



MARLING SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

May 8 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Exam season is now underway, and we would like to congratulate all students who have recently completed their GCSE and A Level speaking exams—well done for all the hard work.

Our musicians represented the school brilliantly at the Cheltenham Jazz Festival last weekend, followed by a fantastic Spring Concert on Thursday evening, celebrating the depth of musical talent at Marling. Thank you to everyone who came along to support.

This week also marked an important milestone for Year 13 as they finished their final lessons and began study leave. They celebrated with “old school uniform” day, shirt signing, a final tutor group followed by breakfast and their last assembly. We wish them every success in their exams and the very best for the future.

Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome visitors and showcase our school at our Open Morning next Wednesday. Then on Friday the Marling Debating Society will proudly host Dr Simon Opher MP.

A reminder that Thursday 14 is an INSET day.

Have a great weekend.

Key Dates for the fortnight commencing 11 May:

Mon 11 Y8 Assessment Week Starts
Tue 12 Y10 RE GCSE
Wed 13 Open Morning
Thu 14 INSET

Mon 18 Y10 Geography Farm Trip
Tue 19 Open Morning
Wed 20 Y10 RE GCSE
Y9 Normandy Trip Departs
Y9 & Y12 Chemistry RSC
Thu 21 Silver D of E Final Departs
Fri 22 Y11 Depart for Study Leave

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



Parent Volunteers for Open Morning

Open Mornings are coming up, and in previous years we have been grateful to parents who have generously volunteered their time to chat to prospective families once tours have finished. We would be delighted to hear from any current parents or carers who might be free between 10:30am and 12:00pm on either of the Open Morning dates and would be happy to help in this way. Volunteers would be positioned at the end of the tour, on the lawn area in front of School House, to answer informal questions and share their experiences of the school. If you are able to support us please email lap@marling.school

Exam Season Support for Parents

As we enter spring the exam season begins and it's no surprise that stress levels rise too. Supporting your child's mental health and wellbeing through this season of anticipated change can be challenging.

Helpfully, Let's Talk Well is offering FREE Workshops and live webinars for parents and carers of children aged 11–18 in Gloucestershire who are concerned about their child's emotional wellbeing. These expert-led sessions provide practical tools, evidence-based advice, and supportive guidance. Spaces are limited, and while webinars offer accessible support, more personalised workshops are also available.

Upcoming parent and carer webinar sessions will cover:

- **Understand stress vs. anxiety:** Its impact on young people.
- **Academic burnout:** What is it? Recognise early signs and overlapping symptoms.
- **Connecting through conversation:** How to support your child in discussing exam stress without losing closeness.
- **Effective study routines and time-management strategies:** Learn how to put these into practice.
- **Guidance and Support:** Empowering you to make meaningful change.

Please see www.letstalkwell.org.uk for more information.

Enquiries can be made to hello@letstalkwell.org.uk

Marling School support enquiries: studentsupport@marling.school

Parent & Carer Workshops



Supporting a child's wellbeing?
You don't have to do it alone.

These workshops are here to support you, so you can support them.

Wednesdays

10/06/26 - 15/07/26
(there won't be a session on 24/06)
10.30am - 12.00pm
@Stroud Brewery

Wednesdays

10/06/26 - 08/07/26
19.00pm - 20.30pm
via Zoom

Find out more:
www.letstalkwell.org.uk/parents-carers/workshops

Spring Concert

The Spring Concert was a superb celebration of musical talent at Marling School, featuring a diverse programme of classical pieces alongside popular songs from the stage. Highlights included Harry (Year 11), who impressed the audience with his behind-the-back guitar playing, and Joseph (Year 11), whose Spanish guitar performance and arrangement of the Spanish Medley were outstanding. With excellent contributions from soloists, choirs, orchestra and the Jazz Band, the evening was both enjoyable and memorable. Thank you to the Music Department and our peripatetic teachers for their dedication, and to everyone who came to support the concert.



Junior Maths Challenge

121 students from Year 7 and 8 took part in the junior maths challenge on 29 April. Of these students, 14 scored high enough to progress to the next round, the junior kangaroo. One student managed to progress to the Junior Mathematical Olympiad with a fantastic score of 112.

Year 12 Work Experience

Our Year 12 students will soon begin their work experience placements, and we are delighted with the wide range of opportunities they have secured. Students will gain valuable insight across higher education, healthcare, engineering, finance, law and public service, with placements including Newcastle University, Renishaw, Tony Gee and Atkins, dentistry and accountancy firms such as Babcock and Crowe, Gloucester Crown Court, solicitors' firms, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Trust, Bristol Children's Hospital, and work alongside Dr Simon Opher MP. These placements offer an excellent opportunity to students to develop independence, workplace skills and a clearer understanding of future career pathways.



From Prize to Oxford: Reuben's Inspiring Literary Achievement

As a result of winning third place in the Year 12 Quotation Bank Essay Prize in association with University College, Oxford, I was invited to an awards ceremony at University College. It was a truly amazing experience and honour, getting the opportunity to tour University College and the new humanities faculty, and also speak to an Oxford English tutor and some of her third-year students. The afternoon really invigorated my passion for English and my determination to study it at university amongst people who share my passion, which I got to experience on this afternoon when talking to my fellow winners. I would advise anyone with a passion for English Literature or a specific text to enter next year in the Year 11 or the Year 12 prize. You never know what could happen!

Recent Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver Training

Both DofE Bronze and Silver Training expeditions have taken place in the last two weeks. Well done to everybody involved, especially the silver participants who came in on the Bank Holiday Monday and thank you to staff for giving up their time. The weather was on our side but remember that the qualifying expeditions could well be very wet!

Cheltenham Jazz Festival

Well done to those in the Jazz Band who took part in the Cheltenham Jazz Festival last Saturday!

