

# ASPIRE

THE MARSH ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

TERM 2 - DECEMBER 2010

All the news from Enterprise Week!



Year 7 Makes Some Noise with Stomp!

Sports Leaders Help out with Primary Sports Festival

January Exams Timetable

Post-16 Celebrates Diwali

Back to nature for Post-16 Public Services Students

Marsh Boys join Folkestone Girls in Buggy Malone!

**Microsoft**



TONBRIDGE SCHOOL



## Who's Who in the Academy

**Tracy Luke**  
Principal

**Marion Emptage**  
Head of School

**Lin Burrows**  
**Shaun Simmons**  
Vice Principals

**Robert Bristow**  
**Luke Magee**  
**Richard**  
**Robinson**  
Assistant Principals

**Elena Cooper**  
Blue Mini-School  
Leader

**Alyson Shaw**  
Green Mini-School  
Leader

**Lesley Palmer**  
Red Mini-School  
Leader

**Jim Grant**  
Yellow Mini-School  
Leader

**Pamela Upton**  
Head of Post-16

## *A Message from the Principal & Head of School*

Dear Parents & Carers

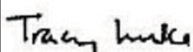
As we draw to the close of a busy term it is a good time to reflect upon the highlights. When you read through our newsletter you will see that as usual there have been a whole host of exciting activities going on in the school with students having the opportunity to experience many new and varied activities.

We are delighted that our new building still seems to be on schedule and is taking shape before our eyes. We can hardly believe that this time next year we will be moving in!

The weather has brought us some challenges during the term but we do hope our text messaging service has kept you well informed, especially as it appears we have not seen the end of the snow.

We would like to wish all our parents/carers and students a very happy, warm and safe Christmas and a successful New Year.

Best wishes



Tracy Luke  
Principal



Marion Emptage  
Head of School

## Sign Up to the Mailing List!

How did you access the newsletter today? If you went via our website but would prefer to have the newsletter come straight to your inbox every term, sign up to the mailing list!

Just send your e-mail address to [LSmith@marshacademy.org.uk](mailto:LSmith@marshacademy.org.uk) with the subject line "Newsletter", and it will be sent to you as soon as it's available each month!

To keep up to date throughout the term, keep an eye on our "Latest News" page at [www.marshacademy.org.uk/latest-news](http://www.marshacademy.org.uk/latest-news) or our Twitter account at [www.twitter.com/marshacademy](http://www.twitter.com/marshacademy).

## INFORMATION

Marsh Academy, Station Road, New Romney, TN28 8BB  
t: 01797 364593 :: w: [www.marshacademy.org.uk](http://www.marshacademy.org.uk) :: **Absence Line:** 01797 363878

**Back to School:** Tuesday 4th January 2011 (no extended day)  
**Year 10 Parents' Evening:** Tuesday 11th January 2011 (no extended day)  
**Year 11 Parents' Evening:** Tuesday 18th January 2011 (no extended day)  
**Year 10 Options Evening:** Wednesday 26th January 2011  
**Post-16 Open Evening:** Thursday 27th January 2011  
**Half Term:** Monday 21st February to Friday 25th February 2011

# STOMP!



Year 7 students at the Marsh Academy had music lessons with a difference on 30th November when members of the Stomp! cast delivered a series of workshops at the school.



Music teacher James Maxim, who organised the experience, said: "Our Year 7s had a fantastic day with 'Stomp'. Bin lids and barrels aside, this was an excellent opportunity for them to learn about rhythm, perform in front of their peers, and strengthen their confidence. They did a fantastic job!"

Students started by looking at the basic building blocks of rhythm

before creating music using everyday objects including dustbins and rubber tubing! Students also looked at performance and movement, running between 'instruments', jumping and clapping to keep time, and spinning towards each other to crash dustbin lids together!

## DIWALI

Post-16 students enjoyed the spirit of Diwali this term with a celebration on 26 November. A professional storyteller told the story of Diwali whilst students received henna tattoos and sampled traditional Indian food!



Head Boy Simon serves up Indian food to prefect Sophie



Students from the Marsh Academy took on the lead male roles in a production of "Bugsy Malone" at the Folkestone School for Girls this term, with Stephen Dommert (back row, centre) taking the title role.

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Are you missing out? Your child, or children, may qualify for free school meals if you are on a low income and receive certain benefits. Visit our website, [www.marshacademy.org.uk](http://www.marshacademy.org.uk) and go to the "Lunch Arrangements" section to see if you qualify and to get an application form.

### SCIENCE TRIP

On Wednesday 8th December, the year 11 Triple Science students went to the Tonbridge School Science Department for the day. Pupils were involved in many demonstrations and experimental work linked to their studies, which reinforced areas of radioactivity and light. The pupils had a really interesting day and were a credit to themselves and the Academy; many thanks to Mr Robinson and the staff at Tonbridge School for an excellent experience.

# EXAMS

Date	Start	Board	Component Code	Component Title	Level
Mon 12 Jan	09:00	AQA	MPC1	GCE Mathematics Unit PC1	GCE/B
		AQA	MPC2	GCE Mathematics Unit PC2	GCE/B
		OCR	2431/01	English: Written Paper: Foundation Tier	GCSE/B
		OCR	2431/02	English: Written Paper: Higher Tier	GCSE/B
	13:00	OCR	F501/01	Crit Thinking: Intro to Crit Thinking Written	GCE/B
Tues 11 Jan	09:00	EDEXL/GCE	6BI0101	Transport, Genes & Health	GCE/ASB
		EDEXL/GCE	691601	Invest. People at Work	GCE/B
	13:00	AQA	CIST1	GCE Citizenship Studies Unit 1	GCE/B
Wed 12 Jan	09:00	AQA	PSYA1	GCE Psychology A Unit 1	GCE/B
		EDEXL/GCE	6PH0101	Physics on the GO	GCE/ASB
	13:00	AQA	ECON1	GCE Economics Unit 1 Written and OT	GCE/B
		EDEXL/GCE	IT20101	Potential of Technology	PL/L2
Thu 13 Jan	09:00	EDEXL/GCE	6CH0101	Core Principles of Chemistry	GCE/ASB
	13:00	EDEXL/GCE	6HI01D	Communism & Democracy 20C	GCE/ASB
		OCR	A663/01	Eng Lit: Prose Dfrnt Cltrs Fnd Wrtn	GCSE/B
		OCR	A663/02	Eng Lit: Prose Dfrnt Cltrs Hgh Wrtn	GCSE/B
		OCR	G061/01	ICT: Info, Systems & Aplcns Written	GCE/B
Fri 14 Jan	13:00	AQA	MFP1	GCE Mathematics Unit FP1	GCE/B
		AQA	MS/SS1B	GCE Mathematics and Stats Unit S1B	GCE/B
		AQA	SCLY1	GCE Sociology Unit 1	GCE/B
		AQA	46551F	French Unit 1 Tier F	GCSE/B
		AQA	46551H	French Unit 1 Tier H	GCSE/B
		AQA	46552F	French Unit 2 Tier F	GCSE/B
		AQA	46552H	French Unit 2 Tier H	GCSE/B
Mon 17 Jan	13:00	AQA	LTA1A	GCE English Literature A Unit 1A	GCE/B
		AQA	LTA1B	GCE English Literature A Unit 1B	GCE/B
		OCR	A542/01	Indstrl Tech: Sustainable Design Written	GCSE/B
		OCR	A544/01	Indstrl Tech: Technical Aspects Written	GCSE/B
Tue 18 Jan	13:00	AQA	SCLY2	GCE Sociology Unit 2	GCE/B
		OCR	2432/01	English: Written Paper: Found. Tier	
Wed 19 Jan	09:00	AQA	ECON2	GCE Economics Unit 2 Writtenand OT	GCE/B
	13:00	AQA	MM1B	GCE Mathematics Unit M1B	GCE/B
		AQA	MPC3	GCE Mathematics Unit PC3	GCE/B
Thu 20 Jan	09:00	EDEXL/GCE	6HI02C	Conflict and Change 19C & 20C	GCE/B
Fri 21 Jan	09:00	EDEXCL/ GCSE	5HB011A	Medicine & Treatment	GCSE/B
Mon 24 Jan	09:00	AQA	MD01	GCE Mathematics Unit D01	GCE/B
Tue 25 Jan	13:00	EDEXL/GCE	5HB022C	Life in Germany C1919-45	GCSE/B
Wed 26 Jan	13:00	AQA	CIST3	GCE Citizenship Studies Unit 3	GCE/B
		OCR	G063/01	ICT: Systems, Applications & Implctns Wrtn	GCE/B
Thu 27 Jan	13:00	EDEXL/GCE	6PH0401	Physics on the Move	GCE/B
Fri 28 Jan	13:00	AQA	ECON3	GCE Economics Unit 3	GCE/B

# ENTERPRISE WEEK



November saw Enterprise Week come to the Marsh Academy, with students taking part in a range of exciting activities that allowed them to apply their learning to practical, enterprise-based activities and see how their school work could be used in the world of business.

Year 10 students created a business plan for the development of a product that could launch on a market stall. The winning idea, which will represent the Marsh Academy in a nationwide competition, was Glowkind Bike Parts. Luke Dowe, Dean Willis, Jack Sargent and Anthony Osborne

came up with the idea to sell glowing bike parts to help improve safety on the roads at night.

Year 8 took part in a "Skills 2 Succeed" session, designing makarapas (South African hats made famous in the World Cup!) in teams to help them move out of their comfort zones, solve problems and develop a drive to succeed.

The "Streetwise" programme was delivered to Year 12 and 13 students, with sessions looking at interview skills, work relationships and money management.

A dazzling fashion

show rounded off the week, with Year 7 students taking to the stage to show off their "Eco-Fashions" - t-shirts that they had designed and made with the theme "Be Seen, Be Green".



Students also came up with music and dance routines to accompany their shows.

Director of Learning for Business and Enterprise, Hayley Edmunds, said:

"Enterprise Week was a huge success and I was delighted to see students really throwing themselves into the activities. The skills that they learnt over the week will equip them for the future, and judging by the work produced, there are more than a few budding entrepreneurs in our midst!"



# Building Community Links

Health and Social Care students recently held an Autumn Tea Party for older residents during the school's "Extended Day", serving tea, cakes and sandwiches in the school's Bistro. They were joined by members of the Academy's vocal group, who sang alongside performers from Folkestone organisation "Sing for Your Life". The event was organised in partnership with KCC Shepway Extended Learning team, Sing United and the Creative Foundation.

Assistant Principal Richard Robinson and the KCC Shepway Extended Learning team have been working hard on inter-generational projects at the Academy to improve community cohesion, with projects ranging from afternoon teas and music projects to games in the school grounds. An event in

July saw students and residents challenging each other in games of giant Connect 4 and Jenga, which turned out to be popular activities with both age groups!

Mr Robinson said: "We are planning a lot of events like this in the next few months with the aim of integrating the actively retired with younger people from the local community. We are hoping to focus upon the common human experiences that we all share as a way of breaking down some of the perceived differences between different generations. The projects will involve the use of music, storytelling, dance and drama to explore the common themes that we all share as human beings."



# RADIO MARSH

Radio production students at the Marsh Academy put their learning into action this term with the first broadcasts by

Radio Marsh! Students in years 11-13 planned and delivered a 30 minute broadcast from within the Academy which went out live on the Internet. Year 8 students had earlier had the opportunity to try out the equipment, broadcasting live for 15 minutes.



Students studying for their NVQ Radio Production were excited to take the opportunity to work on a real

radio show, selecting songs, working through emails from listeners and even preparing a pre-recorded interview with the Principal, Tracy Luke, who revealed her love of classical music and sci-fi novels! The Year 8 students drew on their recent work in their Project-

Based Learning classes to act out a report from the front line of the Gulf War.





Some of our students were very fortunate to be able to take part in this year's Charivari Festival in Folkestone. The students spent several afternoons working with the Strange Cargo arts company to create some incredible costumes under the "A Night at the Opera" theme before parading through Folkestone with over 600 other participants.

Six students from the Academy spent two



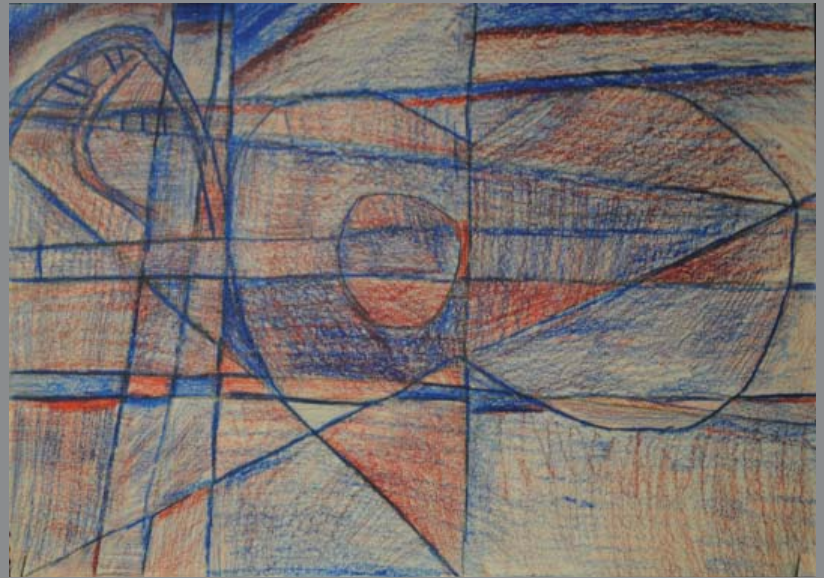
days during the summer working with a local artist, Martin Brockman, on a series of sculptures



to be displayed at a local nature reserve. The students created sculptures including archways and benches using branches and twigs, which



were then used by Mr Brockman as the basis for "The Secret Sculpture Trail" exhibition at the Romney Marsh Visitor Centre in December.



### KS3 Artist of the Month Keeley Nicholls



### KS4 Artist of the Month Ben Walker

# Back to Nature for Public Service Students!

Public Services students from the Marsh Academy got a lesson in survival last month when they took part in an introduction to basic armed forces bushcraft skills! Ex-SAS soldiers Neil Andrews and Graham Burrows – Bear Grylls’ squad leader in the mid-1990s – put the students through their paces with a range of classic wilderness survival exercises.

Twenty-four year 12 and 13 students headed to Reinden Wood, part of the Ministry of Defence’s East Kent Dry Training Area, to learn skills such as how to make shelters from sticks and fallen trees to keep dry and warm, and how to start fires using methods involving everything from sticks and flints to coke cans. Students are studying for a BTEC in Public Services, a qualification designed to help students to gain the skills and knowledge required for a



career in the uniformed or armed services. The bushcraft course aimed to promote teamwork and teach students some of the skills used by the armed forces.

Director of Vocational Learning, Gareth Price, who accompanied the students on the trip, said: “Both Neil Andrews and Graham Burrows were very impressed with the teamwork and no nonsense approach shown by the Marsh Academy students.”



## NEWS IN BRIEF

Congratulations to China-Mae Hutton who took two titles at the recent UK Karate Championships!

In Term One, a total of 385 postcards were sent out to congratulate students with 95% or higher attendance. Mrs Hooper is looking forward to sending out a similar number this term!

On Sunday 16th January, the school will host its first ever Marsh Badminton Tournament. Entries are welcome from all years 7-13, and students in year 6 at local primary schools are also welcome to take part.

November exam results will be available on 13th January 2011.

There is a trip to the Birmingham Indoor Arena on the Saturday 12th March for the World Badminton Championships. Tickets are £25-50 and the trip is open to parents and pupils. Speak to Mr Double if you’re interested!

## WINTER ATHLETICS

On your marks, get set, go! The new athletics season has kicked off at the Marsh Academy with Years 7-9 taking part in a variety of athletic events, from high jump to shot putt. Pat Hanys from Ashford Athletics Club has been holding athletics sessions for students every Friday. Students have performed well and started winter training for the summer competitions. Friday training will continue in the new year - interested students should see Mr Gransden to sign up!

## FOOTBALL

One of our best football seasons continues with a fantastic cup run in the Kent County Cup for the boys’ squad in Year 10. Managed by Mr Gardner, the cup run so far has seen the Marsh Academy beat some of our closest rivals, including the Harvey Grammar (4-2) and Sandwich Technology College (4-3).

### SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURE

When the weather is severe we will do our best to keep the school open as normal as long as it does not pose a risk to the safety of students or staff. The presumption is always that the school will be open unless we place a message before 7.15 am on BBC Radio Kent, Heart Radio and KMFM that the school is closed. A message will also be put on the Marsh Academy website and we will also endeavour to contact you by text or e-mail.

For more information, please visit the “Latest News” section of our website at [www.marshacademy.org.uk](http://www.marshacademy.org.uk).

# SPORT

## MULTI-SKILLS FESTIVAL



Young sports leaders from the Marsh Academy got the chance to put their training into action in November when 70 pupils from years 1 and 2 at St Nicholas and Greatstone Primary Schools took part in a Multi Skills Festival at the Marsh Academy. The primary students were split into teams, pitting their balancing, coordination and throwing skills against each other in a competition that saw the Butterflies team from St Nicholas emerge victorious! Prefects joined the Academy's Head Boy and Girl to help make

the day run smoothly, walking students safely between the Academy and St Nicholas Primary School.

8 teams spent the session moving between 10 activity stations designed to develop and use different skills in exciting and new ways. Students tested their talents on space hoppers and wobble cushions and weaved their way through tunnels and hula hoops over the course of two very lively hours which ended with the Seahorses team (Greatstone) coming third, the Frogs team

(St Nicholas) coming second and the Butterflies (St Nicholas) taking first place.

The event was organised by the Academy's Shepway School Sports Partnership (SSSP) representative, Andre Double, as part of the SSSP remit to improve young people's opportunities to participate in a wide range of sports, including inter-school competitions. The concept of multi skills is the development of pupils' core and basic skills in preparation for their future sporting participation. The festival included stations that assist the development of key skills such as throwing, catching, jumping, balancing and overall coordination.

Seven year old Carly from St Nicholas Primary School said: "I'm

having fun! I liked the roly-poly thing, because you get to roll!" Her classmate Morgan, 6, was equally as enthusiastic, though for different reasons: "I liked the one where you jump through things best, because I got every single one right!"



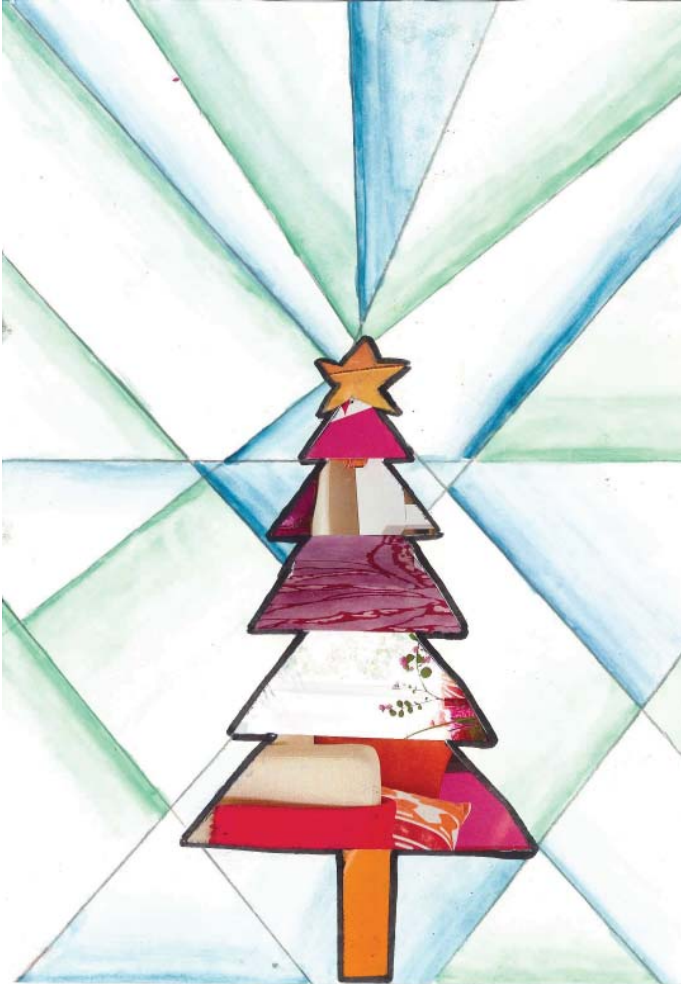
### CROSS COUNTRY

On an extremely cold November afternoon at Brockhill Park, almost 50 Marsh Academy students took part in the annual district cross country event. Running over a gruelling mile and a half course, our entrants all ran with pride and determination. We had lots of success, notably Grace Walker and Jordan Haylett both finishing 4th in their respective Year 7 races, whilst in the Year 9 race Henry Fulcher finished 9th and Frazer Reynolds 10th. In addition to this, Hamon Shepherd finished 7th in a mixed Year 10 and 11 race, with Joel Cowling finishing 13th. A very positive experience for all involved and something to build on for future cross country success!

### BADMINTON

The Marsh Academy Badminton Team continues to go from strength to strength! Both the boys and girls teams have made it though to the Kent Schools County Finals, which will be held at Canterbury Christ Church University in early 2011. The teams will be representing the Shepway region against schools from across Kent! The girls team consists of Charmian Simmons, Rebecca Christmas, Kvitka Mykhanchuk and Katie Pinn, whilst the boys taking part are Samuel Haylett, Joshua Smith, Rhys Morison, Elliot Symonds, Warron Taylor and Daniel Blake.

# MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE MARSH ACADEMY!



Christmas Cards by Jessica Carr and Lauren Morris (both Red School, Tutor Group R2SB).

