



MARLING  
SCHOOL

## e-Newsletter 2022-2023 (Edition 2)

We have come to the end of another term and it has whizzed by so fast!

Towards the start of this term, we came together for our moving Remembrance Day Service where our Head Boy read a Roll Call of Old Marlingtonians and our Head Girl read 'For the Fallen'. On display were some lovely handmade wreaths which were assembled from poppies created by Year 7 students in their Art lessons. Thank you to those that donated to our Christmas shoebox scheme and to Miss Clark and Ms Johnson for assembling the boxes. We handed over an amazing 82 shoeboxes to Ian Mudge who is planning to deliver them to Ukrainian refugees in Poland. It was lovely to see students in their Christmas jumpers whilst enjoying their school Christmas dinner; we have raised a fantastic £746.50 for Save the Children – thank you for your support.

Four teams of Year 8 students have started working with engineers from Safran on the [Flying Start Challenge](#). They are tasked to design and build a glider to quite stringent requirements. The Year 9 Rocket Club members are continuing the work from last year and had a very successful test launch of a new rocket this term. We look forward to hearing the progress from students of their glider and rocket next term!

During Green Careers week our Year 12 eco-committee students, along with a Year 8 Geography class, took part in an online digital conference where they found out about various green career options which will help change the world for the better. Students also met to watch the Green Careers panel whereby members of Green Careers discussed their own employment and how they got there. Students then discussed the info ready for the Eco representatives to present to their tutor groups.

Our student Amnesty Group had the rare opportunity to pose questions to the local MP for the Stroud area, Siobhan Baillie and were rewarded with an unexpected scoop: in questioning her, they discovered that she is backing Rishi Sunak to be the next prime Minister of the UK, after the resignation of Liz Truss. Ms Baillie, who is coming to the end of her recent maternity leave, also brought her daughter along to the Question-and-Answer session at school. She answered at length, questions about Ukrainian refugees and whether Britain was doing enough; she spoke about the cost-of-living crisis and austerity and about her campaign against online abuse. Ms Baillie, who was invited by the school's active Amnesty Group, commended the students for their well-thought-out questions.

Congratulations to our two Sixth Form teams who got through to the London Final of [Junk Kouture](#) over half term. Hope and Biba's entry, Disorder, was described by the judges as elegant and a standout design for them and Archie's design, The Umbrella We All Fit In, was described as sophisticated, with strong impressive shoe design and the judges loved the composition and the creation of the textile, creating a desirable design. Following this final, Archie's design made the final stages of the competition and hence he has been invited to showcase his design in the Abu Dhabi world final in January. Archie, his model and Miss Teagle-Brown will be flying out to Abu Dhabi in January, all expenses paid by the competition to showcase the design, meet designers from around the world and participate in a fantastic live event at the Etihad Arena. An incredible opportunity for Archie and an amazing experience for Iona, his model, we wish them luck and hope they enjoy every moment.

Year 13 Sociology and Psychology students visited Shepton Mallet Prison to complement the topics of Crime & Deviance in Sociology and Forensic Psychology in Psychology. They were given the full prisoner experience with a prison guard who gave them prisoner suits to wear for the day! To begin, they were asked to create groups and identify their 'gang' name and crime for their punishment in preparation for their cell escape. During the cell escape, they had to work out an extremely difficult puzzle in a real-life prison cell. The students then enjoyed a psychology/sociology haunted tour where they experienced a prison cell from 1600s, the most haunted gatekeeper room in the building, and how prisoners spent their small amount of free time in the yard. The students were very enthusiastic and dived into the world of prisons!

Over 140 Year 12 and 13 students have attended "Science Live" lecture days. Scientists gave lectures on the cutting-edge Biology, Chemistry and Physics they are researching in. On the Biology Day, students attended lectures from Professor Robert Winston (Human Progress), Professor Jonathan Van-Tam (Questions of COVID and Beyond) and Professor Sarah-Jayne Blakemore (The Teenage Brain) to name just a few. A Level Chemists attended lectures and exam advice sessions from a number of professionals such as Professor Andrea Sella who gave a lecture on Nerve Agents and Professor Serena Cussen who discussed the Hunt for New Batteries. Also this term, 27 Year 13 scientists visited the LHC at CERN in Geneva where they visited the "anti-matter factory" and had an afternoon tour and talk provided by the University of Birmingham Physics Department.

Congratulations to William Layng-Dale for winning the Rotary Chef Competition with his selection of Indian dishes that wowed the judges. Well done also to all those that took part with their delicious entries; Gabriel Hender, Isaac Johnston, Rafferty Bentley, Thomas McKinley Price, William Ashworth, Monty Roberts-Shillington, Charlie Bratley and Cheyon Vathavooran. We had many fantastic entries for the House Cookery Competition, many of which you can see on our social media pages. The results are as follows; Year 7 – Jack Williams 1<sup>st</sup> place, Louis Farr 2<sup>nd</sup>, Lewis Macpherson 3<sup>rd</sup>, Year 8 – Rufus Gregory 1<sup>st</sup>, Henry Beal 2<sup>nd</sup>, Samuel Deacon 3<sup>rd</sup>, Year 9/10 – Oscar Box 1<sup>st</sup>, Beau Dominey 2<sup>nd</sup> and Toby Hawkins 3<sup>rd</sup>. Well done!

Attention all Year 9 students! Your participation in the FameLab Academy competition starts the second week back in January. Over the Christmas break a research topic needs to be decided from the STEM field that you are passionate about and then start the research and writing of your script for your 3-minute talk. In the new term you will receive lesson time and workshops within Science, English and History to improve your presentational skills so that you can satisfy the three C's judging criteria of content, clarity and charisma! Please practice at home and ask your family and friends to get involved when writing and practicing the delivery of your speech.

Junior and Inter boy's teams both made the trip to Bromsgrove School for the Regional round of the ESAA Cross Country Cup. The Inter boys team won their event at a canter to qualify for the National Finals but unfortunately the Junior boys just missed out in a closely fought category. All the Marling students gave everything and fought for every place. At the National Finals, at Leeds Grammar School, the Inter boys took on the best teams in the country on a fast and technical course. Dominic Martin (4<sup>th</sup>) and Sam Wilson (7<sup>th</sup>) had very impressive finishes in the top ten of a high calibre field. Zack Marshfield and James Charlwood worked hard together to secure the final two scoring positions for the team. Francis Stuart-Menteth and Matthew McMahon gained valuable experience for next year (Year 9 students running in a Year 10 race). Overall, the students finished a commendable 13<sup>th</sup> in the Country and a great day was had by all.

Well done to Callum Fisher for winning the Summer Race League trophy with his Gloucester Ski Club Team after competing this season over a 6-race series. A total of 19 teams took part and Gloucester secured the outright win for the first time in seven years. We wish Callum luck when he travels to Switzerland in the New Year with Dragons Alpine Racing to compete in the Welsh Alpine Championships in both slalom and giant slalom.

The [term dates](#) for 2022/23 and 2023/24 can be found on our website.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas.

**Glen Balmer - Headteacher** ([gcb@marling.school](mailto:gcb@marling.school))

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### **Pastoral Team**

The pastoral team have an email address so that parents and students can contact the team directly about any pastoral concerns they may have. The email address is [studentsupport@marling.school](mailto:studentsupport@marling.school).