



MARLING SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Message from the Principal

13 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am not usually superstitious, but today I am trying not to be spooked by Friday the 13th. By the time you read this, I hope we will have finished the week with all of our IT systems intact. It has been quite a week, and I was possibly over optimistic that our new systems and software would talk to each other and transfer the data they should, smoothly. Many of the issues have required the involvement of an external helpdesk, which has meant long periods of seemingly no progress. I am very grateful to how patient students, parents and staff have been as we have encountered and solved each problem, often to uncover a new one. However, at the risk of bringing further misfortune, we seem to have resolved most of the key issues, ParentPay is now showing balances, student data can be uploaded on to their ID cards and the electronic gates seem to be working. There are still a few issues which require solutions, but most of these should not impact students on a day to day basis and that for me is key.

The students are settling in very well on the whole, and I am pleased to see that at the end of Week 2, uniform standards are not slipping inside the school. I am reminding students that they still represent the school as they leave the site to make their way home and our behaviour and uniform expectations continue. They should wear their uniform with pride, they have earned it.

This weekend, we see the start of a new admissions cycle with Year 6 students arriving on Saturday to sit their entrance examinations. We wish them good luck!

Another weekend approaches, I look forward to seeing the students focussed and ready to learn again on Monday.

Best wishes,
Jules Godfrey
Principal



Key Dates: Week Commencing 16 September

Wed 18 Y8 Parent's Information Evening at 6pm
Y9 Parent's Information Evening at 7pm
1st XV & Y11 Rugby v Westonbirt
at Marling 2:30pm kick off
Senior Netball v Denmark Road
at Marling 2:30pm kick off

Thu 19 Y7 Camp

Fri 20 Y7 Camp

Parking

Parents are kindly reminded not to park on the road either opposite or alongside the school. This practice often blocks the pavement, creating a hazardous situation for students and members of the public. Duty staff are present to ensure the safety of our students and will request that vehicles be moved if they are parked inappropriately or creating a hazard. Your cooperation and respect for these guidelines are greatly appreciated.

Trips

Click [here](#) to view the planned Marling trips for this year (please note these are subject to change).

Emails and MCAS Messages

We have been notified of a change within our software. Messages we send to parents, will now go to MCAS accounts as a priority and not via email. A push notification for the MCAS App is now available, but the setting on your device will need to be enabled to allow for this (we cannot assist in device settings as each device varies). A push notification will notify MCAS users that a message is received without having to open the app. If a parent/carer does not have an activated MCAS account but we have a valid email address for them, messages will be sent automatically by email instead.

Guidance for School Apps and Microsoft Teams Access

If you need any help accessing Microsoft Teams from home, Catherine Lee our Digital Learning Lead has created a guide. Please click [here](#).

Seneca

You may have had an email from Seneca inviting you to see your child's homework. Some teachers use Seneca for homework and revision exercises. These logins have been sent out when classes of students have been set an assignment.

Sports Update

The sporting news this week is that Rugby 1st XV lost 59-9 in the first round of National Cup. Next week matches are off as Westonbirt cannot fulfill them.

Charlie in Year 13 won his fifth national singles title at the National Tennis Centre recently. He won both the National Deaf Junior Singles title and the National Deaf Junior Doubles title. He also came runner up in the National Men's Doubles. Well done Charlie!



Year 8 Team Win RIAT Engineering Competition



A team of Year 8 students won an engineering competition at the Royal International Air Tattoo in July, sponsored by Lockheed Martin. Prizes were awarded by the company's Chief Operating Officer. Pictured here is Laurie, Owen, Leo and Josh.

Careers / Work Experience

In order to further enhance our careers education within Marling School, we are seeking Marling parents, carers and alumni to take part in our careers programme.

The programme aims to have Marling Community members share their career journeys and experiences to inspire and support current students in their career choices.

By joining our programme you will be invited to volunteer in numerous ways including:

- Giving a talk or lecture about the career path you've taken since leaving school and how your time at Marling has supported this.
- Offering to mentor a student looking to follow in your footsteps.
- Involve your employer in our careers events by supporting students with interview skills or giving talks to excite them about joining your industry.

If you are interested in being part of this new venture for Marling, please contact Holly Bedford, Assistant Principal with Responsible for Careers: hcb@marling.school

Feedback from Work Experience Employers

Some fantastic feedback from the employers who kindly took our Year 12's for work experience:

Interacted exceptionally well with my sales team, showed a keen interest in our work as estate agents, and conducted herself at a very high standard during client appointments. Throughout the week, she was assigned the task of creating her own sales brochure, which included photography, a detailed floor plan, and descriptive text. She completed this task very well and without any issues. It has been a pleasure to host your student this week. She is a credit to herself and Marling School.

Came to work looking very smart and it was clear he had made the effort. He was happy to be here, and it was evident he wanted to get as much as he could from the experience. He was smiley, and happy to chat with the new people he met. He gave an introduction on himself, to me, the apprentices and the other work experience students at the start of the week, which can be quite a daunting prospect but he did great and embraced it.

It was a great experience and a pleasure to get to know ... He is a bright and intelligent student showing an inquisitive mind and clear and thoughtful questions. I hope he enjoyed his time here learning about particle physics, astrophysics and cosmic rays!