



## MARCHES WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Exam Contingency Date

Exams start earlier this year on the 13<sup>th</sup> May and for GCSE, they end five weeks later in mid-June. Parents and carers must be aware that there is also a contingency day on the **26<sup>th</sup> June**. This day normally falls inside the exam period and is in place to allow for a set of exams to be moved by the JCQ, not by us, if there was a national incident. All students must be available for this date until their exams are all complete.

If all exams are completed on the 20<sup>th</sup> June for your child, then they will not be needed on the contingency day, and last-minute holidays could then be booked.

### Equipment Checks

This half-term, all year groups will continue to take part in equipment checks. All students should have the following with them every day, ready for learning - blue or black pens, pencils, a ruler, a scientific calculator, a protractor, a compass and colouring pencils.

Please check with your child that their supplies are well stocked in advance. Pens and calculators can be purchased cheaply from student services.

Mrs Pearson, Associate Headteacher

### Internet Safety

Please be aware of a possible game or hoax that is popular at the moment – The Momo Challenge. This sets up a series of challenges which may lead to self-harm and the suggestion for players to kill themselves. The game is popular through Snapchat.

It is believed that the motive behind the developers of the game is to steal data as the game asks players for personal details.

Could we ask that you read this [link](#) and discuss with your child any feelings they may have if they have already played the game.



### Ski Trip

The students and staff on the cross-trust ski trip during half-term had a fantastic time.



The students and staff in attendance spent their first day in Grosseck-Spieereck and improved on their skiing ability. Everyone was turning and in control by the end of the day, and the advanced group were exploring the runs at the top of the mountain.

The students were then lucky enough to be able to ski in gorgeous sunshine and everybody came on leaps and bounds. The occasional fall earned some a 'donkey of the day' award. The advanced group were able to enjoy the spectacular views from the top of the mountain and the other groups completed slalom races.



During the evening, the group visited a local castle and all enjoyed dressing up in some traditional dress.

They spent a day at Aineck and Katschberg, skiing the longest run in Austria at 7kms long, before heading back to Grosseck-Spieereck for the final morning. The students who skied all improved as the week went on and it was a wonderful trip.



## Spanish Exchange Trip

On another trip during half-term, seventeen students went on a Spanish exchange, where they spent a week exploring the local area and staying with their exchange family.

They visited the picturesque towns of Javier, Leyre and Olite as well as spotting a few vultures whilst walking through Foz de Lumbier.

They also visited Vitoria, the capital of the Basque Country, where the students took part in a treasure hunt to explore the city.



## Staffordshire University Visit

This week our Sixth Form students welcomed the Staffordshire University Bus to the Marches School and spoke to staff about university life and the courses on offer at Staffordshire University.



## Higher Education Evening

On Wednesday, the Sixth Form team hosted a successful Preparation for Higher Education Evening.

This event was aimed at Year 13 students to help them in the next steps on their future pathways. Debbi Halliwell from the University of Central Lancashire in Preston spoke to students and their parents and carers on a wide variety of key topics including Student Finance alongside how to prepare for starting University such as accommodation choices, budgeting and brushing up on their culinary skills!

The Marches Sixth Form would like to thank Debbi for joining us and sharing her wealth of knowledge and experience in the higher education sector and for helping our students in preparing for September.

## Understanding Your Teen Workshop

- The brain goes through a period of development in the teenage years
- If you would like to know more about your teenager's brain and how this might affect their behaviour please come along to a 2 hour workshop

Understanding YOUR  
**TEEN**

Venue: The Centre, Oak Street,  
Oswestry SY11 1LW  
Date/Time: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019  
9:30 – 11:30 am  
Booking Details: 01743 250950

## Crocuses

You may remember in October 2018, with the support of local rotarians, we planted thousands of crocuses at the front of the school to raise awareness of the disease polio. You can read more about this [here](#).

This week, with the help of the sunshine, the crocuses have begun to flower.



## Sport Fixtures – 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March

### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March

3.30pm: St Martins School vs Marches School, Year 8 Boys' Football

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March

4.00pm: Thomas Adams School vs Marches School, Year 10 Boys' Rugby

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

4.00pm: Marches School vs Church Stretton School, Year 8 Boys' Presidents' Plate Football

## Autism Learning Day

There is an Autism Learning Day taking place on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March and it is suitable for parents, professionals and those with autism. The event incorporates:

Talk 1: Understanding and managing anxiety  
Talk 2: Social Energy Theory - This Theory About Socialising Will Change Your Life!

Talk 3: What is sensory processing and how does it affect autistic people?

Talk 4: Understanding and managing strong and atypical emotions

Video: A Day At Primary School For The Girl With The Curly Hair

This event takes place on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 in Stoke on Trent**. The link [here](#) takes you to the event with information and the ability to book tickets.

Bonington – 1351

Mallory – 1433

Whittaker – 1294

Hargreaves – 1392

Stephens - 1394

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