



marches school

Issue 26

Friday 31st March 2017



MARCHES WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dear Parents and Carers,

Department for Education News – New GCSE Grades

Previously the Department for Education have said that with the new 9 to 5 system, a grade 5 will be the new benchmark. There has been some information about students achieving a grade 4 – the equivalent of the old grade C needing to resit their qualification after 16.

The DfE have now made a final decision as follows, which is the correct and sensible step for all our young people.

...we will distinguish between a grade 4 as a “standard pass” and a grade 5 as a “strong pass” and report on both.

Under the new system a grade 4 and above will be the equivalent to a C and above. This is – and will remain – the level that pupils must achieve in order not to be required to continue to study English and Maths post-16. Where employers, further education providers and universities accept a grade C we would expect them to continue recognising grade 4.

...I want to be very clear to schools, employers, colleges and pupils themselves that a “standard pass” is a credible achievement and one that should be valued as a passport to future study and employment.

Rt Hon Justine Greening MP

Year 7 – Boys’ Football

We wish the team the best of luck as they play in the final of the Shropshire President’s Trophy against Idsall School. A win would give them their second trophy of the year having been crowned North Shropshire 5-a-side champions back in the Autumn.

Year 11 – Easter Revision Sessions

A small number of targeted sessions will be running during the Easter break. If your child is involved in any of these we will share the schedule via the Milk system early next week. All students should be following their revision programme through the break with sessions of no more than one hour, with short breaks.

It is also important that students plan in some time away from the books for rest and other activities so that they enjoy themselves between their revision to maintain a balance.

If you have any questions or need some guidance about how best to support your child at this demanding time for parents and carers, please contact [Mr Kemble](#), our Year 11 Learning Champion.

Year 11 Parents’ Evening takes place on **Thursday 6th April**, your final opportunity to speak to your child’s teachers. Many subjects have exam packs for you to collect on the night so please do book this into your diary. Please contact Mr Kemble if you need support in getting your child to make appointments for the evening.

Mrs A Pearson, Associate Headteacher

Year 7 Earth Hour

Students in Year 7 took part in the World Wildlife Fund for Nature’s Global Action to reduce Global Warming by switching off the lights for an hour last Friday afternoon. Their efforts saved approximately 20KWH of power, about a 10% saving. The students listened to an assembly focussed on the Earth Hour and one of their lessons was taught without power and lights, with a focus in humanities on what life would be like without power. At the end of next term the students will be working in tutor groups to take part in a community project as part of their citizenship programme and will be exploring different global and national causes they could support.



Sixth Form Geography Fieldwork

Year 12 Geography students spent this week in South Wales conducting fieldwork in preparation for their coursework. On Wednesday they investigated succession on sand dunes in Merthyr Mawr in South Wales.



Parents' Evenings

Year 7 – Thursday 4th May
Year 10 – Thursday 11th May
Year 11 – Thursday 6th April

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.

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

All Years Andalucia Tour: 8th - 13th April

Germany Trip: 7th - 12th April

Disney Netball Trip: 9th - 13th April

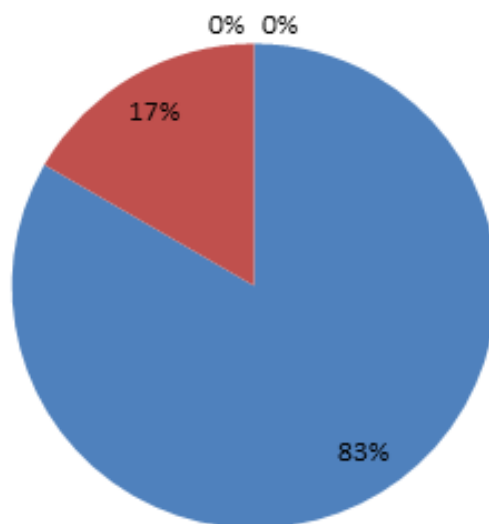
Free Easter Holiday Activities

Please see attached to this email a flyer regarding free activities taking place in the Easter holidays for boys and girls aged 4-16 put on by TNSFC. Sporting activities will be taking place at a number of different areas in and around Oswestry. Food will be provided. Please be aware that the registration on the back of the form must be completed.

Customer Service Feedback

Visitors to The Marches School reception were asked to rate the quality of their welcome. Please see the findings in the pie chart below.

■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Satisfactory ■ Not adequate



Register now!

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marches school

Festival of Talent
At the Family Fun Day
Summer

**SINGING, DANCING, MAGIC,
POETRY AND SO MUCH MORE!**

Saturday 1st July 2017 from 12:30pm at the Fun Day
The Marches School, Morda Road, Oswestry, Shropshire SY11 2AR
Visit the website for more information and to register

Please click on the poster to be taken to the Festival of Talent webpage on The Marches School website where you can find out more information about the competitions and access a registration form. Please note that registration forms must be returned by Thursday 4th May.

Fun Day Stall Holders

Stallholders can now book a space for this year's Family Fun Day taking place at The Marches School on Saturday 1st July. Please contact [Kelly Parsons](#) or phone her on 01691 664407.

Sporting Fixtures W/C 3rd April

Monday

• School Games at The Telford Langley School.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday

• Disney Training

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Summer Term Expeditions

- 6th – 7th May - Bronze practice expedition
- 13th – 14th May - Bronze practice expedition
- 24th – 25th June - Bronze qualifying expedition
- 1st – 4th July - Gold qualifying expedition
- 8th – 10th July - Silver qualifying expedition
- 15th – 16th July - Bronze qualifying expedition

House Points

Bonington – 2150

Mallory – 1920

Whittaker – 1696

Hargreaves – 2228

Stephens - 1924