



marches school

Issue 10

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2016



# MARCHES WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Target Setting

As one of our new posters in school says:

**“In this school, we don’t do easy. We make easy happen through hard work and learning.”**

Last month I wrote about our minimum GCSE targets. Students have been supplied with stickers for the front of their books to remind them of these. **Year 7 students** have now been set their minimum GCSE target grade and tutors have been given your child’s stickers. Please contact your child’s tutor if your child has not yet received these. Minimum targets are based on KS2 SATs scores, a moment in time in Year 6. We understand that all children grow and leap forward in learning at different times and rates and so it is important to remember that these are aspirational targets that can be met with the right attitude and effort but also that they are not limits to our view of what a child can achieve.

## Improvements to Milk – Homework App

This week I spoke to the developers of Milk, they are still a relatively new organisation and are growing the tool to best suit schools. You have been telling us that you would like to be able to see which tasks are done, perhaps with colour coding. This week – you may have noticed an upgrade that responds to this. You should now see homework under three tabs and be able to select the one that shows only the tasks still to be done – thus removing the long list from view. I hope this is a positive move forward.

If you have any other suggestions for Milk improvements, please let us know. We cannot promise that they will all appear in updates but we will pass them on, and they will be listened to.

## Year 7 End of Transition Parents’ Evening

We had a good response to our feedback form at this event and I have responded here to some points that other parents and carers may also find useful:

**Comment: I am not sure what the home school partnership is.** Our response: This can be found in your child’s planner and sets out what the school will aim to do, as well as the child and the parent/carer to work together.

**Comment: A drop-in every week or a certain day and time for parents and their issues.** Our response: We are keen to explore this, perhaps with Progress Leaders available to a published calendar. We would be interested to know how many parents would make use of this access or which staff you would most like to meet. Please email [Mrs Tetlow](#), PA to Associate Headteacher with any comments.

**Comment: A regular assessment on progress.** Our response: Do not wait for the termly Progress data sheet; please take the time to look in your child’s book where topics have a start sheet setting out what the unit will cover. Marking of work should be regular and so there will be assessment of how your child is doing and feedback to help them improve. Test scores will also be found in most books, mainly in the sheet that marks the end of the topic and these can be compared to your child’s minimum GCSE target grade to see if they are “on track” to reach this. This will give you the regular check on progress.

**Comment: Possibly a list/information on after school activities – on or off. There have been a few times when an activity or club has been cancelled.** Our response: We still need to do better here and aim to use our email system to share this information; I will speak to staff to remind them of this expectation.

**Comment: Letters and notices being attached to Milk would be useful.** Our response: This is possible and we may move to the Milk system rather than our current “In Touch” system when the homework side of the tool is embedded. We chose not to move everything in one go to make sure each element is right. We will let you know if and when we make this move.

**Comment: A written list of all after-school clubs.** Our response: I am pleased to say we have this on the [website](#).

**Mrs A Pearson. Associate Headteacher**

## Holy Trinity Experience Marches Extravaganza

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 32 Year 5 pupils from Holy Trinity C. of E. Primary School spent the morning taking part in the 'Marches Experience Extravaganza', 'Languages Day'. The experience, which is offered by the Modern Foreign Languages Department, includes pupils taking part in role-play activities (in either French or Spanish), food tasting and some taster sessions of different languages with the aim of building their confidence in their speaking skills.



## Autumn Term 2016

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
**Christmas Holiday:** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January

## 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.

**Bonington - 1288 Mallory - 1282**  
**Whittaker - 922 Hargreaves - 1395**  
**Stephens - 1171**

## Things I Know To Be True

On Friday, 36 Drama students in Years 10, 12 and 13 visited the The Lowry to see Things I Know To Be True by the Frantic Assembly Theatre Group. All students enjoyed the production and two members of the public commented on how wonderfully behaved they were.



## School Trips

**22<sup>nd</sup> November:** Live Theatre - War Horse  
**23<sup>rd</sup> November:** Year 8 - MAP Rocket Session at Birmingham University  
Years 12 and 13 - Chemistry Lectures at Birmingham University  
**25<sup>th</sup> November:** Year 10 - GCSE trip to Warwick University

## Let's Get Cooking Opportunity

Mrs Evans is now recruiting for the term after Christmas. This is a great club using fresh ingredients to cook some wonderful family meals to bring home, for free! There are 16 places available each term. If you would like your child to be considered, you can view the letter [here](#). If the club is oversubscribed we will make a draw out of a hat and add names to the waiting list for the summer course and then let you know. Please let us have your names quickly as this is a popular club.

## Year 8 Football vs Thomas Adams School

### Marches School 5, Thomas Adams School 0

The boys started fantastically, dominating the game. At half time the score was 4-0. Thomas Adams fought back in the second half but The Marches defence held together. A further goal brought the score to 5-0 and the team through to the quarter-final of the Shropshire Cup. Goal scorers were: Tom Williams, Billy Clarke, Charlie Morris and Max Thomas.

Mr Martin

## Anti-bullying Week

This week the school took part in the national Anti-bullying Week and held a number of activities to raise awareness for this important week. Students developed a school 'Anti-bullying Charter' in their Citizenship lesson and the school 'Tolerance Group' held their first meeting where the agenda was to develop and review the school 'anti-bullying strategy' which will be shared with the rest of the school in the forthcoming Citizenship lesson. Further to this, the KS4 Student Leadership group relaunched the SHARP anti-bullying system and put up SHARP information posters in every classroom. Assistant Headteacher, Mr Whitworth, led an anti-bullying themed assembly, KS3 students received cyber safety information in their ICT lessons and Drama lessons were also anti-bullying themed.



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