

Dear Families,

The small things really do matter! As we come towards the latter part of this half-term, I wanted to ask families for your continued support in helping us maintain high expectations. Being on time, wearing the correct uniform, having the right equipment, being polite and giving your best in lessons might seem like small things individually, but together they make a huge difference to the culture of our school. We talk to our students every day about being Ready, Respectful and Safe, and consistency between home and school is incredibly powerful.

Sleep and Teenagers

We know that sleep can be a challenge for many teenagers, particularly as busy school days compete with homework, social lives, gaming and phones. Sleep does, however, have a significant impact on how young people feel and function during the day, including their concentration, learning, mood and ability to manage emotions. NHS-linked guidance suggests that most teenagers need around 8 to 10 hours of sleep a night and recommends consistent sleep routines and reducing screen use before bed. If sleep is becoming a struggle in your household, there is some useful, non-judgemental advice available for both young people and families:

- [Teen Sleep Hub](#) - specifically aimed at teenagers and parents and carers, with practical advice and free resources.
- [The Sleep Charity](#) - advice for families on sleep difficulties, routines and practical changes.
- [NHS Every Mind Matters: Sleep](#) - straightforward guidance on sleep problems and when to seek further help.



REMINDERS & NOTICES

Years 7 and 8 – Science Workshop

Material World Roadshow is designed to inspire students through engaging STEM demonstrations and activities, highlighting the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in everyday life and future careers.



Girls' Football off to a Fantastic Start!

Girls' Football has got off to a brilliant start this term, with 20 students already attending training sessions. It has been fantastic to see such enthusiasm, commitment and team spirit from players across both age groups.

We are excited to have U13 and U15 fixtures already confirmed in the calendar, giving our teams plenty to look forward to in the coming weeks.

Training continues to be well attended, with students developing their skills, confidence and teamwork each week.

We are looking forward to a successful season ahead and cannot wait to see our teams represent the school with pride. Good luck to all our players!



Sixth Form Enrichment

Year 12 enrichment has started exceptionally well with students having the opportunity to take part in sports, debating, young enterprise, Duke of Edinburgh training and choir.



Leadership Update – Mr Kemble



Literacy Matters: Building on Success Together

As we begin a new academic year, we are delighted to reflect on the strong progress our students made in literacy last year. Thanks to the combined efforts of staff, students and families, reading outcomes improved, and we continued to strengthen a culture where literacy is valued across the school.

We now offer more literacy support and intervention programmes than ever before, enabling us to provide targeted help for students who need it while continuing to challenge and develop all learners. Our aim is simple: to ensure every child leaves school as a confident reader, writer and communicator.

This year, we will continue to focus on a range of evidence-informed strategies that support literacy in every subject. Parents may hear their children talking about:

- Numbering paragraphs when reading longer texts, helping them locate information and discuss their learning more effectively.
- Learning and revisiting subject-specific vocabulary, ensuring students understand and confidently use the key terminology needed for success.
- Tracking the text while reading, using a ruler, finger or reading guide to improve concentration and fluency.
- Responding to feedback on spelling, punctuation and grammar, helping students communicate their ideas accurately and clearly.
- Making improvements during lessons, with staff providing immediate guidance to support learning in the moment.

The literacy gains we achieved last year were built on many small actions repeated consistently every day. By maintaining high expectations around reading, vocabulary and written communication, we can continue to give every student the best possible opportunity to succeed.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Encouraging your child to read regularly at home, discuss new vocabulary and take pride in their written work makes a significant difference to their progress. Together, we can continue to build strong literacy skills that will benefit students across all subjects and beyond school.

Community News

£5 PER 30 MINUTE SESSION

£50 FOR 15 WEEK BLOCK

AGED 11-18
YOU RUN THE CLUB! Open to all boys and girls, wherever you go to school.

EVERY THURSDAY
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

At Oswestry School Hockey Pitch

New Club!

OSWESTRY EXCEL JUNIOR HOCKEY CLUB LAUNCHING THIS SEPTEMBER!

Whether you are completely new to hockey or looking to take your game to the next level, our sessions offer high-energy, fun coaching for all skill levels.

For queries contact Lianne Preston via enquiries@oswestryschool.com

GRAB YOUR STICK, BRING YOUR ENERGY, AND EXCEL WITH US THIS AUTUMN!

Sign-up Now!

FOCUS



Student Support Focus: Tackling Cyber Bullying Together

Cyber bullying is a growing concern for young people across the UK, with many experiencing harmful behaviour online through social media, messaging apps, and gaming platforms. At school, we are committed to promoting our Ready Respectful Safe culture, both in person and online. We encourage families to talk regularly with their children about their digital lives, check privacy settings, and remind them that they can always speak to a trusted adult if something online makes them feel uncomfortable. The following NSPCC advice is for families to help keep children safe online:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>

If a child has any concerns, they MUST report it to a member of staff who will ensure that it is directed to the correct person to deal with it.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Wednesday 7th October – Trust Sing & Praise Event
Thursday 8th October – Year 7 End of Transition Evening
Thursday 15th October – Year 7 Halloween Spooktacular
Friday 16th October – Last day of half-term
Monday 2nd November – All students return to school

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.



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