



# The VOICE

APRIL 2025

ISSUE 58

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

## IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT DATES IN THE SUMMER TERM

We break up for the Easter Term at 12.30pm on Friday 4th April. School reopens on Tuesday 22nd April.

GCE and GCSE exams start on Tuesday 29th April. The schoolday will remain on exam timetable until the 31st June.

Year 11 and 13 leavers day is on Friday 2nd May and the Year 11 prom is on Wednesday 25th June at Monkton Barn.

Year 13 Prom is on Friday 20th June.

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



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

The arrival of the Easter break signifies the end of the second full term of the academic year and this edition of 'The Voice' showcases some of the school activities and events that have occurred since the last edition. However, this is just a flavour of the multitude of pictures and reports that are on our school website, so do please make sure you regularly visit the incredible 'relatively new' school website. I would like to thank all members of website team for the fantastic work they do and particularly, Mrs Rooney who is a member of that team and she produces The Voice each term.

This past term, Sixth Form students have completed their UCAS forms and made decisions about university, apprenticeships, or work. Year 11 and Year 13 students have completed their 'Mock Exams' and Year 11 had their guidance discussions on their next steps, and many have completed their Sixth Form applications for Great Marlow School; Year 9 students have completed the options process and made their choices for KS4.

For our students, this Easter break away from school provides a very welcome opportunity to recharge their batteries before an action-packed summer term. For our senior students, particularly Years 11, and 13, this period must be used productively for revision and examination preparation. The exam season will be upon us very quickly after our return. Some staff and students will be in school over the holidays, running and taking part in revision classes. Regularly in assemblies this term, we have reiterated the whole school ethos of 'My Personal Best' and the relationship with our original '6Rs' and the 7th R of Reading. The key message, recently, being 'the more you put into something the more you will get out of it'. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all the staff and students for their effort and commitment.

We as a school fully believe that physical activity and exercise play a very important part in managing stress and anxiety, as well as enabling people to

lead a long, healthy and fulfilling life: establishing good habits at an early age is key to this. As I have highlighted in many communications, there is now a huge amount of scientific evidence that people who are more physically active and exercise regularly are not only physically healthy but also have better mental health. I always like to add when writing about this subject that regular physical activity and exercise can also improve our intelligence, particularly with regards our memory and thinking skills. So, please take full advantage of the forecast of very good weather for at least the first week of the holidays and be physically active outdoors!

Finally, I would like to mention one individual teacher who has been a fantastic teacher of Citizenship and RSHE in recent years but at the outset of his career he was a Teacher of Physical Education (PE) and then Head of PE at Great Marlow School. Mr Paul Vincent started at GMS on the 1st September 1984 and retires this Easter after 41 years of incredible service to the school. He will be missed by students and staff but goes on to the next chapter of his life with our very best wishes.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and all your family a very enjoyable Easter.

Best Wishes  
Mr Kevin Ford  
Headteacher



This term in the Art department we have seen some beautiful work being produced from Year 7 to Year 13 and are incredibly proud of our budding artists.

## Year 7

Year 7 have continued their Islamic Patterns & Culture in Art Project, while embedding the formal elements of pattern, colour theory and mastering a range of media. This project culminated in a rotational tile design, where students designed, carved and printed a rotational pattern, using harmonious and complimentary colours. You can see their results below.

The students are now learning how to produce accurate tonal drawings from observation, and are enjoying how to draw cacti and succulents, as part of a wider project exploring Frida Kahlo and Heritage & Identify in Art. We can't wait to see their final self-portraits at the end of the year!

## Year 8

Year 8 students continued their illustration project during the first half of the spring term and enjoyed creating their own illustrative characters in response to a design brief from a fictional Publishing Agency. Using collage techniques from the surrealist movement, students created hybrid protagonists with unique characteristics and habitats, which they illustrated in coloured pencil and wrote about in a short story. Lastly, their characters were realised in clay, learning how to accurately shape pinch pot sculptures, add and refine features and enhance with texture. You can see their results below.



Freya Thompson 8E2

Beth Puddephat 8H1

Mya Wakley Y8



Maddie Jesky 8H1

Harley Bray 8E2

Nicole Kluczynska 8E2

Don't forget to follow the incredible work of our students on our social media page! Find us by searching for 'GMSartcraftdesign' on Instagram.

By Mrs J Hayward



ABOVE: Showcasing some of our amazing Year 9 Portrait s



## YEAR 9 PORTRAIT PROJECTS SHOWCASE TALENT AND TECHNICAL SKILL

Our Year 9 students have been working incredibly hard on developing their portrait projects, and their efforts are truly paying off! The Art department has been buzzing with creativity as students refine their skills and bring their artwork to life.

Having already built a solid foundation in observational drawing, students began by carefully studying facial features and proportions, creating impressive graphite portraits that demonstrate their attention to detail and tonal accuracy. These studies laid the groundwork for the next stage of their project - Exploring the bold, graphic style of contemporary artist Luke Dixon.

Luke Dixon's distinctive approach to portraiture, characterized by expressive line work and high-contrast mark-making, has provided the perfect challenge for students to push their skills further. Transitioning from their detailed graphite portraits, they have embraced Dixon's unique technique, experimenting with contours, tonal mapping, cross-hatching, and weight of line to capture striking likenesses in fine-liner. It has been incredible to see how confidently they have adapted to this new style, producing some outstanding work that showcases both technical skill and artistic flair.

By Miss J Moyse

## KEY STAGE 4 ARTISTS PUSH CREATIVE BOUNDARIES!

Year 10 have been pushing their creativity to new heights this term - Through reflection and patience in refining their previous outcomes (see below) to exploring exciting new techniques. The department has been a hive of activity as our 3 classes have moved forward with workshops, experimenting with 3D papier-mâché, mixed media, lino printing, and intricate papercuts, each bringing fresh challenges and inspiring results!

These hands-on experiences have helped students master a variety of materials and processes, strengthening their skills as they move closer to developing their final outcomes for the 'Food & Drink Project'. With each new technique, their confidence grows, pushing them to take creative risks and produce more ambitious work. The energy in the classroom has been electric as the cohort bring their ideas to life, build resilience and learn valuable problem solving skills through exhaustive experimentation and beating creative blocks. Well done year 10!

Meanwhile, Year 11 have been making the most of some fantastic after-school skills sessions - Diving into mixed media collage with our Art technician Mrs Hollander, etching on the press with Mrs Perman, and Jelli-plate printing & stencilling with Mrs Hayward. Thank you for delivering these inspiring workshops in support of the ESA project development! Following the sessions, students are fine-tuning composition ideas ahead of fast approaching April exams. It's all under wraps for now but we can't wait to see how these incredible projects evolve and share them with you. We wish year 11 the best of luck for their exam after the easter break!

By Miss J Moyse

Below: Artworks by Georgia Morris, Olivia Hansford and Minnie Owen.



The Yr 12 students are diving into their personal investigations, engaging in workshops centred on the physical self, which can be tailored to fit each student's chosen theme. Through exploring fine art painting techniques, composition, and editing, they are working towards an interim outcome that will help guide the direction of their Component 1 project. A highlight of this phase was the highly attended life drawing class, led by Mrs. Hayward. This is a unique opportunity that sets our school apart, as we are one of the few secondary schools offering this experience. Year after year, it proves to be an invaluable learning and growth opportunity for our students, allowing them to mature as young artists.

## Year 13s on the final leg of their A-level journey

The Year 13 students have recently submitted their Component 1 investigations, each showcasing impressive and deeply personal projects. Lucas Gray has delivered a spectacular architectural design project, reflecting his passion and ambition to pursue architecture at university. Jess Power has undertaken a profound exploration of Japanese culture and symbolism, culminating in a mixed media, hand-embellished kimono. Sammy Hardy has created a striking fine art painting exploring the theme of the distorted female form, while Tilly Hansans work delves into Egyptian eye makeup and the effects of sun damage on skin through a detailed portrait. Each student has truly started to highlight their unique strengths, and they are now entering the final stretch of their A-level art journey. Which hopefully will be taking many of them onto further creative courses such as foundation years and architectural degrees!

By Mrs A Perman

Acting Head of Art



## ART IN SCHOOLS

We're excited to announce a fantastic opportunity here at GMS, in collaboration with Art In Schools, a unique art education charity. Their mission is to enhance access to art for children and young people through the power of technology. How are they doing this? By showcasing exceptional art from around the world – all day, every day – on special TV 'ArtScreens' in school halls and canteens across the UK.

At the heart of this initiative is the invitation for students to create their own art, inspired by iconic works – masterpieces that represent the very best in human creativity. Art In Schools is set to revolutionize art education by overcoming the traditional challenges of limited funding and the inaccessibility of museums. Their approach is simple but powerful: bringing the museum to the kids.

In the lead-up to the installation of these exciting new screens, we're engaging students with a series of PowerPoints shown during form time. These presentations highlight amazing works of art, offering insights into their meaning and context, and encouraging thoughtful discussions. These resources will also be available for parents and carers to explore through the school intranet in the student zone, allowing families to engage in the journey of discovery together.

We can't wait for our students to experience the world of art in such an innovative way!

By Mrs A Perman

Acting Head of Art





## YOUNG ENTERPRISE AT THE EDEN CENTRE

Phoenix and Paw Print Studio represented Great Marlow School at the Eden Centre Selling young enterprise event on Sunday 23rd March.

Both teams were polite, professional and impressed the judges with their business skills and products.

Congratulations of the teams for their resilience and responsibility in spending all day Sunday selling to the general public.

Thank you all for your ongoing support.



## WE HAVE SOME BUDDING ENTREPRENEURS AT GMS!!

At Great Marlow we are dedicated to supporting budding entrepreneurs and drive enterprise as a whole school initiative. In February, we held a Young Enterprise selling event, which included groups of students from Years 7 to 12 promoting their businesses to the whole school.

This selling event was from Monday 10th February until Friday 14th February in the School Hall from 8.00- 9.00am and enable students and staff the opportunity to view all the amazing items on sale and purchase from the stalls.

Our Young Enterprise students offered many different items including pet bowls, customised pet treat jars, pet Valentine's cards, upcycled clothes, hand made accessories, hair scrunches, tote bags, 3D fidget toys, keyrings, hand made bracelets much more.

This event will helped to showcase the vast entrepreneurial talent the school has and also raise awareness of enterprise to all students. We congratulate all of our students who made this such a successful event.

By Mrs M Broadbent



## Year 13 Mock Results

This department offers A-Levels in three subjects: Ancient History, Politics and Law. All y13 students following these subjects have just sat mock exams. The Ancient History class sat two papers, each lasting 2½ hours, while the Politics and Law classes all sat three papers, each lasting 3 hours.

### Ancient History

Ethan Hunt came top of the class in both the Greek paper and the Roman paper, gaining a comfortable Grade A overall.

### Politics

Aminah Ibraz came top of the class in all three papers, achieving an incredible mark of 95% in the USA paper, gaining a strong Grade A overall.

Aparna Sharma also scored Grade A in one of her three papers.

### Law

Oliver Pitt scored A\* in two of his three papers and Grade A in the third, achieving a final score of 88% - Grade A. In the other class, Ethan Hunt scored Grade A in all three papers, finishing with a score of 86% - Grade A.

Alice Cogram achieved an impressive Grade A\* score of 93% in her paper on Tort Law, and Conrad Bains and Isabella Jedras also scored Grade A in one of their papers.

Congratulations to them all!

By Mr S Pugsley- Head of Department

congratulations



## LEGO STEM CLUB: ENGINEERING THE FUTURE, ONE BRICK AT A TIME!

Aspiring engineers, tech wizards, and problem solvers have had the opportunity to dive into the exciting world of robotics, programming, and engineering—one LEGO brick at a time.

In collaboration with leading engineering firm Chelton, our club has been offering a unique opportunity for a small group of Year 9 students to develop essential STEM skills in a fun, hands-on environment. Meeting once a week, participants have worked alongside Chelton's expert engineers to design, build, and program LEGO robots that can perform a series of challenging tasks.

But this isn't just about building robots—it's about putting them to the test! Our LEGO creations navigate an obstacle course, completing exciting tasks along the way. From spinning a carousel and pulling a banana boat to operating intricate LEGO mechanisms, each challenge is designed to enhance problem-solving, ingenuity, and technical skills.

This has been an experience with real-world engineering concepts, learning and improving coding abilities, and getting a taste of what it's like to work in the cutting-edge field of robotics. Plus, with expert guidance from Chelton, students have gained invaluable insights into how STEM is shaping the future.

Students of all year groups should look out for the possibility of joining the next cohort of budding coding engineers.

By Mr Nathan Taylor

## YEAR 8 TEXTILES



Year 8 completed their first rotation in Design and Technology at the end of February. The Textiles classes expanded their range decorative techniques, learning how to work applique and pockets. They used these techniques to create a storage device for small personal items in the home. The theme they followed was 'All Things British'. Some outstanding results from some very resilient and responsible learners are shown here.



### FAST FASHION

What is fast fashion? Fast fashion is recreating popular styles or 'looks' quickly with low-quality materials and selling them quickly. These items are mass-produced in factories.

Who's to blame? Is it the producer or the consumer? While shops use sales and limited stock to encourage people to 'buy while it lasts', they while consumers buy and increase demand. Up to 150 billion items of clothing are produced per year and 80 million tons are thrown away each year. Of these, only 1% are recycled and 60% are made of plastic.

Fast fashion is a design, manufacturing, and marketing method focused on rapidly producing high volumes of clothing.

By Alexandra McInnes

Statistics:  
Fashion production consumes 10% of total global water resources.  
It is estimated that 50% of microplastics found in the ocean come from synthetic textile like polyester.  
The fashion industry contributes to 20% of global wastewater.  
To make just one pair of jeans, 10,000 litres of water is required.  
10% of the material used for clothing is recycled.

Facts:  
Many garment clothing end up in landfill.  
By 2020, the fashion industry released around 907 tonnes of CO2 equivalents.  
New fast fashion brands produce more or more or their old brands.  
Many clothing items are made using 95% less water before being thrown away.  
A single person would make 10 tonnes to consume the amount of water that goes into 1 pair of jeans.  
Three extractions could easily use up to 1.3 billion metres tons by 2020.

What is the damage?  
Fast fashion cause pollution due to microplastics and it uses up a lot of energy. It also contributes to the large amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere causing climate change. Also, there is a lot of chemicals used to manufacture garments and these chemicals are very harmful to us and the environment.

## Fast Fashion

### What is fast fashion?

Fast fashion is a design, manufacturing, and marketing method focused on rapidly producing high volumes of clothing.

- How to reduce the damage:
  - Reducing your carbon footprint.
  - Donate clothes.
  - Recycle your clothes.
  - Spread awareness.
  - If something is broken fix it yourself.
  - Don't buy loads of clothes as you hardly wear them.

### Sources:

- Earth.org
- Biological diversity.org
- State of master apparel

## YEAR 9 TEXTILES

Year 9 D&T Textiles have been investigating the environmental impact of Textiles. How many clothes do we need versus how many clothes we actually own. The impact of fibre and fabric production is irreversible, as well as the carbon emissions of manufacturing and transporting the products around the globe.

By Mrs C Clark



## ENERGIZE 2025

Once again, the drama students, who performed at Energize 25, did the school and the Drama Department proud.

Since January, all 15 students have worked dedicatedly on a devised piece of work called 12Yrs Old. This is a play about the history of schooling, with an ending that promotes the great aspects of the school system we have today. Students were tasked not only to act, but sing and dance too, a challenge embraced wholeheartedly by every student.

The first performance was to the staff, friends and some parents/carers, who could not make The Swan on Tuesday 18th March. From the special reaction of the audience, there was a feeling that something unique had been brought to the stage and this filled the students with confidence.

The long rehearsals were worth the commitment, even the tough student audience of Year 8s were affected by the drama and its message.

On Friday evening at The Swan when the students stepped onto the stage for their rehearsal they were so well prepared for it that they were, 'like ducks in water'. With only half an hour to set up the stage blocking, lighting and sound, the liaison between the theatre staff and Jacob, a Year 11, was invaluable. Once that was completed, the students were taken to the dressing rooms: this is the moment when the actors truly realised how important they were and what a huge opportunity this was.

In the brief space of time before the performance, a trip to McDonalds took place, as much of a highlight as the performance itself!

Fortunately, all the students remained very calm in the dressing room until called down; at that point, nerves and adrenaline kicked in both for the actors and staff because so much time had been invested in the production.

As soon as they were in role on stage, the actors were simply excellent and delivered a faultless performance. As they were the final participants in the first half, they were allowed to wave and bow until the curtain came down. All 700 people in the audience cheered and clapped: did the cast realise they had just entertained that many people?

On Saturday afternoon, Mr Ross explained what professional acting was all about. A new 700 strong audience were waiting to be entertained and the show had to be as good, if not better, than their previous performance. The GMS drama students, 'nailed it again' of course.

Mr Ross, and the other staff involved, were incredibly proud and happy of the performances that showcased GMS students as professionals.

### Feedback from the general public was incredible, summed up in these statements:

*"GMS were honestly fabulous, as a drama teacher I would be bursting with pride if they were my students!"*

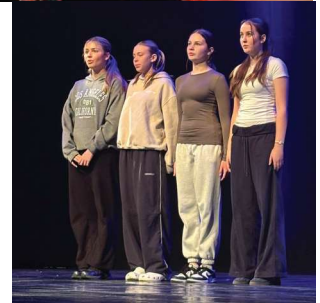
*"That performance was as close as it could be to a professional performance."*

GMS would like to thank the Energize Team at The Swan who worked so hard to give so many students this experience. Also, to be thanked are our staff Mrs Chenery, Mrs Brazier, Mrs Sharp, Mr Higgins, Mr Ross and Jacob.

### Feedback from the students was notably enthusiastic:

*"Thanks sir, I'm having lots of fun"*

*"The best thing about this project is we performed at The Wycombe Swan, where we had the opportunity to experience acting for a huge audience."*



Photos from Energize 2025

"The best thing about this project is the fun we had when performing."

"Thank you so much for giving me this amazing opportunity, I've had so much fun; I loved every minute of it."

*"I can't thank you enough, sir, for giving us all this amazing experience... and putting up with us!"*

"I loved it and hope I'll do something like this again."

As always with the Drama Department it is now onto with the next thing. This includes the examination performances and the Summer Show.

By Mr S Ross

## YEAR 11 HALF WAY THROUGH THEIR GCSE'S - AND THEY ARE DOING WELL!

A huge congratulations to the Year 11 Drama class who took their Component 2 exam on 26th March. The students represented the department as either an Actor, Sound and Lighting Technician or Hair, Make Up and Costume Designer. Their vision came alive in an intense 15 minutes, where the students delivered their work to a visiting examiner.

Although the examiner is not allowed to share her marks until results day, she did say that she really enjoyed everyone's work and that they should be very pleased with their performances.

Well done Year 11, you should be extremely proud of yourselves, you have worked so hard during lessons and after school and it is clear that the hard work has paid off! That's 60% bagged. Roll on 8th May, when you get the last 40% in your written exam. It has been a pleasure working with you over the last two years.

By Mrs Chenery and Mr Ross

## KS3 Write Book Reviews for Marlow Bookshop

A Valentine's Day display is in pride of place in Marlow Bookshop's window featuring book reviews written by our Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students.

The library staff asked students to write about a book they particularly loved, giving brief summary of why it became a favourite.

All the reviews are on view alongside the books, for those who wish to purchase a 'good read'.

This is an example of a wonderful community link between our school and Marlow's independent bookshop. We hope it encourages our readers to go and have a look.

Many thanks to Lisa Ben Haj Ali for all her work behind the scenes to make this happen, most especially for printing the student reviews on Valentine hearts to make the display eye-catching.

By Mrs C Legerton





## African Storytelling enthralls students

The library hosted an African storytelling event on 5th March in the school hall.

Central to the event was a talk by Kulcha Lee, a son of one of the original passengers on The Empire Windrush, the ship that carried more than a thousand passengers to the UK from the Caribbean in 1948; they had been invited to the UK to help rebuild Britain after the Second World War. Ships continued to sail from the Caribbean into Tilbury Docks, London, until 1974.

Many of these passengers had to leave their family behind in the Caribbean so keeping in touch was difficult: this was 70 years ago. The children were called 'Barrel Children' because twice a year they received a barrel bearing letters and gifts from their parents in Britain.

The Year 7s really connected with Kulcha, who brought the experience of being a 'Barrel Child' alive through his heart-felt stories and seeing the actual barrel-drum that he received his correspondence in.

The library has non-fiction books that truly bring this episode alive for 21st century children.

## A Review of the African Storytelling

At first, the hall was full of noise, chaos and excitement! On the stage were musical instruments and bright, colourful banners. Silence fills the room as a Banjo Drum starts to play, this encourages the children to clap along. A striking man called Kocha Lee, 65, introduces himself. He came from Gloucester and has been telling stories for 45 years. He was inspired by his Uncle Patrick who mentored him and told him stories.

During his time on stage, Kocha retold the 'Hatapillar' story. Its moral is when you think you're safe, never let down your guard.

We interviewed some children, including Lottie Fitzjohn, from the class of 7E3:

"The story was very humorous, entertaining and I would like to see it again."

As Kocha's stories drew to a close, the atmosphere was electric! All the students loved his presentation and musical influences. He left us with this inspirational quote: "If you love what you do don't ever change it for anyone."

By Lailah Hyde-McKay and Willow Watt



## World Book Day - Year 7s students come in character!

The celebration of World Book Day started on the 23rd of April 1995; this is where children dress up as characters from a favourite book.

Students in Year 7 had the opportunity to dress up as their favourite character and it was delightful to see Thing 1 and Thing 2, Little Red-Riding Hood, famous footballers, and other creative creations throughout the school day. One teacher, Miss Ben Haj Ali, dressed up as Elsa, from the delightful children's tale Frozen.

This year's theme is called "Read Your Way", which has inspired children to read how they want to, like audiobooks, a chapter per day, or to read the whole book at once. We would like to heavily encourage children to read in a way that is comfortable for them and for all ages to carry on reading.

By Mrs C Legerton

## A Lifechanging Trip to Auschwitz

Before Christmas the History Department invited students to apply for one of two spaces available for the lessons from Auschwitz project. Since 1999, 41,000 students have been given the opportunity to take part in a four-part course organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust due to the premise, 'hearing is not like seeing'.

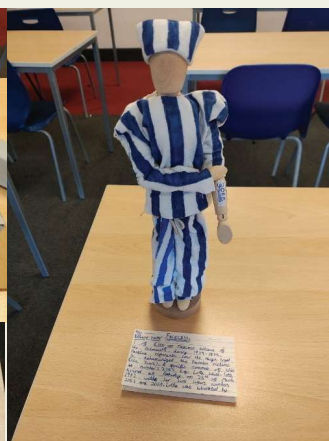
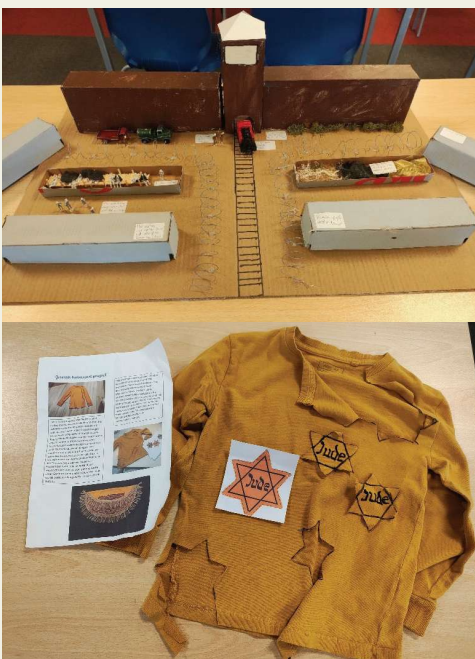
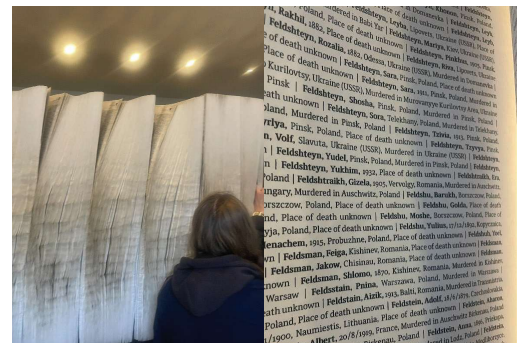
The course looks at the universal lessons of the Holocaust and its relevance today. The department spent time reviewing the applications and were delighted to allow both Theo Papaioannou and Sabrina Gray Grychowska to take part in this invaluable experience. This year we were also fortunate to be given a teacher space on the trip and so Mrs Bullock also attended this trip. In March both students attended an orientation seminar in London where they got to hear from Holocaust survivors and to prepare them for their visit to Auschwitz. At 2am on Tuesday 11th March, both students left to get to London Stansted for their 4.30am check in to fly to Poland. The students then spent the day visiting the different camps in Auschwitz and had time to reflect in the museum exhibitions. To end the day the students attended a memorial at the crematoria and Theo was selected to read out a poem. This was an incredibly moving moment and was a real privilege for the Theo. To follow up their experience, both students attended an online seminar to reflect on the visit and to understand the relevance of the lessons of the Holocaust. To complete the project, both Theo and Sabrina have come into both Year 9 and Year 12 History lessons to share their experience of the visit to the students. They will present and answer questions so that they students will comprehend and be fully aware of the Holocaust and the lessons from it.



*"I would say that the visit has completely changed my outlook on the Holocaust and displayed to me of the importance of remembering the individual lives and stories of the victims."* Theo.

By Mrs L Evans

Book is the biggest in the world containing 4.2 million names of those that died (out of 6 million) that died in the Holocaust.



## Year 9 History

This term, Year 9 have been studying the Holocaust. The students have shown responsibility in their lessons when studying such a harrowing subject. To complete this topic, the students were given opportunity to create a Holocaust artefact. This was a creative homework that would allow the students to create an object that they feel best symbolises the Holocaust. Here are some examples of the fantastic work produced. It was a pleasure to mark this work.

By Mrs L Evans



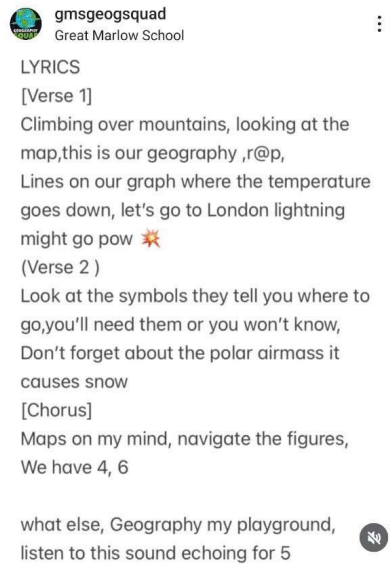


## WELCOME TO THE GEOG SQUAD

This year saw the launch of the new **GMS Geog squad Instagram page**, the place to go to for all of the latest news on the department and to see what students have been doing in class. Some of the highlights we have seen so far this year are:

### 1. Year 7 rap about Geography

The year 7s were tasked with created a piece of work on why we should study Geography, students from 7H2 created this brilliant rap based on what they had learnt so far in their geography lessons.

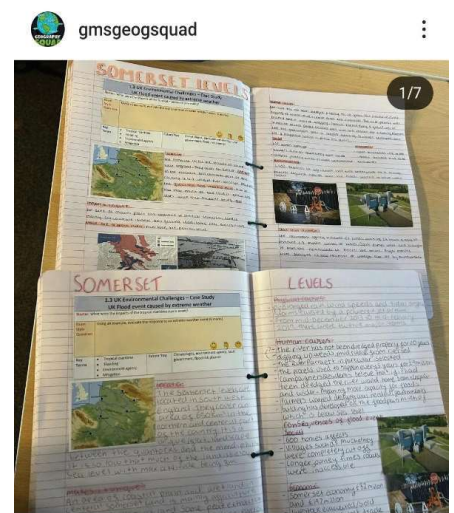


### 2. Year 10 case study work.

Throughout the year we have seen some really impressive work from year 10, some of the most impressive work has come from their case study work where they created a double page spread of information. Some of the case studies they have looked at so far are: Swanage, Oxford, Somerset and the River Wye.



Want to hear more news from the Geography department? Follow us on Instagram @gmsgeogsquad. This year already we have seen group work, new workbook deliveries and lots of impressive work from across the year groups. Use the QR code below to follow us and catch up on all the latest news.



28  
gmsgeogsquad Year 10s working hard on their Somerset levels case study with Miss Ashby  
25 January



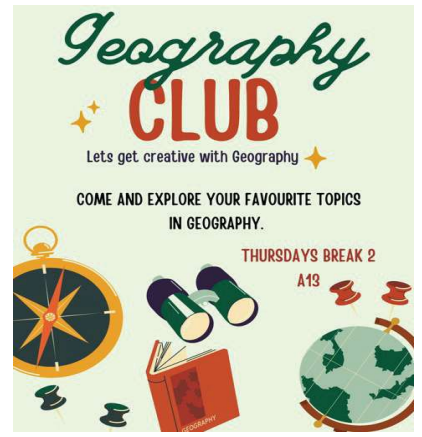
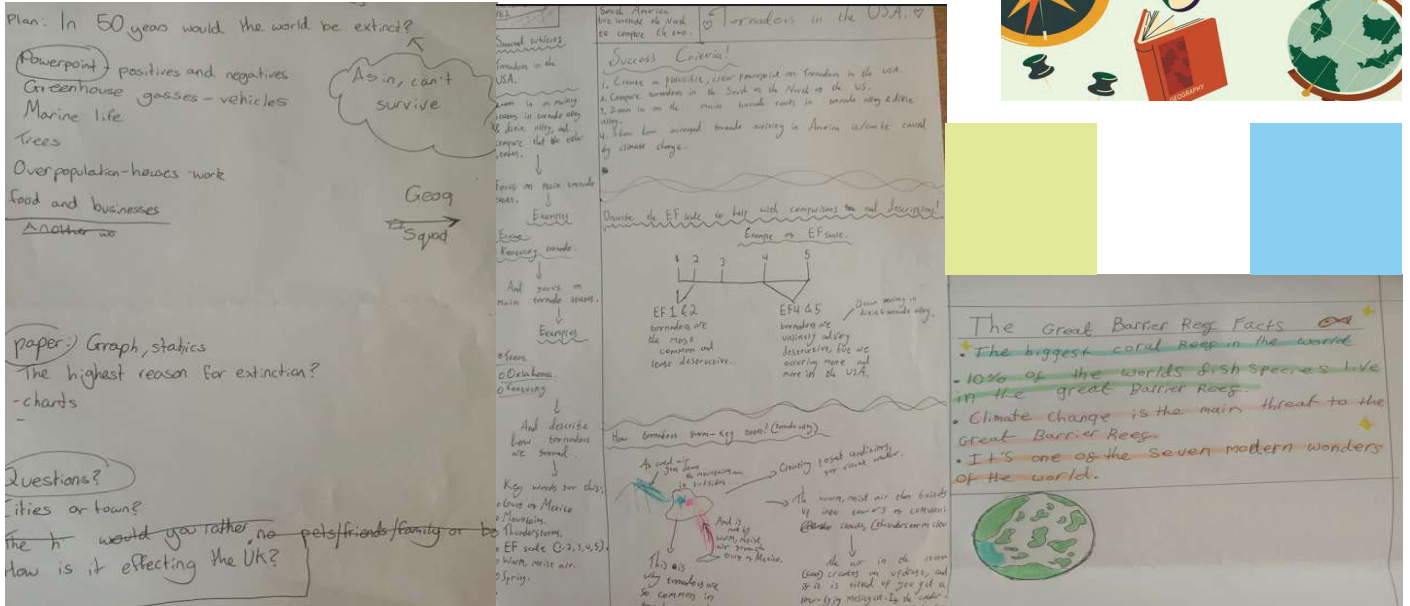
### 3. Quality Marking

The Geography department has been working hard to improve the feedback we are giving to students. One area we have focused on is the quality marking questions, where we have given students a ticklist of what went well and a question to improve on. We have seen a big improvement in how students have responded to these, as shown in these Instagram posts.

## Come and join our Geography club

This term has seen the relaunch of Geography club. An opportunity for students to research any aspect of Geography they wish to and create a project on that chosen topic. The club has been popular with year 7 students who have spent the last few weeks collecting research and are now collating it all to put together for their presentations to the geography department. Some of the ideas they are looking at are: In 50 years, will the world be extinct, dangers to the Great Barrier Reef, Australia as a landscape and tornadoes in the USA.

Here are some of their notes they have been working on:



## WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

On the week of the 17th March, the Geography department took our assembly about World Water Day as an opportunity to relaunch Eco-Club, we are still looking to increase our numbers and would love to see you there. We have teamed up with Marlow Energy Group to launch a competition looking at the future of climate change, see below for details on how to enter- cash prizes are up for grabs!

By Mrs N Messenger



## One way to help: JOIN ECO-CLUB!!!



Eco-club is a group in school which tries to improve the school environment whilst also helping to preserve our planet by carrying out eco-friendly initiatives.

Things we have done in the past:

- Cleared and maintained school pond
- Outside classroom
- Bird boxes
- Worked with local community to clean local area

## JOIN ECO-CLUB!!!

Join us Monday in A11, Break 1



Great Marlow School  
 Half term focus:  
 Respect



## COMPETITION TIME

What do you think the future looks like? Can you write 750 words on the subject

“Preparing for the future: the importance of individual action in combating climate change”

We'd love to hear your thoughts and the best 3 pieces win a monetary prize!

By Mrs N Messenger

Head of Geography



Invites students aged 10 – 18  
in Marlow Schools to enter our

### 2025 COMPETITION

with generous monetary prizes  
for the best three pieces of writing on the subject:

“Preparing for the future: the importance of individual action in combating climate change”

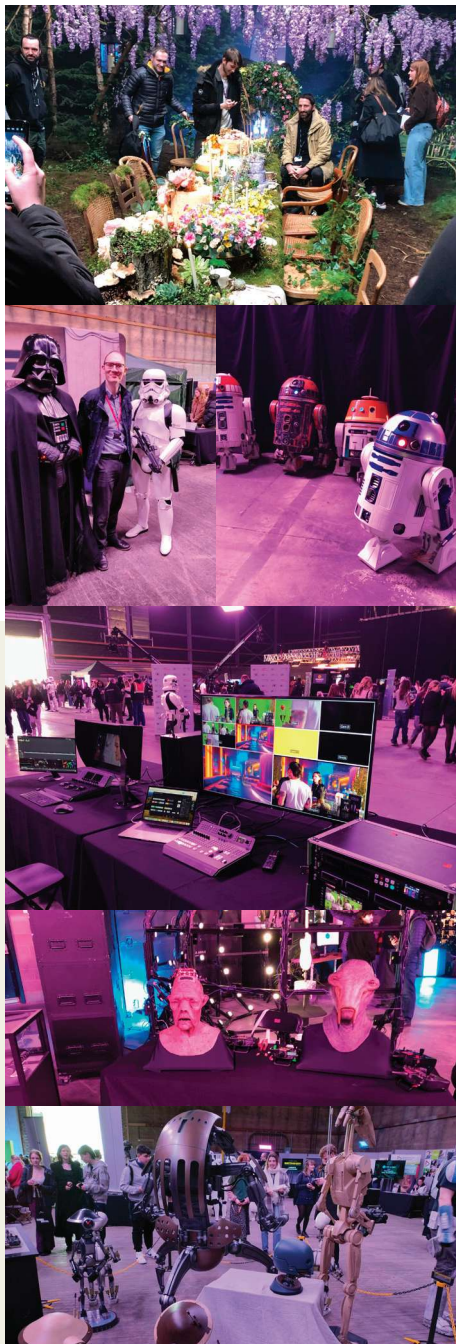
It is important that governments all over the world take action to reduce the impact of climate change but we, as individuals, need also to play our part.

We look forward to receiving your thoughts.

Word limit: 750 words  
format: digital, preferably word document  
deadline for entry May 23rd 2025  
announcement of winner June 17th 2025

Marlow Energy Group (MEG) is a non-profit Community Benefit Society with the aim of reducing Marlow's footprint through promoting the generation of renewable energies and helping residents, schools, organisations, religious institutions and businesses to reduce their energy consumption.

#### MEG sponsors



## MEDIA STUDENTS HAD A MEMORABLE TRIP TO PINEWOOD STUDIOS

On Friday, 28th February, the Media Department took a large group of our Year 12 A-level and BTEC Media students to the Pinewood Futures Festival.

*'This was a Careers Festival, hosted at Pinewood Studios, that provided fantastic opportunities for our students to learn about and investigate different career options within the various media industries.*

*It was also great fun to see a real, working film studio with such a legacy in the industry and the students enjoyed being able to interact with characters from various famous film franchises, including Star Wars and Marvel! It is our hope that this event will inspire our students to think about the wide range of careers, both in and related to the media, that they could pursue beyond Sixth Form.*

*A great event that we definitely intend to revisit next year!'*

By Mr D Sacre

Head of Department

## There's been lots going on in Music!

The Spring term has been a fantastic season for our Music Department, filled with incredible performances and exciting events showcasing the immense talent of our students.

We began the term with the **A-level Recital Evening** at All Saints Church in Marlow. This special evening gave our talented musicians the opportunity to perform their solo pieces in preparation for their exam performances.

The event was a proud moment for both the students and their parents and carers, setting a high standard for the term ahead.

In February, the much-anticipated **House Music Competition** returned for its third rendition, bringing together enthusiastic musicians competing for their houses—Eagles, Hawks, and Kites—all vying for the new House Music trophy. With the biggest number of entries yet, the standard of the performances was sublime. Each performer contributed valuable points to their houses, making it a closely contested competition. A thank you must go to our judges—Mrs. Lamming, Mr. Sparks, Miss Bennett, Mr. Magnay, Mr. Bradley, and Mr. Hollyman—who had the very difficult task of awarding category winners.

### House Music Competition Winners:

- **Year 7 Ensemble:** Isabella and Memphis
- **KS3 Ensemble:** Jude, Ethan, and William
- **KS3 Piano:** Thang
- **KS3 Solo:** Lucy
- **KS3 Voice:** Hannah
- **KS4 Ensemble:** Paul, Grace H, Grace P, Ollie, Rosanna, and Amelie
- **KS4 Piano:** Sophie
- **KS4 Solo:** Paul
- **KS4 Voice:** Grace P

The overall trophy winners will be announced in the next house assembly—stay tuned! Congratulations to all students involved in this brilliant contest.

Another highlight of the term was the **Jazz Evening** at Sir William Borlase School, where talented jazz musicians from both schools collaborated to create a spectacular evening of entertainment. The event

was a true testament to the dedication and skill of our students, and the audience was treated to an unforgettable night of music.

Finally, as this article is published, our **A-level students** will have performed their exam pieces in front of the Eduqas examiner. We wish them the very best of luck, though we are certain their hard work and talent will shine through!

If you think this term was busy, the summer is just as exciting! With **summer concerts, primary school visits, and end-of-term celebrations**, our musicians will continue to impress. Our extra-curricular groups also remain strong, producing outstanding musicians week after week.





If your child is interested in music lessons or joining any of our extra-curricular activities, please email the Music Department at [music@gms.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:music@gms.bucks.sch.uk).

We hope you all have a restful Easter break and look forward to seeing you in the Summer term!

By Mr O Kidd  
Head of Music

## RAF Band Entertain Year 7

On Friday 24th January, members of His Majesty's Royal Air Force Band performed to the whole of Year 7, in the sports hall. The concert they gave was highly entertaining comprising of a range of music, from royal fanfares to The Simpsons theme tune.

Year 7 learned about the instruments being played and the background of the players, which was fascinating; they also learned about life in the RAF. Altogether, the students were given a comprehensive and personal insight into life of an RAF member.

In turn, the Year 7s asked some very astute questions, which showed they had been listening very carefully.

## Great Marlow and Sir William Borlase Jazz Musicians Shine in Joint Concert

On a night filled with rhythm, melody, and outstanding performances, the talented jazz musicians of Great Marlow School and Sir William Borlase School came together for a spectacular joint concert. Hosted in the transformed theatre at Sir William Borlase School—now a sophisticated Jazz Lounge—the evening was a celebration of musical collaboration and talent.

The event featured an array of standout performances, with the Great Marlow Senior Jazz Ensemble captivating the audience with their exceptional solos. Among the highlights of the night were their renditions of \*Tequila\* and \*Picking Up the Pieces\*, both of which were met with enthusiastic applause and interaction.

Adding to the evening's magic was GCSE Musician Grace Puddephat, who delivered a stunning vocal performance of \*Misty\*.

This wonderful evening was a testament to the hard work and dedication of both students and teachers. The collaboration between the two schools fostered not only musical excellence but also a shared appreciation for jazz. The event was a resounding success, leaving everyone in attendance eager for future performances.

Congratulations to all the musicians and teachers involved in making this event such a triumph!



## A-level recital evening with exceptional performances

On a chilly evening in early February, the stunning All Saints Church provided the perfect backdrop for our annual A-level Recital Evening, where our talented senior music students showcased their impressive skills in a range of musical genres. With the acoustics of the church enhancing each note, the evening was both magical and inspiring. The programme featured an array of instruments and with standout solo performances.

Year 11 GCSE students started the evening with Marc Aoun, Ivy Burge, Elizabeth and Isobel Gladwell setting the tone with superb performances on the piano, clarinet and saxophone. Each performer conquering their nerves to introduce their pieces.

Year 12 A-level students Jamie Sutton and Matthew Parks were up next. Jamie playing the piano showcasing his talent with every keystroke. As the evening neared its finale, Matthew took the stage with an impressive trumpet solo.

The evening concluded with a powerful and memorable trumpet

performance by Year 13 A-level Felix Bowers, who wrapped up the recital with stunning pieces that left the audience in awe.

Reflecting on the evening, Mr. Kidd, Head of Music, shared his thoughts:

“What a fantastic evening! We are incredibly proud of the students and their achievements. The standard of the performances was exceptional. Congratulations to all students involved. A thank you must also go to Mr. Williams, Mrs. Lamming, Mr. Davie, and Mr. Gibbs for their continued support of GMS students and the Music Department.”

The A-level Recital Evening was a true celebration of the resilient hard work of our students, who continue to excel in their musical endeavours. A special thanks goes out to the staff, parents and carers who continue to support these young musicians in their musical journey.

By Mr O Kidd  
Head of Music



## TESTS, EXPERIMENTS, CLUBS AND MUCH MORE!!

The Spring term brings continued hard work from students dedicated to their learning of Science.

Concepts covered this term include:

- Year 7: Forces, Reproduction, Acids and Alkalis, Fitness and Health.
- Year 8: Heating and Cooling, The Periodic Table, The Rock Cycle, Light
- Year 9 (Dependent on class): Organisation, Energy, Bonding and Structure, Electricity
- Year 10 (Dependent on class): Bioenergetics, Chemical Changes, Electricity, Waves, Quantitative Chemistry, Ecology.
- Year 11 (Dependent on class): Magnetism and Electromagnetism, Homeostasis, Inheritance.

### Year 9 Science Museum Trip

Students attending the trip represented the school brilliantly and showed great interest in the exhibits at the museum.

Students had the opportunity to see the first light microscope created by Robert Hooke and the Hawker Siddley 125 (De Havilland 125) plane that our very own Mrs. Beswick's Dad used to fly – she certainly has some stories of his to pass on!

In the space exhibit they saw Tim Peake's Spacecraft, a piece of the moon and the Apollo 10 command module.

The trip was enjoyed by staff and students alike so thank you to those that attended for making it such a lovely experience.

### Year 12 Physics

Y12 Physics students attended a Physics workshop hosted by Oxford instruments looking at many phenomena linked to the equipment they build including Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy. This was quite the experience and introduced students to the Physics beyond the course content.

Many students are considering entering the fiercely competitive application for work experience with Oxford Instruments as a result!

Keep an eye out for future competitions and opportunities!

Our Year 10 Scientist enjoying the sunshine but braving the cold wind to conduct GCSE Sampling Investigations on our GMS Field. The Ecology topic is a fantastic topic that encourages all students to understand the Natural world in more detail and hopefully inspires them to protect and conserve our planet.

Year 11 students are moving onto structure revision and exam preparation in lessons.

**Mrs. Webster's "Science Fix" is available to all KS4 students on Thursdays and Fridays after school**



### British Science week!

This term also included British Science Week where KS3 students observed our BIG demos each lesson such as;

- Elephant's Toothpaste
- Screaming Jelly Baby
- Methane bubbles
- And more

Science club continues to run every Monday 3-3.45pm in S13 with KS3 students answering life's VERY important questions such as;

**How do hot air balloons work if they don't have an engine?**

**How do fireworks produce such amazing colours?**

**Why is it so hard to get ketchup out of the bottle on to your chips?**

By Mrs J Webster  
Head of Science



Top: Screaming Jelly Babye  
Middle: Elephant's Toothpaste  
Bottom: Methane bubbles



## Year 12 Sports Career's Trip to Brentford Football Club

On Thursday 27th March, our Year 12 Sports students embarked on an exciting and insightful trip to Brentford Football Club, where they gained valuable knowledge and first-hand experience about careers within the world of sport. This trip provided students with the unique opportunity to learn about the wide variety of roles available in the sports industry, directly from industry professionals.

The day began with an engaging series of talks from a range of guest speakers, including ex-England football player Marcus Gayle. Marcus shared his personal experiences from his impressive career, offering students invaluable insights into the world of professional sport. Along with Marcus, other industry experts provided talks on various roles within the sector, covering areas like sports management, media, coaching, and sports science. These speakers emphasised the diverse and dynamic opportunities that exist in sports beyond the playing field, inspiring students to think broadly about their future careers.

In addition to the talks, there were numerous exhibitors at the event, offering students the chance to explore different career paths further. The exhibitors were more than happy to answer any questions and provide advice on how to get started in their respective fields, helping the students understand what it takes to break into the sports industry and what skills are most valued by employers.

One of the highlights of the trip was the exclusive tour of Brentford's impressive stadium. Students were given the chance to explore areas usually reserved for the team and staff. They visited the press room, where they gained insight into how media and communications play a vital role in the club's success. They also toured the changing rooms, providing a behind-the-scenes look at where players prepare for matchdays. Finally, they made their way out to the pitch, standing on the same field where professional players showcase their skills every week. The opportunity to walk on the hallowed turf was a truly memorable experience for everyone involved.

Overall, the trip to Brentford Football Club was an incredibly enriching experience for our Year 12 students. They left with a greater understanding of the numerous career paths available within the sports industry, as well as a newfound appreciation for the hard work and dedication that goes into running a professional football club. We would like to thank all the guest speakers, exhibitors, and Brentford Football Club for making this event such a success.

This trip has undoubtedly inspired many of our students to pursue careers in sport, and we look forward to supporting them as they take the next steps in their educational journey.

By Miss G Muttitt



## GMS CAREERS FAIR WAS A BIG SUCCESS FOR STUDENTS AND EXHIBITORS ALIKE

On Tuesday February 11th Great Marlow School held an exciting and informative Careers Fair.

Students in Years 9 to 13, who are considering their future options and career choices, had the opportunity to speak informally in person to a wide range of employers, both local and multinational as well as training providers, colleges and universities.

This kind of event is hugely important as it enables students to gain an understanding of the different routes and opportunities available and the skills that are needed to be successful in today's economy.

The universities represented included University of Reading, Oxford Brookes University, Bucks New University, University of Bedfordshire, Buckingham University and Henley Business School.

Further education colleges were represented by Henley College, Buckinghamshire Colleges Group and Windsor Forest Colleges Group.

Employers of companies were selected to represent as wide a range of sectors as possible including representatives from Mars, Balfour Beatty, Invesco, Oxford Instruments, Align, Richardsons, Seymour Taylor, Heathrow, and British Airways.

Public services representatives included the Army, RAF, Thames Valley Police, NHS and the Home Office.

**Feedback from exhibitors was overwhelmingly positive.**

**"It was a very well run fair and the students were a credit to GMS, polite and inquisitive. Year 9s were particularly impressive and engaged." RAF**

**"The Sixth Form and Year 11s were great, actively engaged and well worth my time." University of Reading**

**"A great event. The students were all well-mannered and keen to know more."  
Central Training Group**

**Feedback from students showed gratitude and positivity.**

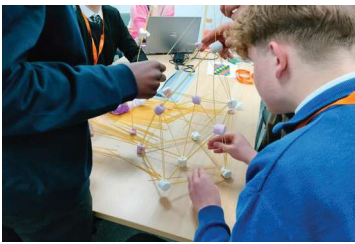
*"I gathered information on law and the different opportunities for law. I also gathered information on science and working with animals, potentially."* Year 12 student

*"Interesting to hear about engineering and what they do."* Year 11 student

*"It's helped me because I've realised how many different things you can do with a law degree."* Year 12 student

*"Lots of leaflets to take and read."* Year 12 student

At the same time students had the opportunity to listen to talks delivered by the NHS, RAF and Buckinghamshire New University about the wide range of opportunities available with these organisations, which will hopefully inspire them when considering higher education and career decisions.



**PHYSICS STUDENTS STEM DAY**

On Tuesday 18th March the Year 12 A-level Physics students were fortunate enough to visit Oxford Instruments for a STEM day.

Oxford Instruments are an innovative company who provide academic and commercial organisations worldwide with

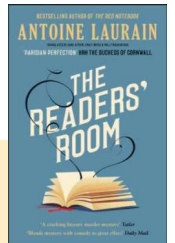
market-leading scientific technology and expertise.

The students were introduced to the different types and applications of Electron microscopes and other state of the art equipment, both supporting and going beyond the A-level syllabus.

They were able to meet professional engineers and scientists and discover routes into these exciting careers as well as having the chance to take part in some fun science related activities.

A splendid lunch rounded off an interesting and informative day.

**By Mrs M Brunt  
Careers Lead**



**Congratulations to Anna Gifford for her award**

Carers Bucks is a charity that supports young carers in Buckinghamshire. Young carers are dedicated young people who, across the county, look after someone who is ill, frail, or have a disability.

GMS's Anna Gifford received a prestigious award, on March 12th, for her tireless work with Young Carers from the Carers Bucks Charity.



**Parents' and Carers Book Club**

**If you love reading or want some inspiration and lively book discussion, then the GMS Book Club is for you!**

**All parents and carers are invited to come along – we meet once a month at 7pm. Keep an eye on the school calendar for future dates.**

**Coming hot on the heels of The Salt Path by Raynor Winn is our current read, The Readers' Room by Antoine Laurain.**

**During the Easter break, all our current members will be on a 'blind-date' with a book which come wrapped and recommended by others in the group.**

**By Mrs C Legerton and Mrs L Ben Haj Ali**



## Marlow FM Update

We are pleased to have continued our 'Teacher Feature' slot on the Marlow FM Wednesday morning breakfast show this term with Jonny Ratner. Recent guests have included Mrs Legerton, English Teacher and Reading Lead, Miss Guy, Head of Maths, Mr Sacre, Media Teacher and Mrs Sharp and Mrs Black from our SEN department.



We have also had some more students on the show – Leo and Ralph talking about their successful Aladdin pantomime performance and Seth, Theo and Toby from Year 7 telling us about their new business initiative as part of Young Enterprise, designing and selling clothes. Both groups of students were accompanied by Mr Stuart Ross of our drama department who we are very pleased to announce is currently training to become a new Marlow FM presenter himself! Watch this space for updates about his new Sunday show in the coming weeks.



Year 11 citizenship students have also graced the airwaves with Rae, Moshin and Isaac

guesting on the show to tell us all about their GCSE Citizenship group work project about 'Bias in the Media' which was really interesting.

Please do continue to support your local radio station – we will be down at Higginson Park broadcasting live from our trailer at the Marlow May Fayre and all weekend for Pub in the Park and would love for some of our GMS community to pop down and say hello!

By Mrs Lisa Ben Haj Ali  
Library Assistant/Teacher & Marlow FM  
Revival Show Presenter



## GMS STAFF PRIVILEGED TO GO TO BISHOP OF BUCKINGHAM'S ORDINATION

On Thursday 27th March, Mrs Ben Haj Ali and Mr Williams were delighted to represent Great Marlow School attending a very special service at Canterbury Cathedral for the ordination of our local Team Rector and Area Dean, Reverend Dave Bull, as Bishop of Buckingham.

It was a very moving and emotional service and an honour to have been part of it. Bishop Bull is well known to many of our Great Marlow School community families following his work and service here in Marlow since 2012, and we all wish him the very best in his new appointment.

## Global Educational Trust opens 'books for free' unit

Global Educational Trust (GET) has opened its first 'books for free' unit in High Wycombe, which is also its first space in Buckinghamshire.

Their aim is to stop books going to landfill; to supply books to the community that libraries can no longer supply (due to closures); getting children reading again; getting children away from technology; giving parents a chance to get free books for both themselves & their children; & to get adults reading again. The charity take over empty shops in town centres & turn them into these wonderful bookshops & the HW shop is the 22nd one GET have created.

GET are based in Octagon Parade nextdoor to Travelodge. Every person that visits can take up to 3 books away free of charge each day they visit, no catch. They have an extensive children's section & cater for all ages - from board books, early readers right up to more mature themed books & young adult books, as well as a large range of adult fiction & non fiction.

GET happily take donations whilst the shop is open (opening hours are advertised on the HW Facebook pages each week) & we've had quite a few teachers pop in to exchange their classroom books for different ones. During the Summer holidays they are planning on doing Storytime for the younger children on Saturday mornings, giving parents a chance to browse in the shop in peace.

Pop along and see what reading gems you can find!!

**Year 7 have continued to positively contribute to life at Great Marlow School, they continue to go about their lessons with enthusiasm and resilience. There has been a huge number of subject certificates, Headteachers Awards, postcards and positive emails being sent this term which is testament to the students hard work and engagement in lessons.**

We continue to be proud of the readiness demonstrated by such an overwhelming majority of the year group, to participate in wider school life and to give things a go. The cohort continue to show excellent numbers at extra-curricular and enrichment activities. There will be new activities starting after Easter and I would encourage every Year 7 to take part in at least one club a week, this is a great way to make new friends across different form groups and learn new skills.

Highlights this term have been the Young Enterprise event where there were some great entrepreneurial skills shown with some of the year group designing and selling products. The roses came in particularly useful in the run up to Valentines Day! The students organised themselves brilliantly and held their own next to the older year groups, well done to all the students involved!

Year 7 had the pleasure of listening to an African Story presentation which linked brilliantly to World Book Day, I was really impressed by students' creativity in their costumes!

We also had the first interhouse rowing competition. The students organised their teams and ensured they attended all the heats and finals competitions, they showed great teamwork and support of one another, the noise level from the Sports Hall was something else, which just goes to show how much the students enjoyed it. There is more rowing information to follow later this term.

The cohort's second set of progress reports were extremely impressive. Much of the cohort's achievement are all 'Good' or 'Excellent' for their ATL, which is a reflection of our 6 Rs ethos here at Great Marlow School. This is the first time that students will receive their banding for their subjects. As always, we are more than happy to talk through your child's progress at any point in the year, please contact their subject teacher in the first instance.

I would like to congratulate all students, listed right, on an impressive set of progress grades. Well done!

Overall, it has been an extremely successful (and exceptionally busy!) second term for Year 7. There continues to be consistent and supportive communication between all three stakeholders in this partnership: the school, home and the student. I would like to thank both parents and staff members for their continued support of the cohort.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Miss Aylett-Livesley and the form tutors for their daily support of students which has continued this term. I would also like to thank the whole Student Support team for the pastoral support they provide to the Year 7 cohort.

**Wishing you and your families a restful Easter break.**

By Miss C Roberts- Director of Learning Year 7



## TOP YEAR 7 PROGRESS GRADES

Amy Apletree  
Matilda Berger  
Esme Caldwell  
Elliott Christiansen  
Zach Cicchirillo  
Theo Collin  
Josephine Constable  
Ameli Cooper  
Sophie Easter  
Aiden Eustace  
Grace Everitt  
Lola Flint  
Allesandra Gonzalez  
Bo Harbour  
Flynn Hatfield  
Jessica Hawkins  
Frederick Haynes  
Cece Hetherington  
Elise Hockney  
Lailah Hyde Mckay  
Haylee Jones  
Jaxon Jones  
George Le Couteur  
Ria Merchant  
Abigail Moggridge  
Clara Northover  
Sameer Riaz  
Olivia Ronan  
Emilia Rule  
Amelie Shah  
Niyya Shah  
Freddie Stanners  
Mason Stevens  
Oana Surdariu  
Brooke Thorn  
Giulia Viarnaud  
Willow Watt  
Charlie White  
Harry Williams



It has been another very busy term for Year 8. We are proud of the cohort's continued readiness to immerse themselves in the school community and to give things a go!

Some highlights of Year 8's Spring term to date include:



- The hugely successful Young Enterprise Event which ran during the final week before the February half term. A big thank you to Ms Broadbent and the Year 10 Enterprise students for supporting the Year 8 teams and mentoring them through to success!
- An African Storytelling Event on the Windrush generation which took place on World Book Day. Thank you to Mrs Ben Haj Ali and the English department for putting together this important event and reflection event. The students were engaged and gained a lot from the experience.
- The House Music competition! Congratulation to Hannah Hunt in 8K1, category winner for the KS3 Year 7 and Year 8 Voice and congratulations to Lucy Hellewell 8E3, category winner for the KS3 Year 7 and 8 Solo!



- Lastly, a representative from one of our local colleges (BCA) delivered an assembly to the students on next steps including information on T-levels and a range of vocational courses on offer, along with college life (pictured). Thank you to Mrs Brunt for organising the event!

We have a strong tutor team who monitor uniform, achievement points and behaviour points and are the first point of contact with home alongside our excellent Student Support Officer, Miss Blanco-Rand. Miss B, as she is affectionately known to the students,

is a consistent source of support for Year 8 and an utter joy to work alongside. Thank you for being you.

Mya Bhudia 8 E2

Nicole Kluczynska 8 E2

Lola McCormack 8 E2

Freya Thompson 8 E2

Emma Hodson 8 E3

Maddie Jesky 8H1

Ella Leslie 8H1

Stan Ashcroft 8H1

Isabella Rawlings 8H1

Max Goodchild 8H2

Pablo Del Corral Gamero 8H3

Hannah Hunt 8K1

Alima Hussain 8K1

Holly Knott 8K1

On this note, I wanted to extend my appreciation to our wonderful team of Year 12 mentors, who meet with select students on a weekly basis. In addition, the invaluable work of the Nurture Group led by Mrs Black and Mrs Samaras continues to have a positive impact in terms of developing student confidence, self-esteem, and resilience. The students look forward to these sessions and the feedback from both parents and students has been overwhelmingly positive. I am so grateful for the hard work and discretionary efforts of the entire year 8 pastoral team. We continue to work very closely with other teams in school including the SEN department, our Pupil Premium Coordinator Mrs Gifford and MHST support.

The Year 8 Spring Term progress reports were published on Friday 14th March, which made for very impressive reading. 28% of the cohort achieved 10 or more Excellent ATL grades on their reports, which is testament to their positive attitude in line with our 6 Rs ethos. The Year 8 team will be carrying out some reflection and target setting activities linked to the reports during tutor time (WB 17th March).

A special mention to the following Year 8 students (let) for a particularly fabulous set of reports and 14 or more Excellent ATL grades:

The Year 8 team wishes you and your loved ones a wonderful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming the year group back on Tuesday 22nd April. Here's to another action packed and exciting term in the summer!

**I wish you a very Happy Easter**

**By Miss A Miles - Director of Learning Year 8**



**Each time I come to write another entry for The Voice, I am tempted to begin with the sentence 'It has been another busy term.' I would like to be a little more original and not repeat myself but I really can't deny that it really has been a very busy term for Year 10 students.**

As a brief summary, we have: had a Work Experience Information Evening followed by a rigorous and challenging application process for placements, Spring Term Progress Grades, a Year 10 Parents/ Carers Evening, an Elevate drop-down session on exam skills, Prefect Applications, Dramatic and Musical performances, Sporting successes and much more.

## Work Experience

As you know, Year 10 Work Experience takes place from 12th-14th May. By now, your child will have (hopefully) secured a placement with an employer and filled in all of the relevant information using Unifrog. Marlow and the surrounding area is due to be teeming with eager and bright-eyed Year 10 students tasting their first experience of the work place! From speaking to them, it has been great to hear how keen and interested the students have been in the researching and applying to work placements. I hope that they enjoy their experiences and find this time useful in indicating to them about what they may or may not want to pursue as a possible future career.

## Prefect Applications

The deadline for applications is Friday 31st March. Already, we have seen a large number of Year 10 students applying and seeking advice on what the position entails. Miss Hyde and I are particularly looking forward to seeing the future Prefects take on additional Responsibilities and continue to mature in the Summer Term. For those students successful in their application, we will have a ceremonial Prefect 'Tie Assembly' which parents/carers will be invited to. Please check your inbox for further information on this when it comes out after the Easter break.

## Academics

As we near the end of the Spring term, your children will have already completed over a third of their GCSE studies at Great Marlow School. To some, this is a bit of a worry but the good news is that we have a chance to really push on in the Summer Term of Year 10 and as we get towards the Summer Mock Exams.

Most students are progressing well, as demonstrated by the Progress Grades. There are some clear areas for improvement. Please do check your child's progress grades and look out for additional revision sessions being provided for Year 10 students as they near those Mock Exams.

**As ever, I feel compelled to say that I have been overwhelmingly impressed with the maturity and Responsibility demonstrated by our year group. You children have seen the current Year 11 cohort manage their GCSE Mock Exams and are fully aware that it is their turn next. The quiet hard work that goes on from the maturity of Year 10 students has not gone unnoticed and the message that I have made very clear to them is: You will get out of it, what you put into it!**

**It remains to be seen how many of the Year group will listen to my advice and apply themselves for the upcoming Year 10 mock exams (due to begin at the beginning of June).**




Please have a lovely Easter break. I look forward to welcoming back the Year 10 students on 22nd April.

**By Mr S Taylor**

**Year 10 Director of Learning**



Last minute GCSE revision sessions are being offered for several subjects, including the science ones below. Ask your subject Teachers for more information. GMS are also providing Easter Revision classes for certain subjects. Click [here](#) to discover more or go to GMS Hub Site/Student Zone/Year 11 and 13 Revision Sessions.




# GET YOUR SCIENCE FIX!

STRUGGLING WITH A TRICKY TOPIC?  
FOUND AN EXAM QUESTION YOU ARE STUCK  
ON?

**KS4  
STUDENTS!!**

WANT TO BOOST  
YOUR EXAM  
TECHNIQUE?



JOIN MRS WEBSTER

S5

THURSDAYS AND

FRIDAYS

3.00PM - 4.00PM



It has been another successful and busy term for our Year 11 students. Since we came back in January, our Year 11s have taken part in a huge variety of activities.



## RS Drop down day

RS drop down on Religion and Global issues - Mr Pightling, Head of RS, who organised and ran one of the sessions, commented that this was the best drop-down session we have had so far with amazing engagement and contributions from Year 11 students.

## Mock exams

These prepared Year 11 for their terminal exams in the summer term. We understand some students will be delighted, and others, disappointed. It is important for students to continue to be resilient in their learning and revision and show responsibility by discussing how they may improve their grades in the summer with their teachers. Mrs Bennett ran an assembly after students received their mock exam results to promote resilience and responsibility in our Year 11 students.

## Parents' / Carers' evening

The progress grades and mock exam results provided the basis of the discussion for most appointments. Thank you to the parents / carers for their attendance at this evening and in providing each Year 11 child with the support they need to achieve their very best.

## Revision sessions

Revision sessions in a variety of subjects have been taking place since the beginning of this academic year. These have been incredibly popular with the students and appreciated by those who have attended them. The students have got a lot out of these sessions and my thanks goes out to those staff who run them, and to the staff who are going to lead the Easter Revision sessions in the Easter break.

## Careers Fair



This was a huge event in which students could pick up lots of information about careers in different industries. Students had the opportunity

to discuss career paths and qualifications with representatives from a variety of establishments, workplaces and colleges / universities. Thank you to Mrs Brunt for organising this.

## House Music competition

Well done to those talented musicians who took part in this competition. You are all amazing performers!

## GMS / Borlase Jazz evening

Selected Year 11 students took part in a Jazz evening at SWBGS. We have some superbly talented musicians in this Year 11 cohort. Many thanks to the Music Department for organising this.

## PE Moderation

PE moderation for a plethora of sporting activities.

## Sixth form mentoring sessions

Guidance discussions - students have had the opportunity to discuss future plans with a member of the sixth form team

## Careers Talks

A medical talk for those students interested in a special assembly, organised by our Careers Lead, Mrs Brunt.

## Prefect Duties

Prefects helping out at open mornings and with their regular duties. Thank you to the prefects for your willingness to volunteer for events and for being so responsible.

## Poetry Live English Trip

A poetry live English Trip for selected students. Thank you to the English department for providing this extra-curricular opportunity for our students.

## Practical Exam deadlines

Food and Nutrition and Catering and Hospitality practical exams. The food looked (and smelled) absolutely amazing. A huge well done to the students involved in this.

## Sixth Form Study Centre

The sixth form centre for study after school continues to be utilised well by our Year 11 students. Well done to those Year 11s who have been attending since the beginning of the academic year and planning their time so wisely and maturely.

**We are now looking ahead to the terminal exams in the summer. Please be aware that study leave commences on Friday 9th May where students will be encouraged to attend lessons but are not required to do so. Please be aware that all students are required to be available for the JCQ contingency dates on the 11th and 25th June.**



Students then have the Prom at Monkton Barn on Wednesday 25th June to look forward to where they can let their hair down and celebrate the end of their exams!

We wish all Year 11 students the best in their final push towards the terminal exams. We have every faith in them that they will be successful and continue to adopt the same mature approach they did when their mock exams were on. We are extremely proud of our year group and wish them the best of luck in their exams this summer. Well done Year 11, you've got this!

GCSE and A-level students will find revision tips and guide on the website with lots of useful information.

<https://gms.bucks.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Exam-Revision-techniques-Guide.pdf>

<https://gms.bucks.sch.uk/student-area/revision-time-management/>

<https://gms.bucks.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/PSHE-Revision-Whole-Topic-Resource-2024.pdf>

## GCSE REVISION TIPS!

### The night before-

1. Eat a good meal
2. Double check the exam and time
3. Get all equipment ready and put into a clear pencil case
4. Do something relaxing or gentle exercise
5. Read over notes
6. Go to bed at a good time that allows you to have your 8 hours
7. Set your alarm clock-not on your phone!
8. NO phones in your bedroom!

### The day of the exam-

1. Wake up in good time to get ready
2. Double check your equipment is correct
3. Eat breakfast- brain needs fuel!
4. Get your clear water bottle ready
5. Go over your notes on your own/with friends
6. Use deep breathing to calm yourself down in the exam hall and allow your brain to function at its best
7. Listen to instructions given and read off the front of your exam paper

The Sixth Form team are delighted to report on a successful Spring term. 92 students submitted their UCAS application process in January 2024. Students have been completing interviews and have been eagerly accepting offers from a variety of institutions.

Congratulations in particular, must be given to Arran Bligh who has successfully gained a place to study Biochemistry at Oxford University.

For those not applying and looking for apprenticeships, Mrs Brunt has organised a number of initiatives to support students in their next steps including having key speakers in school for talks on psychiatry and media. She continues to also see students individually including giving support with apprenticeship applications. Year 13 have also been supported this term through mock examinations in January and the Parents/Carers Evening in March. Both allowed students to identify areas to target to ensure

progress in their A-level and BTEC examinations which commence in May.

### Year 13 Progress Grades

Year 13 progress grades were completed and given out at the beginning of March. To celebrate their achievements praise postcards were sent to 36 students to congratulate them on achieving excellent ATL in all of their subjects or to congratulate them for achieving on or above their aspirational targets in every subject. Congratulatory

posters can also be seen around our Sixth Form centre but we also wanted to congratulate the students here. The students who achieved both above/on target and excellent ATL received head teacher's awards to celebrate their amazing achievement.

Oliver Bassett	Oliver Braid
Arran Bligh	Aislin Fitzjohn
Charlotte Greening	Charlotte Haddock
Amelia Horan	Emily Hughes
Aminah Ibraz	Isabella Jedras
Ella Martin	Nell Mason
Anouk Oldham Wood	Oliver Pitt
Manal Qadeer	Kristin Rasmussen
Aparna Sharma	George Spencer
Rebecca Tinnelly	Talia Williams



ON/ABOVE TARGET IN EVERY SUBJECT	Form	ON/ABOVE TARGET IN EVERY SUBJECT	Form
Cassidy Dunn	E1	Arran Bligh	K1
Nell Mason		Charlotte Haddock	
Jessica Rhodes		Kristin Rasmussen	
Callum Booth	E2	Oliver Bassett	H2
Isaac Burgess		Harmony Black	
Ethan Hunt		Tilly Hanson	
Shelley Paternoster		Aminah Ibraz	
Lucas Gray	H1	Zahab Jahagir	
Talia Williams		Melissa Kinay	
Sophie Apletree	K2	Jessica Power	
Aislin Fitzjohn		George Spencer	
Tia Horner			
Isabella Jedras			
Oliver Pitt			
Aparna Sharma			



## Senior Prefect Team and Interact

Year 13 senior prefect team have also had a busy term. They have continued to support the school through completing interviews and school tours. The Senior Prefect Team and Interact, our charity group are also organising for a charity Casino night on Wednesday 3rd April and we know it will be a huge success and worthy causes.

## Year 13 Leavers

Revision sessions, final day, examination and result arrangements have already been circulated via letters from Mr Hollyman but we just wanted to mention that we are looking forward to celebrating with the students at their prom on Friday 20th June. It is always a fantastic night and important to mark what the students have achieved at GMS.

## Year 12 KS3 support

Year 12 have been effective in supporting the lower years recently by undertaking mentoring of year 8 students. 12 have volunteered to provide support and communication for a variety of students and we are proud of the way these students have risen to this challenge, the year 8 students are delighted.

## Year 12 Work Experience

Year 12 are busy arranging their work experience placements for the first week of July. This exciting opportunity which allows students to explore a setting, or more, of their choice during the week, but ultimately offers them the chance to gain some real workplace skills in an environment which may have links to their future career. All students have attended an assembly and tutor

discussions to inform them of the process. Mrs Brunt, our careers lead has organised for a CV and employability workshop and an ASK apprenticeship awareness and assessment centre workshop to help support our Year 12 cohort with their next steps. So has also taken Year 12 Physics students visit to Oxford Instruments and they also received a lecture at Royal Grammar School. This follows on from the fantastic Careers Fair that gave all of our students an opportunity to speak with future employers and institutions about their organisations.

## Year 12 Progress Reports

Year 12 have received their first set of progress reports with their A-level/BTEC target grade included. Miss Jones was delighted to send praise postcards home to celebrate their achievements but we would also like to celebrate them here.

Excellent ATL in every subject

Sam Hanks	Chloe Wilson
Khadijah Dean	Adam Sinden
Peter Rycroft	Amelia Giles
Harrison Price	Laia Garcia Calero
Sophie Terrett	Olivia Zazzara
Alexa Cheng	Ruby Underwood
Ainhoa Suarez	Isabelle Berger
Rudi Chapman	Bonnie Francis-Kelly
Chloé Shepard	Ami-Mia Tilbury
Zach De Beer	Iris Duncan
Destiny Hughes	Olivia Hawksworth
Elise Whyte	Lottie Shaw

Above/on target in every subject

Mia Brown	Isabelle Berger
Jennie Evans	Louis Gilmore
Hugo Hunter	Connor Quann
Abigail Yahahlom	Ami-Mia Tilbury
Ruby Underwood	Destiny Hughes

**We are incredibly proud of all of our students at Great Marlow. Many students not only undertake their studies with us, but also dedicate their time to sport and music to a high level. We would like to acknowledge and congratulate them for their time-management skills!**

This Easter break will inevitably involve revision for Year 13 and reflection for Year 12. The school website has a huge variety of supportive information, go in via the student area and click on revision to help support you reach your potential. However, should you require further support, please remember that the 6th form team are available via the usual email addresses

**Finally, we would like to wish all of our 6th form students and their families a lovely Easter break.**

The 6th Form Team - Mr Hollyman, Miss Jones, Mrs Evans and Mrs Paul



**The Spring Term has certainly been impactful for the Houses of GMS, as students have been striving for excellence in order to support either Eagles, Hawks or Kites. Competitions have been won, students have gathered in masses to participate and it seems that all eyes are looking towards the illustrious House Shield (and, of course, the end-of-year reward for the winners).**

## House Captains

After a process of completing applications, getting them signed by teachers and Directors of Learning, submitting these to a deadline and then completing interviews, we are thrilled to announce our new House Captains for 2025/2026!

### KITES:

**KS3 HOUSE CAPTAIN GRACE SUDER – YEAR 9**

**KS4 HOUSE CAPTAIN NANCY GRIFFITH – YEAR 10**

**KS4 HOUSE CAPTAIN PAUL HAWKINS – YEAR 10**

### EAGLES:

**KS3 HOUSE CAPTAIN MATILDA IORIO – YEAR 8**

**KS4 HOUSE CAPTAIN ALEXA HARTSTONE – YEAR 10**

### HAWKS:

**KS3 HOUSE CAPTAIN NATALIA KEAREY – YEAR 9**

**KS3 HOUSE CAPTAIN EVA BIGGS – YEAR 9**

**KS4 HOUSE CAPTAIN LOUIE EAST – YEAR 10**

Huge congratulations to all students awarded the prestigious title of House Captain. We look forward to your efforts in serving your houses!

## House Music

An exceptional event which saw students in multitudes string their guitars, warm up their voices and knock the house down. A panel of judges were graced by a day of phenomenal student performances – ending with Eagles taking the victory! This is a shift from last year, as Kites took the win in 2024. Does this mean a shifting of the tides overall? Will this be the competition result that pushes Eagles over the finish line first at the end of the Summer Term?

## Book Recommendations Competition

During the week of World Book Day, the English Department hosted a House Competition based purely on participation: students were tasked to visit the library and submit a maximum of 5 book recommendations – gaining one house point per recommendation. This saw a surge of students in and out of the library, discussing books, reading and house points! After counting hundreds of book recommendations, it came to light that Hawks had taken the victory in this competition! Hawks won by a clear margin, seemingly dissatisfied with their current position in 3rd overall. Will this be the underdog comeback Mr Pightling is hoping for?



## It's still all to play for!

After competition wins from Eagles and Hawks, it is interesting to see that Kites still hold a firm grasp on first place – by over 500 points! Kites certainly are not letting competitions obstruct them from achieving in every day school life: their House Points are coming from day-to-day achievement points, Headteachers awards and, generally, being excellent role models for the 7Rs of Great Marlow School. This seems like an unwinnable year for Eagles and Hawks... but is it really? Last year, Kites were 300 points in the lead and, after Sports Day, saw their hopes of winning the House Shield back-to-back come crashing down after being pipped to the post by Eagles (by 41 points!)

**It's all to play for as the Spring Term comes to a close. Summer term is the only thing standing between one house and glory. Who will it be? It's down to the students to decide.**

Mr Bradley, Mr Pightling & Mr Yasin

## BOYS' FOOTBALL

### Yr 7 Football

Building on from before The Year 7 football team recently competed in a tough 6-a-side tournament, displaying exceptional resilience and skill under challenging conditions. Despite facing difficult weather and formidable opponents, the team fought hard and showed remarkable determination throughout the competition.

In their matches against JHGS and SWB, the team displayed grit and teamwork, managing to hold their ground and put up a strong fight. Their ability to remain composed under pressure was a testament to their resilience, making it clear that they had come prepared to face the tough competition head-on.

However, it was in their game against BGS where the Year 7 squad truly stood out. The players showcased their excellent footballing abilities, playing with precision and confidence to secure a well-deserved victory. Their performance against BGS was nothing short of impressive, with fluid passing, strong defence, and well-timed attacks.

Among the standout players of the tournament were Charlie Young, Teddy Bayliss, and Kane Costello, whose contributions were crucial to the team's success. Charlie Young's physicality and attitude, Teddy Bayliss's excellent saves, and Kane Costello's determination and physicality made them key figures in the team's strong showing.

Overall, the Year 7 football team demonstrated outstanding teamwork, resilience, and skill, proving themselves as a formidable force in the tournament. Their performances have left a lasting impression, and with such talent and determination, the future of their footballing journey looks bright.

### Year 8 Boys Football

The Year 8 boys' football team has had a fantastic term, playing a series of friendly fixtures and securing victory in all three matches. These games provided a valuable opportunity for the players to gain experience in different positions, demonstrating their versatility and teamwork.

In addition to their friendly success, the Year 8s also competed in the district 6-a-side league, where they dominated the competition and won the league without conceding a single goal. This remarkable achievement highlights their defensive strength, skill, and determination. Congratulations to all involved!

### Year 9 Football

The Year 9 Football team have had a positive term of football. After a tight loss to Burnham Grammar, they enjoyed two wins. One was a 2-0 win away to JHGS, where Luca Bason, a late call up, put in a man of the match performance in midfield. Zach Gibson scored a brilliant goal in the first half to put the team on the path to their victory.

The performance of the season came against Borlase, where the team enjoyed a 6-2 victory. A strong first half performance brought goals for Zach Gilham and Jude Miller. Louis Bunt came off the bench to poke a shot over the keeper to score, whilst Luca Stavriniades scored a superb long-range goal, coming off the left wing onto his right foot and curling the ball into the far corner. MVP went to Owen Barnes, for a solid display at the back.

### Yr 10 Football

The Year 10 football team delivered an impressive performance in the recent 6-a-side tournament, finishing a well-deserved second place after a series of challenging matches. Despite the tough competition, the team was dominant throughout, showcasing their exceptional skill, teamwork, and determination.

The games against Burnham Grammar School and SWB were particularly difficult, as both opponents presented strong challenges. However, the Year 10 squad maintained their focus, rising to the occasion with resilience and tactical play.

Tai Cheston's attitude and determination were key factors in the team's success. His leadership on the field, combined with his relentless work ethic, inspired the entire team to stay motivated and keep pushing forward. Equally important was Jack Frazer-Hogg, whose incredible pace and dynamic runs caused problems for opposition defences throughout the tournament. His speed and ability to break through defences made a huge difference in the team's attacking play.

## GIRLS' FOOTBALL

### The Biggest Ever Girls' Football Day Kicks Off at Great Marlow School!





On Friday, 7th March 2025, Great Marlow School proudly took part in the Biggest Ever Girls' Football Day, joining forces with over 5,000 schools across England to celebrate International Women's Day through the power of football.

With an incredible 750 girls, aged 5-15, stepping onto the pitch at GMS, we contributed to the staggering 300,000 participants across the UK, making this event a true milestone for girls' football.

The day was filled with excitement as we welcomed a range of year groups, from both primary and secondary schools (Years 3 to 10), to take part in a variety of football-themed activities. From tournaments and festivals to friendly matches, every participant embraced the spirit of teamwork, determination, and pure enjoyment of the game.

A huge thank you goes out to our staff, students, and incredible Sixth Form Sports Leaders, whose dedication and hard work made this fantastic event possible. Their enthusiasm and commitment ensured the day was a resounding success!

To all the girls who took part—you should be immensely proud of your performances. Your passion and energy truly made the day unforgettable! We can't wait to host this event again next year and continue championing the future of girls' football.

#LetGirlsPlay

By Miss G Muttitt



## BOYS' RUGBY

### Year 7 Rugby



After a successful autumn term of rugby, with over 45 different students making an appearance at training, rugby returned for the year 7 team. The team had two friendlies to play, before they took part in the final of the Bucks schools 'Super 6' competition against John Hampden.



The first friendly was away against Chesham Grammar School. CGS were very new to rugby, with many of their students playing their first ever rugby match. GMS, with a squad of players with a full term of rugby under their belts, were too strong for CGS. The electrifying Duncan Williams opened the scoring within the first minute. He received the ball on the wing and before the defence knew it, Duncan had made a line break and was racing over the try line. Seb Reilly was superb in the tight areas, hitting rucks and carrying the ball hard, and he was rewarded with a try. With a bench of 4 players, the team was constantly being refreshed and allowed for GMS to continue playing their attractive free-flowing rugby. Harry Shillito was rewarded for his hard work with a try at the start of the 2nd half.

Joseph Bryan was distributing the ball excellently from the base of the ruck, with Toby Styche linking play well at 1st receiver. A beautiful try was created when the ball was passed down the line, Reid Brown stepped inside and beat two defenders before offloading to Flynn Taylor to score. GMS 60-15 CGS.

The 2nd friendly was away to Vyners, in Uxbridge. A new opposition for the school, GMS took both Year 7 and Year 8, playing on a field that overlooked the London skyline. GMS were again far too strong for the opposition. After some dominant charges up the pitch from Carter James, John Coombs-Poskitt boshed his way over the line to score his first ever try, which he, and the tea, were ecstatic about. Charlie Gardner, MVP for the game, was superb with the ball in hand, demonstrating the huge advancements he had made from the autumn term. Reid Brown, Kane Costello and Toby Styche scored a try each, from three dazzling runs through the Vyners defence. The score finished Vyners 20-50 GMS.



This article was written before the final against John Hampden. The team worked excellently in the training session prior to the game, emptying the tank and doing everything they could to prepare as best as they could for the game.

By Mr Jones

## U13 Boys Rugby

The U13 Boys Rugby team at GMS has had an exceptional season, showcasing both individual talent and collective teamwork that has brought them great success. The team has dominated the local district and several schools in Oxfordshire, culminating in a spot in the prestigious Super 6 Finals Day.

One of the most notable victories for the team came against Borlase, where they displayed dominant rugby skills and teamwork, securing a 55-15 win. This was a true reflection of the hard work, dedication, and skill development shown by the players throughout the season.

### Key Players:

**James and Alfie have been exceptional leaders, consistently driving the team forward both on and off the field. Their leadership and strategic thinking have been invaluable in guiding the team to victory. Their ability to stay calm under pressure and motivate their teammates has been crucial to the team's success.**

**Freddie Rogers stood out for his physical dominance in the game. His strength and aggressive tackling made him a force to be reckoned with, and his presence on the field has been a significant asset in both defense and attack.**

**Jooles Williams demonstrated impressive agility and elusiveness, particularly as a fullback. His ability to read the game, evade tackles, and launch counterattacks has given the team a dynamic edge in their attacking play.**

**Tommy Seeley has shown remarkable improvement in his skills this season. His technical ability has progressed significantly, and he now has the confidence to execute complex plays. His contribution to both the defensive and offensive phases of the game has been noticeable and has added depth to the team's tactical approach.**

Throughout the season, the team's cohesion and the growth of individual players have been central to their success. Their ability to work as a unit and execute set plays with precision has been a hallmark of their performances.

The U13 Boys Rugby team's hard work, resilience, and skill have earned them a well-deserved place in the Super 6 Finals Day, where they will continue to represent GMS with pride and determination. We look forward to seeing them build on their success and push forward to even greater achievements in the future.

### Conclusion:

The team's remarkable achievements this season, highlighted by their dominant performance against Borlase and their success in Oxfordshire competitions, are a testament to the commitment, leadership, and development of the players. With standout performances from James, Alfie, Freddie, Jooles, and Tommy, the U13 Boys Rugby team at GMS has proven they are a force to be reckoned with in school rugby.

By Mr S Goodright

## U13 Boys Rugby

### Match Report: GMS vs JHGS - 19-38

In Final of the U15 Super 6 league, GMS, who had finished top of the league standings faced a strong John Hampden side who were out for revenge.

GMS started the match on the front foot, taking an early lead through a brilliant try from Will. The team looked sharp in the opening stages,





controlling possession and showing great discipline in attack. However, JHGS quickly found their rhythm, and despite a few tough calls going against us, they capitalized on some key moments, shifting momentum in their favour.

Felipe was a standout performer for GMS, consistently driving forward and making crucial tackles. His work rate never wavered, and he kept the team in the fight even when things got tough. Joey was awarded the MVP for his tireless effort, providing crucial breaks and delivering another stand out defensive display.

Despite a strong comeback, GMS just couldn't close the gap, with JHGS finishing strong to win 38-19. Though it was a hard-fought defeat, GMS can hold their heads high, knowing they gave it their all and fought until the final whistle. The team will take valuable lessons from this match and continue to build for the challenges ahead.

## Year 10 Basketball Team Report

The Year 10 Basketball team played two games across the term, marked by both a challenging defeat and an exciting victory.

### Highcrest Game - Tough Loss

In their most recent match, the team faced a tough opponent in Highcrest. Despite showing great effort and determination throughout the game, they unfortunately came up short, losing to Highcrest in a hard-fought battle. However, the performance was not without its positives. Daniel Del Corral was the standout player, consistently making critical plays and showing leadership on the court. His efforts were recognized, and he was deservedly awarded Man of the Match for his impressive all-around performance.



### Victory Over RGS – A Hard-Earned Win



In contrast, the team had a fantastic victory earlier in the week against RGS. In a thrilling contest, the Year 10s triumphed 46-40, demonstrating resilience and excellent teamwork. The game

was a display of skill from the entire squad, with particular mention going to Jay Valverde, Harvey Bonwick, and Toby Smith for their exceptional performances. Jay's sharp shooting and decision-making kept the scoreboard ticking, while Harvey's solid defence and rebounding were key to limiting RGS's offensive threats. Toby's leadership on the court and clutch plays in the final moments helped secure the win.

By Mr Jones

## YEAR 10 HANDBALL TEAM UPDATE

Our Year 10 Handball teams have been training hard and making impressive strides as they prepare for the district handball competition, and we are excited to share their progress!

### Boys Team – A Quick Rise to Dominance

The boys' team has made remarkable progress throughout their training, with many players bringing valuable basketball experience to the court. This background in basketball has helped them adapt quickly to the handball game, as they were already familiar with many of the key skills such as passing, shooting, and quick decision-making. Their fast-paced development has allowed them to dominate their district fixtures, showcasing impressive teamwork and individual skill.

Despite their strong performances, the boys unfortunately did not qualify for the regional round. However, their growth throughout the competition and their ability to rise to the challenge is something to be proud of. The boys have demonstrated great resilience and determination, and their experience this season will serve them well in future handball competitions.

### Girls Team – A Formidable Force

The girls' team has been equally impressive. They picked up the game quickly and demonstrated their versatility, with many players bringing cross-over skills from netball. The transition to handball was made smoother by their understanding of court positioning, movement, and team strategies. These skills translated seamlessly into handball, allowing them to employ effective tactics from the very beginning.

When combined with their solid fundamental handball skills—such as dribbling, passing, and shooting—the girls have developed into a formidable team. They are currently unbeaten in both their district fixtures and the county round of the National Handball Competition. Their teamwork, communication, and strategic play have made them one of the top teams in the region.

### Looking Ahead to the Regional Round

In mid-May, the girls will face their biggest challenge yet, as they head to the regional round of the National Handball Competition. With their unbeaten record so far, they are full of confidence and are ready to take on the best teams from the region. We wish them the best of luck and look forward to seeing them in action.

## PE Conclusion

Both teams have demonstrated impressive growth and skill development throughout their handball journey. The boys' team, while not qualifying for the regional round this year, has shown incredible potential and sportsmanship. The girls' team, on the other hand, is heading into the regional round as a strong contender, having gone unbeaten in district and county competitions.

We are incredibly proud of both teams for their hard work, determination, and sportsmanship, and we can't wait to see what the future holds for them as they continue to develop in handball. Keep up the great work, Year 10!

By Mr S Goodright



## SPRING TERM HOCKEY

### Year 7 Girls' Hockey



This year, the Year 7 Girls Hockey team has seen fantastic growth and involvement, with the largest attendance to the club since 2021. This increase in interest shows just how much enthusiasm the girls have for the sport and their commitment to improving. It's been a season of learning, fun, and teamwork, and the girls have truly enjoyed every step of their hockey journey.

#### Teams with Great Potential

The Year 7 A team has been particularly impressive this season. They've achieved the highest placing of any Year 7 team in the County Tournament since 2018, showing just how much they've developed over the course of the season and how talented they are. While they may be new to competitive hockey, the girls' ability to work together, learn quickly, and stay focused has been evident in every match.

The Year 7 Girls B team has also shown great commitment and effort this season. Their enthusiasm and eagerness to improve have made them an absolute joy to work with. While the team has faced some tough fixtures, they've approached every game with a positive attitude and determination. Despite the challenges, they've competed in every match, always giving their best and showing incredible resilience. The B team's hardworking nature and enthusiasm are key to their progress, and with a little more time and experience, there's no doubt they'll be able to turn some of their results around.

#### Teamwork, Commitment, and Fun

One of the things that sets the Year 7 Girls team apart is their commitment to improving, as well as the fun they have on and off the field. The girls have a strong sense of teamwork, and it's clear that they are enjoying themselves while learning new skills. They support each other during every match, celebrate each other's successes, and learn from the challenges they face.

#### Competing with the Best

The season has been full of highlights, but perhaps one of the most exciting aspects of the Year 7 Girls' journey is the fact that they've managed to beat several private and grammar schools with strong hockey programmes. Many of these schools have a long-standing tradition of excellence in hockey, but the Year 7 Girls team has shown that they are more than capable of competing with—and even beating—the best. It's a testament to the hard work, focus, and talent this team brings to every match.

#### Looking to the Future

As the season continues, the future looks bright for the Year 7 Girls Hockey team. The progress they've made so far is a reflection of their dedication, and there's no doubt that they have the potential to achieve even more in the future. While it's exciting to think about what lies ahead, including the possibility of following in the footsteps of teams who have gone before them and reaching the England Hockey National Finals, the most important thing is that the girls are enjoying the sport, learning new skills, and building lasting friendships along the way.

The Year 7 Girls Hockey team may still be early in their journey, but their growth, enthusiasm, and dedication to improving are sure to set them up for continued success. We're all looking forward to seeing where their hard work takes them next!





## Year 8 Girls' Hockey

### Year 8 Girls Hockey: A Year of Dedication, Progress, and Growth

The Year 8 Girls Hockey teams have demonstrated exceptional commitment and progress over the past year, with both the A and B teams showing great enthusiasm and determination in their respective seasons.

#### A Team: A Remarkable Journey of Improvement

The Year 8 A team has truly shone this year, displaying a level of commitment to training that has allowed them to make significant strides since their Year 7 season. With their unwavering enthusiasm, the girls have developed their skills and teamwork, leading to an impressive performance at the County tournament.

The A team's hard work paid off as they finished 3rd, narrowly missing out on qualification for the Regional Finals. This result was determined by goal difference, which showed just how close they were to advancing further. Despite falling short, the team's growth over the past year is undeniable. Last year, the A team finished in 8th place at the County tournament, meaning that they have made more progress than any other team. Their efforts have certainly paid off, and they are poised for even more success in the coming seasons.

The commitment, teamwork, and sportsmanship shown by the A team this year have set a high standard for the team moving forward, with their performance providing a platform for continued improvement in the future.

#### B Team: A Strong Start to a New Journey

The Year 8 B team has also made tremendous progress, especially considering that this is their first year playing hockey. Made up of students who are new to the sport, the B team has faced a steep learning curve, but their determination and commitment to training have been clear.

Despite competing against teams with a year of experience, the B team has demonstrated their ability to hold their own in tough matches. Their efforts in training have shown that they have the skills and resilience to compete at a high level, even when facing teams that have been playing for much longer. Though they have faced some challenges, their performance has been a testament to the girls' ability to adapt, learn, and grow in the sport.

As the season progresses, the B team is gaining invaluable experience that will undoubtedly help them in the future. Their hard work and dedication this year are laying the foundation for a promising future in the sport of hockey.

#### Looking Ahead: Bright Futures for Both Teams

Both the A and B teams have demonstrated remarkable progress this season, with the A team achieving impressive results and the B team showing great potential in their first year. The success and development of these teams are a testament to the girls' dedication, enthusiasm, and the hard work they have put into training.

The Year 8 Girls Hockey teams are undoubtedly on a strong trajectory, and it will be exciting to see where their continued growth takes them in the future. Whether it's the A team building on their near qualification to the Regional Finals or the B team gaining more experience, both groups have shown that they are ready to take on new challenges and continue their journey in hockey with confidence and determination.

By Miss L Porter

## BOYS HOCKEY

### Year 7 Boys Hockey

After many training sessions pre-Christmas, the Year 7 team were able to take part in fixtures for the school.

Their first match was an A+B fixture against RGS. The B team, full of students playing their first ever Hockey fixture, battled valiantly against a well-drilled RGS side. Carter James was outstanding in goal, against a barrage of shots from RGS. Harry Egginton was like a magician in the midfield, beating defenders





at will and coming so close to scoring on many occasions. RGS won this fixture, but it was a positive experience for all involved.

In the A game, the team got off to a fast start. Owain Ashton, an incredibly talented Hockey player, scored from a short corner. Barney Cottman also got on the scoresheet. RGS drew the game level. After this, no team was able to

steer away on the scoreboard. One team would score, and then the other would get one back straight away. Finally, in the final 5 minutes of the game, GMS scored two goals by Owain, winning 6-4.



The 2nd fixture for the team was an A+B fixture against John Hampden. The B fixture was an incredibly tight affair, with both keepers putting in an outstanding display. Despite the great efforts of Albert Gaunt and Joe Madden, GMS still struggled to get on the scoreboard. Eventually, Aidan Eustance broke the deadlock with a brilliant goal. Unfortunately, John Hampden struck straight back with a goal. The game finished 1-1, with Aidan Eustance getting MVP. In the A game, it was another tight affair, with both teams trading goals throughout the game. Bradley Elliot was superb in goal against an attacking JHGS side. Owain Ashton was scoring goals for fun, Mason Stevens was a rock in defence and Joe Bryan was working brilliantly to get balls into the 'D' on the right wing. JHGS managed

to hold on to the lead after getting in front, winning 6-5. MVP went to Mason Stevens.

Over 24 Year 7s attended training across the year, showing there is potential for a successful hockey side in the future, when the team numbers move from 7 to 11.

By Mr Jones

## U16 Boys Hockey



The Boys' U16 Hockey Team has made great progress this season, qualifying for the Tier 3 Regional Finals once again. This year, however, they've achieved even more by winning their county competition, improving on last year when they were runners-up. Their journey to the top was even more impressive after they faced John Hampden in a friendly match earlier in the season, where they were narrowly defeated. However, the team bounced back with strong resolve, eventually overcoming John Hampden in the County tournament to secure the top spot, proving their

growth and resilience.

What makes this achievement even more exciting is that many of the players are a year or even two years younger than most in the U16 age group. This gives them a lot of potential for the future, as the team will stay together next year, allowing them to continue building on their success. If the team commits to consistent training next year, there's no doubt they'll make even more progress and continue to reach new heights.

By Miss L Porter





## Year 7 Netball

The number of Year 7 students at netball has continued to be excellent this term, the girls always arrive with a great attitude, come rain or shine. The girls have shown fantastic commitment and teamwork and show great responsibility by organising the equipment and their own warmups. The girls have continued their league matches against Wycombe High, Sir William Borlase and Pipers Corner. A big thank you to Year 10 netball leaders Ella and Maisie, who have been brilliant role models to the young girls and have done a fantastic job coaching and umpiring this term.



Alongside their league fixtures the girls have also been involved in the highly anticipated district tournaments hosted by GMS and Wycombe Abbey School. The girls played against several private and comprehensive schools in the area and put on a brilliant display of netball, finishing the season on a high. I have been so impressed with the girls and how well they listen to feedback and always finish matches with a smile on their face. They have worked incredibly hard since September and should be proud of their achievements. Well done all!

**Year 7A – Netball District Tournament 4th Place – MVP Josie Constable**

**Year 7B - Netball District Tournament 4th Place – MVP Olivia Hughes and Josie Constable**

**Year 7C - Netball District Tournament 5th Place – MVP Elise Hockney**

## Netball Season Wrap-Up: Year 8-11

The netball season came to an exciting close as our Year 8-11 students competed in their district tournaments. The teams displayed exceptional skill, determination, and teamwork, resulting in impressive finishes across all age groups.

Here are the standout performances:

- Year 8A secured a well-deserved 2nd place, with Holly Peach earning the title of Most Valuable Player (MVP) for her outstanding shooting throughout the tournament.
- Year 8B placed 5th, with Violet Brazier receiving the MVP award for her hard work and determination on the court.
- The U14A team finished 5th, and were proud to have Josie Bevins and Alexandra McGuinness both named as co-MVPs for their exceptional teamwork and individual performances.
- Year 9B achieved 7th place, with Gracie Shaw being recognized as the MVP for her consistent and dynamic play throughout the competition.
- Year 10A put out their best performance of the season and finished in 3rd place, drawing with eventual winners and losing one game by just two goals. Ella Seeley earned the MVP accolade for her leadership and incredible skill on the court.
- The Year 10B team finished 4th, with Alice Farrow awarded MVP for her dedication and exceptional performance during the tournament.
- Year 11 rounded off the season with a 5th place finish, with India Rhodes being named MVP for her tireless effort and strategic play.

This season has been one of growth and achievement, with each player showing immense talent and sportsmanship. Congratulations to all teams and MVPs for their dedication and hard work



**Year 8A Netball**



**Year 9A Netball**



**Year 10A Netball**

throughout the season! Also a big thank you to Lucy Pease for all the time she has given up this season to coach and umpire the younger students.

## U18's Netball Team celebrates a remarkable season

This year, the U18's Netball team has had a truly exceptional season, filled with impressive performances and notable achievements. The squad secured 7 wins, 1 draw, and just 1 loss, a testament to their hard work, determination, and teamwork throughout the year.

For the first time ever, the team finished as runners-up in the league, a significant accomplishment that highlights their growth and dedication to the sport. Their success continued at the district tournament, where they finished in the top 4, narrowly losing to the teams that placed higher by a margin of just 3 goals or less.

The season has seen excellent squad performances across the board, with each player contributing to the team's overall success. Co-captains Sophie Apletree and Tamiya Phillips have been invaluable in both defence and mid-court, providing leadership and consistency in every match. Erin Anstiss has shown tremendous growth and confidence in the WA role, making a real impact on the court.

The team's shooting has been consistently strong, thanks to the excellent performances from Abbie Corrick, Sienna Morgan and Rachel Clarke. Yassi Warnes and Lottie Shaw have also adapted seamlessly to 6th Form Netball. Lucy Pease showed her versatility, excelling in multiple positions as needed throughout the season.

In addition to the experienced players, the squad saw the debut of Year 11 students Sienna Morgan and Lucy Apletree in the 1st VI. Both have proven to be pivotal members of the team, contributing greatly to the team's success and overall performance.

It has been an absolute pleasure to coach this talented group of girls, who have shown tremendous passion and commitment. As the season wraps up, we say a fond farewell to our Year 13 players—Tamiya Phillips, Lucy Pease, Abbie Corrick, Rachel Clarke, and Sophie Apletree. You have been an integral part of this team's success, and we wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors. We hope you continue to play netball wherever life may take you!

By Miss G Muttitt

## Gym and Dance Club Update

The Gym and Dance Club has been a huge success this year, with over 50 girls from various year groups coming together to develop their own dance routines. It's been wonderful to see the creativity, teamwork, and dedication of all the students involved.

### KS3 AND KS4 COLLABORATION

The club has seen a fantastic collaboration between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 students, with the younger members receiving valuable support and guidance from their older peers. The KS4 students have really stepped up as mentors, helping the KS3 girls refine their moves and build their confidence in performing. This teamwork has been a key element in the club's success, creating a supportive and positive atmosphere where everyone can thrive.



### LED BY LOTTIE SHAW

The club has been expertly run by KS5 Sports Leader Lottie Shaw, who has shown great leadership skills in guiding the students through the process of creating their own unique dance routines. Lottie's enthusiasm and passion for dance have been infectious, and her dedication to helping every student succeed has played a huge role in the club's success this year.

### HARD WORK PAYS OFF

The students' hard work and commitment to developing their routines will culminate in the annual Gym and Dance Show in June. This performance is always a highlight of the school year, and this year's show promises to be extra special, with a fantastic theme: "Songs About People or Places." Each group will bring their own interpretation of this theme, creating diverse and exciting performances that are sure to captivate the audience.

### LOOKING AHEAD

We're all incredibly excited to see the girls perform their dances in June. Their dedication and creative energy have been truly inspiring, and we are confident that their performances will be a highlight of the annual show.

A huge well done to all the girls involved in Gym and Dance Club, and a special thank you to Lottie Shaw for her leadership and support. We can't wait to see the incredible routines they will present at the Gym and Dance Show!

By Mr S Goodright  
Head of PE



## TRAMPOLINING

From January through to the February half term, Year 10 and 11 GCSE PE trampolining students have been working diligently to refine and improve their skills. Their commitment to developing their routines has been outstanding, with many attending after-school sessions to perfect their techniques.



Throughout this period, students focused on maintaining height, clarity of shape, and fluidity between moves. Their consistent effort paid off as they gained greater confidence and showed significant improvement, which positively impacted their GCSE PE grades.



On 23rd February, students competed in a trampoline competition, showcasing their hard work and dedication. The results were impressive, with Erin Lipscombe securing 2nd place, Maisie Giles finishing in 3rd, and Ruby Cicchirillo taking 4th.

Well done to all the students for their perseverance and success!



By Miss E Boddy

## BADMINTON

### GMS U13 Badminton Fixtures



The GMS U13 badminton teams put on a stellar display in their latest fixtures, winning all four matches against St Michaels School and Cressex School. Both the boys' and girls' teams showcased their skill, teamwork, and determination throughout the term.

**Boys' Fixtures:** The GMS boys faced tough opposition from St Michaels and Cressex, but their performance was nothing short of impressive. Oli Cook, Miles Berry, Tsang Mai, and John Bradley-Sessions led the charge, dominating their respective matches with precision and agility. Their strong individual performances, combined with excellent communication and support on court, helped GMS secure victories in both fixtures. Whether it was powerful smashes from Oli, strategic play by Miles, or quick reflexes from Tsang and John, the boys made sure to keep their opponents on the back foot throughout the competition.

**Girls' Fixtures:** The GMS girls' team also triumphed in both their fixtures, overcoming challenges from both St Michaels and Cressex. Scoutie Willcocks and Lucy Hellewell played exceptionally well, showcasing their technical skills and tactical awareness. Scoutie's quick footwork and Lucy's consistency ensured that the girls kept the pressure on their rivals, winning their matches with ease. Their positive attitude and determination were key factors in GMS's dominant performance.

In all, it was a term to remember for GMS badminton. The team's hard work and preparation are clearly paying off, and they can look forward to even more success in future fixtures.

### U16 Badminton



The U16 badminton team put on an impressive display of skill and determination in their recent tournament, securing excellent results against tough opponents including Sir William Borlase, Cressex, and Highcrest. Their outstanding performances on the court reflected both their individual talents and their ability to work together as a team.

The match against Sir William Borlase was a hard-fought battle, but the team held their own with strong, focused play. They continued to show resilience and composure under pressure, proving their capabilities against a competitive side. Similarly, the games against Cressex and Highcrest were challenging, yet the team's consistency and high-quality play shone through, securing them well-earned victories.

Among the standout players of the day were Lucy Apletree, Charlie Fitch, Logan Carter, and Bella Street, who each contributed significantly to the team's success. Lucy Apletree's precise and powerful shots were key in winning crucial points, while Charlie Fitch's strong court coverage and tactical play kept the opponents on their toes. Logan Carter's quick reflexes and agility helped secure vital wins in the doubles, and Bella Street's consistency and focus helped anchor the team's performance throughout.

The U16 badminton team's excellent results in the tournament reflect their growing strength and potential. With such talent and teamwork on display, the future looks incredibly bright for these athletes as they continue to excel in the sport.

## Bucks Schools Cross Country Championships: GMS Students Shine

The annual County Cross Country event was held at Stowe School, and our students showcased impressive resilience and determination throughout the race. Despite the challenging 300-metre uphill drag to the finish line, all participants gave their best effort, with many crossing the finish line with smiles on their faces.

GMS fielded one of the largest teams, demonstrating the students' enthusiasm for taking up opportunities offered at GMS. Among the competitors, several athletes stood out for their exceptional performances, earning places at the prestigious English Schools Cross Country Championships.

One of the standout performances came from Amy, who represented the Year 7 Girls.



Amy's determination and focus were evident as she crossed the finish line in 7th place. Her remarkable finish earned her an invitation to the English Schools Cross Country Championships, a prestigious national event that attracts the best runners from across the country.

Kane, representing the Year 7 Boys, also delivered an exceptional performance. Finishing in 8th place, Kane's strong race saw him secure an invitation to the next round alongside Amy. His raw talent makes him an exciting prospect for the upcoming athletics season.

In the Junior Girls category, Holly, a Year 8 student, secured a 12th place finish. While her placing might seem lower than Amy and Kane's, Holly's accomplishment is particularly noteworthy given that she was competing against Year 9 students. Competing against older, more experienced runners and still placing within the top 15 is a significant achievement and speaks volumes about her resilience, commitment to her athletics training, and her natural ability.



Other notable performances included Leo, who finished 14th in the Inter Boys category, and Lily, who placed 17th in the Inter Girls category. Both runners faced the added challenge of competing against athletes a year older, yet they performed admirably, showing great resilience and skill. Their results show that they are athletes to watch in the future and students who will no doubt contribute to GMS's athletics teams in the summer.

We are incredibly proud of all the students who took part in the event and are excited



to see what the athletics season has in store for them.

By Miss E Boddy





# GIRLS' FOOTBALL SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Supported by BARCLAYS

## Girls' FA Partnership

On Friday 7th March 2025, the Biggest Ever Girls' Football Day returned to Great Marlow School. Alongside five thousand other schools across England, we celebrated International Women's Day with an abundance of football festivities. Three hundred thousand girls, including over seven hundred and seventy hosted by Great Marlow, played football together throughout the day. We shared this opportunity with an array of year groups, from both primary and secondary schools, ranging from year 3 to year 10. Tournaments, festivals, and matches were some of the few activities the girls participated in throughout this fun-filled Friday football. The day was a huge success- thanks to all the staff, students, and the Sixth Form Sports Leaders, who gave up their time to make our day happen. All the participants should be immensely proud of their performances, and we look forward to seeing you all again!

By Miss Fyfe (Girls FA Strategic Lead)

## National Schools Chess Championships

The Great Marlow chess team goes from strength to strength. For the first time, two Great Marlow chess teams took part in the regional rounds of the National Schools Chess Championships, organised by the English Chess Federation, with events in February and March.

In the first event, six students from Years 9, 10, and 11 took part in the British School Chess Challenge. Ten teams of students from schools across South-East England competed against each other for a place in the national finals. This was the team's first time competing in a national tournament. The team did very well and won games against Wycombe Abbey, St Michael's, and Holyport schools.

In March, six students from Years 7 and 8 took part in the Junior Chess Challenge. Great Marlow students competed against nine other teams. The team played four rounds of matches with teams paired based on the number of points scored in each round. There were many exciting games with high ranked players. Our team was able to win games against St Michael's and Sir William Borlase's Grammar School.

It was a wonderful experience for the GMS students, and we hope to build on our results in the years ahead. I would like to commend everyone who took part, and we all look forward to the summer season of chess. I would also like to thank Mark Campbell for hosting.

By Del Simon



## 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 included a number of schools in the area and have promoted inclusivity for all.

### Table Tennis Festival

On 27th February, a group of Year 9 students had the opportunity to showcase their table tennis skills at a competitive event held at Chiltern Way (Wendover). The students demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, responsibility, and teamwork as they played against eight other teams over the course of two hours.



The event was fast-paced and competitive, but the students held their own with impressive performances. Zephy Fulton stood out during the competition, displaying an excellent range of

table tennis skills and a highly competitive spirit. Zephy's strong performances in both singles and doubles matches were a highlight of the day, as they challenged opponents with agility and precision.

Throughout the event, the students had to demonstrate a high level of responsibility and organisation. They needed to find their assigned tables, ensure they played against all other players in their group, and stay on top of the event schedule. The ability to stay organised and follow the flow of the competition was key to their success.

Jude Collins exemplified outstanding respect and responsibility during the competition, ensuring all interactions with other players and officials were conducted with professionalism and courtesy. Jude's respectful attitude toward both teammates and competitors made a positive impact on the overall atmosphere of the event.

In addition to their impressive playing skills, the students also demonstrated great integrity. They umpired fairly, ensuring that all matches were played according to the rules, and took responsibility for submitting scores accurately. Their commitment to fairness and honesty contributed to the smooth running of the competition.

The event was a fantastic opportunity for the students to not only develop their table tennis skills but also to show their ability to work as a team and display core values such as respect, responsibility, and integrity. The Year 9 group can be proud of their performances both on and off the table, representing their school with pride and sportsmanship.

By Miss E Boddy



### Bowling

On a fun-filled day at the Aylesbury Bowling Leisure Centre, three teams of five year 7 students took part in one section of the pentathlon. The event was an exciting and energetic experience, and the students had a fantastic time competing and showing their skills.

Throughout the competition, the teams showcased great communication and enthusiasm. One of the teams emerged victorious, winning on points after a series of thrilling rounds. The energy was high as the students celebrated each success, with celebratory dances after strikes—creating a joyful and spirited atmosphere.

In addition to the competitive fun, the students also enjoyed a well-deserved break after lunch. The excitement continued as everyone treated themselves to slush puppies, adding a sweet touch to the day's adventure.

It was a day full of laughter, teamwork, and friendly competition, and the students left with smiles on their faces, proud of their achievements and the memories they created. The event was a wonderful opportunity for the students to bond, develop their communication skills, and have a great time outside of the classroom.

By Miss Boddy





## BADMINTON

Our school recently hosted a thrilling badminton tournament in the sports hall, where we entered two teams to compete in a series of exciting fixtures. The event saw a full range of matches, including both doubles and singles, allowing students to showcase their skills in various formats.

The doubles fixtures were particularly challenging, requiring excellent communication and teamwork between the players. It was crucial for the students to coordinate and understand who would be playing which shots during each rally. Effective communication off the court was also essential, as students needed to ensure they were playing against the correct teams and staying organized throughout the tournament.

All the participants displayed great sportsmanship and skill, contributing to a fantastic atmosphere during the event. Whether competing in singles or doubles, everyone demonstrated impressive focus and determination.

A big congratulations to all the students who took part in the tournament. Your effort, teamwork, and positive attitude made the event a success.



## Girls & Boys Fitness

The Fitness Club has been offered throughout the winter months, this initiative has allowed students to take full advantage of the incredible facilities available, developing their skills and knowledge on how to properly train their bodies in their chosen activities.

The fitness suite is a vibrant, motivating space where participants can challenge themselves while sharing the experience with peers. This sense of community fosters a fun and encouraging atmosphere, where students can celebrate their achievements, whether big or small.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue offering this fantastic opportunity in the upcoming term.

By Miss E Boddy

## SWIMMING

On the 19th March we took a group of students to a competitive swimming gala at Wycombe Abbey.



This was an incredible experience for all the students involved. The determination and enthusiasm they showed, filling every event and even stepping in with multiple swimmers, really highlights their dedication.

Joe Madden's willingness to volunteer for every race needing a swimmer speaks volumes about his commitment to the team, and it's fantastic to that Grace Galloway and Gladys had some thrilling close races. Niyya Shah and Aoife Smith helped out another school in need of swimmers—it really shows the spirit of sportsmanship.

The relay races being a highlight is no surprise, and it's great to hear how well the swimmers worked together, with the girls fielding two teams in both freestyle and noodle relays. It's clear that the GMS team gave their best effort all morning, and everyone truly deserves recognition for their teamwork and dedication. Well done to everyone!



## Indoor Rowing Festival

On 14th March, students from Miss Roberts' Year 7 PE class had the exciting opportunity to participate in an indoor rowing festival, where they learned the fundamentals of the rowing stroke and took part in a series of fun and competitive challenges. The event not only introduced them to the sport of rowing but also tested their teamwork, fitness, and determination.

Throughout the day, students engaged in several competitions, each designed to challenge different aspects of rowing technique and team coordination. The festival included activities such as the Fish Game, Target Practice, and a series of

speed and power challenges. These competitions were a great way for the students to put their skills to the test while working together in a supportive and enjoyable environment.

One of the highlights of the festival was the team relay event. Students worked together in teams to row as far as possible in 20 minutes. This challenge required coordination, endurance, and effective teamwork, as each student took turns rowing to contribute to their team's total distance. The relay was a thrilling finale to the event, with students encouraging each other and pushing their limits to achieve their best performance.

In addition to the team relay, the festival also featured a speed challenge, where students focused on improving their strokes per minute, and a power challenge, where they had to maximize their rowing force. These events allowed the students to focus on developing their individual skills while also learning how to push themselves to achieve personal goals.

Overall, the indoor rowing festival was a memorable morning filled with fun, learning, and teamwork. It gave the students the chance to explore a new sport, challenge themselves physically, and build stronger bonds with their classmates. The event was a fantastic success, and everyone involved walked away with a sense of accomplishment and excitement for future PE activities.

By Miss E Boddy



## Key Stage 5 Sports Leaders Report

Our Key Stage 5 Sports Leaders have been working incredibly hard this year as part of their Level 3 Sports Leaders Course, and we are thrilled to share the progress they've made! Throughout the course, our students have been learning and practising the essential skills needed to lead and deliver sporting activities. Their journey has been filled with growth, challenges, and achievements, and they're now close to completing the course with a final exciting challenge ahead.

### Learning to Lead with Confidence

The main focus of the course has been on becoming confident, effective leaders who can run inclusive and engaging sports sessions. Our Sports Leaders have learned how to tailor their activities to make sure everyone, no matter their skill level, feels included and has a chance to participate fully. This has meant thinking about how to adapt activities and giving thoughtful feedback to help others improve.

A key part of their development has been delivering lessons to our Key Stage 3 students. It's been fantastic to see our Sports Leaders use their knowledge and skills in real-life scenarios, making sure that every lesson is both fun and educational. They've used high-quality teaching methods to engage the students, ensure their safety, and help them build new skills. From clear communication to creative drills, the Key Stage 5 Sports Leaders have shown they can lead with passion and professionalism.

### Focus on Pedagogy and Inclusivity

One of the most important lessons the Sports Leaders have learned is how to teach in a way that works for everyone. They've really embraced the challenge of adapting their sessions to fit different learning styles and abilities. Whether it's making sure everyone understands the instructions or adjusting the difficulty of a game to match the participants' skills, the Sports Leaders have done a



fantastic job of ensuring no one is left behind.

The course has also taught them about the theory behind teaching sport. They've spent time learning how to give helpful feedback, how to encourage and motivate others, and how to create an environment where everyone feels supported. This understanding has made a real difference in the way they lead their sessions and interact with the younger students.

## The Final Challenge: Organising a Sporting Event

The exciting part of the course is now upon us – the final assessment! To complete their Level 3 qualification, our Sports Leaders will be organising and delivering a sporting event. Some of these events will take place at local primary schools, giving our students the chance to put everything they've learned into action and work with younger children.

This final challenge will test their ability to plan, organise, and lead a sports event from start to finish. The Sports Leaders will be in charge of everything from managing the event schedule to ensuring that all participants have a great time. It's a big responsibility, but we have no doubt that our students are more than up for the task!

## Looking Ahead

As the Sports Leaders approach the end of their course, we couldn't be prouder of all they have achieved. They've worked hard to develop a wide range of skills, from leadership and communication to planning and pedagogy. The skills they've gained will not only serve them well during their final assessment but will also help them in any future endeavors.

We can't wait to see them in action as they organise their events and continue to inspire others with their passion for sport. Keep an eye out for updates on how the events go – we're sure they'll be a huge success!

A big thank you to all our Key Stage 5 Sports Leaders for their dedication, hard work, and positive attitude. We're excited to see what the future holds for these talented students!

By Mr S Goodright

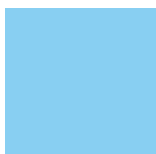
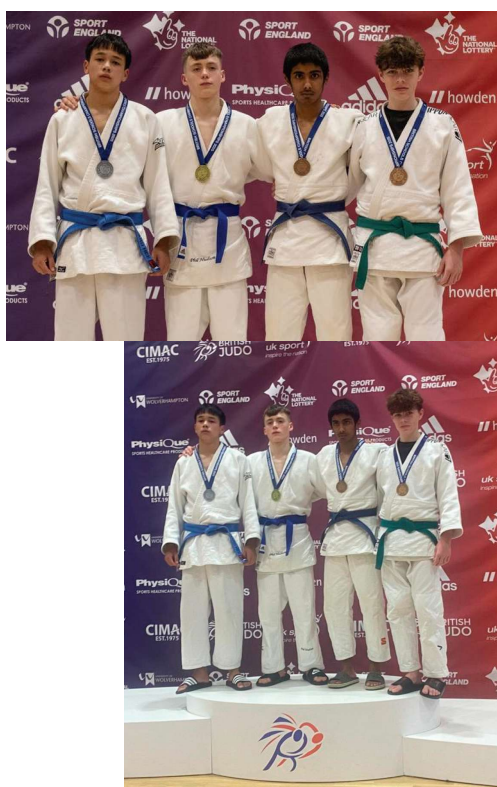
## Judo Bronze for GMS Student

Our school congratulates Bronze medallist, Ralphy Weaver-Poole, who represented Great Marlow at The British Schools Championships 2025, over the weekend.

The competition took place at The England Institute of Sport in Sheffield and Ralphy was enrolled in the Pre-cadet U60 kg category for his year group.

His proud mother says, "He fought like a true warrior and showed resilience. After losing his first fight, he went into battle and won the next five fights and winning well deserved Bronze medal."

Over the weekend of 1st & 2nd March 2025, Ralphy and his older brother Frankie (past student at GMS) medalled at the Ingulmunster International Judo Championships in Belgium. Both Ralphy and Frankie were awarded Bronze Medals, with Ralphy fighting the U15yr category for u60kgs.



## Wycliffe Big Head

The weekend 1st/2nd February the first race of 2025 took place for Great Marlow School Boat Club (GMSBC). Traditionally, so many races are cancelled due to fast-flowing rivers and flooding at this time of year, GMS has opted for Wycliffe Big Head race on the Sharpness canal near Gloucester, as a more reliable venue.

For our rowers, it was a good opportunity to experience time on the water as well as test themselves against some quality opposition. Despite being early in the season and the variation in amount of water time between different clubs is considerable, this 4500m race is a good test of form for our squad.

In the First Division was the Year 10 Boys' Eight, two Year 11 Quads and two 2nd Quads racing in the open categories. The early birds for the first division were there at 7:30 to rig the boats and the first crew to boat was the Year 10 Boys' Eight.

The Year 10 Boys' Eight had a good race and coped well against competition, considering they only a handful of outings in the sweep discipline. Their second place just behind a strong Abingdon School crew was an exciting result at this stage. The Year 11 Quads both did well, with the boys third in their category and the girls fourth. However, both crews will need to push on over the next six weeks or so, to be in the medals at the nationals at the end of term.

The afternoon division had the Year 10 Girls' Quads and both top crews in the J18 Quads with top class opposition. The Year 10 Girls' Quads both raced well, although the B crew sadly got caught up in a three way collision through no fault of theirs, when a crew ahead of them crabbing, slewed across the river. Both crews looked solid and committed in their racing, which you can see from photos on the website.

The Girls' Quad, which was missing Poppy Spense with illness, had a solid result in the middle of a very strong field, hard on the heels of Wycliffe B who qualified for Henley Royal Regatta last summer.

The boys picked up our only outright win of the day, beating Marlow and Wycliffe who were the main contenders from the rest of the field.

While still early in the season, the results look promising for some good results in the upcoming National Long distance races at the end of March.

## Hammersmith Head Win for GMSBC

The top Boys' Eight had a good couple of sessions towards the end of the Dorney week and were in high spirits. In this race, the crew ahead of them was a 'no show' so they ended up with a fairly large gap giving them an uninterrupted race. The cox, Theo Harper, chose the best racing line, which is a key factor in any race on this tidal stretch of river. Their initial result was a win by 0.1 seconds, which was a reversal of our loss to second place in the Schools Head last year. The race officials later decided to make us first equal with Kew House, a local tideway club racing on their home stretch.

Following on from the Quads win at Wycliffe, this a great start to the senior boys' season.

The top Girls' Quad also had a great race in a top-class field, with probably only two or three major clubs not represented. Fifth in their event was a very exciting result, particularly given how little water time we have had relative to many of our opposition.

The Girls' Eight had a very long wait before starting and were consequently very cold by the time they came off the water. They raced well but, at this late stage in the race, it seemed the officials were being less careful in spacing out crews, resulting in our Eight, through no fault of their own, being on the outside of the bend with four Eights abreast after Barnes Bridge. This sort of line adds much to their time, but their 9th position in a strong field was an encouraging result for this young crew and bodes well for the upcoming Schools Head.

Sadly, due to a last-minute increase in stream levels the Year 10 Boys Eight event was cancelled so they could not race.



## Avon Spring Head

With the recent weather threatening most rowing events, Saturday's sunshine was a welcome break and made for a glorious day for racing down in Bath. We took our Year 9s who have not been able to row on the river very much as the River Thames has been particularly bad.

In the first division the Boys' Quad began boating at 0900, the team was competing in a reasonably large field of 15 crews broken into two tiers. GMS raced well and came off the water pleased that they had caught up the Canford crew ahead of them; it gave them the feeling of racing a good race. Their second place in the Tier 1 category, just behind Wallingford Rowing Club, was an excellent result given the restrictions they have had terms of water time.

The middle division saw our Girls' Octo perform. They were racing at the head of their division and they looked calm and confident as they came down the course, a considerable distance ahead of the next crew. Their win by 29 seconds over second placed Pangbourne College was fairly emphatic.

In the final division the girls raced in two separate Quads. Sadly, the A crew lost a blade early on and that effectively took them out of the competition, Crew B had a solid race coming 5th overall.

Well done to all our rowers who make GMS proud and to those who organise and coach them, thank you.

## JUNIOR SCULLING HEAD

On 26th March, GMSBC was back at Dorney Lake for the Sculling Head. While not all the top crews and clubs compete in this second event, it is still highly competitive.

With illness cutting our senior boys' squad down, the entry was reduced from three Quads to just the top boat, which thankfully was back in its usual line up. In beautifully calm conditions the boys had a great race, beating last year's gold medal time by 1 second. They won Silver, behind a very fast Windsor Boys' crew, who had won the Schools Head Quads the day before. A very strong performance and setting them up nicely for the coming season.

The J16, Year 11 boys' crew also had a great row and were very pleased by their 8th place out of 48 crews.

The top Girls' Quad was a different line up for this event, as two Year 11s, moved back into their own age group. Both the WJ18 and WJ16 Quads looked strong, if a little tired from the previous days' racing. 17th for this squad put them reassuringly ahead of local rivals Sir William Borlase. 11th for the WJ16s showed them to be as strong as they have ever been, but as a club we have been particularly badly hit by lack of water time.

Our Year 10s all raced in Quads. There are Octo events for J15s, which is becoming more popular but GMS raced A and B boats. This year group is exceptionally strong in both boys and girls squads, with two very competitive Quads from both groups. The Girls' A Crew coming 12th was an exciting result and their B Boat was 5th amongst the B crews.

## Inter Regional Trials

On Friday 7th March we took crews from Year 9 to Year 11 to compete for selection as our regional representatives at the upcoming Junior Inter Regional Regatta (JIRR) at the end of April. This the first of three national regattas and gaining selection in our region is very challenging, unsurprisingly the Thames is the dominant region within the country. So much so, next year it will be broken into 3 regions to give the rest of the country a chance.

Our extremely promising Year 9 Girls' Quad had a very impressive, controlled row and came second, just missing out on selection. The Year 10 Girls' Double also had a great trial, coming second and again just missing selection.

However, the Year 10 and 11 Boys' Fours and the Year 11 Girls' Quad all dominated their events and have been selected to represent our region at JIRR.

Mr Murison is hopeful of more good news after the regatta.

The two Boys' Crews were surprisingly close in time; the B boat earned Silver in their event.

Possibly the highlight of the day was the Year 9 races, as this is their first opportunity on a National Stage. Although they have had very little water time, they have trained hard on land through this winter. The Boys' Quad had a disappointing outing at the inter regional trials a few weeks back and with a slight change in line up were keen to race hard. They were halfway down the pack, but well ahead of Royal Grammar School, and Wycombe, who had beaten them in the trials earlier in March. A solid result and will only improve with more time on the water.

The best comes last: the Year 9 Girls' Octo, is a very exciting squad, with some truly exceptional athletes. Given their lack of opportunity to train on the water, their technique in the Octo, which is a challenging boat to row was impressive.

As I have mentioned earlier, the Thames in Marlow has been particularly badly hit this year and many clubs from London and elsewhere have had a considerably better water time practice.

In the top ten Year 9 Octos, GMSBC was the only Thames Up river crew. They came in 4th, frustratingly 1 second off the medals, but a fabulous result. It is the Year 9 Octos' event where all the major players send their crews because there is no Year 9 event at the Schools Head and so this crew should be very proud of themselves.

Articles provided by Mr F Murison and Mr L Sloan

## Help FoGMS Raise Vital Funds

Match funding is an easy and beneficial way to raise funds for the school.

Many companies operate Match Funding schemes where they match the amount their employees raise for charity. This means your participation in our fundraising events could be worth double! For example, if we raise £1,000 at an event, and you work for a company that offers match funding, they could donate an additional £1,000, effectively doubling the total funds raised. It's a great way to maximise your impact.

Here's another example closer to home:

Imagine FoGMS raises £500, if one of their volunteers works for a company that offers match funding, that employer could double every pound we raise, effectively turning the £500 into £1,000 for the school.

This extra funding helps provide more resources, enhances facilities and create more enriching experiences for our children – all at no extra cost to you.

## How can you become involved?

- Check if your employer offers match funding. If you work for one of the companies listed below, great! If not, ask your HR or Finance team if they offer a match funding scheme. Many companies have budgets allocated specifically for charitable contributions and actively support employee charity giving.
- If your employer agrees to match the funds, simply let us know, and we'll work with you to ensure the donation is processed and matched correctly.
- Bingo Night – we'd love to find a parent or carer whose employer could match fund the bar at the forthcoming Bingo Night on Friday 14th March. If that could be you, please get in touch!

## Companies known to offer match funding

We know that the following companies have match funding schemes, but this list isn't exhaustive, and there are many others out there too. If your employer is not on this list, please still ask – match funding is becoming increasingly common.

FoGMS hopes all our school community will consider this fantastic option to raise money for the school.

Amazon	GSK	Microsoft
American Express	HSBC	Morgan Stanley
Aviva	Intel	Nestlé
Barclays	KPMG	Royal Bank of
BASF	Legal & General	Scotland Group
BP	Lloyds Banking Group	Sainsbury's
Deloitte		Shell
Deutsche Bank	Marks & Spencer	Tesco
Google	McDonald's	Unilever

Should there be any questions or should anyone need more information, please contact

[fogmschair@gmail.com](mailto:fogmschair@gmail.com).

GMS thanks FoGMS and everyone who gives their support throughout the school year.

AND FINALLY....

We wish all our Year 11s and Year 13s every success in their forthcoming exams. We hope you all get the results you are aiming for. Keep in touch, we are always interested to hear how you are getting on in your future careers or in Further Education.

Remember results days 2025 are GCE:

Thursday August 14th

GCSE:

Thursday August 21st

Great Marlow School  
Bobmore Lane  
Marlow Bucks  
SL7 1JE

FOGMS ARE ORGANISING A GOLF DAY- COME AND JOIN US!



**GOLF DAY**  
For parents, carers and friends of Great Marlow School  
**FRIDAY 13TH JUNE**  
**WINTER HILL GOLF CLUB, COOKHAM**  
Prizes: For winning team, longest drive, closest to the pin, and more!  
Further details to follow.  
Entry Fees:  
£65 includes tea/coffee, bacon rolls & 18 holes, £20 for members  
£80 includes above, plus finger buffet after tournament, £35 for members  
Tickets on sale via Wisepay from Friday 14th March  
Any queries please contact: [fogmsgolfday@gmail.com](mailto:fogmsgolfday@gmail.com)  
With thanks to our sponsors  
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Conveniently located just one mile north of Marlow town centre, our hall is home to the Marlow Montessori nursery school, Arts & Craft Club, Life Drawing, Pilates and popular among local clubs and casual hirers.

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Book your space today and make your event unforgettable! For bookings or inquiries, contact us now!

Email John: [bgvhire@gmail.com](mailto:bgvhire@gmail.com)