



Great Marlow School

A Specialist Academy

# The VOICE

JULY 2023

ISSUE 53

[www.gms.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.gms.bucks.sch.uk)

## IMPORTANT DATES

School closes for the Summer holidays on Wednesday 19th July at 1pm.

Year 7, 10 and 12 return to school on Tuesday 5th September. All other students return to school on Wednesday 6th September.

A-level results are published on 17th August 2023 and GCSE results are published on 24th August 2023.

## KEY EVENTS at GMS

Please note all our important dates and events, including Parents' Evenings and Examination Timetables, are available on the website and are regularly updated.

## HEADTEACHER'S SPEECH FROM CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS

"Good evening, a very warm welcome to the Mayor of Marlow, Councillor David Brown and the Deputy Mayor Colleen Stapeley, all our invited guests including parents/carers, members of staff and our prize winners of 2023. Tonight, is a wonderful chance to celebrate the success of our prize winners, but also to reflect briefly on the progress made by the school as a whole over the past year. I say briefly as last year we reduced the length of the evening for two reasons, one, that evening the temperature outside was 30 odd degrees and, two, we were still managing COVID. However, the reduced length of the evening was very well received so we are following the same format tonight.

As I have mentioned COVID, I am very relieved that the academic year 2022 and 2023 has been the nearest to normal school year since the pandemic broke in the first part of 2020. However, it is clear certainly in education and in many other aspects of society that the impacts of COVID are still being felt by some children and families. And by that I do not mean symptoms of COVID illness but the aftereffects of the restrictions and differences in experiences of children and families in that period, which in turn has produced a variety of challenges for children, families, and schools. In fact, also for many other public organisations and private companies.

In dealing with the additional challenges, we have continued to operate the school with our core values of Excellence, Compassion, and Integrity as the core pillars of our planning and decision making, particularly, on how we will overcome the additional challenges.

It is still very true that whatever decisions we make as a school we will never satisfy everyone, very often people want polar opposites! It remains the case that some

people want their piece of cake and someone else's piece as well. In fact, some people want the entire cake, to themselves!

We are extremely fortunate at this school that staff here, work with great endeavour and creativity to ensure that the school lives up to its stated ambitions to be a place where opportunities are created, potential is realised, and excellence is achieved. We are always striving to work, with increasing effectiveness, in partnership with our students, parents/carers, and the local and wider community. This is to achieve our vision of being the highest quality learning environment which inspires our students to be compassionate, successful, and resilient contributors to a better society.

Talking of partnerships, we are delighted that this summer Marlow FM will be moving into their new accommodation at GMS, and we are very much looking forward to a long fruitful relationship and to the opportunities this will present for all parties but not least for our students.

Although, I am no fan of Ofsted and in

Don't forget to view the online gallery for photographs relating to many of the articles in this newsletter.



I firmly believe that the educational system in this country would benefit from a root and branch change to the way in which schools are inspected and judged. One system does not fit all and a one word 'trip advisor' style description of a school is just hideous. We were inspected by Ofsted in November of this academic year and ultimately, the report was a very positive one with the very experienced lead inspector saying that although we would be labelled good on our report, but we were in fact a school at the top, top end of good. The feedback from the surveys from parents and carers was equally positive with a very large number of respondents. The final question parents and carers was would you recommend this school to another parent, 97% of parents/carers stated that they would recommend this school to another parent. A little disappointed with the 3% that wouldn't, but ultimately as I said earlier, impossible to please everyone and things that some people want would not necessarily be appropriate or fit with culture and ethos of this school.

A key part of our successful navigation of Ofsted was our curriculum which is fundamental to achieving our vision and we are very proud of the broad and rich curriculum that we offer at Key Stage 3 and the excellent range of subjects' students can choose to study a Key Stage 4 and 5. The richness of our curriculum is delivered through, high quality teaching and learning, lesson after lesson, each and every day. In these lessons, students develop their depth of knowledge and understanding, and the essential skills required to apply this knowledge to variety of situations and circumstances.

On the subject of skills, 'My Personal Best' is still a fundamental part of our curriculum within the school focusing on the 6 Rs, of Respect; Readiness; Reflection; Responsibility; Resourcefulness and Resilience. These skills are explicitly developed in students in all individual subjects and lessons as well as in our extensive extra-curricular programme. This academic year the 7th R of Reading has been introduced very successfully and is positively impacting on all children's vocabulary and use of language both verbally and written, which will only enhance their performance in all subjects and activities across the school.

All of the Rs are essential skills if our students are going to be compassionate, successful and resilient contributors to creating the better society that we strive for.

The return of normal external examinations last year has continued this summer with a full programme of examinations for all students in Year 11 and Year 13, we await the results with excited anticipation, I really do hope that the students and teachers, again this year, reap the rewards of their efforts. As I have said before, there is far more to life than examinations, but their importance should not be underestimated.

Our broad and rich curriculum, during the main part of the school day is enhanced considerably by the extra-curriculum programme we offer before and after the main school day and during the weekends and school holidays.

Over the course of the year, opportunities have been made

available to every student in the school, to further develop their ambition and aspiration with the largest number of educational activities, visits and trips we have ever run. Students and staff this academic year have visited, even more, areas of outstanding natural beauty, towns, cities, ski slopes and explored galleries, theatres, exhibitions and universities. In school we have continued to organise, develop, and host a plethora of academic and cultural activities that enriches the work of this school and strengthens our position at the heart of the Marlow community. Almost, all of these activities take place due to the discretionary effort of staff in school, both teachers and associate staff. They are not paid for their time in the evenings, weekends and school holidays when many of these activities take place.

Talking of being at the heart of the community, we are delighted that this summer Marlow FM will be moving into their new accommodation at GMS, and we are very much looking forward to a long fruitful relationship and to the opportunities this will present for all parties but not least for our students.

Last December, saw the fantastic stage production of a Christmas Carol, led by Mr Ross, with significant support from several other members of staff. The performances will live long in the memories of the people who saw it. There were many highlights but the biggest for me and there was barely a dry eye in the house when two of Ukrainian students amongst the cast delivered their lines in English and Ukrainian, with many of the Ukrainian community invited members of the audience. That moment will live long in my memory.

Never has the compassion and inclusivity of this school been demonstrated more powerfully than the way in which the Ukrainian students have continued to flourish at GMS. I have highlighted the 6Rs earlier in this speech, our Ukrainian children continue to epitomise what it really means to be resilient and resourceful and by the same measure our students have shown fabulous responsibility and respect in the way in which they have supported, encouraged and help these children become an integral part of our school community.

This week, over the first three days we have marvelled at the talent of our Key Stage 3 performers in the Page to Stage Summer Showcase, first performed to local primary schools on Monday and then two packed evening performances to friends and family. On this occasion Mr Ross was being kept in order or should I say ably supported by Mrs Sharp, Mrs Chenery and the very vocal support and singing of Mr Grosart.

We are also very much looking forward to the Summer Music Concert which will take place on Tuesday, orchestrated by Mr Kidd who has had massive positive impact on Music at GMS after just 18 months as Head of Music.

Over the past four years, we as a school have led on the Marlow Schools' collective approach, to increasing our school communities' awareness of environmental issues and challenges. At this point I would like to say thank you to Miss Addy, who has surpassed herself this year with the

quantity and quality of her Eco activities ably supported by her Eco warriors who have grown in number as well as in their passion and commitment to the cause! Look out next year as we host the Marlow Schools' Eco Conference in the spring term.

The compassion of our students, once again, has been clear to see through the charity work that students in all year groups have been involved in this year. We continue to support a number of local, national and international organisations including: the One Can Trust who we will be collecting for again, as is tradition, on our final day of term next Wednesday.

Physical Education, Sport and Physical Activity at GMS is an integral part of the school, the quality of the curricular provision, breadth of sports played, quality of performances continues to grow year on year. I will make no apology for continuing to talk about the importance of physical activity for physical health and mental wellbeing, many people say there is not a magic solution for obesity and depression, well physical activity and exercise may not be magic but the impact of both on physical health and wellbeing is nothing sort of remarkable when undertaken appropriately and can be done at no cost at all which is very important in these financially challenging times for many.

There was a famous commercial back in the 1970s and 1980s for a certain drink that was said to refresh the parts that other drinks could not reach! That is exactly the way I feel about physical activity and exercise, it can refresh the parts of the body and mind that other things cannot reach! As I have written and said before, in simple terms, physical activity can make you healthier, happier and brainier!

The sports awards' evening will be held at school this Friday and the rowing awards dinner on Monday evening, at the Crowne Plaza. The projected combined attendance, again, for both events is over 600 people, this is a true testament to the strength of physical activity and sport at this school. Combined the PE department and the rowing coaches have been involved in over 1500 practices for students and well over 350 competitive fixtures this academic year.

Over the next three days we have a group of students rowing at the British Championships in Glasgow. I am sure you will join me in wishing them well and hoping for great success. Talking of great success, last weekend our latest group of rowers to secure national representative honours were Noah Grottrup, Sal Dunn, Thomas Wiles and Rafael Quinn who were selected to represent England as a crew at the Home International Regatta in Cork, Ireland in two weeks' time. Further outstanding success was achieved by the J16 boys 4 of Rafael Quinn, Sam Terret, George Spencer, Ethan Hunt who were coxed by Monty Todd, they took bronze back in March at the long-distance sculling head at Eton Dorney but surpassed this achievement by taking gold at the National Schools Regatta also at Dorney the end of May. This year for the first time ever we had three crews racing at Henley Royal Regatta a boy's quad, girls quad and boys 8 with the boys 8 winning a race at this prestigious international event for the first time ever.

There are several other sporting achievements that really do deserve a separate mention this evening. Year 8 boys football team won the County Cup, Year 8 girls and boys athletics teams finished first in the district athletics beating 14 local schools to the title. But, arguably, the biggest sporting achievement occurred back in March with our girls Under 18 hockey team becoming tier 3 national champions with a convincing victory at Lee Valley Hockey Centre. This success and the previous successes of GMS, on the hockey pitch, over the past 4 years also saw Miss Porter winning the award for England Hockey National Coach of the Year at the recent England Hockey Awards evening in Leicester. An achievement I believe deserves a round of applause!

The Duke of Edinburgh Award continues to be an important feature of life at GMS, students from Years 9-13 have successfully completed their Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards this year. When you talk about personal development including character development and resilience, this is one fine example. It also this year led to me spending my first night in a tent on a camp site for about 25 years! Rumour has it I almost enjoyed it! The weather was very kind!

It is at this point I would like to thank every member of school staff for their continued hard work, commitment and enthusiasm. I would particularly like to thank the members of staff that through their discretionary effort really do go the extra -mile for this school and its students. I talked earlier about the increasing number of challenges facing society and then in turn schools, it really does feel now that schools are having to take on more and more responsibilities which once belonged to Social Care, the NHS, the Police or Buckinghamshire Council in our area. This is without any extra funding, so I know many colleagues who have recently taken industrial action have done so with a heavy heart and for them it is less about increased salary but far more about appropriate funding to enable schools to effectively carry out the additional responsibilities that are being thrust upon them.

It is no secret, that there is a recruitment crisis in education, teachers are leaving the profession in greater numbers and the numbers of people training to be teachers is dwindling. We at GMS are very fortunate that the reputation of the school, the culture and ethos mean that we are feeling the affect far less than most, but it is having an impact. So, if you fancy a change of career, please do come and talk to me about teaching because we only work 8.30-3.00 and are always on holiday! Enough of my sarcasm because it is said to be the lowest form of wit!

I want to say a very strong public thank you to the Leadership Team for their continued hard work, professionalism and for demonstrating their agility to keep the increasing number of plates spinning and catching them before the fall and discouraging me from wanting to smash the occasional plate!

I also want to publicly thank the Trustees who give so willingly of their time, support the leadership team but also challenge us to improve the school even further; to the members of Friends of Great Marlow who raise much needed funds to



support the school; and to you the parents/ carers who week in week out support us and your children, many of you with unwavering commitment.

At the end of an academic year, it is the traditional time of the year when we say goodbye to colleagues who are leaving the school. So, I would like to recognise this evening as many of them are here, the members of teaching staff who are leaving GMS this summer.

Firstly, please can I say thank you to Mr Anagho and Ms Hussain who have been working in the Maths dept. Miss Green for her work in the Physical Education department this year and Mrs Ford (no relation) for her teaching of drama and Invaluable work as a Learning Support Assistant. Miss McGillivray who has worked in the Citizenship dept, Miss Mills for her teaching of Computing and Mr Grosart and his work in Music.

After 4 years at GMS, Mr Sturt is leaving the Science department to work at Ashfold School on the outskirts of Aylesbury and after 6 years at GMS Mrs Jeremiah is leaving the Drama department to join Windsor Boys School.

And finally, the last member of the teaching staff leaving this year is Mrs Bailey current teacher of English but former Head of English who is retiring after 12 years at GMS. The last may have seemed but to put it in context the list represents less than 10% of the teachers at the school.

Please join with me to offer those members of teaching staff a round of applause to wish them all the very best for the future.

Now we move onto our awards and for me to introduce Mrs Bennett who will announce our first set of awards.

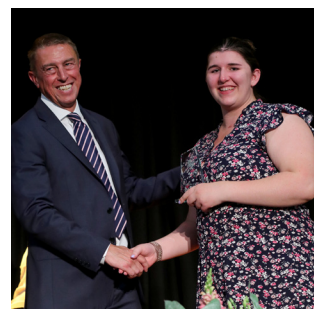
Now for my final comments to the students...some people might say you were lucky to win such awards but...

When people talk about luck, I always go back to an old sporting quote, made famous by a golfer of the 1960s and 1970s, Gary Player, on luck, he said, 'I find the harder I practice and work at my game, the luckier I get.' Congratulations on your awards and prizes this evening may they spur you on to continued and further success in the future."

I hope our entire school community has a very enjoyable summer holiday.

**Best Wishes**

**Mr Kevin Ford, Headteacher**





SCIENCE KS3	LILY NICKLESS	8E1
SCIENCE KS4	SOPHIE RAS	10E1
BIOLOGY	SAMUEL JOHNSTONE-TAYLOR	12H1
CHEMISTRY	ISAAC GROTTTRUP	12H1
PHYSICS	DANIIL PETROV	12H1
PSYCHOLOGY KS5	LOUISA SAUNDERS	12E2
MATHS KS3	ALEXANDRA McGUINNESS	7H2
MATHS KS4	PAIGE SMITH	10K1
MATHS KS5	ISAAC GROTTTRUP	12H1
STATISTICS KS4	SAM HOOSON HANKS	10E3
STATISTICS KS5	LUCA NOVIELLO	12E2
ENGLISH KS3	MEGAN SYLVESTER	9K3
ENGLISH KS4	SHANNON RODBOURNE	10K1
ENGLISH KS5	ALICIA RAY	12H1
ART KS3	KASHIFA ABDUL	8K3
ART KS4	GEORGIA TATE	10H1
ART KS5	ALISHA HASSAN	12E2
DRAMA KS3	LEO BRAY	8H2
DRAMA KS4	KAITLYN BARNES	10H1
DRAMA KS5	MAYA WHYTE	12K1
MEDIA KS4	DARIA HRYHORENKO	10H3
MEDIA KS5	CADHLA CREIGHTON	12H1
CREATIVE & MEDIA KS5	JAMES HADJIKYRIACOS	12E1
MUSIC KS3	LYRA WELLS	9K1
MUSIC KS4	ROSIE McDERMOTT	10K2
MUSIC KS5	MATTHEW McCALL	12E1
PE KS3 BOYS	ARTHUR BARBER	9K2
PE KS3 GIRLS	LUCY APLETREE	9H1
PE KS4 BOYS	ALEXANDER ELDRIDGE	10H2
PE KS4 GIRLS	FLORENCE OWEN	10H1
BTEC SPORT	MALAKHI ALLICK	12H2
PE KS5	MABEL DAW	12H2
FOOD TECH KS3	ERIN FORD	8E2
FOOD TECH KS4	JESSICA RISBRIDGER	10K1
HOSPITALITY & CATERING KS4	ALFIE BEECHEY	10E2
RESISTANT MATERIALS KS3	ZACHARY DANIELS	8E2
RESISTANT MATERIALS KS4	VERONIKA LOPATINA	10H3
GRAPHIC DESIGN KS3	EDWARD DOWNING	8E3
GRAPHIC DESIGN KS4	GEORGIA TATE	10H1
PRODUCT DESIGN KS5	SALVADOR DUNN	12E2
TEXTILES KS3	JOSHUA GOULTY	8E3
TEXTILES KS4	CHARLOTTE TEDDER	10H1
TEXTILES KS5	MILLI GUINNESS	12E1
FRENCH KS3	LYRA WELLS	9K1
FRENCH KS4	HANNAH KING	10K3
FRENCH KS5	VIOLA MARENGO	13K2
SPANISH KS3	MAIA TIMPSON	8K3
SPANISH KS4	RUDI CHAPMAN	10K1
SPANISH KS5	LUCA NOVIELLO	12E2
HISTORY KS3	NOAH CODRON	7E2

HISTORY KS4	CHLOE SHEPARD	10K2
HISTORY KS5	JOSEPH LEGERTON	12K2
CLASSICS	KHADJIA NAWAZ	12E2
POLITICS KS5	DANIIL PETROV	12H1
LAW	REBECCA STEVENS	12K1
GEOGRAPHY KS3	JOSEPH CLARKE	9E1
GEOGRAPHY KS4	HERBIE DUNCAN	10E1
GEOGRAPHY KS5	FAYE SIMPSON	12H1
RS KS3	CASIANA MARINCUCU	9K1
RS KS4	OLEKSII ZAIATS	10H3
CHILD DEVELOPMENT KS4	IMOGEN SHARP	10H1
BUSINESS KS4	ULIANA YANINA	11H1
BUSINESS KS5	MILLI GUINNESS	12E1
TRAVEL & TOURISM	LUCY SCOTT	12K1
PROTECTIVE SERVICES	FINLEY GOMM	12E2
CITIZENSHIP KS3	ALEXA HARTSTONE	8E2
CITIZENSHIP KS4	HERBIE DUNCAN	10E1
DEVELOPMENT IN LEARNING KS3	RONAK CHANA	9K3
DEVELOPMENT IN LEARNING KS4	CHARLIE WALKER	11K3
DEVELOPMENT IN LEARNING KS5	BENJAMIN COLES	13K2
DEVELOPMENT IN LEARNING KS5	AMELIA JONES	13H2
STUDENT SUPPORT	HENRY HARBINSON	10K1
YR 7	SETH LOWDON	7H2
Yr 8	DEMITRI JOHNSON	8H3
Yr 9	SIENNA DOVE	9K3
Yr 10	BRADFORD NYE	10H1
Yr 11	JAMIE TENNANT	11K1
Yr 12	DANIIL PETROV	12H1
Yr 13	AMELIA JONES	13H2
<i>Special Awards 2023</i>		
ATTENDANCE	ELLA-ROSE McGIVERN	13H1
CLAIRE COXWELL CUP	JAKE DENNIS	13K2
ECO-WASTE & RECYCLING	HUGO BESTER	8K1
ECO- BIODIVERSITY	SAMUEL JOHNSTONE-TAYLOR	12H1
ECO-GARDENING	TOBY COONE	8K2
ECO-CHAMPION TROPHY	ERNEST RYTERSKI	11K3
WESTFOLD AWARD	BEN COLES	13K2
THE JOHN SPINK MEMORIAL PRIZE	LOUIS GILMORE	10H3
CHRIS HOWELLS TROPHY	THEODORE BLISSETT	10E1
LANCE SLATER MEMORIAL BEST POTENTIAL CITIZEN	SAMUEL JOHNSTONE-TAYLOR	12H1
JIM CAMPBELL AWARD	MARGARET CHROMINSKI	

## HIGH PRAISE FOR EXAM PROJECTS

**Year 11 and 13 artists have had an incredibly busy term completing their respective GCSE and A-level courses. With it being the first year that the externally set task (exam project) has returned in Art and Design, the students sat their 10-hour GCSE and 15-hour A-level sessions of controlled time without a hitch.**

GCSE coursework has been excellently showcased, with the Year 11 portfolios beautifully mounted onto A1 boards, alongside their top-quality final outcome counterparts. A-level work boasted breathtaking responses which included stunning portraiture paintings and incredibly intricate 3D sculptures, and it's clear our students have worked tirelessly to produce highly developed and thought-provoking, well-developed projects.

Both external AQA moderators praised the department for the impressive calibre and presentation of work on display. We are incredibly proud of all our Year 11 and Year 13 students, and are very excited for their next steps at Sixth Form, University, higher education and beyond.

**By Mrs K Joseph-Stewart**  
Head of Art & Design



**By Yuliia Zayachuk Yr 9**



**By Phoebe Coombes Yr 9**

## FANTASTIC OUTCOMES FROM THE YEAR 9 PORTRAIT PROJECT

The years 9s have been working hard on producing these wonderful concertina sketchbooks that showcase their striking portraits done in 4 different styles. The students have researched the artists Luke Dixon and Florina Nicolle to create portraits in the style of them, a typography portrait, and learning about facial proportion and observational drawing to create a graphite self-portrait all with the underlying theme of understanding tone. We are very proud of the quality work that has been produced this year and look forward to seeing such a strong cohort of students continuing in art for their GCSE option next year.



**By Libby Lawton Yr 9**



## YEAR 10 ENJOYED THEIR 3D PROJECT AND PRODUCED SOME IMAGINATIVE SCULPTURES

Year 10 have been working on their independent GCSE coursework over the past term, and there are some beautiful and experimental outcomes appearing! Following their visit to Borough Market at the beginning of the year, the students have taken part in a number of workshops in a broad range of media and have been able to produce 3D sculptural outcomes, acrylic painting, paper cut, watercolour and ink illustrations. They are now working toward their final 'food and drink' themed outcomes.

This term, the art department has also hosted a series of additional workshops to further their skills. Mrs Joseph-Stewart led an experimental session using the heat press to show how students can incorporate recycled packaging and plastic into their artwork. Mrs Hayward led a session using the printing press, where students used intaglio techniques to produce an etching. Lastly, Mrs Perman led a session on drawing techniques using experimental media.

The sessions were extremely well attended, and students were able to generate valuable coursework as a result. These will become a regular feature in the extra-curricular art programme, in addition to the life drawing sessions currently run for A-level students.

By Mrs J Hayward

## YEAR 12s INSPIRE KS1 PUPILS AT MARLOW C of E SCHOOL

On Thursday 13th July, four of our talented A-level cohort made a visit to Marlow C of E Infant School to deliver an inspiring creative print workshop for KS1, as part of their Art Week. Over the past few weeks, the students have worked collaboratively to develop an engaging afternoon for 60 children based on the theme of 'Summertime'.



Following their own in-depth exploration into a diverse range of print techniques, the students decided this would be a great skill to pass on to the budding young artists of Marlow Infants. The children responded

wonderfully to the opportunity, showing curiosity in their exploration of colour and experimenting playfully with their mark making which culminated in a press print tiles design.

With the support of Miss Moyse & Mrs Perman and the team at Marlow C of E, we then got messy with our printing inks and rollers, to produce a rainbow of hand printed cards, for the children to take away.



By Daisy Holloway Yr 10

By Georgia Tate, Oliver George and Charlotte Tedder Yr 10

By Emily Egleton Yr 10

We are really proud of the Yr. 12s enthusiasm and pride in passing on their passion for the arts and the energy with which they supported and engaged the students. We look forward to further visits with our local primary community!

By Mrs J Moyes



## A THOROUGHLY WELL DESERVED FIRST PLACE!

Fantastic news for our A-level Business students who, at a recent Young Enterprise event, won 1st place for "Best Social Impact" with their Cozeeco business evolution project. They also were winners of the "Inner Wheel of Thame" award and Runner Up of the "Corporate image" award.

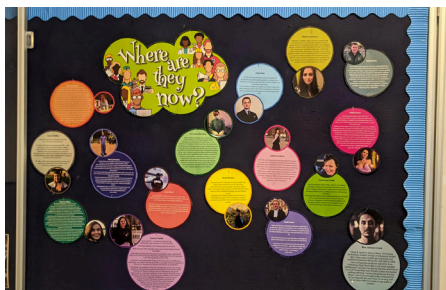


The young enterprise is a nationwide competition which has been enabling students for the past 60 years to compete with other schools on developing and launching real enterprise businesses. The teams are made up of year 12 students- most don't study business but have an interest in the initiative. They acquire some fantastic skills like being creative, launching and marketing a business idea, manufacturing products, maintaining the finances, writing business reports and presenting to the general public.

After a long day of presenting and showcasing their Cozeeco business evolution to a selection of Judges, the Great Marlow Young Enterprise team - Millie Guinness, Alicia Ray, Grace Radnage, Faye Simpson, Rebecca Stevens and Eleanor Anthony, won first place for the "Best Social Impact" award, were winners of the "Inner Wheel of Thame" award and Runners up of the "Corporate image" award. Team mentor Ella Rose Mcgiver was also given an award for recognition of the support she has given this year as student mentor.

We are extremely proud of the efforts and achievements the team has accomplished not only in the regional final event but how they have behaved and represented the school throughout the last 9 months. They have worked tirelessly to build the profitable Cozeeco business and have all flourished during this time in developing important skill sets including planning and presenting in front of large audiences.

By Ms M Broadbent



### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The GMS community of alumni have been supporting the school's careers development programme by sharing their stories of their journey's post GMS.

We have had some wonderful and varied career paths chosen from past students including a Music producer, Nurse, Doctor, Lawyer, Vet, Entrepreneurs, Teacher and many more.

We continue to encourage past alumni's to get in touch and share their stories as a way of inspiring and guiding the future generations of Great Marlow Students.

By Ms M Broadbent

### Y12 ASSESSMENT RESULTS, JUNE 2023

This department offers A-Levels in three subjects: Ancient History, Politics and Law. All y12 students following these subjects sat formal assessments in June.

#### Ancient History

Mea Thomson came top of the class, closely followed by Benny Maddern. The best mark for an individual answer was by Charlotte Pretty for an essay on the Imperial Cult in Ancient Rome.

#### Politics

Joseph Legerton came top of the class, closely followed by Joseph Cogan and Dab Petrov in joint second place. The best mark for an individual answer was by Benny Maddern who wrote a Grade A answer on UK Politics.

#### Law

Rebecca Stevens was top of one class with an A\* score of 95%, closely followed by Joseph Legerton with 93%. In the other class, Grace Radnedge was top with an A\* score of 91%. Isaac Rincon, Lily Sabba, Abbie Stewart and Zoe Weiss all scored Grade A.

By Mr S Pugsley- Head of Department

## YEAR 10 STUDENTS SHOWING THEIR CREATIVITY

Students in year 10 taking their GCSE in Design & Technology (Graphics) have spent this term studying how anthropometrics and ergonomics are applied to the design of various products. They used this information to design their own bottle openers. Their assignment was to create a bottle opener that would be practical, and that Coca-Cola could utilize as a promotional item. They demonstrated resilience when using their CAD skills to construct their concepts. They produced a variety of designs that they evaluated and developed into products with some amazing results.



## YEAR 9 RM STUDENTS USE WORKSHOP SKILLS WITH FANTASTIC RESULTS

In Year 9 the Design & Technology (Resistant Materials) students really engaged with the brief to create novel and original designs to be developed into pendants made from casting pewter. With the core technical skills aspect of bringing the designs to fruition the students had to draw on all of their resilience to be able to make mistakes yet start again with no loss of enthusiasm. Working with a combination of metals and plastics brings a number of challenges but also allows students to slowly master a whole breadth of workshop tools and machines. Some of the results were outstanding.

By Mr N Taylor - Head of Department



## YOUNG FASHION DESIGNER COMPETITION

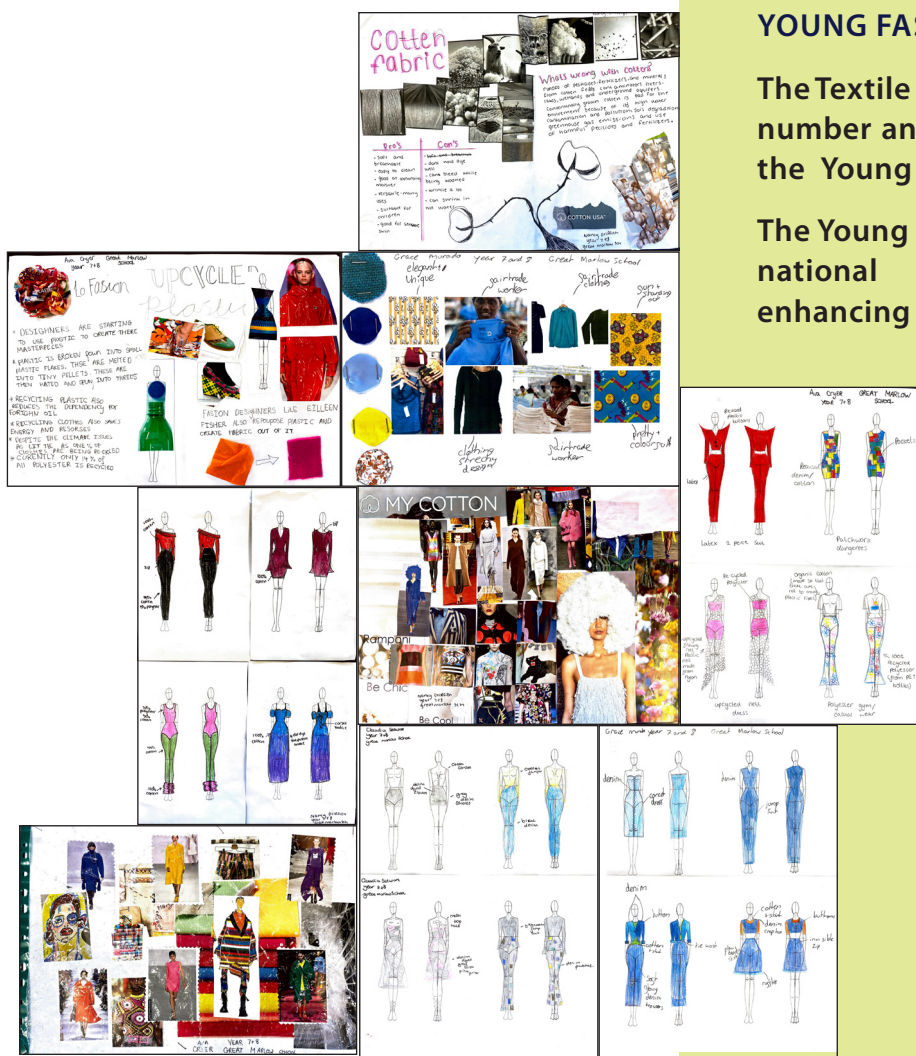
The Textile Department are delighted with the number and superb quality of the entries for the Young Fashion Designers' Competition.

The Young Fashion Designer UK is an exciting national competition that focuses on enhancing the talent of students to showcase and promote exceptional work. As young designers, they were tasked with thinking about how designs have an impact on the environment.

GMS students were given the brief to research a page on sustainable fashion, collect pattern images, source fabric swatches and create a four-outfit design: all with a focus on improving the environment.

We await the results!

By Miss R Addy





## SOMERVILLE COLLEGE TRIP

On Tuesday 16th May, Mr Taylor and Mrs Sadd took a group of 20 English A Level students to Somerville College, Oxford. The students were greeted by Eren from the excellent schools link team at Somerville and spent the day getting to know the university structure and touring the College.

When we first arrived, Erin greeted us and we spent the morning in one of the College's seminar rooms where he delivered a welcome talk that introduced the students to the workings of Oxbridge and Russell group universities. The students were invited to ask questions throughout the talk and were challenged to consider the reasons for attending a top university.

After the welcome talk, we went straight into a personal statement workshop in which our students were able to hear expert advice and real-life examples of excellent personal statements. They gained an insight into what the top universities are looking for and the importance of seeking out 'super-curricular' activities that can help them gain insight into their chosen subject and make them stand out as potential undergraduate students.

We then had lunch in the beautiful 19th Century dining Hall at Somerville before being taken on a tour of the College with a current first year student. Somerville began as a women's only college in 1878 and our students were able to get a behind the scenes look at a college where some of the most successful women in history have studied, including Margaret Thatcher and Dorothy Hodgkin, the third woman in history to receive the Nobel prize for chemistry. Our day ended with a fascinating tour around the Ashmolean Museum by a second year History student.

By Mr S Taylor



## Oxford University Tour

The school trip was an amazing and memorable trip that will also help and influence my future. I appreciate how we were toured around the college by a student in his first year meaning he was in our position not that long ago. The college was incredible to look around and features like the library were very special. By touring around it, it has made me more excited about going to university soon and understanding how campus' work as well as all the societies that are offered. Even if I don't go to Oxford, this has made me intrigued to look around other universities and the food excited me even more!

## Personal Statement Talk

A key thing that I appreciated about this was how although we were at a college of Oxford University, this was generalised for any personal statement for university applications. For any student, we learnt that the key element is having 'super curriculum' activities for example reading books or volunteering within the sector you want to make part of your future. These can be used like steppingstones of making progress to then talk about things that you learn, questions it raised and how you then found out more to show curiosity. All universities look for someone making connections between the subjects they also did for A-levels, furthermore; thinking analytically from multiple points of views to stand out from other students. This presentation will really help me when I do write my personal statement by providing a starting point and knowing the important things to include in the small amount of space you can use.

## Ashmolean Museum

This was a special way to finish the day by looking round a museum that students studying degrees like Ancient History use for additional research as well as lectures. With a student touring us round, it was interesting to see the history from her point of view, noticing which aspects of the museum she showed us out of the whole museum- based on her interests. The key concept was creating questions individually of how we see the artefacts in the museum... For example, questions are raised as to if sculptures that were made were originally produced in colours and what the shades of colour were. There was a copy of a sculpture with another copy presented next to it in bright colours, and although the colours did show and tell the story more, it questions does it change our view of the history of it and how realistic it seems. Other examples included musical instruments with art painted on being presented in glass cabinets- the question is should they be appreciated as history by being played or able to be seen by multiple generations by being held captive? As well as this there was a statue at ground level which was evident of the face seeming quite scary and making us feel uncomfortable as students. This was originally on the top of a building and therefore this aspect didn't matter because from below it looked happy. Consequently, should this be in a museum if it creates rather a negative assumption like this or should it be where it is originated (or what some might say where it belongs)? Questions like this that were created in my mind made the trip made the university and the trip stand out.

By Lauren Hudson





"I was shocked when I was told I was invited to Somerville College as I had never entered and Oxbridge college before. The day started with going into one of the colleges various classrooms where we were given a workshop on writing personal statements, not just specifically for Oxford but for all universities. A focus of this workshop was explaining the advantages of including super-curricular feats into your personal statement instead of extracurricular. The idea behind this is to link what activities you've done outside of school to your course and why the skills it has given you are beneficial to your course. I found this incredibly useful as I was previously unaware of this, and it helped to see examples of successful applicants. After this we were given lunch in one of the halls at the college where I chose to have the meatballs provided. We were then given a tour of the college and it was fascinating to be able to see the inside of areas such as the libraries and learn the history of the buildings, it also helped give an insight of what attending Oxford would be like. We were then given a chance to ask questions to the student who gave us the tour which gave us a realistic depiction of Oxford.

The trip group were then taken to the Ashmolean Museum which I had previously never been too. As an avid museum fan, I thoroughly enjoyed this part of the trip. Whilst we were taken around by a second-year history student, we would discuss topics such as the display and preservation of artefacts at the museum which were of particular interest to me. I discovered that some lectures for history students were hosted in the museum. I am very grateful to all those who helped organise this trip and the staff and students which helped cater us as this trip has really caused me to think about my future."

By Joe Legerton



"On Tuesday the 16th of May, 20 of Great Marlow's finest English students went on a visit to Somerville college - one of 44 colleges that make up Oxford university. The trip began with a coach ride to Oxford, where we were met by Eren, a member of Somerville's access and outreach support team. After a brief tour, we were presented with a presentation about the workings of the British university system, and specifics of the Oxford and Cambridge collegiate system. Then, we had a workshop about personal statements, an important part of the application to university.

After the workshop, we had lunch at the Somerville cafeteria, and then we were given a tour by one of the students of Somerville, including the large library, living spaces and courtyard. Then, we were given a tour of The Ashmolean Museum, a museum dedicated to art and archaeology. We focused our attention on many Greek busts and sculptures, and pieces of art, before a trip to the gift shop, and finally a coach ride home.

Overall, I found the trip very enjoyable, the staff and students of Somerville and the museum were wonderful, and the grounds and facilities of Somerville were excellent. I felt inspired to begin researching and preparing for my own post-16 education!"

By Max Arnold



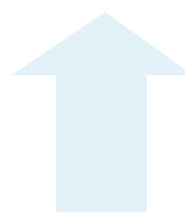
## Introducing The Chime Seekers

The GMS commitment to the 7th R (Reading for pleasure) is very grateful to have been supported by FoGMS. Their generous contribution enabled all of the year 6 transition students to receive their very own copy of *The Chime Seekers* novel by Ross Montgomery. On transition day (July 4th) the students had the opportunity to find out about the novel and read the first chapter with their tutor.

This novel is the selected summer read of the Book Clubs in School charity. This organisation provides an engaging set of questions and activities based around everyone reading the same book. It is for new Year 7s to do over the summer as part of their preparation for secondary school. It will help build their confidence as readers and means that when they start school they will all have something in common. At GMS, we are hoping that most students will have read 102 pages by the time they start. The remainder of the novel will be read as part of English lessons and with their form tutor. There are other exciting activities including: a live Q&A with the author, creative sessions being run during Summer School and an invitation to all new year 7 students to join the KS3 book club.

By Mrs C Legerton

Reading Lead



## The Global Citizenship Conference

Three of our Geography Sixth Formers took part in the Global Citizenship Conference on the 11th July 2023, they sent through our initial video proposal indicating the areas we have been working on as a school to meet and address the Sustainable Development Goals. This focussed on the fantastic work that our Eco Warriors have been involved in and their areas of focus going forward, as well as our drive as a school to reduce waste and improve our environment. From this video they were asked to present this to some of the 8 other schools attending the conference.

The day started with the keynote speaker Peter Lacey who talked about the areas that his company had been working in on an international level to address and meet the Sustainable Development Goals. From this they then broke into small groups to hear the presentations.



Faye, Holly and Tori spoke confidently and with a fantastic knowledge of the areas that our school has been working on to improve biodiversity, reduce waste (energy and physical waste) and encourage our students to live in a sustainable way. They answered the posed questions very well and demonstrated their passion for the topic.

They then were given the opportunity to hear other schools and their areas of focus which included equality and talking poverty. They then listened to a fantastic panel discussion raising issues of Sustainability in the workplace, how this is being achieved and the further work that needs to take

place. Encouraging our students to demand and be the change that is needed for significant improvements to be made in terms of Climate and Equality.

They finished off considering what more we can do within school and our community to further develop this and ensure that we make sustainable changes to benefit our school and community.

By Miss V Coates



## Year 7 Castle Competition – July 2023

Year 7 students the whole year, have recently designed and built castles using household items. The students worked individually or in pairs to produce some amazing castles; some had explanatory booklets and others pictures to show how hard they worked on their project. The castles ranged from classic English, Welsh and Scottish castles to Japanese inspired castles. The History Department, Mr Wilson and Mr Pendlebury spent much of the day judging many different castles and we managed to create a shortlist of finalists:

Maria Hidalgo Minarro (7K1), Eva Jameson, Grace Murado and Scarlett Speare (all 7H1), Lexie Taberer (7E3), Jessie Folly (7H3), Naomi Montagu Silver (7H3), Elizabeth Green (7E1), Isla Lewis-Bell (7H2), Thomas Whiteley (7H2), and Alex Whittle Serrano and Tristan Heath (both 7H3).

From this shortlist and after much deliberation, (owing to the fact that the castles were so fantastic), the following prizes were awarded:

**1st Place and overall competition winner – Isla Lewis-Bell (7H2)**

**2nd Place – Thomas Whiteley (7H2)**

**3rd Place – Alex Whittle Serrano and Tristan Heath (both 7H3).**

**Director of Learning's Award – Jessie Folly (7H3)**

**Head Teacher's Award - Lexie Taberer (7E3),**

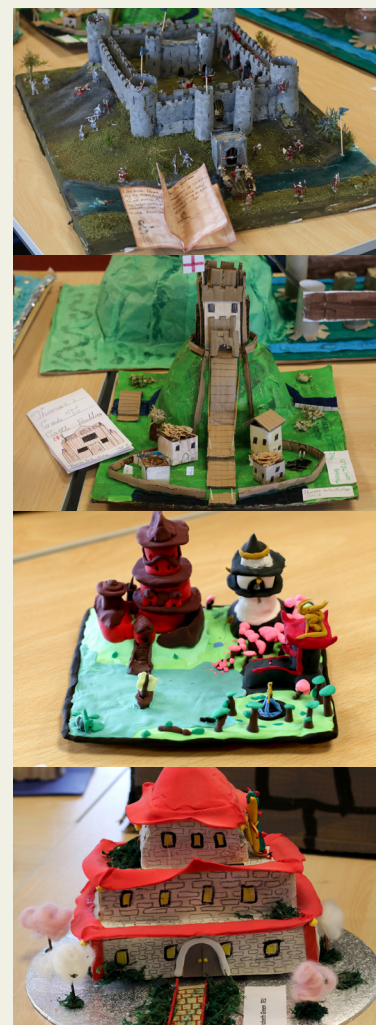
**Shortlisted finalists all received Headteachers Awards for their castles.**

**The winners also received a certificate and prize.**

**Well done to all of Year 7 for their amazing castles!**

**By Mrs S Bullock**

**Head of Department**



## WORK EXPERIENCE WITH THE TOM KERRIDGE GROUP

The year 10 work experience students of Hospitality & Catering and Food Preparations & Nutrition were invited to attend a one week placement at a Tom Kerridge restaurant in Marlow. Four successful students were placed within several restaurants in the area including The Hand and Flowers, The Butcher's Grill and Tap, Lush by Tom Kerridge and The Coach. From Michelin-starred fine dining to the manufacturing of mass catered cuisine for events like the Silverstone and the Monaco Grand Prix, each restaurant has its own distinctive selling appeal.

The students had the chance to work with each establishment's head chef, learning about working in the catering sector and preparing and providing meals for the general public.

I really believe that giving our students this chance to have a first hand experience of what it could be like to work in the hospitality and catering sector has been eye-opening. I have no doubt that this experience has opened up networking prospects for the students and the school, allowing them to keep a close working relationship with the Tom Kerridge group going forward.

**By Miss H. Young**





*The  
Hand &  
Flowers*

*the area I was using. So far this has been a great experience and I would like to take it further. The staff are so nice and helpful. I like how I can get asked to do something and they trust that I can do it and leave me there. I have had the help of Hugo who has been looking after me for the past 3 days and the rest of the employees. Its really nice getting to know what to do and how to prepare award winning meals."*

**By Alfie Beechey – Year 10**

*"I have really enjoyed working with other people and getting helped with the things I have been doing. Today I was in the butchers area for a bit and I got to lay out some of the meats (first pic). The other picture is where I had to find the label of the meats and I got some help figuring out what some were called. After that I marinated some chicken, breaded chicken and mac and cheese balls. I also had to pickle some carrots and wipe down*

## A BUSY TERM FOR OUR MUSICIANS

**The Summer Term kicked off with the inaugural House Music competition. Performing for their respective houses, students excelled in a variety of categories, performing solos or as part of an ensemble with a variety of different instruments.**

In July, the Music Department visited Holy Trinity Primary School, Foxes Piece Primary School, and Spinfield Primary School to perform for a variety of year groups and to inspire the next generation of musicians. A variety of ensembles and soloists performed a thrilling concert for the students, showcasing the outstanding musical talent across all age groups at Great Marlow School. The concert featured the Jazz Wind, Wind Quintet, Rock and Pop bands, Piano Duets and Trios and the Wind Band. The GMS musicians thrived upon the excellent atmosphere created by the audience, who sang with great enthusiasm to 'Another Bites the Dust' and 'Sweet Caroline'.

Many GMS ensembles and musicians were performing in the primary school concert programme for the first time. Isobel G (Year 9, saxophone) said, "It's just so much fun! I really enjoyed playing in the ensembles. I also enjoyed watching other GMS musicians perform". Elizabeth G (Year 9, clarinet) said, "It's really fun playing to an audience. I enjoyed showcasing our instruments to the students".

In the final week of the school year, the Music Department will host the Summer Concert. The 'picnic in the park' themed concert will take place on the field and will feature students across all year groups in a variety of ensembles, including Band Academy, Jazz Band, Lower School Choir,

Piano Duets, Rock and Pop bands, Show Choir, Wind Band and the Wind Quintet.

A huge congratulations to all GMS musicians for their dedication and commitment throughout the year. The Music Department are looking forward to an exciting calendar of events in 2023-24. Finally, thank you to all parents and carers that have supported the Music Department with rehearsals and concerts throughout the year.

The Music Department finished the academic year with the Summer Concert. The outdoor 'picnic in the park' themed concert featured all GMS Ensembles and Bands, rounding off a brilliant year of music. Family and friends of Great Marlow School packed the field with camping chairs and picnics and were treated to a variety of different musical genres. Congratulations and thank you to all students for their hard work and dedication to music all year!

To see more images from music go the the gallery on the school website.

**By Mr O Kidd  
Head of Music**





## House Music Competition

The inaugural House Music competition showcased the outstanding musical talent of students from Years 7-11 at Great Marlow School. The competition comprised a variety of different musical categories and saw students perform on behalf of their house (Eagles, Hawks or Kites).

Students from KS3 and KS4 performed music from a variety of genres, including Classical, Musical Theatre and Pop & Rock. A special mention must go to Jude C and Zeph F, and Paul H and Hugo B, who composed and performed their own music to a very high standard.

Guest judges Miss Westie, Mrs Bennett, Mr Sturt, Mr Bradley, Mr Pightling and Miss Moyse had the challenging task of judging the competition and awarding 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for each category. Congratulations to all musicians for a fantastic competition. Eagles finished in 1st place with 380 points, with Hawks and Kites finishing in joint 2nd place with 310 points.

### House Winners:

**KS3 Drum Kit: Jack H**

**KS3 Ensembles: Paul H and Hugo B**

**KS3 Instruments: Clara B**

**KS3 Piano: Vadym P**

**KS3 Voice: Jemima C**

**KS4 Ensembles: Ella N and Matilda S**

**KS4 Instruments: Marnie C and Barnaby S**

**KS4 Piano: Ivy B and Erika V**



**House Music will be  
back in 2023-24!**

By Mr O Kidd  
Head of Music





## Y9 Science Field investigations

As part of our GCSE Ecology topic our Y9 scientists have been busy in the School field - they developed and created their own investigation looking at how light intensity effected the growth of ribwort in the school field. The teams developed their own hypothesis (prediction) and then had spent a great lesson outside gathering results using a systematic sampling method they had designed. The teams had a fab time exploring the flora on the school grounds, helped by the fabulous weather, and got some accurate and repeatable results - well done 9E3 Scientists!

By Mrs E Brassington



## A FANTASTIC DAY OUT AT WHIPSNADE ZOO

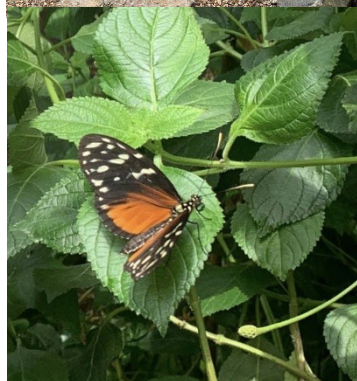


*"On the 5th of June 2023, Great Marlow took Year 8 to Whipsnade Zoo. After a 40-minute drive with 232 students and 20 members of staff we arrived at Whipsnade Zoo. As soon as we arrived at Whipsnade Zoo we split into groups and started our activities. My group went to the Chimps. We observed the chimpanzees and their behaviours and discussed the intelligence of multiple animals. It was so interesting to hear about how fascinating animals are. After exploring a bit more of the zoo my group headed to see the Giraffes, Zebras and Lions (which we didn't see because they were hiding as*

*new to the zoo). Around 12:30 we headed to eat lunch and discussed our plan for the afternoon. After lunch we went off to see more thrilling and exciting animals - Flamingos, Tigers, Penguins and Emu's. Finally, we went*

*to the shop for drinks and ice cream. They were delicious! We went round to see the wild Boars and Meerkats. We finished the day by going through the Butterfly enclosure which so pretty and magical. It was so cool to see how animals live and are adapted to their habitats. After the long day of walking, with over 10,000 hectares of land and seeing over 600 species of animals we all went home on the buses. Everyone was buzzing with excitement to go home and tell their family what an amazing day they had. My favourite part was definitely the Butterfly enclosure because we got so many great pictures and it was so amazing to be that close to them. I hope future Years 8's get to do this trip because it was really fun and one of my favourite trips."*

By Bella Street 8E1





## SPIRITED ARTS COMPETITION



Summer term in year 8 Religious Education can only mean one thing... Spirited Arts! This is a major international competition with approximately 3,000 individual entries per year that all year 8 students at Great Marlow School have been working hard to enter. Each year, the National Association of RE Teachers (NATRE) welcome entries from hundreds of schools around the world related to different themes provided.

**This year, year 8 have been able to explore 'We have more in common than that which divides us' in memory of Jo Cox MP, 'where is God?' and 'all God's creatures'.**

The students began learning about the meaning behind, and questions raised by, each of these themes and then took responsibility for their project by choosing which theme they would like to pursue, who they would work best with and what type of creative work they would produce. In each class, a 'gold', 'silver' and 'bronze' award will be given, and then from all of these, the RE teachers (Mr Pightling, Mrs Todd and Miss Moyse) will choose ten entries to enter the national competition.

The department is very proud of the effort and creativity shown by our students, as you can see from just some of the amazing entries below. Scarlett (8K2) said: "It was a new creative experience that helped us learn to work in a team producing good work", Jack (8E2) also said: "It was fun to do and interesting".

We have had paintings, sculptures, animation scenes, poems and even cakes! We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and carers who have supported their year 8 students with materials and other support at home.

**By Mr G Pightling  
Head of Department**



## THE POND PROJECT GETS UNDERWAY!

On Friday 16th June, Great Marlow School undertook a huge undertaking: The Pond Project.

The aim was to install a new nature pond behind S-block, to create a place where important local wildlife can take refuge.

However, it was too big a project to do alone. So, the GMS Eco-team called in some help: an amazing assembly of people from Softcat, Wild Marlow and many eco-conscious students. They all worked to bring about the fruition of Miss Addy's planning and hard work.

There was so much to do. Firstly, the remnants of the previous pond was removed: the neglect meant it had fallen into decay. This involved removing the old liner. Before that was achieved an extensive list of things had to be tackled: cut back overgrown thorns and brambles and removed to be composted; clear out mud and plants from where the new pond was going to be installed; dig around the edges of the old pond liner; dig up the gravel from the old pond so it can be reused.



Only, when all that had been accomplished, after a number of hours, could the new pond liner be put in. It was noon: clearing up took that long!

All morning, the teams were accompanied by a cheeky little blackbird, who had come scavenging for a snack. He wasn't bothered by all the noise being made, he was only interested in a worm or two. It reminded the team why they were making a difference to the environment - to make a positive impact on local wildlife.

After a break from the arduous labour in the 25°C sun, the workers returned to the task - putting the liner in. The liner was so gigantic that it was all hands on deck just to get it properly installed!

Once that was achieved successfully, the liner had to be filled in with 2 tonnes of soil. This meant many wheelbarrow trips back and forth. At this stage, everyone had to be very careful of their step as even one puncture to the lining would have negated everyone's hard work and planning. Fortunately, we managed to get it filled up with soil after a couple hours without any damage to the liner.

At about 1:30, everyone stopped for a well-deserved break. The canteen staff very kindly gave us sausage and chips.

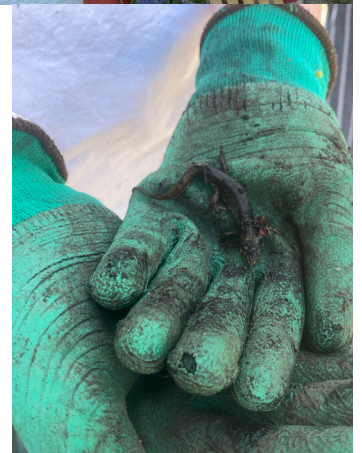
Twenty minutes later, the mission was resumed, but with even more hands! Mr Ford kindly allowed students who regularly attend gardening club a lesson off timetable to help in the endeavour. This meant that there were extra hands to help filling up the pond and clearing up debris from earlier that day.

Once the end of the day came, everyone was delighted with the progress made. But, just because the day had been successful does not mean the project was completed.

Ongoing work includes planting water plants into the pond. (Wild Marlow has kindly donated many plants, however, weeds have to be cleaned off them, before they can be planted, which is a very difficult task.) The surrounding area has to be cleared, so that it can be more easily accessed. There is talk of a wooden decking, which would enable students to more easily access the pond area, should they need to do so for their learning.

The main goal of this project is to help contribute to the local ecosystem by providing a haven for animals, plants, and insects. It also demonstrates that large eco-projects like this can be undertaken and be a source of inspiration for other schools to pursue their own projects and help fight against climate change!

By Miss R Addy





**This half term, both the Eco-Warriors and Gardening club have been working together tirelessly to make the school environment and local environment a better place. We have been busy organising trips, events and working on huge projects – like the pond project. As such, we'd like to share our tremendous strides of progress we have made throughout this term with everyone!**

In the start of March, Gardening club went on a school trip to Flowerland in Bourne End, thanks to our wonderful eco lead, Miss Addy. We were given a budget of £300 to spend on both annual and perennial plants (plants that grow within the span of a year, then die, as well as plants that grow back every year and die back in winter, respectively). We divided everyone into groups and gave them a task – to find beautiful yet cheap plants we could plant at a specific area around the school, where different groups oversaw different areas. Some groups decided to pick up only purple plants, whereas other groups only picked up “hairy” plants or even only climbing plants. All in all, we had a fantastic haul of colourful and vibrant plants to scatter around the school site, even if we did go overbudget a little bit (sorry Mr Ford).

The day after the trip, we had lots of work to do. We had to get all our new plants in the ground quickly otherwise all that money would have gone to waste. So, we got to work. We scattered them all around the school to help bring a little bit of life and colour to the place! Not long after we got them all in the ground, we were hit with a dry spell... This meant that we all had to work together to make sure everything was watered daily – which is an arduous task when carrying around buckets of water in 25°C heat. Eventually, we did get some rain!

Thanks to the help of the wonderful DT department, we were able to upcycle some old metal watering cans into nice pots to plant some of the “hairier” plants into. We spray painted them in many different colours and drilled drainage holes underneath them. Painting them in bright colours really helps bring out that summer feeling and makes the school a nicer place to be. It was also a fantastic way to reuse something old and give it a new lease on life – I'd say it was certainly a nice addition to the school.

Another thing we have been working on this term, is the planting of oak saplings on the field. We planted 8 in total just behind the Astroturf. Making sure they were all watered sufficiently was very hard, as they each needed 6 full watering cans of water every month. Especially since they were planted right at the edge of the school grounds, which means it is very difficult to carry large amounts of water to them in one go. They did help me get my steps in though! They are definitely one of the more difficult plants to look after, but hopefully in the coming decades, future students can reap the fruits of our labour!

We also undertook a huge project this term – the pond project.

Our aim was to install a new nature pond behind S-block, where lots of important local wildlife could take refuge. However, it was too big to do alone. So, we called in some help! We managed to assemble an amazing team of people from Softcat, Wild Marlow and lots of eco-conscious students to help bring all of Miss Addy's hard work and planning together.

There was lots to do. Firstly, we had to start by clearing the remnants of a pond that had previously been put there but had been neglected and allowed to fall into decay. This meant we had an extensive list of things to do before even thinking about getting the new pond lining in. We had to; trim down overgrown thorns and brambles to be composted, clear out mud and plants from where the new pond was going to be installed, dig around the edges of the old pond liner, and dig up gravel from the old pond to be reused. After we'd finished all of that, we could think about getting the new pond liner in, but clearing up beforehand took us until noon! However, we weren't the only ones getting involved! A cheeky little Blackbird had come scavenging for a snack. He wasn't bothered by all the noise we were making and was only interested in a worm or two. It reminded the team why we were doing it and how much of a positive impact it's going to have on local wildlife.



After a break from this arduous labour in the 25°C sun, we got back to putting the liner in. The liner was so gigantic that it was all hands on deck just to get it properly installed! After we successfully got the liner in, we had to fill it up with 2 tonnes of dirt. This meant lots of wheelbarrow trips back and forth. At this stage, everyone had to be very careful of their step as even one puncture to the lining would negate everyone's hard work and planning. Fortunately, we managed to get it filled up with dirt after a couple hours without any damage to the liner.

At about 1:30, everyone stopped for a well-deserved break, where the canteen staff very kindly let us have some sausage and chips. 20 minutes later, we resumed our mission, but with even more hands! Mr Ford kindly allowed students who regularly attend gardening club a lesson off timetable to help our endeavour. This meant that we had extra help filling up the pond and clearing up debris from earlier that day.

Just because we were finished for the day, does mean the project is done, however! We still must; plant water plants into the pond (Wild Marlow kindly donated us lots of plants, however we have to clean all the weeds off them, before we plant them, which is a very difficult task) and clear up the surrounding area so that

it can be more easily accessed. I believe there is also talks of a nice wooden deck to be put down next to it so that students can more easily access it should they need it for their learning.

Our main goal with this project is to help contribute to the local ecosystem by providing a haven for animals, plants, and insects. It also demonstrates that large eco-projects like this can be done and be a source of inspiration for other schools to pursue their own projects and help fight against climate change!

We are also involved in a solar project. A startup company called Next Day Solar has agreed to help add solar panels to the year 11 pod, in an effort to reduce our carbon footprint and make the pod more self-sufficient. We have also been working with the Marlow Environmental Trust in hopes of appealing for funds which we can use to make this dream a reality! Our most involved members are using this as an opportunity to improve their understanding of alternative energy such as wind and energy, with the help of the science department (huge thanks to Mr Day), and Next Day Solar.

Our amazing litter picking team also take on huge responsibilities around the school. They play a huge part in making sure the school is presentable and free of litter which

could damage local wildlife and habitats. They help make our school environment a better place for everyone, and they are tirelessly working with the Marlow Wombles to expand their reach beyond just the school grounds by seeking to maintain Riley Park in Marlow. Huge thanks to all of our amazing litter pickers, especially Huge and Alex!

I would also like to extend this huge thanks to; our hardworking site team and Mr Barlow for their astounding support on pond day, Mr Shea for building a wonderful compost bin, Mrs Lamming for hosting weekly gardening meetings, and lastly, Ernest and Mrs Addy for taking responsibility for every project and making sure everything goes smoothly.

If you would like to donate to us, you can do so through wise pay – our projects aren't cheap (again, sorry Mr Ford)! Help us leave a positive impact on the environment and offset our carbon footprint!

**By Sam Johnstone-Taylor**



## CHESS CLUB HAS BEEN A GREAT HIT

Regardless of whether an experienced chess player or just a beginner (which many of the beginning students were), what a lot of students want to know is, how will it help to join a chess club? Here are some reasons:-

One of the main advantages of being in a chess club is the help that it can provide someone just learning the game. Great Marlow School Chess Club welcomes new players. It's their way to grow interest in the game of chess. It gives a new player experience within a tournament setting, such as recording moves, using a chess clock, and knowing chess etiquette and official rules. (Knowing your 'En Passant'\* from your 'Zugzwang'\*\*)

Playing chess requires a complex mix of different skills as well as the ability to teach yourself and learn from mistakes. It also has an aesthetic value, an extensive literature, and an extraordinary heritage, as well as a competitive angle to be enjoyed by both boys and girls.

It is also a welcoming place to make good friends in a relaxed and warm atmosphere. The Chess Club is open to Year 7 right through to 6th Form, where the older players can gain some coaching experience by helping the newer recruits to the game.

The Club is currently very popular, which presents a slight problem in that we are in desperate need of more chess boards and pieces and chess clocks, so any help with these would be much appreciated.

We are due to enter national tournaments next year. Those interested in joining, helping, donating or just socialising, we meet on Thursdays at 3pm in T1 for an hour.

**\*Capturing a pawn that moved 2 spaces with a pawn that could have captured it if it had only moved 1 space, on the next turn only.**

**\*\* The obligation to move when any move at all will be bad.**

**By Mrs D Simon**



## A FUN REWARD DAY FOR WINNING HOUSE

GMS are delighted to announce the winners of the House Reward: Kites. Congratulations to every member of Kite House for gaining the award.

On Monday, Kites from all year groups, enjoyed an inflatable bouncy castle assault course which was arranged for the winning house. They all had a great time!

Staff congratulate GMS students in all three Houses on their hard work and efforts this academic year. Kites won by a narrow margin, which can be overturned in the next academic year.

Our students, in all three Houses, have earned a massive number of achievement points: well done everyone.

Thanks also go to the dedicated House Leaders and Mrs Bennett.



This has proved a transitional term for the leadership of Year 7 with Mrs Messenger going on maternity leave. Miss Tuddenham and Mrs Craig were acting Directors of Learning for the interim until Mrs Pendlebury took the year group on after her previous year group (Year 11) finished their exams. Mrs Flannery, the Year 7 Student Support Officer, has guided the year group throughout their first year at GMS offering support and guidance to ensure that both the academic and pastoral needs of our students have been met.



## PARENTS EVENING AND PROGRESS REPORTS

The final set of Year 7 progress reports were issued on the 21st June giving students, parents, carers and teachers a holistic view of student progress and achievement during the first year at GMS. Year 7 parents evening followed on the 22nd of June. With both the progress report and parents evening, we hope that parents/carers and students are confident with knowing their strengths and areas for development moving forward. We are delighted at how many students have received a positive progress report for the summer term. Indeed, 69 Year 7 students have 12 or more (out of 14) "Excellent" grades for their attitude to learning. Students will be rewarded with DOL postcards and achievement points.

The first year at secondary school is drawing to a close for our Year 7s and we are very proud of how well our students have settled into our school meeting our expectations for behaviour and attitude to learning. The Year 7 tutors, Mrs Flannery and Mrs Pendlebury are looking forward to guiding the year group into Year 8.

**Have a lovely summer!**

By Miss F Tuddenham

Acting Director of Learning Y7

## 6 RS POSTER COMPETITION FOR THE KS3 OFFICE

Students designed posters based on the 6 Rs which would be displayed as art work in our KS3 Office.

Winners (achievement points and prizes)

**1st place-Courtney Westfield (7H3)**

**2nd place-Noah Codron (7E2)**

**3rd place- Isla Lewis-Bell (7H2)**

Runners up (achievement points and work displayed):

**Elizabeth Green (7E1)**

**Jude Collin (7E1)**

**Lucas Barnett (7E2)**

**Year 7 students who received 10 or more Excellent Attitude to Learning grades on their Progress report:**

### 7E1

Willow Andrews  
Jude Collin  
Darcey McNeill  
Jack Morgan  
Sofia Pritchard  
Riley Stevens  
Ella Wiggs-Steele

### 7E2

Oliver Barclay  
Lucas Barnett  
Evie Beasley  
Amelia Berger  
Faith Brooks  
Jake Clegg  
Noah Codron  
Rasheeda Dean  
Kayla Dow  
William Hardman  
Jack O'Reilly  
Thomas Pasini  
Riley Payne  
Joshua Urie

### 7E3

Erin Arnold  
Cara Nuttall  
Lexie Taberer

### 7H1

Josie Bevins  
Sam Hall  
Eva Jameson  
Annabelle Jones  
Natalia Kearey  
Jasper Lai  
Ella Laithwaite  
Grace Murado  
Scarlett Speare  
Braden Stark  
Ava Williams

### 7H2

Alfie Clark  
Ahmed Contractor  
Isla Lewis-Bell  
Alexandra McGuinness  
Isabella Monaghan  
Delilah Nicol

### Thomas Whiteley

### 7H3

Lucy Bedford  
Annabel Clayton  
Ava Harbinson  
Niamh O'Conchuir  
Courtney Westfield  
Poppy Butler

### 7K1

Lucas Harry  
Maria Hidalgo Minarro  
Halima Hussain  
Tilly Martin  
Vincent Proffitt

### 7K2

Will Clarke  
Liv Egginton  
Grace Suder

### 7K3

Elle De Beer  
Reggie Gregory  
Sophia Hall  
Sophia Hicks

### Morya Kanti

Bethany Kentell  
Jack Martin  
Kateryna Matsui  
Hasan Nawaz  
Maddox Potter  
Sophie Rogers  
Gracie Shaw  
Alex Whittle-Serrano

### Year 7 Achievement Points – top points scorers:

**7E1: Jude Collin, Riley Stevens**

**7E2: Noah Codron, Josh Urie**

**7E3: Cara Nuttall, Erin Arnold**

**7H1: Eva Jameson, Sam Hall**

**7H2: Alexandra McGuinness, Amber Nickolls**

**7H3: Jessie Folley, Ava Harbinson**

**7K1: Tilly Martin, Lucas Harry**

**7K2: Will Clarke, Katie Weatherspoon**

**7K3: Reggie Gregory, Hasan Nawaz**



This has been a very busy for Year 8. It has been remarkable to see the students grow up into mature and responsible members of the GMS community; with Year 9 only a matter of weeks away, I am confident that this group of students will continue to impress and grow as they begin to prepare for their GCSE years.

The Summer Term always seems to be a very busy one. Year 8 is true year of transition as the students are no longer the youngest in the school and begin to build resilience and take more responsibility for their learning, extra-curricular contributions and general conduct around the school. I am proud to work with this year group; they are the largest year group in the school and (according to reliable sources) the largest year group every at GMS. In spite of the huge number of individuals in Year 8, there remains a sense of community and joint identity shared by the students. Our excellent team of form tutors have maintained this through the high standards, set routines and nurturing approach to tutoring.

## PARENTS' EVENING

The Year 8 Parents/Carers evening in June was a success and I was very happy to hear some of the positive feedback from parents and carers. On the whole, the students have demonstrated the 6 R's of the 'My Personal Best' ethos of the school in an admirable fashion. The Summer term progress grades reflected this very well with the vast majority of students receiving all 'Excellent' or 'Good' for their ATL.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Beyond progress grades and the Parents/Carers Evening, we have also had some brilliant extra-curricular events. The Year 8 Science trip to Whipsnade Zoo, led by Mrs Brassington, was an excellent day out and one that won't be forgotten in a hurry. I was very proud at the behaviour and general conduct of our Year 8 students who were polite and enthusiastic

throughout the day; feedback from staff was very positive. Some of the highlights included a chaotic experience with a group of penguins and some bad behaviour from the chimpanzees!

## WORLD OF WORK DAY



This term, Year 8 also had a 'World of Work' day led by Yasmin from the brilliant 'Learning to Work' team. The students worked in groups to come up with an idea for an app, put together a visual design, create a business plan, and then presented to some of other groups of students. I was struck by the incredible levels of professionalism that our students presented throughout the two days. Some of the ideas were fantastic and the students did themselves proud in the way that they conducted themselves and represented the school. They have certainly picked up skills that will be applicable in a workplace and it was an exciting experience to see how much responsibility they were able to take on.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with year 8 this year and am very much looking forward to continuing their journey with them as they move into Year 9 from September.

By Mr S Taylor - Director of Learning Year 8



**Congratulations to the top achievers in each tutor group of Year 8. The following students are the two students who received the most achievement point in their tutor group:**

8E1	8H1	8K1
Lily Nickless 698 (A special well-done to Lily who has the most achievements points in the year!)	Luke Quann 296	Raphael Tsolaki 235
Bella Street 636	Ruby Cicchirillo 223	Clara Burge 231
8E2	8H2	8K2
Alexa Hartstone 263	Jamie Watson 312	Christian Parker 228
Fin Baxter 240	Evie Weston 268	Ava Cryer 192
8E3	8H3	8K3
Edward Downing 380	Louie East 247	Hugo Bester 335
Georgia Morris 356	Grace Puddephatt 234	Maia Timpson 267

Lastly, special congratulations to the following students who achieved all 'Excellent' for their attitude towards learning:

Lexie Togwell	8E1
Lucy Hunter	8E1
Jayden Pierce	8E1
Jess Royds	8E1
Lorella Fyfe	8E2
Sienna Goulty	8E2
Alexa Hartstone	8E2
Edward Downing	8E3
Ethan Poole	8E3

Clara Burge	8K1
Georgina Greening	8K1
Ava Cryer	8K2
Charlie Fitch	8K2
Nancy Griffith	8K2
Ava Brownlee	8K2
Ruby Cicchirillo	8H1
Tom Hawksworth	8H1
Elodie Knott	8H1
Grace Hull	8H2
Jamie Watson	8H2



**Year 9 have coped really well with the changes they have had to deal with this year. One of the biggest challenges for Year 9 was having to choose their GCSE options. The Options process has now concluded with almost all students receiving the first-choice options that they requested. Our students can now look forward to studying their chosen subjects. We look forward to helping them start their CGSE careers at Great Marlow in September.**

## PROGRESS REPORTS

The final set of KS3 progress reports were issued on the 23rd June giving students, parents, carers and teachers a holistic view of student progress and achievement at Key Stage 3. Students will be rewarded with DOL postcards and achievement points.

## UNIFROG

In keeping with our commitment to provide students with outstanding careers guidance and tailored support when choosing their next steps after school, we will now be using Unifrog; an award-winning, online destinations platform. All students in Years 9 now have access to this website.

Unifrog is the universal destinations platform and is designed to support learners in making the most informed decisions about their futures and has a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups. Each student has their own account where they can explore all the career and next step options available to them and find information on everything from managing their workload to writing a winning CV. Students have access to a wide variety of video and written content, and interactive quizzes and tests, including:

- **Quizzes**
- **Exploring pathways**

- **Recording activities/skills**
- **Searching for opportunities**
- **Application materials**

## ESAFETY - IDEA

All of Year 9 will be taking part in some E-safety Computing activities during form time over the next month. The students have all been given logins to iDEA and will complete the following courses: E-safety, Social Media Ethics and Digital Ethics.

## KS4

It is a very exciting time for Year 9 who begin their KS4 GCSE studies in September 2023. As a Year 9 team, we have been very proud of the respect and responsibility the students have demonstrated this year. Mrs Spencer, School Support Officer Year 9, and I (Director of Learning Year 9/KS3) will continue working with the year group into Year 10 and KS4. We look forward to guiding Year 9 through their GCSEs and beyond.

**I wish you all a relaxing and reenergising summer. See you in September, when the work begins again!**



## Year 9 students who received 10 or more Excellent Attitude to Learning grades on their Progress report:

APLETREE Lucy	9H1	JOHNSON Matilda	9H1	SALINAS Ava	9H3
BARTOSZ Alexandra	9H3	KENNEDY Brodie	9E3	SHERWIN Zak	9H3
BASON Ava	9H3	LANCASTER Addy	9E1	SINGH Apoorva	9H2
BAYLISS Xanthe	9H3	LUNN Elise	9E3	SMITH Matthew	9H3
BENNETT Daisy	9H2	MARCINKUS Markas	9H3	SPENCER Zahra	9K1
BURGE Ivy	9H1	MARINCU Cassy	9K1	SYLVESTER Megan	9K3
BUTCHER Isabelle	9H2	MCCAHERON Rhiannon	9K1	TALWAR Tonisha	9K2
CHANA Ronak	9K3	MCKIE Tameka	9K2	THEN Olivia	9K2
CHAPPLE Ivy	9E3	MILES GRIFFITHS Charlotte	9H3	TRIBE Emilia	9K2
CHERRINGTON Pixie	9H3	MITCHELL Daisy	9H1	URIE Olivia	9H3
CONNOR Gemma	9H1	MONKS Eleanor	9E1	WEISE Elisa	9H1
CUMMINGS Eleanor	9E3	MORGAN Sienna	9H2	WELLS Lyra	9K1
DA ROCHA Daniel	9K3	NORRISH Isabel	9K1	WHARFE Tom	9K2
DAY-STEVENSON Phoebe	9H1	NYE Grayson	9H1	YURYCHKO Yuliana	9E2
DONOHUE Freya	9K3	O'CONCHUIR Saoirse	9H3	ZAYACHUK Yuliia	9E1
FOYLE Mary-Ellen	9E3	PANTING Scarlett	9K1		
FROOME Henry	9K3	PEARCE Sebastian	9H2		
GLADWELL Elizabeth	9K3	PEEK Lois	9H3		
GLADWELL Isobel	9K3	PENDLEBURY Natasha	9K1		
GROOM Annabelle	9H2	RADNEDGE Bea	9E1		
GUINNESS Orla	9E3	RANDALL Freya	9H2		
HALL Charlotte	9K1	RASMUSSEN Erin	9E3		
HOBDELL-WILLIAMS Freya	9E1	RICHARDSON Verity	9H3		

## Year 9 Achievement Points – top points scorers:



9E1  
WILLOW ANDERSON  
ADDY LANCASTER  
9E2  
ROSEMARY SHARP  
YULIANA YURYCHKO  
9E3  
ELEANOR CUMMINGS  
CALLUM KANE  
9H1  
DAISY MITCHELL  
GRAYSON NYE  
9H2  
SIENNA MORGAN

ANNABELLE GROOM  
9H3  
PIXIE CHERRINGTON  
MARKAS MARCINKUS  
9K1  
CHARLOTTE HALL  
NATASHA PENDLEBURY  
9K2  
SAM ARZBERGER  
TOM WHARFE  
9K3  
HANNAH QUESTER

**Year 10 has had a busy term of new experiences, and many continue to show resilience in the face of challenges. Throughout the term their tutors and teachers have been preparing them for the GCSE Mock Examinations and their Workplace Experience Day.**

## GCSE MOCK EXAMS

Students responded well to the recent GCSE Mock Examinations, and I am very proud of them for their positive learning behaviours. The exams have proved successful in teaching the students the routines and expectations associated with formal examinations and overcoming the barriers that they have faced with these. The examination period has highlighted some specific needs of some students whilst giving others the opportunity to display their resilience and responsibility regarding their own academic attainment. Tutors and the pastoral team have been on hand to support the students in navigating this new experience of nerves, anxiety of the unknown and pressure.

Well done to Year 10 for working their way through the exam period - I have had lots of them telling me how proud they are of themselves now that they are having their scores and grades returned to them.

## WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE

The Workplace Experience Day happened on Tuesday 11th July.

The intentions of the experience were for students to:

- Identify their skills, strengths and desires for work
- Research appropriate industries of interest
- Research convenient workplaces within these industries
- Contact workplaces to request placement
  - o Much like a cover letter for a job application
- Requesting the completion of forms by employers

Most students successfully completed this process and secured workplace experiences. The students that did not manage to secure a Workplace Experience were provided with English, Math and Science Career-related sessions and an afternoon of virtual workplace activities.

## PREFECTS

The KS4 Prefect Team has been selected and 30 of these have been actively involved with duties, developing ideas for their Area of Impact and attending meetings.

Thank you to those KS4 Prefects involved with the Year 6 Transition Day - there was high praise all round for your support and engagement with the Year 6 Pupils.

The remainder of the KS4 Team will be presented their Ties in the final week of the school year in a ceremony with Parents in attendance and photograph opportunities - We look forward to starting in September with the entire KS4 Prefect Team ready to go.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

There have been some fantastic achievements in extracurricular activities in the year group. Henry H is County high jump champion, Alex E selected to represent bucks in the 400m hurdles, several students selected to compete in the District Athletics Championships, Tayla B entered and won a Marlow Literacy Festival competition with an environmental inspired poem and Sophie R winning the Bio Art competition with a wonderful drawing of a horse with skeleton on show.

**By Mrs J Webster- Director of Learning Year 10**



## Goodbye Year 11!

We had a leavers' breakfast and assembly on 14 May it was a very positive atmosphere in the canteen with shirt signing and then a goodbye assembly with videos/old photos and sing along with student band. Special mention to Brooke and Theo who created an amazing (very tearjerking goodbye video).

### EXAMS FINALLY COMPLETED

GCSE exams began on 15 May and finished on 21 June. 78 GCSE exams have taken place during that time.

Year 11s have managed extremely well.

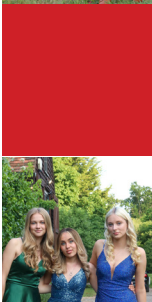
Due to exam clashes, a number of students had 3 exams in one day and didn't leave school until 5pm!

### YEAR 11 PROM

The Monkton Barn Prom was a huge success on the 29th June, we had a balloon arch, sweet cart, mocktails and disco! The behaviour and conduct of our students were exemplary and the staff at the venue were very complimentary.

**Enjoy your summer, Year 11 and stay safe!**

Mrs Pendlebury and Miss Blanco Directors of Learning Year 11





The Sixth Form team are delighted to report on a successful summer team. It has involved not only the focus and diligence of exams but also the much needed fun and relaxation of the prom. GMS Sixth Form students, who total 249, have conducted themselves admirably in all occasions this summer term and we congratulate all of them.

## YEAR 12

Year 12 have had an opportunity this term to sit mock exams. This has been invaluable in gaining experience of what the expectations are for their A Level and BTEC exams next year. The cohort delivered and have understood the importance of these experiences in supporting their learning journey at GMS.

In preparation for Next Steps after GMS, year 12 have just spent a week completing work experience. Students have been able to delve into completely different working environments including working in retail, hospitality, Business, Law and education. We have been delighted by the employers positive feedback on our GMS students and judging by the below comments, what a positive experience it was for our students.

*"Over my work experience, I shadowed a barrister for his events of the week. I was very lucky to be able to participate in this due to my interest in Law. Throughout the week, I attended magistrates, immigration and crown court, It has given me an insight of what a future career in law would be like and helped me to create a network of contacts." Joseph*

*"I completed my work experience at Mars Chocolate factory, mainly working in the factory, shadowing a lead operator fixing machines. I also worked in the plant office, helping organising paperwork and speaking to other associates and seeing how they enjoy their job and benefit from it. I attended many beneficial talks, e.g. apprenticeship, sustainability at Mars, etc. It was incredibly interesting and I gained so much from it, including gaining confidence and experience. I thoroughly enjoyed it and would highly recommend!" Abbie*

*"Firstly, I did my weeks work experience at England Hockey. My week started with a call from the umpire manager asking me to complete a presentation on how to improve young umpires. Then I helped add adverts onto the website which was really cool...I had an unbelievable time and it helped put into perspective what I would like to do when I'm older. I would like to thank England Hockey for the amazing opportunity." Charlie*

The students can then use this experience to develop new skills in and out of school. To support this further, Year 12 upon their return to school will complete a Next Steps day on Wednesday 12th July. This is event organised by Mr Hollyman, Miss Jones and Miss Southon to enable our students to access information about universities, apprenticeships and the world of work. The day will give up-to-date information about UCAS and will give opportunities for our students to continue to utilise Unifrog, a complete destinations platform for students.

## NEW SENIOR PREFECTS AND HEAD PREFECTS

Year 12 have also had the opportunity to put themselves forward for to be a part of the Head Prefect team. We welcomed applications from the students to help with the development and running of the Sixth Form. We are delighted to congratulate Mabel Daw and Harry Critchlow on their successful appointment as Head Prefects for Great Marlow School. We would also like to congratulate our new deputy prefects, Finley Gomm, Grace Radnedge Joseph Legerton and Milli Guinness.



The Sixth Form Team were blown away by all professionalism of all of the applicants and very much look forward to working with the senior prefect team next year.



## YEAR 13

On Friday 12th May, the Year 13 students joined the Sixth Form Team for a leavers breakfast. This was an opportunity for us to congratulate the students on their preparation for exams and to celebrate their achievements over the last two years in Sixth Form. They were treated to a breakfast whilst Mr Hollyman gave a final goodbye speech. It was a fitting goodbye to a cohort who had had to develop more resilience due to Covid restrictions.

The students then completed their A Level and BTEC exams before ending with the Sixth Form Prom at Wycombe Heights Golf Club. This was a hugely successful night which saw 100 of our Year 13 students attend. We would like to congratulate the committed Sixth Form Prefect Prom Committee team including Annabel, Viola, Gianna and Martin all who worked tirelessly to ensure that this final night would be special. They decorated the venue during the day and students partied until 11pm.

We are also delighted to announce our Best Potential Citizen Award. Each year, member so the Marlow Rotary Club kindly come into school to interview students to decide on a Best Potential Citizen. This award recognises students who have gone that extra mile and who clearly have a very bright future. Congratulations to Samuel Johnstone-Taylor for being named Best Potential Citizen 2023.

Thursday August 17th marks results day. The Sixth Form Team will be available in person on that day to congratulate and offer advice and support. We are incredibly proud of this cohort and do look forward to seeing them again on that day and wishing all the best in their future careers – do keep in touch.

**For Year 12, we wish you a well deserved Summer break and we look forward to celebrating your achievements upon the return in September.**

**By Mr Hollyman, Miss Jones and Mrs Evans - GMS 6th Form Team**



**Photos from Year 13 Prom and Leavers's Breakfast**



## PE Athletics 2023

The 2023 athletics season has seen a huge number of athletes take to the track and field, filled with enthusiasm for the return of the GMS athletics programme and some more district domination.

This season provided students with the opportunity to compete against other schools in three separate team competitions; the District Athletics Championships, the District Athletics League and the ESAA Track and Field Cup.

### ESAA Track and Field Cup

A nationally run, team competition, where students must compete in one track and one field event. Competitors earn points for their team dependant on their time, distance or height achieved. The team with the highest total points, wins.

Congratulations to all of our teams who competed in the first round of this competition, which took place earlier in the term than last year, which meant only three weeks of practice before the competition.

Unfortunately, despite the Junior Girls improving their score from last year by 55 points, this still wasn't enough to gain them qualification to the regional round. Private schools Wycombe Abbey and Akeley Wood were the only Buckinghamshire School to qualify, with all other finalists coming from Warwickshire and Worcestershire, where only one state school gained qualification. The girls can proudly consider themselves, therefore, one of the leading state school athletics teams in the midlands region.

Both Junior and Inter Boys teams fell short of last year's points totals by 3 points and 2 points, respectively. This meant that, like the Junior Girls, they both narrowly missed out on qualification to the regional round.

#### Round 1 Results:

**Junior Boys – 274 points (5th place)**

**Junior Girls – 248 points (3rd place)**

**Inter Boys – 348 points (3rd place)**

**Inter Girls – 261 points (5th place)**

**Inter Girls – 249 points (8th place)**

Overall it has been a fantastic year for GMS athletics, in terms of individual excellence, team successes and mass participation. The PE department are very excited to see what the students can achieve in 2024.

## District Athletics Championships

A local, team competition, for schools in the Wycombe District. Schools may enter two athletes per event, per team. Individuals may compete in a maximum of 2 track, 1 field and a relay, or 2 field, one track and a relay. Athletes earn points for their team based on their final placing.

The GMS teams took to their respective District Championships, in high confidence and determined to continue their reputation as one of the most dominant schools in the district. The teams did just that, by placing in the top 3 for every single year group except one.

Congratulations to both of our Year 8 teams, who won their respective District Championships. In addition to this, overall, our combined girls' team finished as District Champions for the second year running, once again beating schools such as Wycombe Abbey, Pipers Corner and Wycombe High in the process. The boys' team finished one place higher than last year in 2nd place, behind John Hampden, so still finishing as the highest placed co-ed school in the district.

Accumulatively, with all results combined, GMS finished as the 1st placed co-ed school in the district with 1107 points, increasing last year's total by 128 points. Our nearest co-ed school (by points and by geography) were a huge 505 points behind us.

### Championship results

**Year 7 Boys – 119 points (2nd place)**

**Year 7 Girls – 125 points (2nd place)**

**Year 8 Boys – 195 points (1st place)**

**Year 8 Girls – 186 points (1st place)**

**Year 9 Boys – 126 points (4th place)**

**Year 9 Girls - 76 points (5th place)**

**Year 10 Boys – 158 points (2nd place)**

**Year 10 Girls – 116 points (3rd place)**

## District Athletics League

A local, team competition, organised and run by GMS. The two highest scoring competitors for each team earn points based on their final placing.

**Year 7 Boys – 120 points (2nd place)**

**Year 7 Girls – 103 points (2nd place)**

**Year 8 Boys – 143 points (2nd place)**

**Year 8 Girls – 118 points (1st place)**

**Year 9/10 Boys – 175 points (1st place)**

**Year 9/10 Girls - 126 points (2nd place)**

### Notable performances:

Congratulations to Jack Hughes and Alexander Eldridge, who were both undefeated in all the sprint events, as



they both won the 100m, 200m and 3/400m, in addition to being part of the winning 4x100m relay teams. Both students also picked up vital points in the Long Jump and Triple Jump to help the GMS teams to a 2nd and 1st place finish in the boys' respective leagues.

**Congratulations to the following students, who also gained first place finishes in the District League:**

**Faris Ben Haj Ali – Long Jump**

**Rocco Picciano – Discus**

**Yasmin Warnes – Long Jump and 200m**

**Freya Randall – 800m**

**Jess Hennessey – Javelin**

**Jack Frazer-Hogg – 1500m**

**Isla McDonald – 200m**

**Ella Bryan – 300m**

**Z Gibson – 800m**

**I Sutherland – 800m**

**Year 10 girls relay team**

**Year 10 boys relay team**

**Year 9 boys relay team**

**Year 8 boys relay team**

**Year 7 boys relay team**

## School records

**A further 8 school records, to last year's 7 records, were broken at various events across the 2023 athletics season. Congratulations to the following students, who all broke records:**

**Sofia Mills-Miguel – Year 8**

**Discus - 17.45m**

**Erin Ford – Year 8**

**High Jump - 1.40m**

**Jack Hughes – Year 8**

**200m - 25.59s**

**J Hughes, J Frazer-Hogg, C O'Connor, F Ferreira – Year 8**

**4x100m Relay - 51.25s**

**A Joseph, H Nurein, L Pearce, E Stevens – Year 9**

**4x100m Relay - 49.85s**

**Yasmin Warnes – Year 10**

**200m - 27.72s**

**300m 44.76s**

**Rocco Picciano – Year 10**

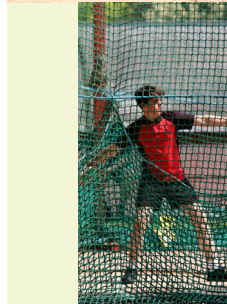
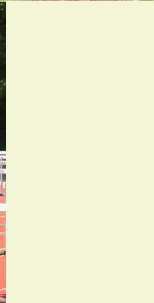
**Discus - 29.72m**

**Alexander Eldridge – Year 10**

**80m Hurdles - 10.98**

By Miss L Porter

**A selection of photos from the Windsor, Slough and Eaton Athletics track**





## PE U13 CRICKET

This summer has seen over 25 year 7 and 8 attending cricket. The students have demonstrated readiness and responsibility to improve their key skills over the term and have shown their ability to transfer bowling through tables and batting on benches into games. This has led to excellent performances and results throughout the season and has led the under 13s to win the Wycombe Cricket League having won 4 out of 6 games. Throughout the season there has been outstanding individual performances, in the first win against Princes Risborough George Penlington and Tom McDermott batted brilliantly to put on over 100 runs for the first wicket. In the 2nd win against Highcrest, Joe Reeson had the golden arm with an outstanding bowling display taking 4 wickets in an over this was also supported by Tom McDermott who scored 41 not out.

In a tight contest against Sir William Ramsey, Jake Smith batted maturely to anchor the innings scoring 32. He showed composure and good shot selection to ensure the team got to a competitive total. Tom Hawksworth produced a superb over of bowling which produced a hat trick to ensure GMS won by 14 runs.



In the final win against St Michaels, it was Logan Carter who shown an excellent range of hitting at the end of the innings to give GMS the momentum and ultimately enough runs to ensure St Michaels couldn't get to the target even after batting all their overs.

Overall, the season has been a successful one and has a range of students contribute to the victories throughout the season. By winning the league, the under 13s will be playing in the District final where they hopefully will be able to avenge the defeat they suffered in the first game of the season against Cressex.

By Mr A Higgins

## YEAR 9/10 CRICKET

The Year 9/10 cricket team enjoyed an exciting season of cricket this summer term. Despite being on the losing side more often than not, almost every game went to the

wire. Throughout the season, attendance at training was very consistent, which reflected the teams desire to get better and improve on the results.

The first game was against Sir William Ramsey. GMS put in an exceptional batting performance in the first innings,



with openers Harry Price and George Hewlett not losing their wicket and batting the full 15 overs. Harry went past 50 and the final total

was 131. Unfortunately for GMS, the lack of wickets in the game continued, with SWR losing only one wicket in their victorious chase of the total, with one over to spare. In the post-match team reflection, Mr Jones and the players agreed that the result would have been different if the fielding had been a lot better, with SWR's strong batters being given lifelines by our dropped catches.

In the 2nd game against Highcrest, GMS batting was again on top form. George Hewlett was building a seriously good average, with another not-out innings after opening the batting. Harry Price continued his destructive scoring, with a quick 40 runs. GMS finished on 91. GMS struggles in the field continued, despite the consistent accuracy of the bowling meaning wides – worth 2 runs – were slowly the speed of Highcrest's chase of the target. Highcrest looked set to meet the target, until Liam Trainer came on to bowl with 4 overs left and 12 runs needed. Liam removed 3 batsmen in the over, including 2 run outs, meaning there were 5 wicket in the over. In the last over of the game, 8 was needed but Highcrest could not get Liam away. A fantastic first win of the season.

After another loss against St Michaels, the cricket cliché of "catches win matches" could not have been more apparent. St Michaels strong batters remained in due to dropped catches and eased towards the target. Following a training session focused purely on catching, GMS had a strong batting line up from Borlase at 15-4, with three excellent catches being taken by Umar Aslam, Sam Third and Eddie Hoare. An excellent example of the difference attending training can have on match performance. Borlase finished on a very chaseable 86. Sam Third got GMS off to a great start, supported well by George Hewlett. Harry Price came in with 50 runs needed off 7 overs. Harry's Borlase club mates were clearly keeping their best bowlers for his introduction, and though he fought courageously against bowlers who had also represented their school first XI, GMS came up 10 runs short of the target. Putting the result aside, this game demonstrated excellent progress and a lesson to the students that weaknesses can be fixed if they dedicate themselves to training.

By Mr A Jones



## ROUNDERS

I was overwhelmed by the number of students willing to give rounders a go with over 40 students present for the first session of the season. The Rounders teams have worked incredibly hard during this summer term to improve on their batting and fielding skills and their ability to tactically beat their opponents.

Both the U13 and U15 rounders teams competed in the first round of the District tournament hosted by Wycombe High School. First up was the U13's and due



to the outstanding commitment between year 7 and 8 we were able to enter 2 teams. The B team had a difficult line up, however had great fun and bonded well as a team. The A team started the tournament with 2 comfortable wins

against Bourne End Academy and Cressex High School. The third game against Princess Risborough School was extremely close. With 3 balls to go and only 1 person left to bat, Lily Nickless showed an outstanding performance and scored 3 rounders to win the game. The final game



was against Pipers Corner which we knew would be a close game. Unfortunately, GMS lost, however they were still able to progress into the final. The A team worked really hard at training in the lead up to the final but unfortunately, they just missed out on the win against a very strong Pipers Corner team.

The U15 team also had a difficult line up at their District league tournament and unfortunately did not progress on to the final, however the weather was great and they all had a really enjoyable afternoon.

At the U13 tournament outstanding performances went to Alexandra McGuinness and Lily Nickless. At the U15 tournament Sienna Morgan was MVP.

By Miss Green



## SKI TRIP

Over the Easter holidays, 135 students from Year 8 and 9 travelled to Artesina, Italy for the Snowsports trip. All the students had an incredible time either learning to ski, or developing their skiing ability. The conditioned varied across the week, including glorious sunshine and severe fog. The students also enjoyed several apres ski activities including bowling, pizza night and a quiz night. The students were a credit to the school, and made many memories to last a lifetime.





## Tennis

The tennis club started up and began well after Easter, with students of all abilities attending. Unlike last year, we managed to play all our fixtures without having to rearrange due to the weather. In addition to LTA official fixtures we had some friendly fixtures against Wycombe Abbey and Sir William Borlase. These fixtures have allowed the beginner players the experience a range of fixtures.

### Sir William Borlase

Our first fixture of the season was against Borlase and this turned out to be a cracking fixture. The U13 girls and U15 boys game was a close set of games coming down to a doubles tie breaker. The tie breaker ended in a win for both GMS teams. The U13 boys were not so lucky, finishing with a 10-2 loss. This was a fantastic set of games to start off the season giving the students confidence to take into the next set of fixtures.



### Wycombe Abbey

Lucy Apletree had some fantastic games against the U15 girls at Wycombe Abbey playing in singles and double matches with Emelia Tribe. Izzy Norrish and Evie Matthews, two of which are fairly new to tennis, put in some great performances in their singles and doubles matches, playing against oppositions who play tennis regularly for their school and clubs. A big highlight for the students was the match teas at the end of the games, with the brownies being the biggest hit.

### Royal Grammar School

We had an U13 fixture against RGS. Daniel Parry, Sam MacRae, Daniel Del Corral, and Charlie Fitch played in doubles and singles fixtures in a round robin tournament. The boys played with great determination, with the fixture needing a tie breaker to decide the winning team, in which GMS came away with the win with a final score of 7-4. Daniel Parry and Sam MacRae were outstanding in their fixtures. Charlie Fitch and Daniel Del Corral had some tough games, pushing their opponent all the way in each game.

### John Hampton Grammar School

John Hamden are always a tough opponent in tennis, and this year proved to be no exception. In the U15s, the boys had some close games, with Dylan Denteh and Can Surmeli displaying their skill set. The U13s came up against strong players. The players fought hard, matching the hard serves with strong returns, and fighting to cover the court areas. The students worked hard, but unfortunately the results fell to JHGS. However, the performances from Eddie Hoare and Wilbur Morganti were fantastic and the effort shown by the players was immense – something they can be proud of.



### Dr Challoner's Grammar School

DCGS travelled to us for the next LTA game for the U13 and U15 boys. For the girls, DCGS proved to be difficult. They had some physically strong and technical players. The boys battled through each game making it difficult for their opponents. This demonstrated the high efforts and drive the boys had to do their best throughout the entire game.



Can Surmeli had an exceptional game, challenging his opponent for every point. This set the standard and all the team followed suit in their individual matches. Dylan demonstrated his outstanding power, consistently playing a high calibre of returns to force errors from his opposition. In the U13 team, Charlie Fitch, Alex Finney and Daniel Del Corral demonstrated their ability that they have developed over the 2 years at GMS, being in contention in each match they played. Overall it was a solid performance for GMS against a very good team from DCGS.

### Pipers Corner

This year we managed to play Pipers Corner School in an LTA match for the U13s and a friendly for the U15s. The U15s had great fun playing lots of different doubles and singles matches against evenly matched players. The



U13 students were also evenly matched in the doubles and singles matches and played some great serves. Players were moved around the court a lot playing some very long rallies. Students enjoyed the reward of a kitkat and juice after the match.

## Wycombe High School

Our fixture was touch and go with heavy rain showers approaching. We made the decision to play a fast 4 in case the weather impacted. Luckily we got away with only one crash of thunder as the last match finished. The U13 and U15 teams had to be very resilient against some strong oppositions. The girls did not let this phase them returning some strong shots. Students' communication skills were key to enable them to remember these close scores. The team of Alice Farrow, Rugile Baniulaityte, Sofia Mills-Miguel and Gabi Loginova come out with a win of 8-4. Erika Valverde-Medina, Lucy Apletree, Emilia Tribe and Izzy Norrish put up a very strong fight but didn't manage to take the win with this strong opposition.

## Burnham Grammar

We had a very sunny evening to play against Burnham Grammar. This was another very close fixture resulting in a tie breaker for the U13 and U15 boys. Due to players being very evenly matched the points were close within each set. However, this resulted in the fixture over running so the tie breaker could not be played. Sam MacRac had an outstanding performance with his singles game lasting 30 minutes.

## Amersham

For the penultimate fixture of the season the U13 boys travelled to Amersham school. The boys' improvement throughout the year was shown during this match with a final score of 8-4 to GMS. Both teams showed each other respect, demonstrating a range of skills. Students performed forehand and backhand shots with precision, moving their opponent about on the court. It was great for the boys to finish their last game on a win.

## Dr Challnors High School

For the final fixture of the season the U15 girls travelled to Dr Challnors High School. Unfortunately, this was a very busy time for our students and we were one player down. However, the day before the fixture Phoebe Day-Stevens emailed and volunteered to step into the team. Phoebe Day-Stevens took every element of this fixture in her stride returning some fantastic shots and it did not look like she had just stepped in to help the team out. The high school put out a strong field of players and unfortunately, we couldn't beat them on the day but well-done girls for putting up a great fight.

**Well done to all the students involved in the matches throughout the year there has been some fantastic game play and tactics.**

By Miss E Boddy and Mr H Magnay



## Opportunity for All Events

Throughout this term we have been lucky enough to attend a number of sporting festivals to get more students involved in sport and physical activities. The events have all involved several schools in the area to promote inclusivity for all.

### Tennis



RAF Halton Tennis Centre kindly hosted a second tennis festival of the year. The tennis coach delivered a range of progressive activities to develop skills, in particular ball control on the forehand and the backhand. Students made huge progress throughout the day, becoming more confident to use the skills they had learnt, which meant they were able to maintain a longer rally.

Clara Burge managed to have the biggest improvement between her starting and finishing rally, showing huge improvement with her ability to read and control the tennis ball. Hamish Blineow, Paul Hawkins and Hugo Bester didn't let their singing and dancing effect their tennis ability, having some of the longest rallies of the day.

The students demonstrated readiness and responsibility when they made sure to help the coaches clear away the equipment at the end of the session. The coaches were very impressed with the students and awarded them all with a certificate for their participation in the session.

### Hockey



Our KS5 sports leaders hosted a hockey event for five other schools. The sports leaders created their own hockey drills, discussing and communicating as a whole group to ensure each pair had a different hockey related skill to focus on. They then delivered these in 15-minute sessions to each school as a carousel of practices.

The leaders were fantastic at delivering the activities and giving students individual feedback and support. They performed demonstrations, which allowed them to meet the needs of the students with more specific learning requirements, as well as enabling all of the students to create a mental picture of each skill.

We had a team of ten students who took part in the hockey activities. The students thoroughly enjoyed all the activities, with the shooting drill being their favourite. Elliot Sylvester liked to run as fast as possible for every drill, whereas Katie Weatherspoon and Samuel Hall were

very precise wanting to ensure the technique was correct. Well done to all the leaders and participants involved.



### Golf

Huntswood Golf Club kindly hosted an event for our students to attend on the 10th May. Students completed seven tasks to develop different shots and skills using a range of clubs. Students developed their putting skills, driving skills and ability to use a wedge. Hudson Cross and Aiden Carr were very resilient and ensured they controlled the ball when putting, whereas Archie and Nico liked to see who had the most power to drive the ball as far as possible. The student's favourite activity involved chipping the ball over a target and making it land within a specific zone. This really tested the students' ability to lift the ball, but also control their power to get the ball in the highest scoring zone.



### Rock climbing

On the 15th May we took 11 students to Climb Quest, in Milton Keynes. The students were very independent during the session, helping each other with their harnesses and choosing which wall to tackle. Noah Fitzpatrick worked very independently seeing if he could climb every wall as quickly as possible. Jamie Trillow enjoyed the very unstable ladder wall. Alexa Hartstone and Megan Hayward worked well as a pair encouraging each other when they found the walls challenging.

The students supported the climbing centre by buying slush puppies and crisps to add to the fun of the event. The students showed good responsibility ensuring they helped clear away all the litter at the end of the event.

The students hope the centre will host another event next year and are thankful for all the volunteers that made this



event possible.



## Leadership- LEAP

In preparation for year 11, ten year 10 students took the opportunity to attend a leadership workshop. Students built up their confidence and leadership skills, throughout the three-hour session, to plan and deliver their own sporting activity to the rest of the group.

Students took every activity in their stride, learning innovative ways to engage a group of people within sport. This included using a pack of cards as a fitness challenge, completing a puzzle, and team obstacle races.

All students paired up and managed to deliver sessions using demonstrations and verbal cues. Students understood they must give the quieter students opportunities to speak, and have their voice heard. Students identified members' strengths and weakness and added differentiation into their games.

Well done to the students involved and I look forward to seeing you lead during your year 11 sport education lessons.

## Dodgeball



On Friday 19th May 16 students participated in a dodgeball tournament at Akeley Wood School. The students split into two teams and played a round robin tournament against SWB, PRS, WHS and JC. The students had a brilliant day, learning the rules of dodgeball and developing their knowledge and understanding of different tactics. They showed resilience and determination against tough competition, leading to some excellent results.

## Cricket

On Monday 26th June, 14 Year 7 students took part in a cricket festival at Beaconsfield Cricket Club. The students split into two teams and played a number of matches throughout the day. Both teams had the opportunity to

develop their knowledge and understanding of the rules, alongside their batting, bowling and fielding skills.



## Cycling

Our 8K3 PE class took part in a two-hour cycling session. During this time, they had the opportunity to try out a range of different bikes. The students used fantastic resilience and teamwork to set up the bikes and make sure everyone had a go. Some students decided to have mini races around the track as they increased in confidence. Students learned about the different stability, speeds, and purposes of the bikes.



## Rounders

Year 9 students, who have been working on their rounders and cricket skills within lessons were given the opportunity to attend a rounders tournament at Kingbrooks School, on the 27th June. Students took part in four matches, starting with a warm-up game of GMS Emily Vs GMS Lucy. These names were given to the teams as we had our two year 12 leaders helping a team each. During the warm-up game we saw all our students sprint around the bases, and Team Emily accumulated over ten rounders. When it came to batting, Kenzie Carroll and Thuan Vu were determined to try and hit the ball as far as possible. We finished the morning in 3rd and 4th place.

Well done to all the students involved!



## Multi sports

The boys multi sports has continued to be a successful club in terms of high participation rates as well as student satisfaction. Girl multisports is a club which currently has participants ranging from Year 7 to 9. Every Wednesday, from 15:00 to 16:15, girls come to play a variety of sports. A club where students have the freedom to choose what they want to do; students have jumped at the opportunity to try sports they have not played before. These include Danish Longball and Jedi dodgeball to name a couple. Students have encouraged their friends to join them in the club, showing the positive effect sport can have in developing friendships and building a sense of belonging.



Here are a few words from our sports leaders about multisport club:

"Not too long ago, me and a good friend became a part of the sports leaders team and ever since we are so glad we did. I believe that not only is the club an opportunity for young children to socialise and exercise, but it is also an opportunity for us (the leaders) to learn important life skills such as leadership and teamwork. Although football seems to be a club favourite between the boys, we try to change the activity every week to keep it in rotation as we do not like it to be repetitive. No matter what space we have, whether it is the courts, field or the astroturf we find a sport that all the children will enjoy. One week, we had to use the field space, but we had used it to play football last week. So, we made the executive decision and created a sport that we thought the boys would enjoy, we used an American football to play tag rugby. The club allows children between year 7 and year 9, this can cause some children to not be as physically able as some others, so we often need to mix up the teams and create rules to even out the playing field. I can only hope that the club will continue to grow in popularity and size over the next year, and I know all the multisport leaders including me are looking forward to continuing leading and helping the children develop socially and physically."

**Matthew Taylor and Callum Coleman**

"I have been a Girls multisports leader since Year 8. The thing I enjoy most about this club is that every year you see a few new faces and as the year goes on you can see each of the students grow as a person. We allow the students to participate in many different sports such as badminton, dodgeball, bench ball, Just Dance and some others. As the weather has changed, the girls have been doing football, rounders, hockey and lacrosse outside. The girls haven't played lacrosse before, so it was fun to teach them and for them to slowly understand the technique and rules of the sport. I love being a leader for the girls and I would love to see any new faces soon."

**Lucy Scott and Emily Bowles**

## Fitness

On a Wednesday afternoons, students have been able to use the fitness suite in a session which is run by Miss Zuccarello. The club has given students of all years a chance to use the fitness suite and develop their skills and knowledge of how to correctly train their bodies specifically for their sports.

## Sports Clubs Lunchtime

On a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday break times the sports hall is open to different year groups. Students get to come along and play a sport of their choice. Indoor football, badminton and basketball are popular options. Students are very independent during these times and organise the teams and activities themselves. As the days have got hotter, we have seen smaller numbers attending sports club as many students take their football skills onto the field or astro. Students have developed their teamwork and communication skills to decide which activities they want to take part in, and organise themselves into teams.

Thank you to everyone for the support with these events, and to everyone who has created opportunities for the students.

**By Miss E Boddy**

## SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

**Great Marlow has continued its work with the Football Association supported by Barclays and the Youth Sport Trust to work with families of schools that are committed to the growth and development of girls' football.**



**In the summer term, we have led sessions in primary schools with the help of our sixth form leaders. One of which was a football session with the theme of the upcoming Women's World Cup. The students really enjoyed the event, and we had fantastic feedback about the Sports Leaders we brought with us. They showed excellent responsibility to set up and manage their own drill and lead the primary school students. We have really enjoyed these great events which we are looking to do more of in the future.**

**By Miss Miskell - Girls FA Strategic Lead Great Marlow School**







## GREAT MARLOW PE DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP – FEEDER PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The PE Department have maintained very strong relationships with our feeder primary schools and the local SGO which has facilitated opportunity for our Young Leaders to support sporting events both at the primaries and those hosted by GMS for District School Games events.

This term students from years 9,11 and 12 have worked with the primary schools and helped with planning, organisation, and delivery of several sporting events. These have included, athletics, football, rounders, tennis, dodgeball and the running of Frieth Primary's annual sports day.

These opportunities are an integral part of the PE Department's drive to nurture and develop leadership and employability skills with all our students. The initial experience of this begins in all core PE lessons where these fundamental life skills become a significant objective within the teaching. The students who demonstrate a keen interest and competence in this area are then given the opportunity to represent the department and the school at the primary school sporting events.

As has become the norm, the feedback from the primary schools and the SGO (School Games Organiser) has been outstanding. Our students have conducted themselves impeccably, demonstrating the highest ability levels, and their support has been commended with statements from Head Teachers, describing the GMS students as, 'hard working', 'full of initiative', 'high levels of empathy', 'extremely proactive'. Although this is just a snapshot of what they have done and what has been said, it is exceptionally positive for the department, school and parents who can all be significantly proud of the ability of our students.

Next year, some of our year 12 students will be offered the opportunity to complete a National Sports Leaders Course which affords them 16 UCAS points towards university entry as well as serving as a superb experience towards whatever they decide to do when they have finished their Key Stage 5 studies. As a department we are really looking forward to running this course and further embedding these critical life-skills within our students.



By Mr S Goodright  
Head of PE

## GMS PE CONTINUE BEING A CENTRE OF LEADING PRACTICE

As a department we have been working with different teacher training providers for 14 years. Within that time, we have formed a significantly strong relationship with The Buckingham Partnership, which incidentally was the training provider for 4 of our current PE staff. Our work with the Buckingham Partnership has developed to the point where we as a department are delivering bespoke subject studies days for their PE trainees. This year, these have included behaviour management, rugby, hockey and athletics. The strength of the expertise in the department is reflected in the distance which the trainees are travelling for us to run their sessions. Despite the fact that GMS is geographically 50 miles from Buckingham, we are seen as the best option for the most thorough and specialist training in many different facets of teaching PE.

A typical session will involve theory-based work where the most appropriate pedagogy is looked at for the specific activity or lesson being taught, Practical sessions to learn skills, techniques, strategies and tactics and then the opportunity to practice the teaching of the skills with some GMS students.

The sessions have been extremely well received and we have been asked to deliver even more next year, which we have already said yes to.

By Mr S Goodright  
Head of PE



Buckingham Partnership Trainees test out their teaching ability with GMS students as part of their subject studies sessions.



## SPORTS AWARDS EVENING 2023

On Friday 14th July the PE department hosted their annual sports award evening. With over 120 awards to give out, it was set to be a fantastic evening celebrating many sporting successes throughout the last year.

The evening began with a fantastic montage of the 'best bits' from the past year, and YSA leaders Mabel Daw and Malakhi Allick who opened the show. Mr Ross then stepped in as compare, providing many laughs for the audience. Many awards were then given out for our winter and summer sports, including most improved player, managers player and club person of the year. The second half included the bigger awards sports awards celebrating the successes of many of our students. Well done to the following students who received the following awards:

**KS3 Achiever: Sienna Morgan & Ashton Joseph**

**KS4 Sports Leader: Abbie Corrick**

**KS5 Sports Leader: Emily Bowles & Lucy Scott**

**Outstanding Commitment to GMS Sport: Alexandra McGuinness & Danny Harding**

**Year 11 Sport Education Most Employable: Charlotte Timson & George Spencer**

**KS3 Team of the Year: Year 8 Boys' Football Team**

**KS4 Team of the Year: Year 10 Boys' Athletics Team**

**KS5 Team of the Year: U18 Girls' Hockey Team**

**Service to Sport: Mabel Daw**

Sports Personality of the Year Nominees: Millie Giles, Lottie Shaw, Yasmin Warnes, Henry Harbinson, Will Allen, Connor Quann

Sports Personality of the Year Winner: Chloe Lee & Ashton Grant

Thank you to the rest of the PE department for their support running the event. Thank you to Mr Ross for comparing the event, Mrs Rooney for the programme/ literature and photography/ displays, and the extra-curricular support we have received from others throughout the year. We couldn't have done it without you.

By Miss G Muttitt



Chloe Lee



Lottie Shaw



Henry Harbinson



Ashton Grant



Millie Giles



Yasmin Warnes



Conor Quann



Will Allen



**SPORTS PERSONALITY  
OF THE YEAR  
2022-23 NOMINEES**



## MISS LOTTIE PORTER WINS NATIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD

On Saturday 1st July, representatives of GMS attended the prestigious England Hockey Award event in Leicester, to witness GMS's PE teacher Lottie Porter win the Coach of the Year Award. This is an annual event where 12 awards are given in categories ranging from best player to best team.

Lottie was shortlisted for Coach of the Year for her work at GMS; she was nominated by parents, Mr Steve Goodright and Mr Kevin Ford.

The category she was competing in was dominated by club coaches, yet Lottie won the Award outright: she is, officially, National Coach of the Year 2022/23.

Her win is truly deserved because she has worked relentlessly to develop hockey at Great Marlow School over her seven years in the PE Department. The sport of hockey was featured in the curriculum before her career began at GMS, but the school only had one team, which was an amalgamation of three year groups.

Today, Great Marlow School boasts teams in every year group and for male and female players respectively. In the junior years, there are A and B teams: in fact, the school is now blessed with upward of 200 players who regularly represent the school in local, district, county, regional and national competitions. Such is the success, that the Girls U18 Team, participated in the Indoor National Finals both last

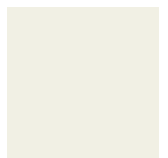
year and this year. The win of this year was when the U18 Team won the Tier 3 Hockey Outdoor Final, to great acclaim.

As well as securing outstanding levels of performance from students across the school, Lottie's aim is to grow the game even more, to make it completely accessible to all our diverse range of students. She has a genuine passion for working with young people and especially towards the development of hockey.

It is without a doubt that she is an absolute credit to GMS and the game of hockey.

Everyone in the school is delighted that she has been recognised for her tireless efforts to improve provision and performance for students, and that her work has now been recognised at a national level.

Congratulations Miss Lottie Porter, we are incredibly proud of you.



**We have had a multitude of successes this past academic year with the GMSBC. Rowing is still an incredibly popular sport undertaken by many students at GMS but it involves a lot of hard work and training in all weathers. We are so proud of all our rowers and what they have achieved through sheer hard work showing responsibility and resilience.**

**Here are just a few reports from recent Regatta's.**

## **Marlow Town Regatta 10th/11th June**

A highlight of the racing calendar for GMSBC is always competing at our home regatta. It is particularly exciting for the younger rowers. For our year 8 crews, this was their first regatta with two others this summer already cancelled due to bad weather. In the quads, all the crews managed to beat other crews but in each race there was another slightly more experienced crew which managed to beat them.

However, in the octos, our boys looked very impressive and took revenge over Maidenhead Rowing Club, who beat them in the quads, to win their first medals at their very first regatta. A great result for a great group of students.

The river was very choppy during the regatta which made racing for less experienced crews challenging. In fact, a number of our crews fell foul on shipwrecks and in some instances poor steering by other crews.

Our J16 boys four had a comfortable win in the heats over Radley and then had a slightly tougher final against Winchester as they were started down by poor alignment judge. The boys still overhauled them to pick up another medal.

Joe Cogan And Owain Meredith had a great result in the J18 double sculls and coped with the tricky conditions excellently to win their event.

We had two older crews in the Open fours, with our Alumni competing in the coxed fours winning by some 3 lengths although they were looking pretty tired by the end.

We had two coaches and two year 11s in the coxless fours. Dave Read at Stroke, Ethan and Sam from our J16s and Lewis Sloan steering at bow. The Monkton crew held on well off the start and by 250m were still very much in touch but as this scratch crew started to find a rhythm at a more settled rate the GMS crew opened up some clear water and the margin continued to grow throughout the race.

The major event of the regatta in the middle of the Afternoon is the Marlow Schools Challenge. This is an event between GMS and Borlase in eights for both Boys and Girls. The regatta enclosure, full of partisan supporters tends to get very noisy around this race. For the last couple of years GMS have won both these races reasonable comfortably but Borlase were definitely out to challenge this. The first was the girls race and as the crews came into sight it looked as though Borlase had a slight lead but a very strong finish from the GMSBC girls saw them pull ahead and the official verdict was a win to GMS by a canvass (about 6 feet).

In the boys event The GMSBC crew lead from the start but the Borlase boys held on well and in the sprint for the line, with the inside station looked to be closing a little but not enough so the boys won. This the third year running GMSBC have won both races.

A fun day in the sun and some great wins, particularly the year Boys Octo.

**The weekend of 17th/18th June saw GMSBC competing at three separate regattas, all with great success.**

## **Henley Women's Regatta**

Our top girls quad entered the J18 quads event which is the most competitive event for Juniors



at this regatta and one GMS has never qualified for before. The girls had a time trial at 8:00 in the morning to gain qualification for the regatta proper and were delighted when the successful crews were published and they went through to race against Tideway Scullers in the afternoon. Tideway were tough opposition and our girls put on a good performance but could not quite match the London club. Tideway went on to make it all the way to the final.

A really impressive result for this young crew and looks good for them to qualify for Henley Royal at the end of this week.

## Marlow at Dorney

The top boys quad meanwhile were competing at Dorney at the major regatta before Henley where the Henley stewards often fine tune the list of crews that prequalify for HRR. This crew has been changed since NSR and is now virtually a year 11 boat.

In their time trial, they put down a solid result marginally faster than the performance at National School and won a place ranked in the middle of the B final. Come the side by side race, the boys had a fast start and lead from the beginning. With a push near halfway they opened up a half length lead on the nearest placed Pangbourne and moved to open water on Shiplake and Trentham. Over the last 500m the Pangbourne crew put in a spirited charge and closed the gap but the GMS crew had sufficient to come home in front. A great race and 9th overall putting them firmly among those crews to pre-qualify for Henley Royal next week.

## Thames Valley Park

On Sunday we took many of the other rowers to TVP. A charming riverside regatta with up to three rounds of racing to make the final. It is a short 500m sprint and as such can produce upsets.

Our year 8s got another chance to compete and the girls crews went well making it down the course in style and beating one of their opponents. Sadly the boys who had done so well in the Octo at Marlow last weekend had a frustrating equipment failure and did not get to race in their final. The year 9 boys had a good first race progressing to the semi-finals but could not quite match the Henley crew in the next round. The girls quad won their Semi against one Henley crew and lined up for the final against another Henley crew and a Kingston rowing club crew. Henley who have beaten them all year eventually succumbed, but sadly for our girls a new rival in the form of Kingston just pipped them to take the overall win.

A highlight however was Bea Spence in the year 9 single sculls where she dominated her semi final. Sculling well and aggressively in the final she was just over a length down with 80m to go. Pushing hard she closed the gap but then caught a crab and spectators worried whether she would stay upright. Bea handle it well and was back at full tilt in moments, but this had distracted the coaches for the leader who suddenly appeared upside down and going nowhere. With a huge grin across her face Bea powered on to take victory.

The two older doubles both put in good performances but the boys could not quite repeat their victory of last week and lost in the final. However Sophie Wharfe and Abi Forgenie had a great performance and won their event. A really good result.

## Henley Royal Regatta 27th June-2nd July

**If you have never been to this regatta, you have missed an historic event on your doorstep. To win here is an enormous achievement. I know athletes that won Gold medals at the Junior World Championships who would happily swap that for the Henley Medal. In fact one of those just won the pairs this regatta, after 11 regattas of trying (more on that if you come to our awards evening).**

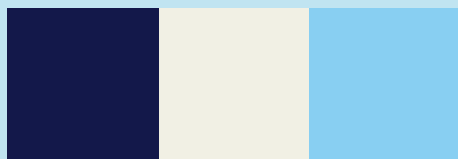
For all the Medals we have won this season, getting one crew into the regatta would have been the crowning event on a great season. To have three crews in three different events compete was more than amazing.

The Girls Quad of Erin Huddleston, Poppy Spence, Amelia Eldridge and Charlotte Greening, having already shown their strength by qualifying for HWR, went another step on by winning their place at Henley Royal. This had been their target for the season and they over the moon to make it to race in the regatta. Drawn against Shiplake in the first round they knew it was a tough race but sculled well and had a good race.

The boys quad of Rafa Quinn, Lucas Gray, Sal Dunn and Ethan Hunt drew Claires Court in the first round. From what history and inside information we could glean, we felt they were likely to be a quicker crew and that they also had a habit of pacing themselves to attack on the third quarter of the race. Our young crew went off fast and took a small early lead and expecting a big push from the opposition just after half way, went early and opened up a half length lead coming into Fawley (half way). Claires Court predictably started to push on after this and for the first ¼ mile it looked like the GMS quad were holding them but as the race moved into the enclosures, with Claires Court on the inside and out of the stream, our boys could not hold them and eventually the result was ¾ length to Claires Court. The boys held their form throughout and should be immensely proud of a great race.

The Boys Eight were the last to race on the Tuesday and were drawn against Monkton Combe School (my alma Mata). We knew from the qualifying races that they would be very similar speed to halfway and were likely to front load the race to try to get ahead. The plan was to settle into a solid rhythm and stay close till Fawley then make a big move from there. The crew executed this perfectly and resulted in our first ever win at this regatta. We have a young squad so I am sure there will be more next year. The eight had Eton in the next round and while they had a good row, they were no match. Again, something to work on.

It was a great start to building GMSBC to the next level of success.



## Kingston Regatta 8/9th July

This past weekend saw the majority of athletes compete at their final regatta of the season. Due to bad weather in the early spring, this race was added to our calendar: GMSBC raced in back to back days at Kingston Regatta.

Saturday was racing for many of the older years. The course was 1000m, from Raven's Ait to Kingston Bridge. GMS raced a variety of boat types, taking the opportunity to get some final season regatta practice in small boats. This proved challenging, in what was incredibly bouncy water. Charlotte Greening and Sophie Wharfe competed well down the course gaining invaluable experience.

We took further opportunity to get our Year 10s experience racing a year up, both crews handled themselves well and will be better prepared already for next season's racing.

Our race victories came in the form of Open 8+ and Open 4+. Both of which contained some old faces of GMSBC in Henry Gavin and Hugo Loretto.

The open 8+ had a tight race against our newest competitor that we seem to meet at most regattas: Claires

Court! The Eight raced very well over the 1000m course, eventually winning a close affair by half a length.

The Eight next competently dispatched its competitor in the final.

The open 4+ faced competition from a group of athletes from the USA, who were in the UK for an international training camp. The 4+ raced really well, despite the stroke rate being slightly lower than for the 'old heads' were used to; the slight lack of sharpness did not prevent them winning the event.

Congratulations to Rafael Quinn, Joe Cogan, Owain Meredith, Ethan Hunt, Sal Dunn, George Spencer, Charlotte Greening, Henry Gavin (alumni) and Hugo Loretto (alumnui).

On Sunday we returned to the same location, however, the course had been halved in distance to 500m. This distance often creates some very tight races, which did not disappoint at this regatta.

We raced our Year 8s (J13), for some this was their first race. J13 rowing is a very common starting age for girls



and in particular girl's private schools. Our girls faced off against Surbiton High School and Putney High School. This race had to be restarted due to poor steering (from the other crews) and this continued in to the re-race. While it caused some difficulty for our girls, they performed admirably and showed off their immense potential.

Our boys raced against an upcoming club from London called Team Keane, while this crew trains on the tideway and should be better suited to the bouncy water they faced at 18:30 it was in fact the GMS rowers that handled the conditions the best: roaring away to a one length lead. This pressure resulted in Team Keane to struggle further and snap a blade in the process of racing.

Our girls in Year 10 raced really well in an incredibly tight event, winning their first race by a canvas and losing

their second race by a canvas.

Further tight racing occurred when our victorious J14 girls took to the water. Bea Radnedge, Bea Spence, Natasha Pendlebury, Lucy Platt and Kayla Shillito raced in three tight competitive rows, and managed to ensure that their bows crossed the line first to win the WJ14 4x+.

As this is the last race of this academic year, we wish to congratulate every student who rows, it is a great sport and credit to every person who participates. Also, a massive thank you to Mr Murison, whose tireless dedication is infectious; his reports always reflect the rowing event thoughtfully and positively. Finally, thank you to all the other coaches, parents, carers and enthusiasts who make rowing in GMS so powerful.

## BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Last weekend Great Marlow School Boat Club (GMSBC) competed at the British Rowing Championships in Glasgow.

Due to the distance, the club only took a few crews but on the first day the Year 9 girls were on form. Racing into a stiff headwind they were keen to rectify missing out on the medals at National Schools Regatta. They had a good time trial and raced brilliantly in their semi and final to take Silver, just a length behind Henley and ahead of Nottingham, the Silver medalists from NSR. Well done to all of them.

The Year 10 boys competed on Saturday and had a slightly disappointing time trial coming 10th. In the semi-final, however, they raced professionally and made up a massive 9-second deficit to finish 3rd and qualify for the A-final. An excellent result from them, given they have not done much sculling in recent months: well done Year 10.

The wind turned around entirely for Sunday, but also picked up considerably. The Sixth Form Girls' Double of Erin Huddleston and Amelia Eldridge had a good time trial coming an amazing 9th in a field of nearly 50 entries. By their final, however, the waves were North Sea like and they struggled somewhat, the experience was invaluable and their overall result is to be celebrated: well done girls.

The Boys' Coxless Four earned the second fastest time going into the final but were hampered by a slow start. Sitting in 6th place after 250m they pushed hard for the next 500m and gradually worked their way up through the field. At halfway, where the waves really started to become challenging, they were in second place with Windsor Boys a length and a half ahead. Sadly, this distance was not overcome in the water conditions but celebrated their Silver medal win: a fabulous race well done boys.

This was the last event of the season for most, except four the top Four who go to Cork next weekend to represent England at The Home Countries Regatta.

Thank you to all the staff and students who took part: you make our school proud.

Reports by Mr Murison



**The Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award assessed expedition at the weekend took place in the beautiful Berkshire countryside. On a sunny Saturday morning, 24th June, fifty-nine**

**eager explorers were dropped off at the start point of their 2-day hike. The drop-off point was in the unusually named village of Hampstead Norreys, which nestles in an area of outstanding beauty in the stunning Berkshire Downs. Despite being 9am, the temperature was already creeping up- an early indication that they day ahead was likely to be a scorcher.**

Thanks to their training weekend in April and their practice expedition in May, the Bronzes had a wealth of knowledge and experience to draw upon to overcome potential expedition difficulties. They had all come prepared for the hot weather with hats, sunscreen and plenty of water to make sure that they stayed comfortable and safe throughout their journey. After sharing out the group kit, the participants crammed their share of the equipment into already bulging rucksacks in preparation for the weekend ahead. They familiarised themselves with the route map for day one and each team had an expedition instructor to talk to them and make sure they were confident and ready to set off on their journey.

Despite the hot weather, all teams had a successful first day of hiking, with only a few navigational errors along the way. One by one, the hot, sweaty, slightly sunburnt teams arrived at camp and were grateful and relieved to find a shady spot, take off their heavy rucksacks and boots and sit down on the grass. After a short rest, the Bronzes started to get stuck in to their

campcraft tasks and get their tents put up and equipment organised. Once camp was set up, the teams could then cook and eat their evening meals. The expedition company lead instructor gathered the students in the early evening to deliver a debrief of the day and make sure they were prepared for the next day's adventure. The students then had some free time to enjoy together before crawling into their tents for a very well-deserved sleep.

Sunday morning was an early start, and it did not take long for the campers to have breakfast and pack away their tents and equipment. The DofE Award have a strict 'leave no trace' policy and the instructors made sure that the Bronzes were leaving their camping spot litter-free. After checking their maps, the teams were ready to embark on the last leg of DofE expedition experience. The second day was more eventful for some of the participants, as rising temperatures throughout the day led to three teams being picked up in the school minibus to escape the heat from the hot sun. All of the students were relieved and exhausted when they finally arrived at their final destination at Bucklebury Common.



Throughout the assessed expedition, the Bronzes team spirit, resilience and commitment were commented on by the expedition leaders. Despite the hayfever, sunburn and 'navigational challenges', all Bronze expedition participants completed their final assessment with flying colours. These students persevered through the physical and mental demands of a two-day walking expedition. GMS are very proud of their achievements and hope to see them progress to

**By Miss H Murray**

**DofE Award Manager**



## SILVER DOFE ASSESSED EXPEDITION

Having successfully completed their training and practice expedition in May, this year's Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants arrived at school in the evening of Thursday 5th July eager and ready to get started on their assessed expedition, paddling down the River Wye from Hereford to Symonds Yat in the stunning Wye Valley.



They travelled by coach and arrived at Hereford Rowing Club campsite shortly before 8pm and were greeted by their WithDave expedition company instructors. After a quick briefing, the students set about erecting their tents and organising camp. Once this was done, the Silvers enjoyed some free time before bed. A good night's sleep would be vital in preparation for a long day of journeying ahead.

The students were up early on Friday morning and keen to get going on their first day of their expedition. Each group worked together to prepare and eat breakfast and disassemble their camping

areas. They packed their kit into drybags and put their tents, equipment, and kit into water-tight barrels. They put on their buoyancy aids, which were then safety checked and adjusted if necessary. Group by group, the Silvers carried their barrels and canoes across the campsite to the launching area at the edge of the river. The instructors made sure the paddlers were confident about their route and knew where the instructors would be checkpointing them along the way. Once fully prepared, the first group were ready to start their adventure.

Their first leg of the route was a 26km journey through the beautiful Wye Valley countryside. It was strenuous work, and the sun was hot and relentless, but despite this the students were able to appreciate the peace and beauty of their surroundings and the wildlife they were sharing it with. One by one, during Friday early evening, the groups began to appear in the distance, paddling towards the second campsite at Hoarwithy. They arrived hot and exhausted and grateful to be able to climb out of their canoes onto dry land after an arduous yet rewarding day. Due to the late arrival at camp, the evening passed quickly and after dinner and clearing up, the Silvers were more than ready to get into their sleeping bags for a second night's sleep under the stars.



Saturday morning started early again and the Silver groups quickly and efficiently got started on their morning routine. In contrast to the previous morning, the weather had turned wet and grey, so hats and sun cream were replaced by waterproofs as they set off again, this time their destination was Ross-on-Wye. By the time the students reached camp, the weather had improved, and they were able to set up camp in the sunshine. In addition to their tents, they also erected tarpaulin shelters to sit beneath should the weather



become wet again (which it did!). Once the students had completed their evening tasks, they got to work in their groups preparing a presentation for their expedition aim. At the Silver level of the award, groups must agree on a suitable aim for their expedition. An aim can be anything that they observe, measure or create during their experience and the presentation is an opportunity for them to share their observations and investigations. It was a great pleasure to watch the groups deliver their presentations to me and one of the instructors. The groups had chosen interesting aims, which included reflecting on the environment, observing and counting different species of wildlife and understanding triggers for changes in their moods and emotions throughout the trip. They all presented their group aims in a thoughtful, but amusing way, and we particularly enjoyed the animal mimes and tales of grumpy fishermen.

Sunday morning heralded the final day of travelling, and the Silvers were keen to get on the water, their thoughts already full of home, a delicious home-cooked meal (or even better- takeaway!) and their comfortable beds. All groups made swift work of decamping and setting off and were delighted when I saw them at a checkpoint enroute and informed them that they were already halfway through the day's journey. At around 3pm, the first tired but elated team arrived at the final destination: Symonds Yat. The other groups followed shortly after and the thrill of successfully completing a three-day expedition was made even greater when they spotted an ice cream stand near the jetty. After portaging their canoes and kit to a grassy space and quickly demolishing ice-creams, the groups had a debriefing from their instructors and were then ready to clamber aboard the coach and set off for home.

I am incredibly proud of the Silvers for their efforts over the weekend. They faced and conquered a challenging journey and showed throughout an impressive team spirit and camaraderie. I look forward to them all completing their volunteering, physical and skills sections of the award and achieving the Silver DofE Award they have worked so hard towards.

**By Miss H Murray**

**DofE Award Manager**

## MARLOW FM'S NEW HOME

Local radio station Marlow FM 97.5 needed to find a new home for their studio, and the great news is that Great Marlow School has offered Marlow FM the use of its old caretaker's garage! The radio station now needs to raise at least £25,000 funds to convert and extend the garage to make it fit for purpose.

Mr Ford said: "Having Marlow FM on our doorstep will unlock an incredible number of opportunities for our students and other young people. They'll have a new platform to express their voices and ideas, and to connect with the community, and they'll be able to develop practical skills that will benefit them in their future careers."



One of our Learning Support Assistants Lisa Ben Haj Ali, who is also a Marlow FM volunteer, has already raised an incredible £1,000 for the new studio building by completing a 24-hour 'karaoke-thon'

## CAN YOU HELP?



FoGMS current Chair and Secretary will be standing down in September after 3 years, so FoGMS are currently seeking new Officers to take up these positions and also looking for new Committee Members please.

If you are interested please email [fogmschair@gmail.com](mailto:fogmschair@gmail.com)

Wishing you a very happy rest of term and thanks so much for all your support.

FoGMS Committee

## AND FINALLY....

**THE GMS staff wish everyone a restful Summer break.**

**Good luck to all our students awaiting their exam results in August.**

**Stay safe and healthy.**

**We look forward to seeing everyone back in school in September.**

Starting at 4 o'clock in the morning on 27th May, Lisa sang more than 300 songs - from memory - and finally put her microphone down at 4 o'clock the following morning before going to bed.

When she got up five hours later, Lisa said: "The amount raised has left me speechless. Well, that plus the fact I have no actual voice left! Just want to say a massive thank you to everyone for all the donations and support - it means the absolute world to me."

Supporters in the local community can donate to a GoFundMe campaign, or buy an engraved brick to be included in a supporters' wall that will take pride of place inside the building the link is <https://gofund.me/58919bee>



**Photo shows Jill Hickey and Pat Reading of Marlow FM and Kevin Ford of Great Marlow School in front of the garage as it is now.**

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