



MARLING SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Message from the Principal

20 December 2024

Dear parents and carers,

As we draw the curtain on this year, we have much to celebrate and reflect upon. Our house rugby matches over the last two weeks have been a thrilling showcase of teamwork, skill, and the school values. Congratulations to all the teams for their outstanding performances and sportsmanship!

Our much anticipated Christmas lunches were also delightful events, bringing together our school community to share in the festive cheer. It was a memorable occasion for everyone.

We were thrilled to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our GCSE and A Level students at our Celebration Evening on Thursday 19th December. Their academic excellence and unwavering passion for learning have truly shone through this year. Each student's dedication and hard work have been remarkable, and we are incredibly proud of their accomplishments. This evening was a testament to their perseverance, curiosity, and commitment to their studies. Congratulations to all our students for their exceptional performance, and we look forward to their continued success in the future.

Looking ahead, we have Key Stage 4 options evening on 16th January at 4:30pm, this is a key event for our year 9 students as they start to make their choices, ready for the next step in their academic journey.

Wishing you a joyful holiday season and a wonderful New Year!

As we wrap up this term, we want to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication. Enjoy the break, and I look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday 6th January, focussed and ready to learn.

Best wishes,

Jules Godfrey



Key Dates: Commencing 6 January

- Tue 7 Y11 Art Mock Exam
Ski Lessons
- Wed 8 Y11 Art Mock Exam
- Thu 9 Y11 Information Advice and Guidance Meetings
- Sun 12 Y9 Regional Table Tennis Championships in Plymouth
- Mon 13 Options Assembly
- Tue 14 KS3 County Badmington Competition at Rednock leave Marling at 12:15pm return 4:30pm
- Wed 15 Year 8 A & B Football v Wycliffe at Marling 2:30pm kick off
Year 7 A & B Football v Wycliffe at Wycliffe 2:30pm return 4pm
Senior Netball v SHS at SHS 2:30 tip off
- Thu 16 Y9 Options Evening 4:30pm - 7pm
- Fri 17 GCSE Solo Music Recordings
Y12 Cyber Careers UWE



Marling School Christmas Carol Service at St Laurence Church. Photo credit James Year 12

Purchasing Food in the Dining Hall

A reminder that students need to present their ID cards to pay for food at break and lunchtime. The dining hall staff will not process purchases without it. Please ensure ParentPay accounts are topped up and remain in credit.

Attendance

Marling School proudly reports a 96% attendance rate this year, up from last year's 91.2%. Leading the way are the Fuller and Greenstreet Learning Communities with a 96.4% attendance rate. Special congratulations to Fuller for achieving 96.3% in Term 2. Marling ranks 3rd in attendance in the Local Authority, reflecting our commitment to academic excellence. Thank you to everyone for your dedication.

K'nex Club

Thanks to the generous funding from the Marling School PSA, the K'nex club has acquired a 1.8M working Ferris Wheel. With outstanding project management from Year 9 mentors, Year 7 students have enjoyed themselves and made great progress. Stay tuned for the final result.

Drama

Congratulations to Year 13 Drama and Theatre students on completing their first practical exam! They created pieces inspired by The Paper Birds and Splendid Productions. One group tackled the NHS and doctors' mental health, while another reimagined Helen of Troy, exploring patriarchy. Well done!

Careers Talks

We are looking to organise a series of recorded careers talks from members of the Marling Community/ ex-Marlingtonians etc as part of our tutor time careers programme. If you would like to be featured/ know someone who would, please contact [Holly Bedford](#) (Assistant Principal). It would involve a 30 min recorded Teams chat to be played to students in their tutor times.

Reading for Good

We are running a Read for Good Readathon from 13-17 January 2025 and would love your child to join! Reading for pleasure boosts children's success and happiness (OECD, 2002). Read for Good motivates readers by letting them choose what to read, purely for fun. Sponsorship money helps provide new books and storytellers to children's hospitals in the UK. Teachers, parents, and pupils find this freedom to choose and the cause make participation easy and compelling. More information to follow in the new year.



*'The more that you read, the more things you'll know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.'*
- Dr. Seuss

Year 9 End-of-Year Cultural Feast: Spanish and Roman Delights!

Year 9 students had a fantastic end-of-year celebration! Spanish students researched, made, and tasted foods from the Spanish-speaking world, enjoying food and card games. Meanwhile, Latin students explored Roman dinner party stories and had their own Roman lunch on Tuesday. They brought in various Roman foods, including honey cakes, and Mrs. Bedford added chocolate mice as a fun substitute for the traditional dormice delicacy.

Welcome baby Ridgway!

Congratulations to Miss Ridgway (Sixth form Senior Student Support). We're delighted to announce the arrival of her baby boy, born on December 16th, weighing 6lb 14oz.

Sports Update

On Tuesday the Year 9 Rugby team played Crypt in the EFD County Semi-Final. It was a hard-fought match, with Marling narrowly losing 10-8 in an end-to-end encounter. The squad put in a fantastic effort, maintaining their trademark determination throughout the season, with this being their only loss.

PE Reminder for Lessons After Christmas:

Years 7 and 9: Indoor PE kit required: House vest and a plain white t-shirt (may be worn under the House vest but not instead of).

Year 8: Outdoor games kit required. Bring non-marking, clean indoor trainers, and studded boots to all PE lessons until further notice.

Years 10 and 11: Indoor PE kit required: non-marking clean trainers, white socks, white shorts, House vest, and a plain white t-shirt (may be worn under the House vest but not instead of).

William's Impressive Fencing Achievement

William, a Year 10 student, recently competed in a fencing event in Cricklade and secured joint third place! The winner fences for Team GB, making William's achievement even more impressive, especially given the taller competitors.

