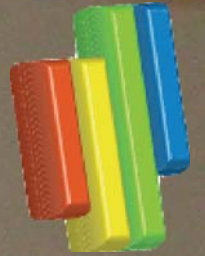


ASPIRE

THE MARSH ACADEMY NEWSLETTER TERM 6 - JULY 2011



Farewell to
Years 11 and
13!

Marsh Academy
Student Awards
Ceremony

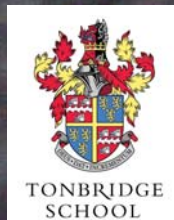
Post-16 students move into
their new facilities

Students star in An
Evening at the
Theatre

Tall Tales for
the Folkestone
Triennial

Year 10 heads out
on work experience

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

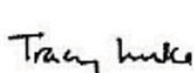
Dear Parents & Carers

We have reached the end of another exciting year for our students. Rewards for attendance, achievement or behaviour have ranged from concerts by artists such as the Hoosiers and Loick Essien to trips to Thorpe Park and Disneyland Paris. Our sporting achievements increase yearly, with badminton and rowing being added this year, not to mention success in swimming, cricket and football. The Year 11 Prom – a first for the Marsh Academy - was a great success and we look forward to this becoming an annual event. We have also been working to strengthen our ties with the community, with key projects being "Tall Tales", in which Year 7 students worked with local residents on a project about Romney Marsh, and the Charivari street carnival parade in Folkestone.

Our Awards Ceremony this term was a pleasure to attend, and we were delighted to see nearly 70 students collecting awards for their achievements and efforts over the year. We are also very proud of our Year 10 students who made an excellent impression on employers when taking part in work experience this term. We are looking forward to receiving this year's exam results, which will reflect the hard work of our Year 10-13 students.

Rest well over the summer, and we look forward to seeing you in September for another great 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 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.

INFORMATION

Marsh Academy, Station Road, New Romney, TN28 8BB
t: 01797 364593 :: w: www.marshacademy.org.uk :: **Absence Line:** 01797 363594

A-Level Results: Thursday 18th August 2011

GCSE Results: Thursday 25th August 2011 (Year 11 at 10am and Year 10 at 12pm)

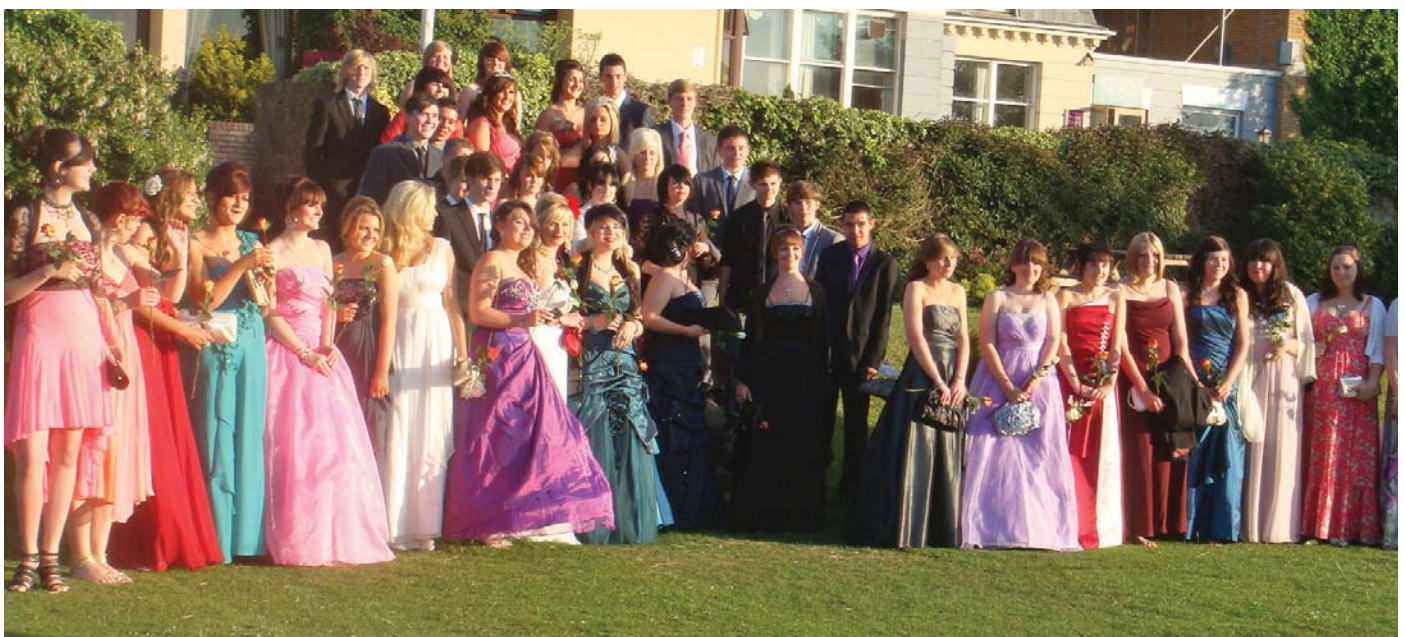
Back to School (years 7, 11 and 12): Friday 2nd September 2011

Back to School (all years): Monday 5th September 2011

Half Term: Wednesday 19th October to Friday 28th October 2011

YEAR 11 PROM

Year 11 students celebrated the end of their exams in style on 1st July when they enjoyed their Prom at the Hythe Imperial Hotel. Students elected Callum and Rachel as their Prom King and Queen (front cover), who led everyone in a dance. We look forward to welcoming back many of our Year 11s to Post-16, and to those who have now left the Academy, we wish them the very best of luck!



CELEBRATING SUCCESS AT STUDENT AWARDS CEREMONY



69 students won prizes at the Academy's annual Awards Ceremony on 1st July 2011. Prizes were awarded in 11 categories, including academic achievement, effort, creativity, sport and attendance. New Romney Town Council sponsored awards for contributions to the school community.

Executive Principal Tracy Luke opened the Ceremony, congratulating the prize winners on their success and their contribution to making the Academy both a "rapidly improving school", as noted by Ofsted in 2010, and an inspiring, exciting place to learn. Mrs Luke also highlighted to guests some of the achievements of students over the past year.

MP for Folkestone and Hythe, Damian Collins, was the special guest speaker at the ceremony. Addressing students and parents, he

talked about success and, encouraging students to really push themselves to succeed, quoted playwright George Bernard Shaw who said: "some people see things as they are and say why? Others dream things that never were and say why not?" He also encouraged students to work in a career that they loved, as this was where they were likely to be most successful.

Following the ceremony, parents and prize winners enjoyed a cream tea whilst mingling with Mr Collins and Councillor Jenny Hollingsbee – Chairman of Shepway District Council and teacher at the Academy! Councillor Hollingsbee said: "It was lovely to be on the other side of the fence, and to see first-hand how well the students presented themselves and engaged with guests - there were some remarkable achievements and all students are to be congratulated."

SNAIL RACE

Members of Miss Wood's tutor group R7 are pictured below with Marley, Hank, Shelley and Brian - African snails that raced to raise £51.40 for Help for Heroes! Thank you to Mr Barratt, who built the race track, and Sophie Barratt and Miss Hutchens, who brought in the snails!



POST-16 MOVE INTO NEW FACILITIES

Post-16 students have now moved into new facilities following a complete re-fit of the old community hall on Station Road. The hall has been split into two rooms - one with computers and a common room area, and the other with desks for group work or quiet study - and can be used by students throughout the school day. Head of Post-16 Pam Upton said: "These new facilities are a fantastic addition to our Post-16 offer, giving students the chance to have their own space away from the main school to both work and relax."



CHARITY NEWS

Blue and Red Mini-Schools have been busy raising money for Help for Heroes - here are just some of the activities they have been getting involved with!

Ms Hutchens and Mrs Hughes cycled from London to Brighton on 19th June and raised over £400 for British Heart Foundation, Help for Heroes and Parkinson's UK - congratulations to them both on a huge achievement!

Mr Healey's tutor group R9 raised money by asking people to guess how many sweets were in a jar.

Red school tutors have really been going the extra mile to help their tutor groups raise money for charity this term! Ms Carlyle-Gordge was sponsored to go on Stealth at Thorpe Park even though she is terrified of heights, whilst Miss Ball is allowing students to throw wet sponges at her! Mr Manzini even helped out his tutor group R3 with their fairy cake sale by dressing as a fairy!

Blue Mini-School has been busy raising money with sweets and cakes! As well as guessing the number of sweets in a jar and raffling a jar of sweets, students have also been baking and selling cakes.

Ms Lawrence's group have been collecting coppers, plus there is a raffle for a stuffed dog that Lottie Worrell, Charlotte Mendham and China-Mae Hutton won at Thorpe Park.

Ms Thomas's tutor group R6 organised a chocolate treasure hunt which raised £50!

Blue Mini-School raised £30 by raffling HMV vouchers.

AN EVENING AT THE THEATRE

Students from across the Academy rounded off two terms of hard work when they performed "An Evening at the Theatre" on 7th July. Students delighted their audience with extracts from Blood Brothers, Oliver, Annie, the Sound of Music and Macbeth.



MUSIC AT MARSH



Students continue to be rewarded for achievement, effort, high attendance and good behaviour with concerts by up-and-coming music stars. This term, performers have included: Parade (top left), a girl group that has supported Shakira, Ellie Goulding and

Alexandra Burke on recent tours and includes X Factor contestant Emily Biggs. Parade had a recent top 10 hit with "Louder"; Ivyrise (bottom left), a rock band that has supported Bon Jovi and Kula Shaker; and Loick Essien (above right), whose single

"How We Roll" is currently at Number 2 in the charts and battling for the top spot! These concerts are always a popular reward for students, and we intend to continue bringing artists in to inspire our students and encourage them to keep trying their best!

MARSH RYDER CUP!

This year's Marsh Academy 'Ryder Cup' Challenge took place at The Romney Warren Golf Club where a number of the students are members and so should have had an advantage over the staff team! This, unfortunately, was not the case as the staff won 9 of the 10 matches to win convincingly! After 14 years, the overall score is now much closer, with the staff winning for the last 3 years in a row! The overall score is now Staff 6 and Students 8! The results this year were:

- Mr Gardiner beat Warron Taylor
- Mr Hodges beat Henry Fulcher
- Mr Domett beat Robert Banks
- Mr Double beat Peter Banks
- Mr Smith beat Joe Symonds
- Mr Fisher beat Luke Roberts
- Mr Kenny beat Connor Myring
- Mr Gransden beat James Beaney
- Mr Healy beat Sophie Daws
- Eddie Goddard beat Mr Bloomfield!

This term, students and staff have been delighted to see some of the resident ducks patrolling the site with their ducklings!



TALL TALES

The Tall Tales performance at the Quarterhouse Theatre in Folkestone was a spectacular event for all involved. After a busy day of lessons, staff and pupils from Brookland, Brenzett, St. Nicholas and the Marsh Academy jumped onto coaches and made a dash to Folkestone for a final dress rehearsal. The actors, dancers, musicians and technical crews from each school made their final adjustments and orientated themselves to new surroundings.

The theatre was packed out as the last dress rehearsal finished and the doors opened. Members of the public squeezed tightly into the theatre and the night began with Sue Dinsdale, Shepway Extended Schools Developmental Manager, who gave her opening speech to thank everyone involved. Marsh Academy Head of School Marion Emptage's

wonderfully woven introduction led seamlessly into the night's first Act.

Brookland Primary School began with a stunning interpretation of Allington Knoll. Fairies climbed out of giant shoes, a band of trolls were whipped into shape by an assertive female troll and a fairy treated the audience to a solo performance of Green Sleeves, followed by a gymnastic display as the trolls were whisked off to Fairyland. In the land of the fairies the trolls had to prove their worth and were all asked to participate in a talent competition which gave the perfect platform for Brookland students to show their prowess for performing. As the opening act drew to a close with loud applause the audience knew that the night's entertainment had begun in style.

The next performance by

Brenzett Primary School was the story of The Lost Boys. As a large green train from the Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch railway travelled across the stage, pupils took the audience back in time to the 1970s, in a very personal story of a family's move to Romney Marsh from Birmingham. Typical of young boys constantly looking for an adventure, two friends set off for the day across the fields of Romney Marsh. Unbeknown to them, their families at home thought they had gone missing and sent out a search party! As the worried people searched for the missing children they sang a haunting song composed by Harry Holier, one of the year 6 pupils. When the boys were finally found and re-united with their family the Brenzett pupils joined together in a heart-warming rendition of the 80's favourite 'Celebration' by Kool and the Gang.



A moving end to the first half was provided by 'Sing United', an intergenerational ensemble, who performed an emotional mix of narrative and harmonious singing with 'In Looking Back'. This original arrangement was a unique composition based upon a four part musical piece. The mix of melodic singing and storytelling moved one audience member to tears as the work reminded her of her late Grandmother. This was a perfect time for a short interval and the end of a truly memorable first half.

Act Two was opened by pupils from St. Nicholas Primary School with a 1935 tale of how Romney Marsh became overrun with Hungarian Frogs! In a culinary mix up EVP Smith, MP for Ashford, bought large Hungarian frogs instead of edible French frogs. St. Nicholas students leaped onto stage with their innovative performance of 'Frogs Got Talent'. They had leaping frogs that could tell the alphabet backwards, kung-fu fighting frogs, Michael Jackson frogs and even exploding frogs!

The Marsh Academy performance saw the re-appearance of a ghost ship that had sunk over 200 years ago, based on students' own recording of the local community's Tall Tales Exchange that was held on the 7th January 2011. 'In 1748 a ship set sail and there was a love triangle on this ship which allegedly caused the ship to be driven onto the Goodwin Sands off Deal. Supposedly everyone was killed; this ship is reported to re-appear every 50 years but as a ghost ship'. This tale was brought to life by pupils dressed in their smugglers outfits just like Russell Thorndike's Dr Syn in 'A Tale from the Romney Marsh', using back projections, cutting-edge dance music and well-choreographed dance moves of smuggling goods and punitive punishments, with the spirits of the fallen sailors taking part in a mysterious ghoulish ghost dance. The piece came to a fitting close as the pupils physically spelt out the title 'Tall Tales'.

Marsh Academy teachers, Miss Brown and Mr Kenny would like to thank everybody

who took part and supported them throughout the project; the evening was a great success because of the all the hard work and amazing talents of the pupils at all the schools and their outstanding teaching staff. A special thanks to Tracy Luke and Marion Emptage for all their support and advice; Allan Holliwell, Brenda Wimble, Patricia Alston, Sir John Mummery and Lady Mummery for their Tall Tales; the actively retired senior citizens who came into the Marsh Academy and shared their memories and sewing skills with our pupils; Trisha Vella-Burrows and 'Sing United' for their professionalism and their touching contribution to the evening; Shepway District Council's Outreach Fund; KCC's Shepway Extended Schools particularly Sam Stevens and Sue Dinsdale; Val Walton and Amanda Oates who made this project possible; and finally Annie Begley and Matt Rowe, the artists in residence who, through their creative genius, brought this project to life.

HEALTHY EATING



Year 10 students studying for their BTEC Health and Social Care qualification have taken part in two lessons with chef Shirley Waters to learn about eating healthily and how to make simple yet healthy meals. The sessions looked



at what types of foods were needed to make up a healthy diet - and in what proportions - and what kinds of meals could be made to make sure that eating healthy wasn't just about eating salads! All of the students had the chance to try

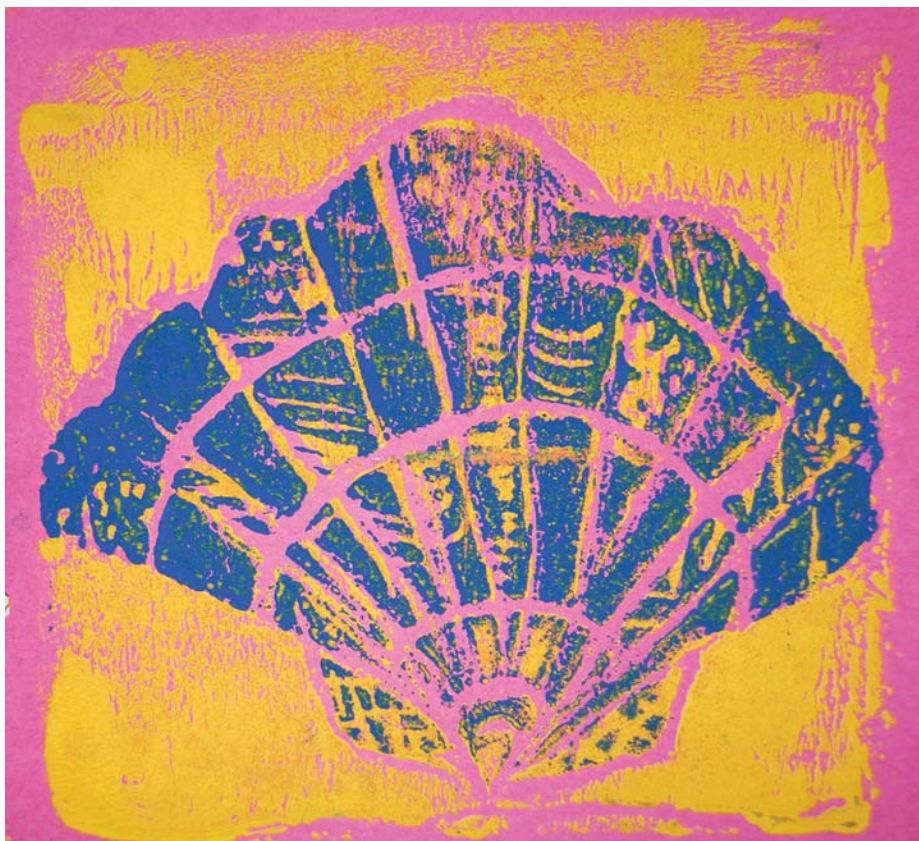
different foods throughout the sessions with many trying things they had never tried before. The sessions were part of a unit dedicated to "Health" in the course and were a chance to put learning into practice.

STUDENTS OF THE YEAR



Year 13 students Shelley Etherton and George Welsby were named Students of the Year at a special Post-16 Leavers Assembly on Friday 8th July. Both students were selected for their outstanding academic achievement after being nominated in all their areas of study for the award. Both students were also recognised for their contribution to the wider school community - George and

Shelley acted as deputies to the Head Boy and Head Girl throughout the year, working with younger students and helping at school events. Angela Jarvis and Hayley Newman were runners up, having been nominated for academic achievement. George and Shelley share a trophy and £50 in book tokens donated by the Canterbury Christchurch University Awards Scheme.



KS4 Artist of the Month - Neelam Ahmad

BICYCLE MARKING

On Wednesday 27th July, between 16:00 and 18:00 local police will be in the carpark at Sainsbury's New Romney as part of their Bicycle Security campaign.

Customers have the opportunity to bring along any bicycles they own which will be security marked, in case of any theft or vandalism of their bicycles. This is a fantastic opportunity to come along, have your bicycle marked and speak with the local police about bicycle security in the area.

COFFEE MORNINGS

This term, each Mini-School and the AEN department has held a coffee morning for parents and carers of students in Years 7-10 to pop in for an informal chat with Mini-School Leaders and Student Development Leaders. These mornings have been a great success and we hope to continue with them next year to make sure that parents and carers have plenty of opportunities to work with the school to support students.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Fit 4 Sport sessions will be held again during the Summer Holidays at the Marsh Academy Leisure Centre. These popular sessions will run from 9am to 3pm on 25-29 July and 1-5 August, and are for children aged 7 to 14 to try a variety of sports activities. The sessions cost £12 per day or £55 for the full week, and applications are available on the Leisure Centre website at www.marshacademyleisure.org.uk. For more information, please contact Sarah Ireland at the Leisure Centre on 01797 369200.

WORK EXPERIENCE



Year 10 students spent two weeks on work experience this term following the completion of their exams. Placements ranged from shop and office work to helping at stables and broadcasting on Romney Marsh FM Online, giving students the opportunity to experience the world of work and explore future career options. Employers were extremely positive about the students on placements, praising their enthusiasm and willingness to take on new tasks.



TOPPING OUT CEREMONY

The Marsh Academy, Kent County Council and construction company Carillion held a topping out ceremony in June to mark a key stage in the construction of the Academy's c.£20 million new building. The final block was laid in the roof, and work has now moved inside the building to prepare classrooms and vocational areas for when students move in in January 2012.

opportunity to learn a wide range of subjects that will equip them for further study or the world of work. It is very important that every student is given the chance to achieve more than they ever thought possible and that is exactly what this academy will do."

Executive Principal, Tracy Luke, said: "Today is a very important milestone in the development of our new building, and brings us one step closer to seeing our students learning in a state-of-the-art facility that will allow each of them to pursue his or her strengths and aspirations."

KCC Cabinet Member for Education, Learning and Skills, Sarah Hohler, who was officiating, said: "I am delighted to be part of this ceremony. I have visited the academy as it has taken shape and I am very impressed with the facilities it will offer. This academy will give young people the



HEALTHY WEEK

Year 7 and 8 students spent a week in July taking part in a "healthy week" as part of the Academy's commitment to being a Healthy School. The week focussed on healthy eating, exercise and relaxation, and included activities from Zumba to circus skills!

Both Monday and Tuesday saw students enjoying concerts by British rapper PW and US singer Ashley Noot, with teachers emphasising the importance of taking time out to enjoy fun activities and also the positive influence of music.

On Tuesday, students had the chance to think about healthy eating and exercise when they made fruit smoothies using a blender powered by a bicycle; they also had a go at circus skills, testing their juggling skills and trying to get their balance on unicycles!

Wednesday saw all students take part in a full day of PE activities including rowing, badminton, spot kicks and fitness tests.

Thursday was a busy day for all, with classes rotating between relaxation, body art

and belly dance activities, as well as sessions with the Body Shop and talks on careers.

Finally, Friday saw students having a go at dance fitness craze Zumba and joining a human foosball table! Students also made their way across a giant inflatable assault course with impressive energy!

All students thoroughly enjoyed their week away from the curriculum learning that being healthy doesn't have to be boring and the importance of looking after yourself.



LEISURE CENTRE IS TEN YEARS OLD!

The Marsh Academy Leisure Centre celebrated its 10th birthday this term! The Centre, funded primarily by Sport England, opened on 22 June 2001, and has in its 10 years gone from strength to strength as an important community venue and hub of activity.

The Centre employs up to 25 full- and part-time members of staff at any one time, and has over 800 members signed up to use the facilities. As Romney Marsh's largest leisure facility, the Centre has around 1000 visits a week from residents looking to use the gym, sauna, exercise studio and indoor and outdoor courts. An exciting range of clubs and courses, from salsa and boxing to archery and football, also keeps people coming back! As well as helping users to improve their fitness, the Centre has become popular for pampering, with beauty treatments and tanning booths on offer to both members and non-members.



The Centre stages events and holiday activities, including the recent Romney Marsh Skills Festival, a football festival and the popular "Fit4Sport" programme for students during half term. These activities attract visitors from all around the UK.

One of the Centre's biggest advocates is 85-year-old Stephanie Leslie, who joined the Centre when she was put on a weight-loss course by her doctor. Four years and

four stones later, Mrs Leslie is still attending the gym four to five times a week, and says "some days I'll wake up feeling groggy and going to the gym completely invigorates me. It's also a great social event – it's a really friendly atmosphere!"

Leisure Centre Manager, Jason Mahoney, said: "We are extremely proud of how important the Leisure Centre has become to the community over the last ten years, and we are very grateful to local residents for all of their support. We aim to provide the best possible facilities and hope to encourage as many people as possible to try them."

To celebrate the occasion, the Leisure Centre is offering residents a free, three-day trial, during which they will be able to use the gym, take part in an exercise class and relax in the sauna and steam rooms. To take advantage of this offer, please visit www.marshacademyleisure.org.uk to download your voucher.



Key Stage 3 Arist of the Month
Jasmine Gillingham

IN BRIEF

In the new term, the cost of a main meal in the canteen will increase to £2.10. This is the first increase in the cost of a main meal in over 7 years and reflects increasing food prices.

China-Mae Hutton, Year 9, was shortlisted for a Try Angle Award for Personal Achievement in Sport, whilst all of the Year 7 students involved in "Tall Tales" were nominated for awards for Personal Achievement in the Arts. Congratulations to all of them!

SPORT

Peter Banks (Year 7) and his brother Robert in Year 9 have recently joined Folkestone Rowing Club. They train twice a week with Peter recently competing in his first ever regatta, racing over 2000 metres.

Both boys regularly row in double and quad sculls, where the rower has two oars. They have both shown an exceptional level of dedication to the sport and have become very proficient rowers in a short space of time. Their interest in rowing first started when they were introduced to the rowing machines by Mr Double, who then entered Peter into the County Championships. Robert then took up the sport alongside his brother.

Peter is hoping to attend a week long residential course at Eton next year. We wish both boys every success in their rowing careers and racing schedule this year. It is nice to see our pupils taking their outside interests further and showing real pride in their achievements.



ROWING AT ETON

Student Shannon-Anne Blackman is spending the last week of school in July at Eton on a special course for young people who have shown talent in rowing. On the course, which the Academy has supported Shannon with, Shannon will learn to row, steer and navigate several types of boat, as well as learning to kayak. She will also visit the famous Leander Boat Club (the most success-

ful rowing club in the country), hear from a famous guest speaker and see the Eton procession of boats. Shannon took up indoor rowing at the Academy last November and has already been placed in the top three in her age group in the country; it was her outstanding achievements in rowing both at the Academy and at Folkestone Rowing Club that led to her being recommended for the course.

MARTIAL ARTS

Congratulations to China-Mae Hutton, who won five trophies at the Martial Arts All Styles International Federation Summer Open in June. China (13) achieved 3rd place in kata, 2nd place in point sparring over 15's and 2nd place in weapons with a samurai sword. She also took 1st place in point sparring under 15's and 1st place in continuous sparring.

SPORTS ROUND UP

Shepway Cricket League

23 June - Year 10 vs Brockhill

A convincing win at home - Year 10 reached 100 and then bowled out Brockhill for 88

23 June - Year 7 & 8 vs Brockhill

Marsh Academy totalled a score of 75 all out and in reply Brockhill were on 64 for 9 wickets and the last pair managed to hold out for the win. A good first league game for many year 7 students new to cricket.

Year 10 vs Castle Community College

Another win for the year 10's opening the batting and scoring 105 and in reply Castle could only manage 80 all out. Good bowling from Joe Symonds.

Year 7 & 8 vs Dover Grammar

The Marsh Academy scored 30 all out whilst Dover scored an impressive 120 for 7.

Year 10 vs Dover Grammar

Marsh batted first and scored 86 for 9 wickets; in reply Dover ticked off the runs with 10 overs remaining.

Kent Cricket Cup

Year 9 vs Ashford School

Year 9 batted first and scored a respectable 100 all out, with top scores from Tom Carr. In reply Ashford made steady progress and reached the total with 4 overs to spare. A good performance by the Year 9s to reach the 3rd round.

Athletics

Year 7 & 8 Athletics Competition - Julie Rose Stadium

A really good performance from many individuals. Marsh Academy had over 40 athletes participating in all the events. No event went unfilled and all students had an enjoyable day. Particular individual performances were noted by coaches from Ashford Athletics Club. Peter Banks won the long jump for Year 7 Boys with a distance of 4.70m. He also came second in the 200m. Ben Edgar won the Year 7 Boys high jump with a height of 1.40m.

