

Dear Families,

Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

We have kicked off the spring term with a busy and positive start although a little later than planned due to the bad weather. We are excited about all that 2026 has in store for our school community. Next week we are excited to be running our annual **Year 11 POWER UP! TO GCSE Day**. This is a dedicated day focused on equipping students with the mindset, skills, and confidence they need for GCSE success.

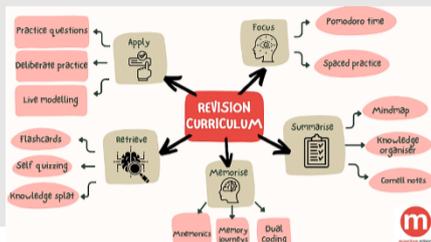
Helping Students Revise with Confidence

This term is a busy one for many year groups heading into exam season and we know that effective revision is key to success. That is why we have built a structured **Revision Curriculum** to support every student. From Year 7 onwards, students learn simple strategies like flashcards and self-quizzing to build strong habits. As they move into GCSE years, this support grows through our **Triple-R sessions (Read, Revisit, Revise)**, where students practice proven techniques such as spaced learning, mind mapping, and active recall. Teachers also guide students through past papers and model exam approaches to boost confidence and independence. Our goal is clear: to make revision manageable, effective, and stress-free for every child.

You can find more information on our Revision Curriculum here: [Exam Hub - Marches School, Shropshire](#)

Top Tips for Families

- **Create a calm space** for revision, free from distractions like phones and TV.
- **Encourage short, focused sessions** (20–30 minutes) with breaks – the Pomodoro technique works well.
- **Ask your child to teach you** what they have learned – explaining helps memory stick.
- **Use flashcards and quizzes** for quick recall practice.
- **Celebrate effort, not just results** – building confidence is key.



REMINDERS & NOTICES

Mr Hunt (Chair of Governors) and Migel getting in the Christmas spirit!



Year 11 Mock Results Day

Students received their mock exam results in the same way they will this summer. Alongside this, they opened their *golden envelopes* ✨, filled with positive comments from teachers and the grades they believe each student can achieve. A powerful and motivating step towards the summer exams. ❤️



Maths Advent Calendar Competition Winners

Students entered a "Maths" advent calendar competition - they used their creative maths skills to design maths problems to be solved for each numbered advent door. The attached photo is of three of our winners in Year 7 - Kai Jones, Freddie Jones and Zakk Denton, who all won points for their Houses and a delicious, sweet advent calendar treat!



Year 7 DT

They are working hard on their skills and making robots.



The Year 10 girls and Mrs Burgoyne enjoyed their Christmas Lunch together



FOCUS

Our school is excited to be taking part in Bookbuzz, a fantastic programme from BookTrust.

Research from BookTrust shows that reading regularly can boost wellbeing, spark imagination, fuel creativity, and encourage meaningful conversations.

Back in October, all our Year 7 students had the opportunity to choose a book from this year's Bookbuzz selection. They received their chosen books – and the best part is, they are theirs to keep!

To learn more about BookTrust and the amazing work they do, visit www.booktrust.org.uk.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Click [here](#) to view our upcoming events. Events at a glance:

Thursday 15th January – Year 11 POWER UP! TO GCSE Day
Thursday 5th February - Year 9 Options & Family Evening

Click [here](#) to view our term dates.



NEWS

Click [here](#) to view our latest news articles.

Why not also follow us on Facebook @MarchesSchool for a wealth of content from students and staff, along with school celebrations to competitions. We encourage you to get interactive with our posts!

To hear about news from across the Trust, why not also follow @MarchesAcademyTrust.

