13.30-16.30
Body Love - learn to love yourself. An introductory workshop. £20.00	13.30-16.00

March 4th	
Patchwork (by Machine) for Beginners £41.00	09.30-16.30
Badminton £10.00	10.00-11.00
iPad / iPhone for Beginners £20.00	10.00-12.30
Punch Board Crafts £20.00	10.00-13.00
Yoga: Exploring Yin and Yang £20.00	10.00-13.00
Sugarcraft Cupcake Decorating – Using Cutters to Create Pretty Cupcake Toppers £26.00	10.00-13.00
Traditional Upholstery £50.00	10.00-16.00
Painting Using Special Effects £35.00	10.00-16.00
Italian Cookery: Risotto and Lemon Scaloppine £39.00	10.00-16.00
Stained Glass £41.00	10.00-17.00
Singing for the Terrified £20.00	10.30-13.00
Archery £10.00	11.05-12.05
iPad / iPhone for Improvers £20.00	13.00-16.00
Pilates with Balls and Bands £13.50	14.00-16.00
SongThreads Choir £20.00	14.00-16.30

May 20th	
Badminton £10.00	10.00-11.00
Yoga for Spring £20.00	10.00-13.30
Totes Unique – Personalise Your Shopping Bags £25.00	10.00-14.00
Digital Photography for Beginners £25.00	10.00-15.00
Traditional Upholstery £50.00	10.00-16.00
Italian Cookery: Handmade Tagliatelle and Ragu Bolognese £39.00	10.00-16.00
Acrylic Painting £35.00	10.00-16.00
Stained Glass £41.00	10.00-17.00
Singing for the Terrified £20.00	10.30-13.00
Archery £10.00	11.05-12.05
SongThreads Choir £20.00	14.00-16.30
<b>Every Saturday:</b>	
Golf for All	12.00-13.00



**NB: Some workshops may have additional materials costs which are paid to the tutor on the day.**

**\*\*\*Booking is essential\*\*\***

For more information please contact Jenny Bodinham:

Tel: 01993 813592 or

Email: [comed.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:comed.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk)

or contact us at

[www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk)



**Marlborough Community Education, The Marlborough C of E School, Shipton Road, Woodstock, Oxon OX20 1LP**



## YEAR 11 WORK EXPERIENCE

28 November to 2 December 2016

Work experience was launched in February when students were in Year 10. They were asked to consider their future careers, undertake research and find an employer who would accommodate them for one week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> November.

Work experience offers many opportunities for personal development including going to work as an employee, working with new people, learning new skills, communication, exploring new ideas, understanding the business, working to a brief and timescales and much more.

We have received feedback from some employers and everyone has commented on how polite, well mannered, confident and pleasant the students were. Employers were impressed with their have-a-go attitude even though they were being challenged with new tasks and a new working environment. Some employers have offered to give references to the students when the time comes to apply for an apprenticeship; an offer of an Engineering Scholarship from a local employer has also been received.

Please see below some of this feedback from employers who supported our Year 11s.

*'From the first day to the last day of his work experience, he has shown his willingness and commitment to every work task put before him...'* – Heating & Plumbing Services

*'It has been a real pleasure to have your student work within our office. She has approached all tasks assigned to her with efficiency, professionalism and completed them to a high standard in a timely manner.'* – New Theatre Oxford

*'Although a quiet student, he settled in well and contributed to the team. Clearly a bright young man. I'm sure he will succeed in whatever career he chooses'* – Chronos Therapeutics

*'A very busy week with a range of business experiences – marketing, sales, conference calls, meetings, business development as well as different cultural experiences of working in Ireland for a day. The student did well to keep up with the changing environments and was always curious to ask questions when needed.'*

*'To top it all she did very well to keep her energy with four of the five days starting at 6am and not finishing till after 6pm.'* – Franklin Covey UK

*'It was refreshing to have someone on work experience who was genuinely interested and prepared to apply themselves to the tasks they were given.'* – FMB Oxford

*'A keen individual who clearly has a drive to succeed.'* – SS Tube Technology

*'He was tasked to work on designing a brochure, looking at competitive analysis, data base interrogation for generating sales reports and data capture.' I was impressed with his ability to grasp what was required of him and to deliver on this without needing any additional support.'* – ATE Enterprises

As you can see, students experienced a wide range of working environments with real challenges, not only testing their academic skills but also their soft skills. We would like to thank all parents for supporting their child in finding the placements, and especially the employers who offered such a diverse and meaningful work experience which the students can build upon.

T. Churchward – Work Experience Coordinator & Sharon Whittaker – Destinations Coordinator

## APPRENTICESHIP INFORMATION & OPPORTUNITIES EVENT

This event will be held at the Marlborough School Enterprise Centre, on Thursday 30 March 2017, from 6pm and is open to Year 11 and Sixth Form students.

There will be 40+ stands consisting of employers (with apprenticeships on offer), training providers and colleges who will advise and guide students on their next steps. If you are currently in Year 11 and you are going to move into Sixth Form, this is still a great opportunity to talk to experienced professionals about your future career opportunities.

If you are thinking of leaving school this year, this is an opportunity to meet your potential employer.

Please register your interest by emailing Mrs Whittaker [careers@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:careers@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk)

<http://www.oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk/>

## Absence Reporting

Please may we ask that you familiarise yourself with the correct procedures for reporting absences.

As of September 2016, we would like to reiterate that all absences need to be reported, and need to be reported for each day for which a child is absent. We cannot accept any calls made by the student, it MUST be parental confirmation.

You can report absences on the main school number:

**Tel: 01993 811431 (select option 1 for the absence line).**

Alternatively, you can contact the school via email:

**admin.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk**

All messages will be dealt with by the Attendance Officer. We request that contact is made via the above methods in the first instance. If you require a call back from a staff member please state this in your message, and we will endeavour to contact you at the earliest opportunity.

Please remember there are 175 days to book medical appointments out of term time. We would like to request that every effort is made to book such appointments out of school time, as these appointments may affect your child's attendance record. If your child experiences a change to their health which could potentially mean they need time off for appointments, please inform the Attendance Officer as soon as possible. You may be asked to provide medical evidence so that we can record these in their personal student files.

If a student is absent for 3 consecutive days or more, please provide an appointment card, prescription packet or Doctor's letter upon your child's return to school.

## School Uniform 2016

From September 2016, a new school uniform was introduced which is compulsory for Year 7 pupils and optional for pupils in Years 8 - 11. For full details of the school uniform requirements, and instructions on how to purchase school uniform, please use the school web site uniform link:

<http://www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk/189/uniform>.

We ask that all parents read carefully the expectations regarding appropriate footwear and trousers before buying these items for September. Details of trouser styles and stockists are available on the website to support parents in sourcing uniform compliant trousers.

The school is required to meet local authority guidelines about pupils wearing jewellery. These are that only one pair of stud earrings is acceptable. Facial piercings are not. This guidance is issued to avoid injury or damage whilst pupils are at school. We would ask parents to support us in meeting our obligations, by ensuring that pupils do not attend school with non-compliant jewellery.

In the event that any parent has difficulty in sourcing or purchasing school uniform, please contact the Finance Office.

Thank you for your support in ensuring that pupils at The Marlborough School can take pride in their uniform.

## Art visit to Blenheim Palace





## The Marlborough C of E School Term and Holiday Dates for 2016 - 2017

	September					October					November				
	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A		B	B	A	B	A	B
Monday		5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Tuesday		6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Wednesday		7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	
Friday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	
	December					January					February				
	B	A	B			A	B	A	B	A	A	B		A	B
Monday		5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27
Tuesday		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Wednesday		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	
Friday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	
	March					April					May				
	B	A	B	A	B	A		B			A	B	A	B	
Monday		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29
Tuesday		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30
Wednesday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31
Thursday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25	
Friday	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26	
	June					July					August				
		A	B	A	B	A	B	A							
Monday		5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Tuesday		6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Wednesday		7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	31
Friday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	

KEY:

	Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	INSET whole day
	Years 7 & 12 only
	Whole school returns

See the school website for further  
information on dates and events:  
<http://www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk>

## Facilities for hire

There are a wide range of facilities to hire at The Marlborough School. These include the Enterprise Centre, (MEC) Sports Hall, Community Room, car park, hard court and field areas creating a diverse, multi-functional range of facilities which are attractive and of a high standard. The MEC performance space can be used for dance with its sprung wooden floor and full sound system, and it is also equipped with a high-spec digital projector and large screen and PA system ideal for events with a large audience. There are also three smaller seminar rooms which would suit small group activities or training workshops. (Out of school time only). For further details on what we have to offer please look at the website or contact Sharon Whittaker on 01993 814744



## Keeping in Touch

**Telephone Calls:** If your child is unwell or absent from school notify the school as soon as possible on 01993 811431 Option 1. Messages are collected between 9.00am and 9.30am, at the latest. Absence notes remain a requirement and should be sent upon your child's return to school.

**Website:** Contact us via the 'Contact Us' page of our website. View our website for latest news, events and whole school calendar.

**School Email address is:** [admin.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:admin.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk). This is another acceptable, confidential method of communicating with the school.

**IN TOUCH:** Being registered with IN TOUCH will enable us to contact you by email. For further details contact Mrs J Brinkworth.

**Holiday/Planned Absence Application Forms** are available from Reception. Permission is required from the Principal to take your child out of school and the holiday/planned absence form must be completed.

**Change in Contact details:** Please do not forget to keep us informed of changes to any of your contact details either by email or phoning Reception.