Weekly Newsletter

MARLING SCHOOL

22 October 2026

The Fortnight Ahead

Week Commencing 2 November

Mon 2	**Y11 Mocks Begin**
Wed 11	**Remembrance Day**
Thu 12	**GCSE Music Solo Performances**
Fri 13	**Non Uniform Children in Need**

Extra Curricular Activities

Please click **here** to view the clubs we offer.
For instrumental tuition information click **here.**

For the PE Newsletter please click **here.**

Welcoming Future Students

This week we were delighted to welcome prospective students and their families to our two Qualifiers Open Mornings, giving them an opportunity to experience life at the school. A special thank you to our Year 8 student guides, who represented Marling brilliantly.

Our visitors were also able to see just how well our Year 7 students have settled into life at Marling. Their confidence, enthusiasm and engagement were evident throughout the mornings and are perfectly captured in this video.

We also hosted our Year 8 and Year 9 Parents' Information Evenings, enjoyed a theatre trip to see Twelve Angry Men, and celebrated the impressive talents of our students during the House Music Finals.

As we reach the end of the half term, we would like to thank all students, staff and families for their continued support and wish everyone a restful and enjoyable break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back after half term.

House Music Final Performances

Today saw our House Music finalists perform in front of their peers, showcasing impressive talent, confidence and dedication. The high standard set during the auditions continued on stage, making it a fantastic celebration of music and House spirit across the school.

New Catering Provider: Caterlink

From 24 October, the school will be partnering with Caterlink as its new catering provider. Free School Meals and meal prices will remain unchanged. The menu is available on the school website; this currently shows main meal options only, and the deli service will continue to operate as normal.

Flu Vaccinations

Parents and carers of students in Years 7-11 should have received an email from Mad Maund, Medical Lead, regarding the annual flu vaccination programme, which will take place in school on Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 December 2026.

Please complete the online consent form as soon as possible, even if you do not wish your child to receive the vaccination.

Further details, including students' appointment dates and times, will be shared closer to the vaccination sessions.

First Theatre Trip of the Academic Year!

The first theatre trip of the academic year saw our Year 10 and Year 13 students travel to the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham to watch Twelve Angry Men. The gripping courtroom drama provided a valuable opportunity to see a classic text brought to life on stage, while giving students an insight into themes of justice, prejudice and persuasion. Students represented the school excellently and enjoyed a memorable evening of live theatre.

Musical Achievements

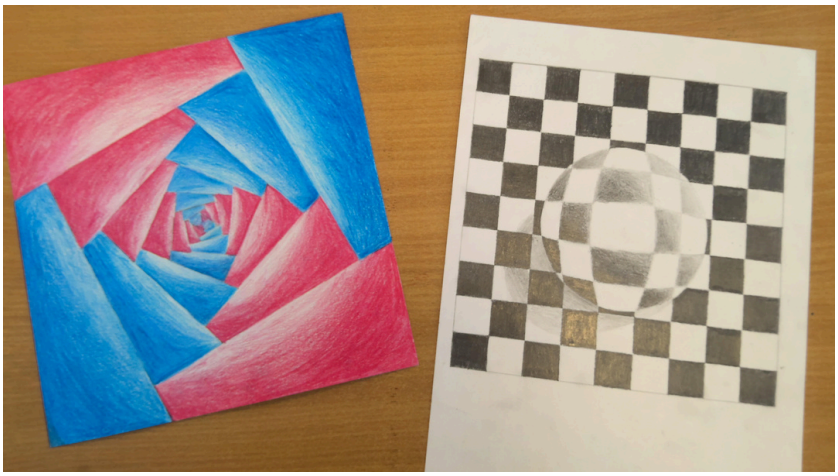
Congratulations to Luke in Year 9 on achieving a Distinction in his Grade 2 Drums exam, and to Ben in Year 12 on gaining a Distinction in Grade 5 Music Theory. A fantastic achievement by both students.

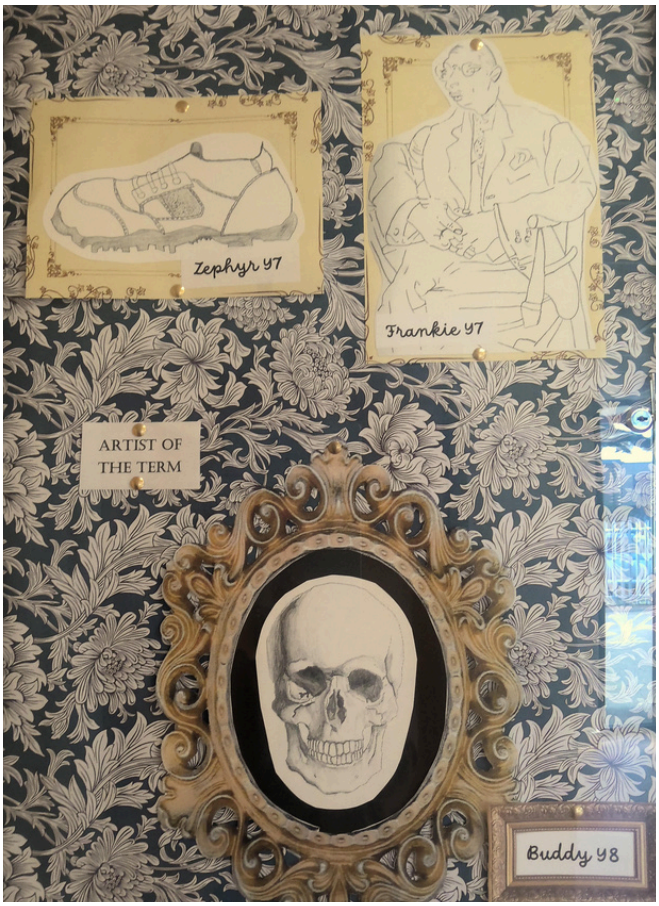
Chef of the Week

A Huge Well Done to our Chef of the Week winners for their excellent work in Food and Nutrition lessons.
Key Stage 3 Hylton in Year 8
Key Stage 4 Magnus in Year 10

Artists of the Term

We are celebrating the great work our students have been creating this term!
Winners:
Year 7 - Zephyr and Frankie
Year 8 - Buddy
Year 9 - Johannes and Luke
The students have been awarded the Marlingtonian house points for Art.





Request for Recycled Materials!

Our Junk Kouture team is looking for donations of recycled materials to use in this year's designs. If you have any suitable items at home that you no longer need, we would be very grateful if they could be brought into DT7 and left on the desk.
Thank you for supporting our young designers and helping us give new life to unwanted materials. Please note that any donated items will be used in the competition and cannot be returned.

We will be using them to create recycled garments!
- Old bed sheets
- Any black clothing/old fabric
- Old or used plastic packaging from clothing orders/Vinted (addresses removed please)
- Net curtains
- Faux fur / fur coats / fur blankets
- Old chains
- Old Magazines

PSHE Next Term: What Students Will Be Learning

Year 7 – Friendship and Anti-Bullying

Students will explore what makes healthy friendships and develop their understanding of empathy and respect. They will learn about the role of bystanders in preventing bullying, how to manage friendship challenges, and how to recognise and respond to coercive or unhealthy friendships.

Year 8 – Personal Safety

This unit focuses on helping students make safe and informed decisions in everyday life. Topics include road and water safety, understanding the risks associated with tobacco, nicotine and vaping, and developing awareness of the effects of alcohol.

Year 9 – Careers and Future Choices

Students will begin thinking about their future pathways by exploring different workplaces and careers. They will reflect on their own interests and strengths, learn about a range of opportunities, and consider how to make the most of their Key Stage 4 option choices.

Year 10 – The Online World

Students will examine some of the opportunities and challenges presented by new technologies. Topics include artificial intelligence (AI), chatbots, deepfakes, and the risks associated with sharing or receiving explicit images, helping them to navigate the online world safely and responsibly.

Year 11 – Drugs and Personal Safety

This unit will support students in making informed choices as they approach adulthood. Students will learn about drugs and their risks, explore the dangers of gang involvement and exploitation, and discuss violence against women and girls (VAWG), focusing on respect, consent, and personal safety.

LIFT IT Transition

Thank you to all parents for your patience this term whilst we resolve outstanding IT issues as a result of a migration of our systems with Lift.

A reminder of key email contacts following the IT changes, please can you contact us on our new emails:

- Staff - initialsurname@liftmarlingschool.org e.g. bsimpson@liftmarlingschool.org
- Attendance: attendance@liftmarlingschool.org
- Reception: reception@liftmarlingschool.org
- Data: data@liftmarlingschool.org
- Pastoral Support: pastoralsupport@liftmarlingschool.org
- Trips: trips@liftmarlingschool.org
- Student Device Scheme: devices@liftmarlingschool.org
- Finance: finance@liftmarlingschool.org

We have been made aware from some parents that some emails sent from new @liftmarlingschool.org staff accounts are being delivered to parent junk folders. This is to be expected with a new domain and unfortunately, there isn't anything we can do to prevent this in the short term. We advise parents to check their junk emails and mark the emails as trusted senders so that they go to your main inbox.

There are a few snagging issues for parents to be aware of:

- Bromcom student portal - We have switched student Single Sign on to Google. Students should login with their new logins. There are instructions on how to login in on page 9 of this guide.
- **Single Sign On** - All student Single Sign On has been moved across to their new Google accounts. We believe this is fully working now. If your child has any issues, they should speak to their subject teacher to resolve it.
- Parent Homework Visibility - all parents should have received an invitation to view their child's homework via Google Guardian Summaries, this allows parents to set up a weekly or daily email detailing your child's homework. We have resolved an issue this week where homework was not appearing properly for parents. We are also aware that there are issues with the software where only 1 parent has received an invite to access Guardian summaries. Unfortunately, this is due to a limitation of the software and cannot be automated at this stage. Lift IT will be manually adding invites to parents who do not live at the same address. If you would like an additional email added, please email reception@liftmarlingschool.org.
- **Student data migration** - due to the quantity of data, this has taken a little longer than anticipated. Staff data migration has been prioritised, with Year 11 and 13 taking priority among our students. All student data will be migrated from students' OneDrive to new Google Drive account automatically and no action is needed from students. If students are waiting for NEA (Non-Exam Assessment/Coursework) work to be transferred, they should work with their classroom teachers who will be able to support them.

For more information about our digital systems, please see our Digital Learning and IT Systems Parental Guide.

If your child encounters technical difficulties and they are unable to resolve the issues independently, please reach out to their tutor. Kindly note that the IT team is unable to respond directly to queries from individual parents.

Year 7 Device Delivery

Year 7 devices will be given to students on Wednesday 4 November. Students who will be receiving an Easy4U device will told by their tutor at the start of next term when to collect the device on this day. A reminder that the deadline for orders is Thursday 22 October at midnight, although orders can be placed after this date, we cannot guarantee the device will be delivered with the rest of their year group.