

Dear Families,

Wow, what a fantastic and busy week we have had here at The Marches School!

Our Year 11 students have now completed their mock examinations, and we could not be more proud of the way they approached them. Their conduct throughout has been excellent and they have shown real maturity during what is always a challenging period.

Whilst mock exams can feel daunting, they are such an important part of the journey. They help students understand what they already know well and, just as importantly, where the gaps are. The good news is that we now have a clear picture of where we need to focus our efforts and can hit the ground running to support students over the coming months.

It is hard to believe that the halfway point between the start of Year 11 and the real GCSE examinations is 5th January. That suddenly does not feel very far away at all! There is still plenty of time to make significant gains, but every lesson, every homework and every opportunity to revise really does matter.

Thank you to our Year 11 students for the way they conducted themselves this week and to our staff and families for the support they continue to provide. We are excited to see the progress that can be made between now and January.

Welcome to GCSE Year 10 Family Learning Event at 5pm-6pm on Thursday 1st October

We are holding a ‘Welcome to Key Stage 4’ Evening on Thursday 1st October from 5pm to 6pm in the school hall. This event will provide valuable information on what to expect during Years 10 and 11, including an overview of GCSEs, assessment methods, key dates, and the support we offer both in and out of the classroom. It will also be a chance to meet key staff who will be working closely with your child over the next two years. At the event, we will be offering you a chance to purchase GCSE revision guides at a reduced price, so please bring some cash with you.



REMINDERS
& NOTICES

Football Success for Year 9 Girls

We are delighted to share that Autumn McGivern and Jessica Rees have secured places in the new TNS U15 Girls' Academy team for next season. With so many talented players competing for a place, this is a remarkable achievement. Huge congratulations to both girls and very well done on all their hard work and dedication.



Leadership Update: Miss Phillips



Attendance Matters: Everyday Counts

At The Marches School, we want every child to feel welcomed, safe and connected. We know that students attend best when they feel they belong, and when families and school work closely together.

Every day in school matters. Missing lessons means missing learning, friendships, experiences and opportunities. That is why we are increasingly talking about **days lost**, helping families understand the impact that absence can have over the course of a school year.

Days Missed	Attendance
5 days	97%
10 days	95%
18 days	90%
19+ days	Below 90%

Once a student reaches **18 days of absence**, their attendance falls below 90% and they are classed as **persistently absent**. This is the equivalent of almost four weeks of education lost and can affect achievement, confidence, friendships, wellbeing and future opportunities.

We Are Here to Help

If you are worried about your child's attendance, wellbeing or any barriers to coming to school, please contact their **Crew Leader**. They know your child well and are often the best person to work with you to find solutions before concerns become bigger challenges.

Whether the issue is anxiety, friendships, family circumstances or simply difficult mornings, we encourage families to talk to us early. The sooner we work together, the more support we can provide.

Reporting an Absence

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please let us know by **8.30am**.

 **Telephone:** 01691 664400 (Option 1)

 **Email:** marattendance@mar.mmat.co.uk

 **WhatsApp:** 07572 971076

 **Arbor Parent Portal:** Submit an absence through the Attendance section. Please provide your child's name, year group, Crew and the reason for absence.

Leadership Update: Mrs Hughes Teaching and Learning



Success comes from consistently practising positive learning habits every lesson, every day. This week, students have been exploring our **‘Every Lesson, Every Time’** expectations in assemblies, and the attached learning habits outline the routines that support success. Parents can support these habits by promoting excellent attendance, supporting homework and revision, and reinforcing expectations around concentration, effort, resilience and pride in their work.

EVERY LESSON, EVERY TIME...

1

 AT THE START OF THE LESSON

a)

Enter the classroom calmly.

b)

Get equipment ready on your desk.

c)

Start the ‘Do Now’ task straight away in silence.

2

 DURING THE LESSON

a)

Give your full attention when asked.

b)

Follow instructions first time.

c)

Show respect to everyone.

d)

Always try your best in every task.

3

 WHEN I COMMUNICATE

a)

Listen carefully to instructions.

b)

Use key words.

c)

Ask questions if you are unsure.

4

 WHEN MY TEACHER CHECKS MY WORK

a)

Be ready to discuss your work.

b)

Act on feedback.

c)

Use a purple pen to mark and improve your work.

5

 SHOW MY LEARNING

a)

Take part in questioning and discussion.

b)

Show what you know and can do.

c)

Reflect on mistakes and improve your work.

d)

Accept support and challenge.

6

 AT THE END OF THE LESSON

a)

Pack away and tidy your learning space.

b)

Stand silently behind your chair.

c)

Leave calmly when asked.

BE READY

BE RESPECTFUL

BE SAFE

ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH CARING

FOCUS



Success at Oswestry in Bloom

For the second year running, our Gardening Club has achieved **Gold** and been named overall winners of the **Oswestry in Bloom Schools Category**. We are also delighted that **Zak Mason** has been awarded **Young Gardener of the Year**, making it two years in a row that a Marches student has received the accolade, following **Connor Robbins** last year. Both students have played a huge part in the success and development of the club. Pictured is Zak representing the school at the awards evening.



UPCOMING EVENTS



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

Thursday 24th September – New intake Welcome Event for Year 12
Friday 25th September – Collaboration Day
Thursday 1st October – Year 10 Welcome to GCSE 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.