

# ASPIRE

THE MARSH ACADEMY NEWSLETTER TERM 5 - MAY 2011

Hands-on learning at the Romney Marsh Skills Festival

Mr Tse shortlisted for London & South East New Teacher of the Year!

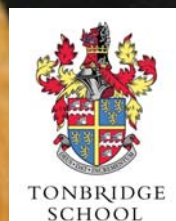
Year 7 students hit the slopes!

Sky Sports bring Living for Sport project to Marsh Academy

Students become Heroes with Humanutopia

Recycling for Romney Marsh

**Microsoft**



## 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

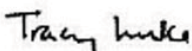
It only seems like yesterday that we were writing the last newsletter! This has been a short term, but just as packed with exciting events and opportunities for our students.

The Romney Marsh Skills Festival was a great success and our Year 8 students who all attended on the Friday are still talking about what a fantastic day they had; some even brought their families back on the Saturday! The masterclasses for Years 10-13 were also an excellent chance for students to learn new skills and get expert tuition from master craftsmen.

Several projects have also taken place that are designed to help students to reach their full potential, whether through coaching younger students or taking part in boxing classes with a professional athlete! These projects are a great opportunity for students to step out of their comfort zones and see how much they can really achieve, and we are very proud that our students take part with such enthusiasm.

We are now in the middle of the Summer exams season, so to all of those students involved, remember to keep revising over the half-term, but get some rest too! And to all of our students, we look forward to seeing you back in school after what will hopefully be another sunny holiday, ready for the last term of the 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 term!

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).

## **INFORMATION**

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t: 01797 364593 :: w: [www.marshacademy.org.uk](http://www.marshacademy.org.uk) :: **Absence Line:** 01797 363594

**Back to School:** Monday 6th June 2011

**Review Day:** Tuesday 21st June 2011

**End of Term:** Friday 22nd July 2011

# RECYCLE FOR MARSH!



Year 7 students were on hand to help when Councillor David Brazier from Kent County Council officially opened the new Household Waste Recycling Centre in Mountfield Road, New Romney, on 20 May 2011. The students had taken part in a competition, along with students from local primary schools, to come up with a



slogan to encourage people to recycle. The best slogans have been printed onto metal signs to be displayed at the new recycling centre and similar centres around the county.

After cutting the ribbon, students were given a tour of the new £1 million facility, learning along the way about how

different items were recycled and re-used.

The KCC officer in charge of the project later said: "we were incredibly impressed with the way the pupils presented themselves and how well behaved they were - they were an absolute pleasure to be with and a real credit to the school."

## HUMANUTOPIA



Year 7 and 9 students took part in "Humanutopia" workshops this term to help them to increase their confidence, improve their relationships and reach their potential. Year 9 students completed the workshop first, with 75 of them then staying on for the rest of the programme as 'Heroes'; this gave them the chance to develop their leadership skills and self-confidence by helping to deliver the workshops to younger students. Year 5 students from Lydd and St Nicholas Primary Schools then visited the Academy to take



part, before Year 7 students spent a full day on the programme, where they were encouraged to step out of their comfort zones and think about the barriers that were stopping them from achieving their potential. A Year 9 student summed up what she had learnt on the programme, stating: "You shouldn't make fun of people because of how they act because you don't know anything about them. You shouldn't be scared of who you are - everyone has a right to be themselves."

## OH MY!



Pop duo Oh My! entertained a select group of students this term in the latest in a range of rewards concerts. Oh My! have been writing with British rapper Example and are touring schools across Britain before releasing their first single and album in the autumn. The girls have already received positive reviews from the music press such as the NME, and the Academy was lucky to be the only school in Kent to be included on the tour!

# ROMNEY MARSH SKILLS FESTIVAL

Over 600 students from Romney Marsh, Ashford and Shepway enjoyed the opportunity to discover the wealth of career opportunities on their doorsteps on 6 and 7 May when they visited the Romney Marsh Skills Festival. The event, held at the Marsh Academy in New Romney, was organised by Kent County Council in partnership with the Academy and the City of London Livery Companies, with support from Hadlow College.

The event was designed to give students a real insight into the range of careers available locally, and focussed on the rural economy, energy and engineering, construction, IT and telecoms, fashion, and marine and maritime industries.

On the Friday, year 8 and 9 students took part in hands-on activities and listened to talks from young people already working in each of the industries. They also watched demonstrations by master-craftsmen and discussed careers and apprenticeship opportunities with a range of

organisations. Students particularly enjoyed the hands-on activities, with thirteen-year-old student Matthew saying: "today was really good, like doing five work experiences in a day!"

A reception was held on Friday evening for local VIPs to look around the exhibition and to thank exhibitors for giving their time to the festival. At the reception, joints of Romney Marsh lamb prepared during butchery demonstrations over the course of the day were auctioned off, raising over £300 for the three charities supported by the Academy – Help for Heroes, Port Lympne Wild Animal Park and the Make a Wish Foundation.

At the reception, the Leader of Kent County Council, Councillor Paul Carter, said: "We have been on a mission for many years to deliver not just traditional education, and to ensure that we prepare our students for the world of work. We need to light the flame of enthusiasm in our young people, and events like these are a fantastic way of doing that. Thank you to everyone

who has made this such a great success."

Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, Lord Boyce, said: "There is no doubt how useful it is exposing students to these different skills. It is especially important in these hard economic times to ensure that students are leaving school with workplace skills, and this has been an extraordinarily successful day."

Saturday saw Post-16 students taking part in master-classes with master-craftsmen. Students learnt how to turn a creative hobby into a business, practiced stonemasonry and silversmithing, and even tried their hand at butchery and cookery! Student Tom (14) took part in a plumbing master-class and said: "It was really good and I learnt a lot – it was really worthwhile!" The festival was also attended by members of the public on Saturday, including the families of students who had taken part on Friday and were keen to show their parents their new-found skills!



Students from North School in the "Construction" sector



Having a go at tiling in the "Construction" area



Tie-dying in the "Fashion" sector

# ROMNEY MARSH SKILLS FESTIVAL PICTURE SPECIAL



## IN BRIEF

Post-16 Public Services students visited Canterbury Law Courts on 4th May to see the legal system in action. Students saw people stand trial for offences including benefit fraud, assault and drug charges, as well as meeting the judge for East Kent.

Congratulations to Year 11 student Emaley Chantry who cycled an impressive 33 miles on 29th April to raise money for Cancer Research. Well done Emaley!

131 Year 1 and 2 students from Brookland, Greatstone and St Nicholas Primary Schools visited the Academy on 10th May to take part in a Multi-Skills Festival. Year 8 Sports Leaders from the Academy helped to run a variety of activities including spacehopper races and bean-bag throwing!

Congratulations to Amy Briffit and Robert Banks for their top results at the Year 9,10 and 11 Shepway Athletics competition on 10th May. Amy won the high jump for the third year in a row with a jump of 1.35m, whilst Robert won the Under-15 long jump with a jump of 4.84m!

The new build is still on schedule and looking fantastic! The roof is nearly completed, and the curtain walling will be started by the end of the half term. The kitchens have also been ordered, the lifts are shortly going into manufacture and the air handling units will be lifted onto the roof in early June.

# TEACHER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION!



**Mr Tse with members of the Badminton Team**

We are delighted to announce that Maths teacher Mr Tse has been selected as a finalist for London and the South East in the 2011 Pearson Teaching Awards!

Mr Tse has been nominated in the "Outstanding New Teacher of the Year" category for a range of reasons, from his ability to adapt his teaching methods according to the needs of his classes to his boundless enthusiasm as both a teacher and a tutor. In her endorsement for Mr Tse's nomination, Head of School Marion Emptage said: "He is the most committed teacher that you could hope to find. Parents love him, students love him, staff wonder how he has the energy but cannot fail to be impressed!"

As well as finding new ways to deliver lessons to keep students engaged, Mr Tse also established a Badminton Club in his own time, funding the students' kit and uniforms himself, to help students to work as a team and to improve their self-esteem by believing in their ability to achieve.

As a tutor, Mr Tse works hard to support his tutees, including staying behind after school to help them catch up with

homework or coursework. He also looks for ways to help students develop their knowledge, for example watching clips from National Geographic to improve knowledge of the natural world, and having debates.

Oscar-winning actress Emma Thompson, president of the Teaching Awards said: 'I am genuinely proud and honoured to be the president of the Teaching Awards. I owe so much of what I've done to my fantastic teachers at school and university and it is exciting to join in celebrating what is probably the most important profession of them all.'

Congratulating the shortlisted finalists, Caroline Evans, chief executive of the Teaching Awards said: 'This is a record year for the Teaching Awards with more than 22,000 nominations. Each and every one has been thanked for making a difference to the lives of children and young people.'

The award judges visited the Academy in May to speak to Mr Tse, teachers, governors and pupils, and the results will be announced later in the summer term. We wish Mr Tse the best of luck and congratulate him on getting this far!

# EXAM TIMETABLE

All candidates need to bring with them to the exams:

- A black pen
- A pencil
- A ruler (if required)
- A calculator (if required)
- The exam sheet they were given by their tutor



In addition, students MUST be in full Marsh Academy uniform.

Date	Time	Duration	Title	Level
Mon 06 June	AM	1.30	Economic Understanding	GCSE/B
	PM	1.30	Mathematics Foundation (Non Calc)	GCSE/FC
		1.45	Mathematics Higher (Non Calc)	GCSE/FC
		1.30	Physics at Work	GCE/ASB
Tue 07 June	AM	1.15	GCSE History Surgery c1845-c1918	GCSE/B
		1.30	GCE Citizenship Studies Unit 2	GCE/B
		20 mins	Crit Thinking: Asses & Dev Argmt Mchoice	GCE/B
		1.10	Crit Thinking: Assess & Dev Argmt Wrtn	GCE/B
	PM	30 mins	ADD Science Structured Paper B2	GCSE/FC
		30 mins	ADD Science Structured Paper B2	GCSE/FC
		30 mins	ADD Science Structured Paper C2	GCSE/FC
		30 mins	ADD Science Structured Paper C2	GCSE/FC
		30 mins	ADD Science Structured Paper P2	GCSE/FC
		30 mins	ADD Science Structured Paper P2	GCSE/FC
1.30	GCE Psychology A Unit 2	GCE/B		
Wed 08 June	PM	1.00	Dance Unit 1	GCSE/B
Fri 10 June	AM	1.30	Mathematics Foundation (Calc)	GCSE/FC
		1.45	Mathematics Higher (Calc)	GCSE/FC
		1.30	B.Studies Marketing Decisions	GCE/B
Mon 13 June	AM	1.30	GCE Mathematics Unit PC3	GCE/B
		1.00	Geography B Unit 1 Tier F	GCSE/B
		1.00	Geography B Unit 1 Tier H	GCSE/B
Tue 14 June	AM	1.00	Rel Studies: Ethics Written	GCSE/B
		1.00	Rel Studies B: Ethics 2 Written	GCSE/B
	PM	1.15	Medicine & Treatment	GCSE/B
Wed 15 June	AM	20 mins	ADD Science Multiple Choice B2	GCSE/FC
		20 mins	ADD Science Multiple Choice C2	GCSE/FC
		20 mins	ADD Science Multiple Choice P2	GCSE/FC
		1.30	GCE Citizenship Studies Unit 3	GCE/B
	PM	1.30	GCE Sociology Unit 3	GCE/B
		1.00	Sociology: Sociology Basics Written	GCSE/B
		1.30	Sociology: ScIstn, Cltr & Idnty Wrtn	GCSE/B
Thu 16 Jun	AM	2.30	GCE English Literature A Unit 3	GCE/B
		1.00	Indstrl Tech: Sustainable Dsgn Wrtn	GCSE/B
		1.15	Indstrl Tech: Technical Aspects Wrtn	GCSE/B

Date	Time	Duration	Title	Level
Thu 16 Jun	PM	1.30	GCE Mathematics Unit PC4	GCE/B
		45 mins	Russian Listening	GCSE/B
		55 mins	Russian Reading	GCSE/B
Fri 17 Jun	AM	1.30	GCE Citizenship Studies Unit 4	GCE/B
		1.00	Geography B Unit 2 Tier F	GCSE/B
		1.00	Geography B Unit 2 Tier H	GCSE/B
	PM	20 mins	Core Science Unit B1A	GCSE/FC
		20 mins	Core Science Unit B1B	GCSE/FC
		20 mins	Core Science Unit C1A	GCSE/FC
		20 mins	Core Science Unit C1B	GCSE/FC
		20 mins	Core Science Unit P1A	GCSE/FC
		20 mins	Core Science Unit P1B	GCSE/FC
		2.00	GCE Economics Unit 3	GCE/B
		1.30	GCE Psychology A Unit 3	GCE/B
Mon 20 Jun	AM	1.30	GCE Mathematics Unit D02	GCE/B
		2.00	GCE Sociology Unit 4	GCE/B
		1.45	English: Written Paper: Found. Tier	GCSE/B
		1.45	English: Written Paper: Higher Tier	GCSE/B
Tue 21 Jun	AM	2.00	GCE Psychology A Unit 4	GCE/B
		1.00	Sociology: App Soc Rsrch Tchnqs Wrtn	GCSE/B
		1.35	Physics on the Move	GCE/B
	PM	1.00	Russian Writing	GCSE/B
Wed 22 Jun	PM	1.15	Life in Germany c1919-45	GCSE/B
Thu 23 Jun	AM	2.00	ICT: Systms, Aplctns & Implctns Wrtn	GCE/B
	PM	2.00	GCE Economics Unit 4	GCE/B
		2.00	Designing for the Future	GCE/B
Fri 24 Jun	AM	1.00	Geography B Unit 3 Tier F	GCSE/B
		1.00	Geography B Unit 3 Tier H	GCSE/B
Mon 27 Jun	AM	1.30	Statistics Written Paper (f)	GCSE/B
		2.00	Statistics Written Paper (H)	GCSE/B
		1.35	Physics - Creation/Collapse	GCE/B
TBA			Dance Unit 2	GCSE/B
TBA			Reading	FSKL/L1
TBA			Writing	FSKL/L1
TBA			Reading	FSKL/L2
TBA			Writing	FSKL/L2

**GOOD LUCK TO ALL STUDENTS TAKING EXAMS THIS TERM!**



**KS4 Artist of the Month - Katie Pinn**



The deadline for applying for a new or renewal Kent Freedom Pass is Friday 15th July 2011. Application forms will be available at [www.kent.gov.uk/kentfreedompass](http://www.kent.gov.uk/kentfreedompass) from Monday 6th June 2011.

Passes are available to students in Year 7-11 and cost £100, or £50 for a student in receipt of free school meals.

## BRINGING TALL TALES TO LIFE

Students will be bringing local history to life in June when they perform the "Tall Tales" of Romney Marsh residents.

Folkestone Triennial lead artist Matt Rowe brought the idea of a 'Tall Tales' project to the Marsh Academy with the intention to record the "embellished truths and myths of the British public". Students have trawled locally, collecting a series of field recordings, documentary images and texts, and holding two skills exchanges involving elderly members of the local community sharing skills with students, making this an intergenerational project.

Now, in collaboration with Brenzett, Brookland and St Nicholas Primary Schools and with the help of another local artist, Annie Begley, students have used the Tall Tales told to devise creative art work. A showcase performance of the 'Tall Tales' work will be held at the Marsh Academy Theatre at 2pm on 17th June 2011 with a further performance taking place at the Quarterhouse Theatre in Folkestone on the 29th June 2011 at 6pm. Tickets can be purchased from the Marsh Academy.



**KS3 Artist of the Month - Byron Beeching**

## HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

Free family play events will be taking place from 11am-3pm at the following locations during half term:

Wed 1st June: The Rype, Lydd

Thurs 2nd June: Hythe Swimming Pool

Fri 3rd June: Fairfield Rec, New Romney

For more information, please visit [www.shepway.gov.uk](http://www.shepway.gov.uk) or call 01303 853277



Congratulations to Mrs Hollingsbee, who this month was elected Chairman of Shepway District Council! Here she is at the ceremony with Mrs Luke and Mrs Emptage.

# SPORT



## YEAR 7 SKI TRIPS

Year 7 students visited the Knockhatch Ski and Snowboard Centre this term as part of their 'Learning to Learn' programme in Project Based Learning. All of the students had a brilliant day learning new skills in a different environment.

## SWIMMING GALA



On Thursday 7th April a swimming squad of Year 7-10 students competed in the Shepway Schools Swimming Gala at Hythe Swimming Pool. Events were individual and relay.

All students performed well with special congratulations going to Grace Walker, Vanessa McDowell and Ben Walker who all won their individual events. Grace won the Under-13 Girls 50m backstroke, whilst both Ben and Vanessa achieved new Shepway records in the Under-15 Boys 50m Breaststroke and the Under-13 Girls 50m butterfly respectively. Well done!

## SKY SPORTS LIVING FOR SPORT



Students were extremely fortunate this term to take part in the Sky Sports Living for Sport initiative. The programme uses sport to inspire 11-16 year olds across the UK to be the best they can be, whether that means improving their attainment, their health, their self-esteem, or pushing them to reach their full potential.

England Boxing Champion Hannah Beharry spent a day with students teaching them about how sport had changed her life and using her own story to inspire, as well as putting students through their paces in a boxing session!