

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of the term, and nearly made it with everyone in school. It has been a great effort by all the staff, students, and along with support from families; one I am sure we will need to keep working on next term. We have enjoyed this busy term and our assembly today raised a final smile – well done to all our stars who took part in both this and our Carol Concert last night. We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. I know the students are ready for a break, and the staff will be recharging to hit the ground running again in January.

All families have today received a letter regarding the Government's announcement to stagger the start to the new term, this letter contains vital information and actions – it can also be found [here](#).

Covid-19 Isolation during the holiday

Where a student tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms **more than 48 hours** since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Up to and including the 24th December, if a student tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), **having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school**, the school should be contacted using this [form](#). We will work with Public Health England to identify close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

The Department of Education asks that school staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching.

Where students are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first 6 days following the end of term, the school does not need to be informed about their absence until the first day of the new term.



REMINDERS & NOTICES

Arbor

We hope you have opened and are enjoying your parent app. Via the portal, **you are able to track attendance, punctuality, rewards and sanctions, see club information, book school trips and update your child's medical information, contacts and important parental information**, as well as seeing your child's reports and exam timetables.

The portal has been designed to support all family dynamics, so that more than one parent can have access without seeing each other's private information. If you have more than one child at The Marches, you will be able to switch between each of their accounts easily.

To set up your parent portal account, visit marchesschool.uk.arbor.sc and select the 'first time logging in' link. Please use the email that this bulletin was sent to.

You can then download the app on both Android and IOS devices. If you have any issues downloading, we would be happy to assist, please give us a call on 01691 664400 and we will get the right person to contact you to support.

Languages Mural

We were delighted to unveil our new wall art in the Languages staircase to the students last week.

The vinyl wrap is bold and striking and makes great use of the high ceiling space. Students have enjoyed being in the area.



House Round Up

There is a new House taking the lead after a packed term of events, with last year's winners currently in 5th place. With plenty more events to come – it is not over by a long way!

Current leader board:

- 1st- Stephens 1040
 - 2nd- Hargreaves 900
 - 3rd- Bonington 780
 - 4th- Whittaker 760
 - 5th- Mallory 740
- Congratulations Stephens.

SALAD Day Focus

On Tuesday, the students participated in SALAD Day (speaking and listening all day!). This meant the students had the opportunity to demonstrate their learning verbally and the response we got really impressed us. Students had an exciting day where they engaged in a variety of activities such as: pitching in 'Dragon's Den' for an alternative Christmas tradition; debating whether having lots of money makes you truly happy; verbally peer assessing each other's work; becoming the expert and teaching their peers about a topic; and many more! Students really enjoyed having the chance to excel through this medium and loved being able to have discussions with people they would not usually get the opportunity to converse with. We are already looking forward to the next SALAD Day.



The Battle of Stamford Bridge – Year 7 demonstrating what they have learnt by talking for 1 minute without stopping.

FOCUS Year 7 Headteacher Awards Winners

All Year 9 winners – watch out for something in the post.



Food Bank Donations

Thank you to all families who supported our Food Bank collection – our donation was 50kg. The volunteers said the food bank was the busiest they had ever known it, so the donations were very gratefully received!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Click [here](#) to view our upcoming events. Events at a glance:

- **Futures Week – Wellbeing – Starting 11th January 2021.**
- **Upcoming House Events in the new term – Science Fair Launch, Coding Competition, Winter Sports and Marches Bake Off 2021.**

Click [here](#) to view our term dates.



NEWS

Click [here](#) to view our latest news articles.

Why not also follow us on Facebook [@MarchesSchool](#) for a wealth of content, from student, staff and school celebrations, to competitions. We encourage you to get interactive with our posts!

To hear about news from across the Trust, why not also follow [@MarchesAcademyTrust](#).

