



MARCHES WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dear Parents and Carers,

The **Year 11 parent countdown booklet** was shared via email this week. If you have not yet had a chance to look at this, it does support your child with a very clear layout of the weeks ahead. If you have any concerns about your Year 11 child, please speak to [Mrs Dean](#), [Progress Leader](#).

As the BBC reported this week, exams 'stress out parents too', with many saying the stress came from not knowing how to help their child. The BBC is offering support through a new site, **The Mind Set** – a peer to peer coaching network for students studying GCSE. It is worth a look at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3hpgdm>.

Year 10 will be receiving their exam booklet before the Easter break to help them prepare for their exam week on the 2nd May.

Year 8 Parents' Evening will be held on **Thursday 23rd March**. Your child has a page in their planner for you to be able to begin to make appointments to suit you. Please remind them to include time between appointments to allow you to walk to the different areas of the school. We aim to keep times to the 5-minute slots. Where you feel you need a longer conversation, please contact your child's teacher in advance to arrange this outside of the evening event.

House Non-Uniform Day

Whittaker House have a non-uniform day that is calendared for the 17th March. Please note that we have altered this date to **Friday 24th March** to fit in with Comic Relief.

The charities Whittaker House have chosen to support are Cancer Research UK, World Wildlife Fund and the local branch of the RSPCA with students able to donate to Comic Relief instead if they prefer.

The dress theme for the day is 'animals' to fit in with the WWF and the RSPCA.

Mrs A Pearson, Associate Headteacher

Oswestry Youth Music Festival

Last week was an extremely busy week for the Music Department. Over 18 students took part in the Oswestry Youth Music Festival, with most students taking part in at least two categories. The competitions took place from Thursday 2nd March to Sunday 5th March at the Methodist Church and Christ Church. They were up against local private schools and students from music colleges such as Royal Welsh College of Music and Birmingham Conservatoire.

Students had to perform in front of all of their competitors, members of the public and the Mayor. The examiners were professional musicians and nearly all of the students were awarded a Merit, Commendation or Distinction Grade which is a fantastic achievement. Porthywaen Band came first in all 5 classes.

The following students took part in the competition:

Year 7: Pippa Birch, Rio Cain, Amy McInroy-Edwards and Phoebe Shaw.

Year 8: Connie Homes, Jasmine Gooden and The Marches Woodwind Quartet.

Year 9: Beau Fincham, Lucy Arrowsmith and Imogen Forse.

Year 10: Lucy Tomkewycz and Daniel McCulloch.

Year 11: Lauren Kynaston, Eve Mountford, Steph Whale and Scarlett Carter.

A level: Jessica Richards.

Other: The Marches Woodwind Quartet and Porthywaen Youth Ensemble.



Friends of The Marches Meeting

The first Friends of The Marches meeting of the year will be taking place on Monday 20th March at 6.00 p.m in advance of the AGM in the Fitzalan room at The Marches School. The agenda will include: Election of Chair, election of Secretary, proposals to increase membership of FOM and future fundraising. If you would like to attend the meeting please email [Miss Jones](mailto:Miss.Jones@marchesschool.co.uk).

First Eco-Dome Progress

Over half term initial work started on the first Eco-Dome. The base has been put down and work will commence again in the Easter break. The Eco-Committee are pleased with the progress as you can see below! Students pictured are Shannon Evans, Poppy Williams, Ioan Owens, Nia Lewis-Rees, Isobel Alefounder, Kimberley Burgess, Tallie Brazier, Lucy Arrowsmith, Rebecca Owen, Isobel Harvey, Eva Nikolova and Hristiana Nikolova with Miss Richards.



Term Dates

Easter Holidays: Monday 10th April – Friday 21st April

Summer Term 2017

Monday 24th April – Friday 21st July

Half Term: Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

PD Days: Monday 24th July, Tuesday 25th July

Autumn Term 2017

Tuesday 5th September to Thursday 21st December 2017

Please note – Tuesday 5th September is for Years 7 and 12 ONLY. Students in Years 8-11 and Year 13 will return on Wednesday 6th September

Half term Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October 2017

PD day Monday 4th September

Spring School Trips

Erasmus Greece: 17th - 23rd March

A Level Geography Fieldwork: 28th - 31st March

All Years Andalucia Tour: 8th - 13th April

Germany trip: 7th - 12th April

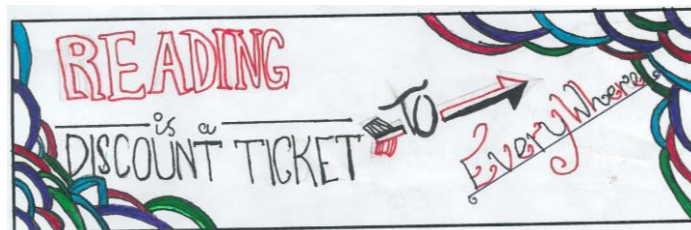
Disney Netball Trip: 9th - 13th April

Andalucía parent meeting: 21st March 5.30 p.m.

Germany Parent Meeting: 29th March 6.00 p.m.

World Book Day Winners

Congratulations to Year 7 student Isabelle Woodcock who won the World Book Day fancy dress competition dressed as The Mad Hatter and to Year 8 student Jasmine Innes who won the bookmark competition. Year 8 student Dylan Dicks and Year 7 student Elizabeth Samson were joint winners in the Bookamon Go treasure hunt competition. Well done to Whittaker who won the annual Book Topple House competition. Stephens came second, Hargreaves third and Bonington and Mallory came joint fourth.



Sporting Fixtures W/C 13th March

Monday

U15 Year 10 County Netball Trophy vs Hadley Learning Community 12.30 p.m.

Tuesday

U14 Girls' Football vs The Corbet School

Wednesday

Year 7 President's Plate vs The Burton Borough School 3.15 p.m.

Reminders

If for any reason your child loses a letter, letters can be downloaded and viewed on the Parent & Student section of the School Website under Letters. If your child is absent for any reason, please let us know by 8:30 a.m. Call the School on 01691 664400 and choose option 1. Please leave your child's name, form, house and reason for absence.

House Points

Bonington – 2150

Mallory – 1920

Whittaker – 1696

Hargreaves – 2228

Stephens - 1924

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