



MARLING SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

February 13 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've reached the final week of our first term of 2026, and what a week it has been. We began with an exciting FameLab final, followed by three fantastic performances of our School Production, *We Will Rock You*, at the Cotswold Playhouse (pictured below). The show was outstanding—our students showcased incredible talent. A huge thank-you to our drama and music departments and to everyone involved for making it such a resounding success.

This Sunday, our Florida trip sets off, with students looking forward to visiting the Kennedy Space Centre and swimming with manatees—an unforgettable experience ahead.

After the half-term break, we'll return to an important date in the calendar: Year 11 Taster Day. On the Tuesday of our first week back, Year 11 students will have the chance to experience life in the Sixth Form and explore the opportunities that await them.

Wishing everyone a restful, fun, and well-deserved half-term break!

**Key Dates for the week commencing
23 February:**

Sun 15 Florida Trip Departs

Mon 23 Y11 Languages Speaking Mocks

**Tue 24 Y11 A Level Taster Day
Y13 PE Conference**

**Wed 25 Y11 Languages Speaking Mocks
Y11 Food Tech NEA Practical**

**Thu 26 Y11 Languages Speaking Mocks
Y11 Food Tech NEA Practical
Y12 Maths Fest**

**Geography Association Quiz
Isola Ski Virtual Meeting 6-7pm**

Fri 27 Y11 Languages Speaking Mocks

Wed 4 Y11 Exam Info Session 6pm (virtual)

Thu 5 Open Mic Night 6pm

Fri 6 GCSE Music Performance Recordings

Click [here](#) for the PE Newsletter containing fixtures, match reports and PE Kit information.



Lanyards

A reminder that lanyards are an essential part of the school uniform and must be worn at all times. Students who are not wearing their lanyard will receive a sanction.

Downfield Road

Work to remove RAAC from our DT classrooms is scheduled to begin over half term. When students return, we would like to remind parents of sixth formers who drive to school to ensure their children do not park on Downfield Road. There will be frequent lorry movements, and any vehicles parked there will be at increased risk of being damaged.

Pan Asian Street Food Style

On Tuesday 24 February, we'll be celebrating Chinese New Year with a Pan-Asian Street Food-style menu. Enjoy Hong Kong-style Sweet and Sour Chicken and Kung Pao Vegetables, served with prawn crackers and spring rolls on the side. Join us as we mark the start of the Year of the Fire Horse.

Attendance

This term has seen a really positive uplift in attendance, with the school's overall figure rising from 95.2% to 95.5%, a brilliant start to 2026. Thank you to all of you for your continued perseverance and resilience throughout the term. We're also excited to announce that Fuller has made it three terms in a row as winners of the Attendance Term Time Cup, achieving an impressive 96.8% attendance. Greenstreet followed closely behind with 96.7%, making it a very tight and exciting competition!

With this incredible momentum, Fuller are well on their way to claiming the overall championship from 2025 champions Greenstreet. Congratulations to everyone involved, keep up the fantastic work!



Open Mic Night

Marling is hosting an Open Mic Night on the 5 March at 6pm. Tickets are £3. Performance slots are open to all students in Years 9 to 13. Sign up [here](#).

Fame Lab Final

FameLab Academy is a Gloucestershire-wide competition in which pupils deliver a three-minute talk on a STEM topic of their choice. They are judged on the three Cs: content, clarity, and charisma. We were even proud winners of the Gloucestershire final two years ago!

This year, our finalists were Samuel, Leyton, Oliver, Alfie, Woody, and Theodore.



Oliver was crowned the overall winner with his engaging talk on wormholes, and Alfie received the pupil award for his brilliant presentation on the physics of popcorn.



Chess Tournament

Hugo, Hafiz, Akshaj and Atharv from Year 8 travelled to Bristol Grammar School to compete in a Junior Chess Tournament. All four played exceptionally well, finishing at the top of their group, with Atharv and Akshaj winning all four of their games. They represented Marling superbly — well played, boys.



National Apprenticeship Week

This week was National Apprenticeship Week, and we have been continuing with positive discussions surrounding apprenticeships. Throughout the week, we have had a variety of tutor time activities themed around apprenticeships, with the aim of promoting discussion around things like the different levels, sectors of apprenticeships, as well as the differences between apprenticeships and university degrees.

We have also been lucky enough to have been visited by some Marling alumni, Olly Wills and Ben Wheeler, both in their first year of degree apprenticeships in Real Estate and Civil Engineering respectively. They delivered assemblies to sixth form students to tell them more about the apprenticeships they are currently completing, detailed their day-to-day experience, the benefits of apprenticeships, and how to apply. We hope this week will have been a valuable, informative and thought provoking week in making students more aware of this ever more common route into higher education.

Euan is raising money for the Samaritans

Euan, a Year 10 student, is taking on the Push-Up Challenge this February to raise awareness of mental health and support the vital work of Samaritans. Samaritans is a charity dedicated to preventing suicide through the power of human connection, offering compassionate support to anyone in crisis through trained volunteers who are always ready to listen.

Over 23 days, Euan aims to complete an incredible 2,000 push-ups. His motivation is deeply personal and powerful. As Euan explains: "I'm going to be doing 2,000 push-ups to help raise some money for them because of mental health, as 2,000 people lose their life each day."

It's inspiring to see Euan using his time, energy, and determination to champion such an important cause. If you would like to donate, please click [here](#).

Children's Mental Health Week

This week is Children's Mental Health Week. As part of this, tutors have been encouraged to discuss mental health and what it means to them. A display is also being created outside the Pastoral area, showcasing the support available to students. Students are always welcome to speak directly with a member of the Pastoral Team.

Additionally, a reminder that 'Report a Concern' is available via the Marling Intranet. This goes straight to the Pastoral Team and can be used by students who may not feel comfortable approaching a member of staff in person.

Support Available during School Holidays

FOR STUDENTS

YMMCHAT

Available Mon-Fri
- 9am - 4:30pm

YMM offer a texting service which can be used throughout the school holidays (except bank holidays). This can be done anonymously or not, speaking to someone who can offer support from mental health to concerns about others - 07480 635723

CHATHEALTH

Monday - Friday -
responds within 48 hours

A service provided by NHS School Nurses - a texting system to raise concerns from mental health to wellbeing. They will respond within 48 hours - 07312 263059

Childline

24 hours - 7 days
a week

A phone line that is always available at any time of the day - from support with mental health to simply needing to speak to someone

Samaritans

24 hours - 7 days
a week

A phone line that is always available at any time of the day - to offer emotional support and listening services via 116 123

Family Action

Available 24 hrs/ 7 days

Support for young people and their families. This can be done via their texting service - 07537 404282 between 9am - 7pm. Alternatively, you can use the number 85258 for outside these hours

SafeTalk

Mon-Tue 10am - 5pm,
Wed-Thurs 12pm - 7pm

SafeTalk is an online platform that allows you to speak to someone for support with your mental health and wellbeing, and do so anonymously. You can contact them via their 'chat' icon on their website or via their 'contact us' form at the bottom of their website

SHOUT

Available 24 hrs/ 7 days

A texting service that is available to anyone - 24/7. They're volunteers are available to chat via text - 85258. They can offer support from all things wellbeing and mental health.



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