



The **Marlborough**
Science Academy
'shaping futures'



Marlborough News #388 22nd March 2013

Dear Parents/Carers,

I have absolutely no idea where that last term has gone but, here I am again writing to you all after another hugely successful Spring here at Marlborough (apart from the weather obviously!)

Hot of the press! Ofsted visited us on Friday 15th having given us 2 day's notice, we were being inspected as part of a survey requested by Sir Michael Wilshaw, Chief Ofsted Inspector, the focus being provision for the more able. Being Comic Relief day the Inspector was greeted in true Marlborough style with Mr Billington on stilts playing the banjo, Dame Edna Everage and 700+ students dressed as Rubik cubes and the cast members from Flashdance. Fancy dress, mad assemblies, cake sales, dance offs and busking apart it was a very successful inspection with absolutely no areas for improvement. Other comments included huge praise for our Year 7 and 13 students (great ambassadors for the school), lots of challenge, thorough and appropriate assessments, high expectations established by SLT, good transition programme, encouragement to apply to very challenging Universities—we were obviously delighted! It was the first time however that he had interviewed 'Madonna', 'Where's Wally' and 'Adam Ant'!! The day before we were also visited by Dr Peter Bonfield, BRE who made the following comment about our school *'It was a real pleasure to meet you, several of your team and some of your students, all of whom I thought just super. They clearly enjoy being at your Academy and their interest and enthusiasm shone through. Congratulations on this, you have clearly engendered a most positive culture'*. I am also delighted to say that he has agreed to be our guest speaker at our Award ceremony which is being held at the Abbey this September, details to come nearer the time.

The school production 'Schools will Rock You' was an absolute triumph, best ever (I say that every year mind you) with the majority of the cast from Key Stage 3 it was a remarkable display of talent, bravery and vitality; a credit to Miss Burton and her highly creative, hard working and determined team. We have had a fantastic Book Week too with all sorts of brilliant opportunities for students (and staff) and all credit to Ms Evans and her team for all their energy and enthusiasm in bringing the LRC to life for all. As always there have been numerous sporting achievements, some outstanding individual achievements, students putting their heads above the parapet for the good of their school (Head Boy/Head Girl elections) and all in all genuine feel in the school of learning and aspiration. And, as well as all of that a controlled focus in the classrooms on raising achievement and expanding minds. Thank you for your support with our focus on uniform, it really does make a difference and students are looking a lot smarter, with the added advantage of gaining themselves more house points into the bargain! Our focus next term will be to continue to raise standards by all working towards the same strategic themes in our development planning, these are;

- To conquer low level disruption which occurs in a small number of lessons
- To encourage all students to meet their aspirational grades

- To aim for 90% teaching in school to be good/outstanding whilst maintaining our calm and harmonious environment.

Should you have any comments regarding the selection of said themes do not hesitate to contact me on admin@marlborough.herts.sch.uk or bring your views to the next Think Tank meeting on 17th May at 2.05pm.

Next term will be a flurry of preparation towards the final exams for Years 11 and 13 and in some cases Years 10 and 12. Please encourage lots of revision for the exams and the setting of high goals for themselves, good results **do** change lives, and good results arise from lots of preparation, organisation and revision not to mention excellent teaching.

To conclude I hope you all have happy breaks, we wish Miss Baynton all the best as she gets married this Easter and I look forward to seeing everyone again on Tuesday 16th April (Monday 15th April is an Inset day).

Enjoy the break

Best wishes

Visit from Dr Peter Bonfield

On Thursday 14th March The Marlborough Science Academy were visited by Dr Peter Bonfield to celebrate Engineering week. Dr Bonfield is Chief Executive of the BRE Group of companies and started the morning by speaking to a group of Year 11 Geography students about his sustainability role on the 2012 Olympic planning committee. One enthusiastic student commented "I can't believe how sustainable the Olympics actually were given their task".

This was followed by a visit to the technology faculty for a tour of the machine shop. Afterwards Dr Bonfield joined a Year 13 product design class and spoke to them about careers in engineering.



The Dance department are proud to announce that **Morgan Shepherd (11FE)** has been selected to perform in Rapunzel at Sadlers Wells on Friday 29th and Saturday 30th March. This is a massive achievement and a fantastic opportunity for Morgan who has also been involved in many of the school productions during her time at Marlborough.

Easter Revision

Years 10 and 11

An Easter revision timetable will be sent out via parentmail next week confirming the room locations and teaching staff.

Please also refer to the school website for more details.

Thank you

Book Week at Marlborough

Book Week was held between 4th and 8th March. Lots of activities took place in the LRC and around the school.

The Student Parliament started the build-up to Book Week by organising and running a Book Fair the week before. Following a very intense advertising campaign and a very impressive selling technique, they sold over £325 worth of books. Well done to all those involved!

The theme of the week was 'recycling old books' and so lunchtimes in the LRC consisted of creating bookmarks, monograms, beads and necklaces.

On the Tuesday, we had an author visit from the Two Steves, who write the iHero and iHorror series. All Year 7 and Year 8 students listened to their talk, they had lunch with our morning reading group and then completed the day with a workshop for selected Year 9 students.

On Thursday during Period 1, staff not involved in teaching Year 10, 11 and 6th Form, plus all students in Year 7, 8 and 9 took part in DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) which means exactly what it says – everyone dropped everything and read for a whole hour.

The grand finale of a very busy week was our very popular annual karaoke contest held in the LRC on the Friday (see below for winners).

There were a number of competitions held throughout the week, the winners of which are as follows:

Who's Behind the Book: Megan Sciorio 11FE

Cryptic Book Titles House Competition: Holly Carver 12AA (Mars)

Karaoke (lower school): Noa Kusman 7NB

Karaoke (upper school): Najiyah Ali 9CE

Form Competition (Where in the World): 9VB

Well done to all those who took part – next year we plan to be bigger and even better!



'The Two Steves' visit Marlborough



On the 6th of March 2013, The Marlborough Science Academy were honoured and privileged to have a visit from worldwide authors, the Two Steves. Steve Skidmore and Steve Barlow who together create fascinating and nail-biting books that interest readers of all abilities. The Two Steves kicked off the day with a vibrant and amusing talk that they gave to us Year 7's. They read extracts from their exhilarating book: "Return to the Lost World" which made us want to know more and find out who the furious dinosaur would kill next! In between these eye opening extracts, the 2 Steves left us in giggling fits, as they cracked jokes throughout the talk. Not to mention the fact they signed books. Well, before they ran out!

There was no end to their effort during the day because as soon as they finished the talk, they did it again only this time with the Year 8's which I'm sure was just as entertaining and comical as the last one. At lunch time the 2 Steves graciously answered some questions that the accelerated readers were dying to ask, giving us informative and motivating facts that really made the readers understand not only how important it is to read but how fun it can be too!

The most fun and interesting part for me though, was the interview I shared with them. I was nervous and at the same time excited, however as the interview progressed, my anxiety reduced. I found it easy and they collaborated well, treating me truly like a BBC presenter rather than a student. Their answers were full and detailed and they answered them to the best of their ability.

Then finally they joined in the Year 9 workshop which was a fun experience for all and inspired all of the older students, not just the younger ones, which proved to me just how much their books are loved. However the day had to come to an end because the 2 Steves were off to share their books with Brazil!

Overall, I enjoyed the talk greatly due to the enthusiasm shown and I learned more about the 2 Steves and how their books grasp people. Everybody in Marlborough has benefited from this visit and their books will be loved and cherished for years to come. We thank them and everybody involved that made this day possible.

Hana Walker 7SA

Poetry By Heart Competition

On Tuesday 27th March Kathleen Mitchell-Fox and Conor Irvine will be representing The Marlborough Science Academy in the first ever Poetry By Heart competition. This is one of 50 regional events that requires students to perform two poems from a given anthology, one pre1914 and one post1914. Although they will be battling against one another we wish them both the best of luck and know that they will do themselves and the school proud. Hopefully, they will both make it through to the regional finals in April.

Mrs Redfern

*Vintage and
Car Boot Sale
Sunday 21 April
9:30 - 12:30*

Sellers:

Outdoor pitches for cars and vans

Indoor table tops for smaller items

Student sellers welcome

Why not have a clear out during the Easter break.

Buyers:

Come along and bring the family for £1.
Tea, coffee, and morning goodies available

Reduce reuse recycle:



We will recycle your old ***mobile phones***,
broken and unwanted ***jewellery*** and ***watches*** (any condition).



Old wellies are needed for M Festival projects, and any **unused gifts** you would like to donate will become tombola prizes.



Second-hand **Marlborough uniform** sale.
We would like to make this a regular event and we need your
support and interest if it is to succeed.

All money raised will go towards PTA projects.

There is a booking form on the Marlborough website
and if you would like to help on the day or want more
information,
please call Julie (Year 8 parent) on 07940 467681.

Juniper Hall Trip

The deadline for Juniper Hall Geography trip is this Friday, but letters can be accepted on Monday morning before 10:20am.

Year 8 Stratford Trip

The Year 8 Stratford/Lea Valley trip is now closed, details will be posted at a later date confirming times.

World Challenge 2013

Congratulations to Arran Fisher and Ellis Drayton in Year 11 who raised £2200 profit for their World Challenge expedition to Honduras last weekend by hosting an auction and disco! They made one giant leap towards the coral reefs of the Caribbean Sea!

Mr Ballantine (World Challenge Coordinator)

Lost Property

Please remember to label all items of school clothing.
Reception have a number of black coats in lost property and would love to return them to their rightful owners.



The image is a promotional banner for a rugby match. On the left, it features the Saracens logo (a red star in a white circle) and the Ulster Rugby logo (a red and white stylized 'U'). The text reads 'QUARTER FINAL' in large white letters, followed by 'Twickenham', 'Saturday 6th April 2013', and 'Kick Off 18:30'. A red circular badge on the right says 'tickets from £5'. The background shows a silver trophy with a gold top and green ribbons. At the bottom, a green bar contains the text: 'Book at www.ticketmaster.co.uk/saracenscommunity password: groups or call 0844 844 2121'.

St Albans Junior Cricket Club

Would you like to play?

Please see attached flyer for more details.

PE Results

Year 10 Football

Nicholas Breakspear 2 Marlborough 0

An excellent performance by the year 10's who were cruelly denied by the post when the score was 1-0.

Year 11 Football

Marlborough 6 Samuel Ryder 0

An excellent team performance from the Year 11s saw them qualify for the semi finals of the District cup with a comfortable win on Monday night. Goals were scored by **Kwizer Khan (2), Alex Port, Jesse Samson, Sid Jordan and Robert Chilianu**

Year 10 Cricket

Our year 9 girls rounders team played in a year 10 cricket tournament.

With some having very little knowledge of the sport they took a while to adjust to the demands of the game. However, with an excellent all-round performance in all areas of the game we won the tournament and have progressed into the county finals!

Year 9 Netball vs Roundwood Park

Marlborough won 16-3

U14 Girls Football

Marlborough won 10-1 in the quarter finals of the county cup against St Joan Of Arc. Considering the freezing conditions our girls had a very positive attitude. We fielded a team of girls with a variety of experience and I really want to take this opportunity to thank the girls that helped us fulfil this fixture. Apart from when we conceded (which was an unstoppable goal placed in the top left hand corner) we dominated the game throughout. Our attack varied from simple through balls to our forwards, to a goal being scored directly from a corner. Having gone 7-1 up at half time our girls were confident going into the remaining 30 minutes. The goals slowed down but that took nothing away from the way we played. We were confident on the ball throughout and looked to attack at every opportunity. We tested their keeper at every opportunity and played to our strengths. Every Marlborough girl deserved to share a part in our win.

Goal scorers were **Jade Roberts (7), Hannah Roberts (1), Scarlett Stanley (1), Megan De Fransz (1)**

Well done!

Next stop semi finals! :)

Mr Vivian did a great job with the rugby in the rain on Friday with the Year 8 boys coming in 3rd of 5 in their group at County Finals.

Mr Vivian and Ms Edwards took the Year 7s to the Indoor Athletics on Friday night which again was an excellent experience for the students, girls were placed 8th and boys were 6th, combined Marlborough came 6th.

Saturday saw Mr Cockram and Mr Packard take the Year 7,9 and 10 football teams to play against Sir John Lawes. The Year 7's lost narrowly, the Year 9's only had 10 players and held SJL 2-2 half time but ran out of steam in the second half. The year 10's had a spectacular 3-3 draw which Mr Griggs helped us with.

Comic Relief 2013

Thank you to all the staff and students who got into the spirit of the day, we raised £704.98 which included the collection at the show and various cakes sales by the Lets Get Cooking Club, School Parliament, Specialised Learning staff and many other students.



More photos on facebook.

