



# MARDEN NEWS

## March 2024 End of Term Edition



Spring Term Highlights PE Extracurricular Activities, Science Week, VEX Robotics and Sir Alan Campbell MP Visit

Featuring

Business

English & Media

RE

Message from  
The Headteacher

Design &  
Technology

Geography

Science

Literacy at Marden

Drama

PE





Thursday 28th March 2024

Dear All

It is a sense of leadership and agency that people often attribute to our students and currently we are seeing examples of both on a school, local and national level. A group of students from the school Cabinet met last week to begin work on the Plastic Free Schools project that we as a school are conducting alongside Surfers Against Sewage. Seeing sewage pumped into the waters so close to our coastal school is something deeply concerning not only to our current generation but to those in the future and therefore our students are working hard to ensure that their voices are being heard in calling for a review of the current practice by water companies. This work, which includes communication with local government, sits alongside the visit some of our Year 8 students undertook last week to the Young People's Conference where youth democracy and careers education were discussed and explored. This brilliant event, hosted by North Tyneside's youth parliament members and young mayor, will feed into our Personal Development curriculum and Careers work that form part of the school's School Development Plan.

I often refer to the African proverb that it takes a whole village to raise a child. In this spirit, we are informed from time to time about malicious WhatsApp groups that tend to include children from multiple schools, both primary and secondary. These chat groups can include encouragement to perform self harm as well as containing other inappropriate content. WhatsApp is meant for users aged 16+ but young people often use Whatsapp in a way to stay in touch with groups of friends and family without the privacy features older people employ such as end to end encryption and the ability to block certain numbers. Meanwhile, as WhatsApp makes use of a phone number rather than an account, a child can be added, by using the phone number, to groups at any time. WhatsApp, alongside other social media apps can be effectively used when fully understood, but it can also be something that causes great harm, therefore education and support can be found [on the NSPCC website](#), as well as on the [Marden e-safety pages](#). If you have any concerns about your child's use of the internet and would like to speak to someone at school, do contact the Head of Year or a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

This week marks the end of our Spring Term, and the start of our Easter break. Easter is a Christian holiday observing the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and we support members of our school community celebrating this holiday. According to Christian history, Jesus was crucified on a Friday (Good Friday) and rose again three days later on Easter Sunday. Meanwhile, Eid al-Fitr, sometimes referred to as the Festival of Sweets, takes place during the second week of the holiday. During Eid, one of the most common things you'll hear people say to one another is "Eid Mubarak" This translates to "blessed Eid" and is a way of expressing celebration. Eid al-Fitr marks the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of Ramadan.

I would like to remind everyone about the wealth of information and rich resources that can be found on the [Subject Clouds on our school website](#). Curated by members of staff from each department in school, this area of the website is very useful for students of all ages - as well as their parents and carers - supporting them in a range of activities including revision, homework, careers research, or simply consolidating what has been learned in a particular lesson. For parents and carers this is a particularly good place to be able to quickly find out what their child is studying at different times of the year.

On Wednesday April 17th, Year 8 Parents/Carers will receive a DC2 report for their children. There will then be two events for parents to discuss their child's progress. On Thursday the 18th April Parents/Carers are invited to come in to look at their child's books on a drop in basis between 4.30pm and 6.00pm. Mrs Stafford and SLT will be available to chat to in the LRC. Then on Tuesday 23rd April there will be a remote Parents' Evening where parents can book appointments with subject teachers. These appointments will be live from 4.00pm on Wednesday April 17th.

The Year 7 Netball girls were away at John Spence on Monday evening, to compete in the U12 North Tyneside Netball Tournament, against eight other schools. They were successful against St. Thomas More, Kings Priory and Marden Bridge Middle School in their pool, with 9-2, 7-0 and 7-1 wins, respectively. After winning their semi-final against Valley Gardens, they went on to play the final against John Spence. After a very competitive game, the Marden team finished runners up in the competition. Excellent teamwork was shown by all.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Year 8 boys football team played the quarter final of the North Tyneside schools cup away to George Stephenson High School. The Marden team settled into the game very quickly, scoring two goals in the opening 5 minutes. The hosts hit back before half time, scoring three times to take the advantage into the half time break. The

Marden team came back at their opponents in the second half, scoring three more of their own before George Stephenson High managed to hit back to make the score 5-4 to Marden going into the final 5 minutes. Some stoic defending from the visitors kept the scoreline the same up to the final whistle. The boys were magnificent in their win and look forward to the semi final after the Easter break.

On Wednesday, it was the turn of the Year 7 girls football team as they played in the North Tyneside 7-a-side competition at Cochrane Park. Such is the strength in depth of the squad, Marden were able to enter two teams into this tournament. Both teams played excellent football and topped their respective groups moving into the semi finals. Both teams faced tough opposition in the semis With Marden 'A' playing John Spence and Marden 'B' playing Longbenton High. The 'A' team were defeated 2-0 in their game, with the 'B' team winning 1-0 and progressing to the final. The 'A' team played Longbenton in the 3rd place play off and managed to score the only goal of the game to claim 3rd spot. The 'B' team faced John Spence in the final and after a closely fought contest, the score remained 0-0 heading into the final minute. Marden never gave up hope and managed to score a superb winning goal in the dying seconds to take the title and move on to represent North Tyneside Schools in the County competition next term. A wonderful achievement for the team.

Year 10 students, soon to be the oldest students in the school, will have the opportunity to apply to be a prefect this coming term. Whilst there is an expectation that all students should be good role models, this expectation is heightened for those who will become prefects through the positive actions they take, from mentoring younger children to running lunchtime or sports clubs for other students. There will be details shared with students about the application process when we return for the summer term, and I am very much looking forward to reading the applications. From what I know of this year group, I expect they will be of a very high quality.

Thank you for your continued support, wishing you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break.



Mr M. Snape  
Head Teacher



Marden High School GCSE Business students have had a very busy half term. Y11 have continued to feverishly work towards their GCSE exams diving head first into full revision mode to solidify the content to the best of their abilities using a range of different revision strategies including flashcards, mindmaps & exam questions. Their first exam is fast approaching with Paper 1 on 14th May.

In Y10, students have not only been learning about the theoretical underpinnings of business, but have been working hard to secure their work experience placements for July. For this week they will be able to witness business in action first hand and see where their knowledge and understanding comes into play. By undertaking a week-long work experience placement, Y10 students have the chance to put their theory into practice, and witness what they see in textbooks and lessons and see what happens in the wider business world. We look forward to hearing all about their work experience and how they can apply what they've seen to what they've been studying. Work experience is often the first chance to begin to form an answer to the age-long question of "What do you want to do when you're older?". We're sure Y10 will find work experience both enjoyable and enlightening.

Miss D Parker

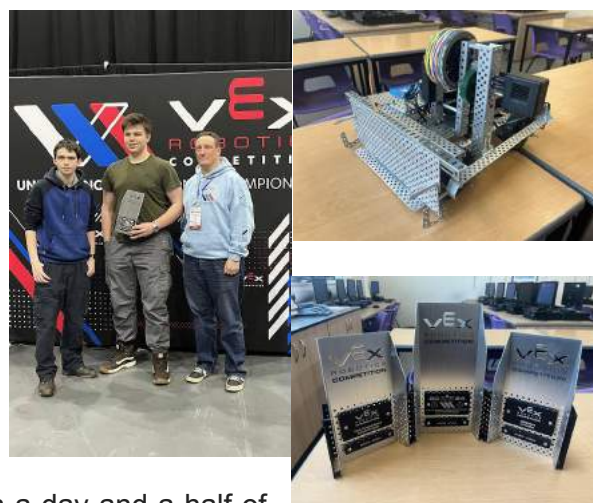


This term always proves our busiest in Technology with GCSE classes working towards NEA deadlines in all subject areas ahead of preparing for their summer exams. In Engineering and Design and Technology students have been busy in the workshops completing the practical units of their work, with the Engineers following plans to produce an accuracy desk lamp, and the D&T group creating prototypes of their own design solutions. It's always a fantastic sight to see our students independently setting up and using machinery and the determination and resilience shown to achieve the highest possible quality. In Food preparation and Nutrition students have also been continuing with the NEA course, but this section unit involves the all important 3 hour assessed practical which has happened this half term. Here students have 3 hours to prepare and present 3 dishes they have developed and reviewed with a chosen focus such as specific nutritional needs or cultural influences. Our Child Development groups have also been working towards finalising their NEA units ahead of the deadline, with students reviewing and refining their research investigations.

Although our focus has been on ensuring these classes get the very best opportunities we can provide, we have continued to be busy outside of the curriculum with various extra curricular activities for students.

## Vex Robotics

Our Vex Robotics team has been back in action again with this year's competition Over Under. The students had a successful day out at the regional competition at Nissan Sports and Leisure Complex back in January and came away with 2 awards. Their first success was for their engineering notebook and the reflection upon different iterations of their design, The 2nd was for Tournament Champions, winning the whole event along with their alliance team Tanfield School. This gained them a spot at Nationals down in Telford at the beginning of March. In Telford, up against 63 other schools from all over England, the students took part in a day and a half of qualification matches and were the top performing north east school for much of these matches.



They were eventually knocked out in the final rounds of 16 on day 2. The students were an absolute credit to the school and managed to walk away with an award for their sportsmanship. This Judges award was given to them by members of external companies and was awarded to them for their conduct whilst in the arena where they were noted to be supportive of their alliance team members and were praised for how they spoke to others throughout both days. Well done to both boys on their achievement!

## First Lego League

Having spent many weeks preparing their robot design and developing strategies to compete against schools from across the region I had the pleasure of taking 4 Year 8 boys to the Nissan Sports and Leisure complex in Sunderland. The boys demonstrated fantastic teamwork and communication skills, beginning the day with little confidence due to the complexity and range of tasks in this year's competition, but used their time well to amend their plans and coding to develop a strategy that proved one of the most effective; winning the knockout competition that took place between all of the schools. As a teacher it's great to be able to step back and watch children working together, identifying one another's skill sets and using this to overcome problems. Although we didn't come home overall winners, the day was a fantastic opportunity to develop their skills further as well as being great fun.



## TICE

Year 9 students have again taken on the TICE Fashion Challenge, students have engaged fantastically with this task, working independently on their own research projects and briefs to develop and model their own fashion solutions. Earlier this term the group were also lucky enough to visit Northumbria University, getting an insight into the fashion courses held there and an opportunity to work with industry professionals and university staff in developing prototypes of their own.



Ms K Nicholls

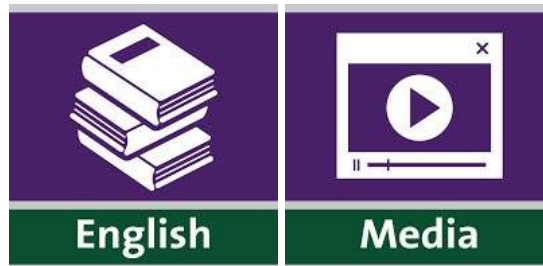


Wow! It's been a busy term in the Drama curriculum. After weeks of preparation, Year 11 students are nearing their performance exam on 28 March. We're very proud of how our students have shown enthusiasm and motivation throughout the rehearsal process. Good Luck to 11B - you're going to be fantastic!

Meanwhile Year 10 students have been developing their skills in preparation for their devising project which was launched earlier this week. We're looking forward to seeing some thought-provoking performances once again from our GCSE Drama students later next term.

Key Stage 3 students have been exploring Blood Brothers and Diversity. Our Year 7 students have enjoyed a busy term too, exploring Shakespeare where they've had opportunities to develop skills in sword fighting, masks, props and costume. Next term students will begin to develop their skills in off text improvisation for the scripted play, 'Our Day Out'. In addition to the main curriculum, Year 7 students will begin their Arts Award EXPLORE qualification next term. We have some great activities planned for the last week of term. Students will have the opportunity to work alongside local artists and practitioners in their exploration of the arts.

Mrs S Berriman



## The Be All: An English Podcast

Our English department podcast has continued this term with an array of interesting topics and discussions! There have been some exciting celebrations on the literary calendar this term so naturally *The Be All* had to honour these with our own podcast specials: this started with our Charles Dickens day episode discussing all things Dickens with a very special Top of the Pops style countdown of the top ten Dickens novels - have a listen (if you haven't already) and see if you agree! We then, of course, moved onto a World Book Day special; interviewing both students and staff about their favourite books and Mr Horn's WBD quiz was a highlight that many students enjoyed completing independently for extra house points. As we move towards the Year 11 GCSE exams our latest episodes have moved back towards exam preparation and discussions of exemplary question papers from our past students - these (as well as previous Year 11 focused episodes) are fantastic revision resources that all Year 11 students have access to. All are available on the [English Subject Cloud](#) available on our website.



## Reading for Pleasure

This term our fortnightly KS3 *Reading for Pleasure* lessons have engaged students through exploring new books, reading extracts from their own novels, exploring the wide range of excellent World Book Day competitions and creating projects on their most memorable reading experiences. Some classes in particular have enjoyed exploring canonical books (or books they feel should make it into the literary canon) and have created superb presentations to give to their classes outlining their viewpoint on their chosen texts. Here are some examples of this brilliant work:





**Stuart**

**KEYWORDS:**

- REVERIE.
- INFALLIBLE.
- JUDICIOUS.
- PORTENTOUS.
- LEVIATHAN.
- PONDEROUS.
- REVELRY.
- FARRAGO.

**QUIZ**

First students to answer correctly will be awarded house points.

- When was the Boy In The Striped Pajamas set?
- Why did they move to Auschwitz?
- How did the two boys meet?
- Who is the author of The Boy In The Striped Pajamas?

**The Wind in the Willows**

*The summary and the Key ideas*

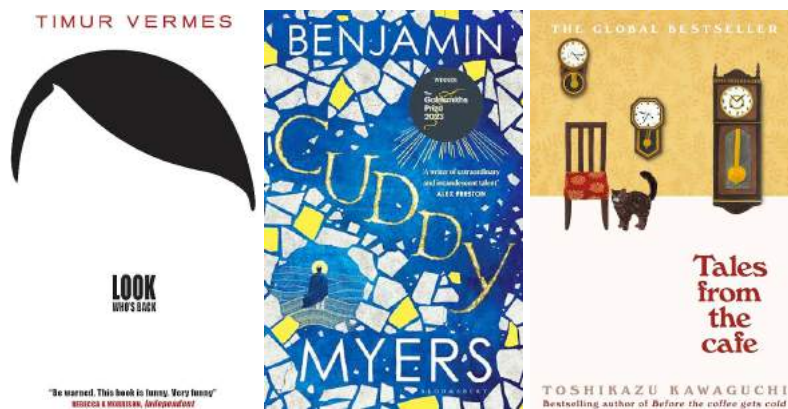
## Sir Alan Campbell MP Visit

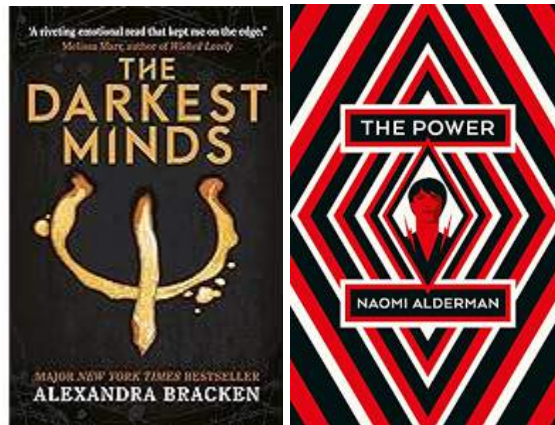
On Friday 15th March we welcomed local MP Sir Alan Campbell into school to talk to our Year 9 students in a Question Time style lecture in the Auditorium. This links to our current Year 9 topic on social injustice whereby students have studied a number of poems, articles and texts (including the critically acclaimed film: I, Daniel Blake) linked to this theme. Because of the students' thoughtful responses to this study, each English class was able to come up with mature and insightful questions to ask Sir Alan during his talk: these questions linked to topics about the extensive CAMHS waiting list, the cost of living crisis, the European Union and how young people can get more involved in politics. Students have then been using their research, discussion, and indeed, Sir Alan's talk to inspire their own protest poetry, viewpoint writing and some students have even been inspired to write letters to Parliament about topics they feel strongly about.



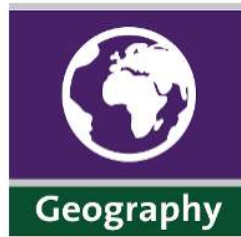
## Here is what your English & Media teachers have on their Spring Reading List:

- Mr Horn:** *Look Who's Back* by Timur Vermes  
**Mrs Cathcart:** *Tales from the Cafe* by Toshikazu Kawaguchi  
**Miss Laing:** *Good Material* by Dolly Alderton  
**Miss Boyle:** *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig  
**Mr Ranson:** *Cuddy* by Benjamin Myers  
**Ms Taylor:** *See What You're Missing* by Will Gompertz  
**Miss Lees:** *The Power* by Naomi Alderman  
**Mrs Eastlake:** *The Darkest Minds* by Alexandra Bracken





Mrs E Cathcart



Students have been studying their final topic, Changing Economic World. It has been lovely to see students engaging well with this topic particularly around topical issues such as the development of HS2 and Heathrow airport. This week, Year 11 students received the pre-release booklet for their Paper 3 exam. Students can find lots of resources to support them in their preparation on their Google Classroom, including video clips, interactive flashcards and infographics.

Year 10 students have been studying the Paper 1 Topic Hazards. They have taken a mature approach to their studies by completing revision resources as homework at the end of each topic. This topic highlighted to students the relevance of the subject with numerous natural hazards being in the news whilst they studied the topic. As a department we are currently planning GCSE fieldwork, we are really looking forward to being able to get back out into the field again with our students! We will be completing two fieldwork enquiries, one physical and one human. Both trips allow the students the opportunity to develop their geographical and enquiry skills outside of the classroom environment.

Year 9 students have been studying the topic of Extreme Events. Students have enjoyed learning about different extreme events and in particular tornadoes and hurricanes. Students have produced some excellent presentations on storm chasing in the USA.

Year 8 students have been studying the topic of Rivers and Flooding. This has allowed students to understand the natural processes around us and to gain a wider understanding in the world in which we live. With all the extreme weather that we have been experiencing over recent years, it has been very easy to link our classroom based learning to issues in the news. Carrying on with the creativity theme, students wrote stories outlining the hydrological cycle.

Year 7 students have been studying Climate Change this term. The topic ended with a cross curricular project with the Science Department. The project was supported by Jane Austin and Matthew Hobbs from Wave Utilities who launched the project in a Year 7 assembly. Across two weeks their Science and Geography lessons looked at Water Conservation and Sustainability. Over the fortnight the students participated in a range of lessons to help raise awareness of water conservation at both a global and local scale, culminating in a creative task of designing a sustainable school. They used their creativity, resilience and team building skills to plan the design of their school. It was great to listen to all the conversations the students were having regarding water conservation, sustainability and protecting the environment. Jane and Matthew came back into school to listen to the students present their ideas, and they were so impressed that they chose six of the designs to feature on the Wave website. We are lucky to have students with such a good understanding of their role in environmental stewardship.

Miss C Robson



## House games

This term has seen over 200 Marden pupils take part in the House games tournaments, with all Year groups competing in Football and Netball competitions. All fixtures were played in a fantastic spirit and the games themselves were fiercely competitive. Congratulations to the winning Houses in each competition:

### Football:

- Year 7 - Bambrough
- Year 8 - Alnwick
- Year 9 - Warkworth
- Year 10 - Warkworth
- Year 11 - Warkworth

### Netball:

- Year 7 - Alnwick
- Year 8 - Alnwick
- Year 9 - Bambrough
- Year 10 - Dunstanburgh
- Year 11 - Alnwick

The overall winners of the House games were Alnwick, triumphing in 4 of the 10 competitions.

## Extracurricular activities

Pupils have continued to enjoy the extracurricular activities on offer this term, with activities moving indoors due to the dark nights. Pupils have taken part in clubs for Volleyball, Table Tennis, Badminton, Netball and Futsal. All pupils are welcome to attend extracurricular clubs, and more information is available from the PE staff.

## Football

League and cup fixtures took a break during the winter months, with only the 7-a-side central venue tournaments taking place during January and February. Boys and girls from all Year groups represented the school in these competitions, with many Marden teams leading their respective leagues after this round of games. The final round for these competitions will be early in the summer term and we wish all teams the best of luck.

March saw the recommencement of the league and cup competitions with the Year 7, 8, 9 and 11 boys teams all through to the Quarter-Final stage of the North Tyneside Schools Cup competitions. All 4 teams have performed brilliantly in the games they have had and are looking forward to potential Cup Finals early in the summer term.

The Year 8 Girls team were in action again, after the winter break, playing against Valley Gardens Middle School in a friendly game. Despite losing to Valley earlier in the season, the girls showed great spirit and determination to win 2-0.



## Netball

The Marden High Netball teams have continued to dominate the local schools leagues in the spring term, with all teams gathering wins in their games this term. The Year 9 team remain unbeaten in their North Tyneside league and knockout tournament, claiming the top spot in both competitions. The Year 8 team finished as runners up in the knockout tournament, whilst the Year 7 team have theirs in the final week of term. We wish them the very best of luck. The Year 10/11 team have also had a positive end to their season, finishing in 2nd place in the league.



## Rugby

The Year 8 and 9 Boys, along with the Year 9 Girls, rugby teams competed in the Coastal Schools competitions this term, playing schools from North Tyneside, Newcastle and Blyth. The Year 8 boys team also played in the County 7s festival at Percy Park where they came away with a record of one win, one draw and two defeats.

The Year 9 boys team were frustrated when their County 7s festival was cancelled due to bad weather, but have made the most of their opportunities when they have come their way. They have enjoyed a largely successful term, playing four games, winning three and losing one.



The Year 9 Girls rugby team continues to go from strength to strength, with more girls joining the team all the time. Like their counterparts in the boys team, they too saw their County 7s festival cancelled, but have managed to play games against Kings Priory and Dame Allens. In both of these matches, the Marden girls were formidable, winning both and showing their growing love of the game through the smiles on their faces.



The Newly formed Year 7 girls team will be in action in the last week of term in their Coastal schools competition. We wish them the best of luck!

## Dance

This term we saw Marden High pupils take part in the North Tyneside Dance Festival at The Parks Sports centre and Whitley Bay Playhouse. The dance festival is a celebration of different genres of dance and one of the highlights of the year. Our dance group performed alongside ten primary and secondary schools in North Tyneside, and their hard work, commitment to dance rehearsals and effort was apparent in both performances.



## Basketball

The U14 and U16 Basketball teams have enjoyed great success in their North Tyneside tournaments this term, with both teams progressing to represent North Tyneside at the Regional finals held at the Newcastle Eagles Basketball arena. The U 14s narrowly missed out on the final of the regional competition, after losing their first6 game of the group stage. They finished in 4th place overall, a great achievement for the team as they hope to go one better and make the final next time out.



The U14 team managed to go one better, progressing from the group stage to the semi-finals, where they were unlucky to lose by a last second shot to beat the buzzer. In the 3rd place play off, they put the semi-final disappointment behind them to win the game and claim the 3 rd spot in the tournament.

Mr G Smith



This term in RE year 8 students have been looking at the concept of human rights and social justice. As this coincided with Holocaust memorial day we spent some time looking at the Holocaust and how this dark event in history influenced the human rights we have today. During our lessons we explored the stories of those lucky enough to survive, and thought carefully about the emotions of both victims and perpetrators. Trying to analyse why people are capable of doing such terrible things to others is extremely important in terms of identifying and preventing injustice today. We have discussed at length how during this time in history while we did see the very worst of humanity, we also saw some of the very best of humanity. People who put themselves at risk to save others demonstrates the capacity of humans to love. British heroes of the Holocaust such as Nicholas Winton and Frank Foley were the epitome of this, and students enjoyed very much learning about their stories.



Mrs C MacLeod



Students designed a **sustainable school**, focusing on **water** and **energy** efficiency. Some students presenting their designs in class.



**Cross-curricular project  
Science and Geography**

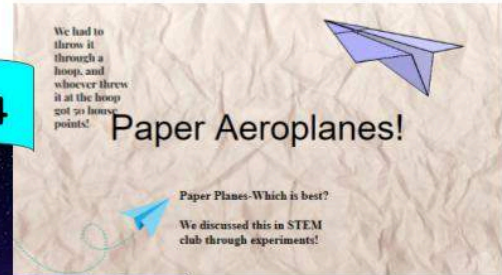


In Science, our year 7 students have been working alongside Geography on a **water project**. We have studied the **local & global issues** with water and how **climate change** affects our water supply.





Spring Term 24



STEM Club  
What have we done recently?



The science ambassadors have been busy this term going in to Monkhouse primary school on Wednesdays after school to deliver some science activities to younger students.



Science Ambassadors at primary schools

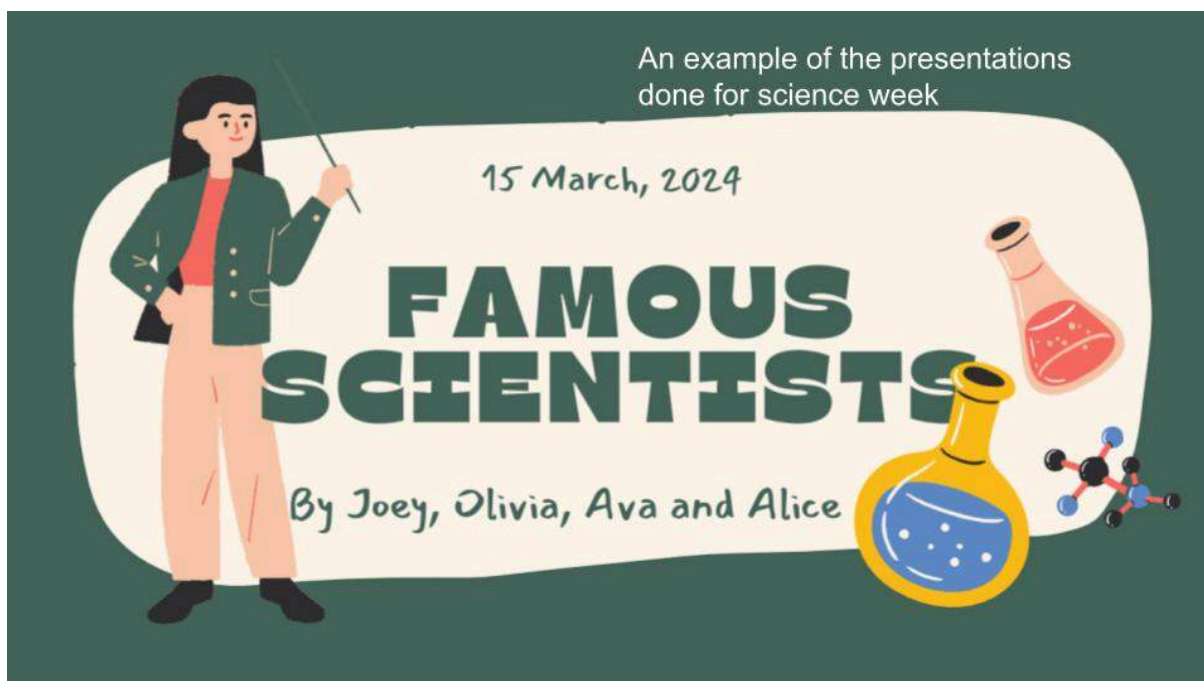


They have also been to Cullercoats primary school with Mrs Atkinson for science week activities with the youngest members of the school, reception and year 1. The little ones were enthralled by the elephant toothpaste and whoosh bottle experiments.

### What's happening in science lessons and science week 2024

We have continued with our aims to improve scientific literacy and language development by observing each other teaching different topics using literacy activities. As a department we are committed to helping students to improve their understanding of how science fits into the world around them as well as enjoying lessons and moving on to the next stage of their lives with the best qualifications they can. With this in mind, year 11 have completed their final set of mocks and year 10 are preparing for the first set of exams they will do. We look forward to seeing how year 11 do in the summer.

Careers remain a major focus in lessons and beyond and we deliver lessons which look at how science lessons relate to careers in science. This was also a focus in our science week activities when we looked at hidden heroes in science, people who did not get the recognition they deserved when they made their discoveries like Mary Anning and Alan Turing. This also brings into focus the discrimination experienced by protected groups in the past and how important inclusion is to ensure that people are recognised for their skills and abilities rather than their ethnicity, race, religion etc.



## ~ Katherine Johnson ~

Katherine Johnson was born in 1918 in west virginia. She was top of her classes in school and afterschool became a mathematician for Nasa where she was chosen to help with maths for the orbit of earth by John glenn. She died the 24 of february 2020.



## Alan Turing

By Alice Bain



Alan Turing was a computer scientist during World War Two, and lots of his discoveries were the foundations for the modern computer.



He was born in 1912 to a civil servant and went to a private school. In 1939, at the start of WW2, he began working at Bletchley Park cracking codes for British Intelligence.

He helped to design a machine to break the German Enigma code. He received very little recognition for this as most of his work was top secret. He also made something called the Turing Test, the foundation for AI.

In 1952, Turing was convicted for being in a relationship with a man - something which was illegal at the time. He was chemically castrated and was found dead in 1954 as a result of cyanide poisoning, thought to be suicide. He has been posthumously pardoned and recognised as a national hero.



## - Ida Noddack -

Ida Noddack was born in 1896, and was a German chemist and physicist. In 1934, she became the first scientist to suggest the idea of nuclear fission. Later, Ida Noddack, her husband Walter Noddack and Otto Berg discovered element 75 called 'rhenium'.

She was recognised for her work, being nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in Chemistry 3 times.

## -Mary Anning-

**Mary Anning Was a Paleontologist and Fossil collector.**

Around 1811, when Mary was 12, Joseph found a strange-looking fossilised skull. Mary then searched for and painstakingly dug the outline of its 5.2-metre-long skeleton. Scientists thought this was a crocodile. At the time most people assumed that unearthed, unrecognisable creatures had simply migrated to far-off lands.



In 1823 Mary was the first to discover the complete skeleton of a *Plesiosaurus*, meaning 'near to reptile'. So strange was the specimen and so quickly had the news spread that soon there were rumours that the fossil was a fake.



### ~ Mary Jackson ~

Mary Jackson was born April 1921 in Virginia. In 1951 she started working at a computer at NASA and in 1958 she overcame the barriers of segregation and the gender biases NASA's first black female engineer and in the same year she also co-authored her first report on the effects of nose angle and Mach number on transition on cones at supersonic speed. She was also a leader, ensuring the equal opportunities for the future generation to come. However, she unfortunately died in February of 2005.



### - Nettie Stevens -

Nettie Stevens was born on July 7th 1861 in Cavendish Vermont USA, and was the first scientist to discover your gender is determined by chromosomes. In 1910, she was recognized as one of the top 1000 'men of science', being one of the only 18 females recognized that year. By 1912, she was finally offered a research professorship and Bryn Mawr, but before she began this role, she died of breast cancer, aged 50 (4 May, 1912).



## -Marie Curie-

Marie Curie was a Polish and naturalised-French physicist and chemist who conducted pioneering research on radioactivity. She was the first woman to win a nobel peace prize and the first woman to win 2 nobel peace prizes, and the only person to win a nobel peace prize in two scientific fields.



Maria was born in Warsaw, Poland but later moved to France and proceeded with her studies of physics, chemistry, and mathematics at the University of Paris. She died on the 4th July 1934



## -Dorothy Vaughan-

Dorothy Vaughan was born on the 20th of September 1910, in Kansas City, Missouri, USA. She joined the new Analysis and computation Division in NASA, becoming an expert Fortran programmer, and worked on the Scout (solid controlled orbital utility test) launch vehicle program, which was one of the nation's most successful and reliable launch vehicles, used for launching a 385-pound satellite into a 500 mile orbit. She unfortunately died on the 10th of November 2008 at 98.

Mrs C Atkinson



## The Library Book of the Week: Spring Term Reads for the

### Easter Holidays

Each week the *Library Club* selects a book for students to read an extract from together in form time. Literacy Leaders lead the discussion and it offers the opportunity to explore the books we have on offer in the library. Here are all the recommendations that we have had for the Spring Term- just in time for some Easter holiday reading!



## World Book Day 2024 Celebrations!

We have been celebrating World Book Day and the power of reading this half term. We began the week of celebrations with an epic assembly, created by Ms Taylor's Literacy Prefects and the Library Club, celebrating the evolution of the book with a story read by staff and students: *My Name is Book* by John Agard. Through poetry and prose, we heard the journey of the book in its own words, from the first oral tales to clay tablets, papyrus to the paperback.

The rest of the week saw Form Classes engaging in a *Reading for Pleasure* special as they shared their favourite books with one another and took the opportunity to exchange their books in the library- running during form time for one week only (thanks to the Library Club!). Students also spent *Reflection Time* exploring extracts and author videos from this year's World Book Day books - available for free from supermarkets and bookshops using the tokens handed out by Literacy Leaders (and still valid until 31st March!).

Alongside this there were numerous activities and competitions for students to get involved in over the week: from the Marden English podcast and accompanying challenge; to World Book Day lessons in English; to a creativity competition, recommendations and reviews, and creative writing - all inspired by reading. A wonderful way to celebrate the power of the book and win some house points!

We had over 100 entries to the competitions and the Library Club were tasked with the hard job of deciding the winners. Here they are below (as well as on the Literacy Cloud).

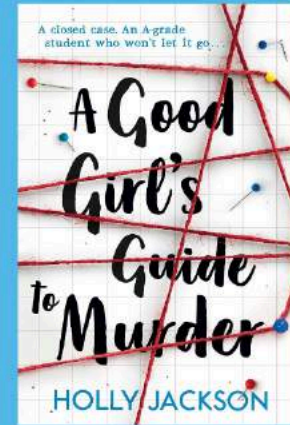
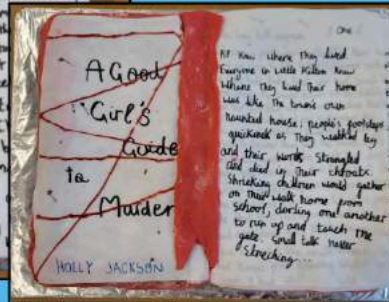
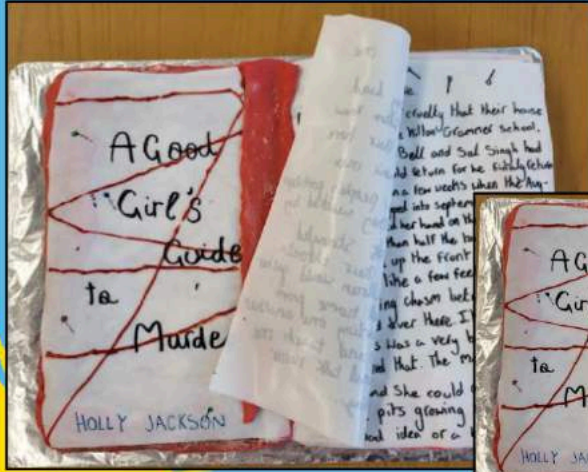


WORLD BOOK DAY  
7 MARCH 2024

# Get Creative!



LILY MCLEOD  
ROBYN TODD



WORLD BOOK DAY  
7 MARCH 2024

# Get Creative!



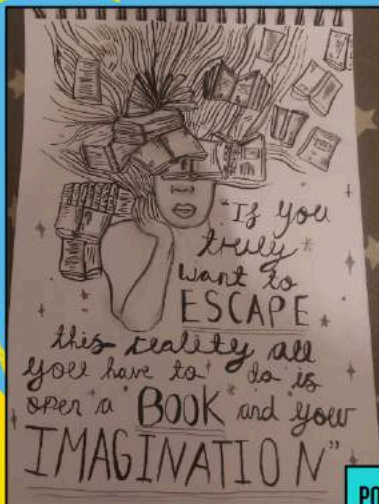
A CAKE INSPIRED BY HARRY POTTER AND THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE. CHAPTER 4: THE KEEPER OF THE KEYS. WE PICKED OUT OUR FAVOURITE QUOTES AND PUT THEM ON THE CAKE.  
BY: GRACE BURLEY, RENEE TALBOT, ISABELLA BRADBURY, LOLA JOYCE AND LUCY HUNTER.





WORLD BOOK DAY  
7 MARCH 2024

# Get Creative!



POPPY MCLEAN



ERIN MORTIMER

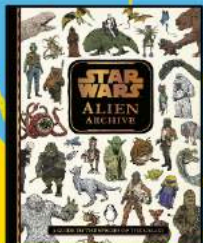


WORLD BOOK DAY  
7 MARCH 2024

# Get Creative!



FRANCESCA DUFFY





WORLD BOOK DAY  
7 MARCH 2024

Creative Writing

Title: When the World Stood Still

In a bustling city where time never seemed to pause, there was a peculiar little café tucked away in a quiet corner. Its name, "The Still Moment," hinted at the tranquility it offered amidst the chaos of daily life.

One ordinary afternoon, as people hurried past with their minds buzzing and feet tapping, something extraordinary happened. Time itself seemed to freeze. Watches ceased ticking, traffic halted mid-honk, and conversations hung suspended in mid-air.

Amidst the frozen scene, inside The Still Moment, sat a young woman named Maya. She had always been drawn to the café's peaceful atmosphere, finding solace in its warm embrace. Today, however, she found herself at the heart of a moment frozen in time.

With a curious mix of apprehension and wonder, Maya explored the stillness around her. She touched the leaves of a potted plant, marveling as they remained suspended in mid-quiver. She reached out to touch the steam rising from her untouched cup of tea, but it too remained unmoving.

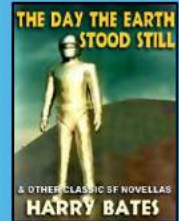
Lost in the stillness, Maya's thoughts drifted to her own life, which had always felt like a whirlwind of deadlines and obligations. In this suspended moment, she found clarity she had never known before.

As she sat there, contemplating the frozen world around her, Maya realized something profound. Life wasn't just about rushing from one moment to the next; it was about savoring the still moments in between.

With newfound determination, Maya made a silent promise to herself to embrace the stillness more often, to cherish the quiet moments that whispered of life's true beauty.

And just as suddenly as it had begun, time resumed its relentless march forward. Watches resumed ticking, traffic resumed its chaotic dance, and conversations picked up where they had left off.

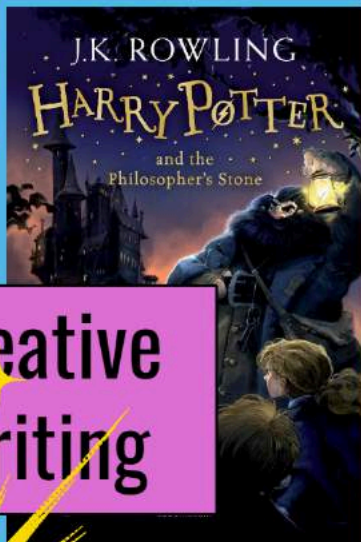
But for Maya, something had shifted. In the midst of a world that never seemed to stop moving, she had discovered the power of the stillness within. And as she stepped out of The Still Moment café, she carried with her a newfound sense of peace and purpose, ready to embrace whatever the world had in store.



SAM BROWN

WORLD BOOK DAY  
7 MARCH 2024

Creative Writing



NOAH WYND

In halls of stone, where shadows dance,  
A boy with lightning in his glance.  
His journey starts, a tale untold,  
In chambers deep, where secrets hold.

The Philosopher's Stone, a legend's crest,  
A quest for power, a timeless quest.  
With friends at hand, they brave each trial,  
In Hogwarts' halls, beneath the sky's smile.

With courage pure and hearts alight,  
They face the darkness, banish the night.  
For in the end, 'tis not alone,  
But with love and friendship, true magic's shown.

So let us raise our wands on high,  
O Harry Potter, brave and sly.  
For in his tale, we find our own,  
In the Philosopher's Stone, now brightly shown.





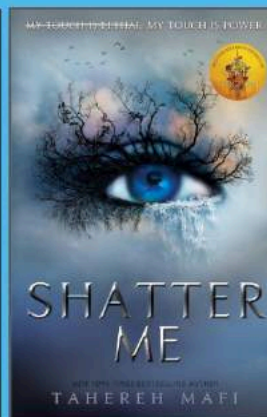
WORLD BOOK DAY  
7 MARCH 2024

# Creative Writing



## I've been locked up for 264 days (Shatter Me Opening Line)

I've been locked up for 10 days, although the scratchings on the wall are saying more,  
 I can't quite read the number but I know it's in the hundreds.  
 What am I here for?  
 I think I know my name, but that might be my friend's,  
 I remember when they were in the room with me, promising this wasn't the end.  
 I think I know the room i'm trapped in, but it still seems unfamiliar,  
 And I'm still no closer to finding out how long i've really been here.  
 The gap in my roof lets my lightness come and go,  
 Its my roof, its my lightness. They are all I really know.  
 Adding another scratching. And another, and 2 more,  
 Slowly forgetting lie outside my padlocked door.  
 I added up my scratchings, I can't believe what the tally says,  
 I've been locked up here for 264 days.



MADELEINE GRANT

WORLD BOOK DAY  
7 MARCH 2024

# Recommend & Review



## Cherub

ELSIE HORNER

A boy named James  
 A girl named Kerry  
 Only one thing stands between them and a life in the  
 secret services  
 A gruelling 100 day basic training  
 It's not going to be easy  
 But it's better than Nebraska house  
 Or is it?  
 Is being an agent all it's cracked up to be?  
 Or is James just destined for failure?  
 All will be answered in this fast paced novel!





WORLD BOOK DAY  
7 MARCH 2024

# Recommend & Review



ISLA MACKENZIE

## Lottie Brooks

By Katie Kirby

### The Lottie Brooks Books



#### About the Books

The Lottie Brooks are about a teenage girl named Lottie who writes diary entries about her life. Although she thinks she isn't very exciting her life really is. She has a big family who sometimes, well always get on her nerves. The books are really fun and realistic which I love about them. My favourite Lottie Brooks' book is 'Lottie Brooks totally disastrous school trip' which is where she goes on a school trip and faces many problems on the way.

#### About Katy Kirby

Katy Kirby is a great author of many books. She is 41 years old and lives with her husband, 2 sons and dog (sasha). She lives by the sea and started writing Lottie Brooks in 2021. Her first Lottie Brooks book was the embarrassing life of Lottie Brooks. Katie Kirby is currently writing the 6th book in her collection and it is expected to come out in summer 2024.



WORLD BOOK DAY  
7 MARCH 2024

# Recommend & Review



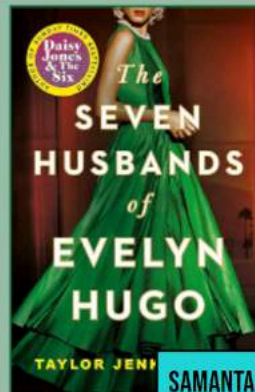
## The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo by Taylor Jenkins Reid

#### Summary:

The story revolves around Evelyn Hugo, a movie star who rose to fame in the 1950s. Now in her later years, Evelyn decides to share her life story with Monique Grant, an unknown journalist. As Evelyn recounts her life, most chapters are like flashbacks, and it is her sharing her life story, including the parts of her life that no one or almost no one knew and, the challenges she had to overcome as a woman in the 1950s.

#### Review:

I really enjoyed this book and it is one of my favorites, the storyline flows and and it kept me interested the whole way through, wanting to know what happens next. I think it does a really good job at showing what it was like to be a woman in the 1950s and even in modern day society, really explaining and showing us who Evelyn Hugo is and why she is the way she is in the book.



SAMANTA ENRIQUEZ

## A Poem in celebration of Reading

In celebration of our love of reading here at Marden, here is a poem- featured in Agard's book (celebrated for World Book Day this year)- and written by poet Grace Nichols:

The books I love  
are well fingered and thumbed  
have tiny butter smudges  
may harbour a crumb  
the odd cat-whisker  
a few dog-ears  
a drop of tear  
a brownish stain  
(that looks suspiciously like tea)

I for one, am glad to say,  
do not judge a book  
by its cover -  
but flit first among its leaves  
like a hummingbird  
sipping at a flower

The books I love  
I must admit  
do not sit  
behind a museum of glass.  
No the books I love  
get kissed and squeezed  
and pressed against my heart.



## Easter Literacy Challenges!

Students can get involved in a whole host of [Literacy activities over Easter](#). They have been emailed the challenges in the weekly Literacy email from Ms Taylor. If they send their creations to the Literacy Cloud they will receive 50 house points!




**Explore and pick:**

- [Activity One](#): Arty Writing
- [Activity Two](#): Creative Outdoors
- [Activity Three](#): Clothing Characters
- [Activity Four](#): Creative Cooking
- [Activity Five](#): Nature Documentary
- [Activity Six](#): Family News Reports
- [Activity Seven](#): Year 7 Articulate!
- [Activity Eight](#): Short Film Fun
- [Activity Nine](#): Character Chair
- [Activity Ten](#): Song Detectives!
- [Activity Eleven](#): Zoo Animal Blog
- [Activity Twelve](#): Get Fit!
- [Activity Thirteen](#): Art Journal
- [Activity Fourteen](#): Story Bags!
- [Activity Fifteen](#): Political Broadcast
- [Activity Sixteen](#): Virtual Travel Writers



## Published *Young Writers*!

70 of our students have had their creative writing selected to appear in a new book published by *Young Writers*. Their stories are inspired by the word 'glitch', and explore a sudden change or a shift in reality.

We look forward to receiving our copies of the book after Easter and celebrating their success as published writers!



## The Weekly Literacy Challenge

Each week the [Weekly Literacy Challenge](#) is released, offering students the opportunity to respond creatively to the Theme of the Week, become published on the [Literacy Cloud](#), and boost their house points, with 50 house points per entry!



Every Monday we release the...

# Weekly Literacy Challenge!

The challenge will be connected to the Theme of the Week...

- Be creative and use your imagination!
- ★ Write poems, songs, stories, articles, speeches...
  - ★ Draw, design, collage, sculpture, paint...
  - ★ Dance, video, sing, play an instrument...
  - ★ Bake!



All entries will be **published on the Literacy Cloud** and receive **50 house-points!**

Email your creations to [literacycloud@mardenhigh.net](mailto:literacycloud@mardenhigh.net)



## The Literacy Cloud

The Literacy Cloud is the place to visit for tips and strategies, reading recommendations and links and creative challenges to get involved in. It is also where all of our students' winning writing and artwork is published. Take a look over the holiday.

# Get published on the Literacy Cloud!

If you would like to be featured on the [Literacy Cloud](#) then share your reading recommendations and reviews; original creative writing; artwork inspired by your reading; enter competitions and



challenges...  
[literacycloud@mardenhigh.net](mailto:literacycloud@mardenhigh.net).  
 Each entry wins 50 house points!



LITERACY @ MARDEN

CONTENTS

READING WRITING ORACY

**BBC NEWS**  
Weekly Literacy Mini Challenge!

**Kindness and Empathy Creative Challenge**

CHALLENGE: Create something to inspire equality and encourage kindness.

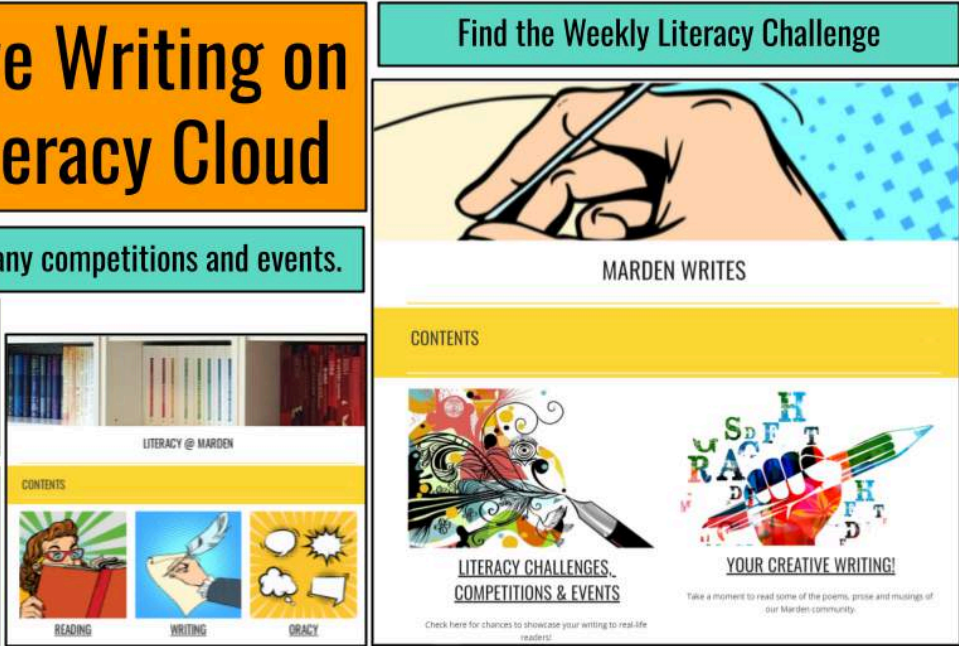
Send your entries to [literacycloud@mardenhigh.net](mailto:literacycloud@mardenhigh.net) for a chance to be featured on the Literacy Cloud and receive 50 house points!

# Creative Writing on the Literacy Cloud

Check here for any competitions and events.

Visit the "Writing" section of the [Literacy Cloud](#) to see all of your creative writing!

Send any of your creative writing to [literacycloud@mardenhigh.net](mailto:literacycloud@mardenhigh.net). Each entry wins 50 house points!



Find the Weekly Literacy Challenge

MARDEN WRITES

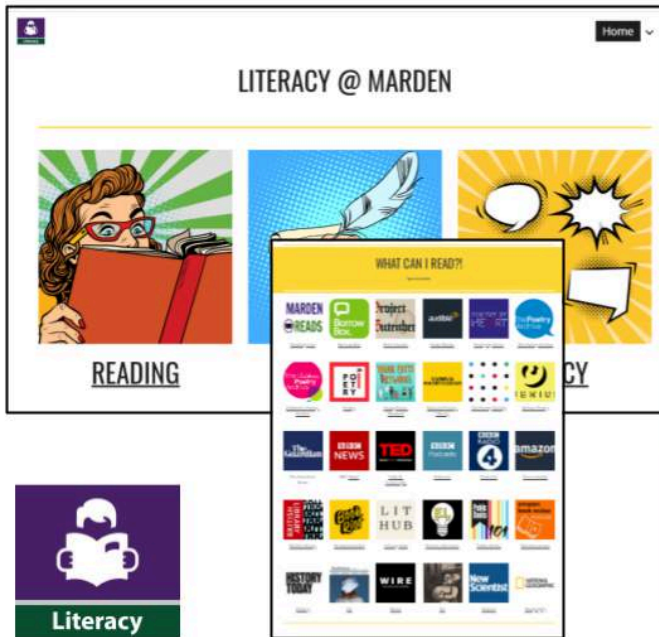
CONTENTS

LITERACY CHALLENGES, COMPETITIONS & EVENTS

YOUR CREATIVE WRITING!

Check here for chances to showcase your writing to real-life readers!

Take a moment to read some of the poems, prose and musings of our Marden community.



Looking for things to read alongside your books?

Visit the "Reading" section of the [Literacy Cloud](#) and find lots of links to explore!



# The Library is also open every day!



OPEN EVERY LUNCHTIME & AFTER SCHOOL.

Browse the shelves.

Take a comfy seat and read!

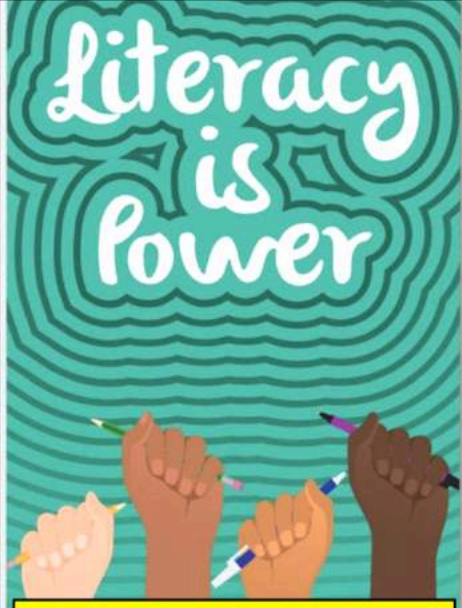
Take a look on Oliver (the Library website) to check what books we have.

If you have a book you would like to see on the shelves then let the Library Club know! Send them an email [libraryclub@mardenhigh.net](mailto:libraryclub@mardenhigh.net) or leave a note in the box on the LRC desk.



Check out the subject specific sections. Interested in art, music or sport - see what books we recommend!

THE LIBRARY CLUB WILL BE HERE EVERY LUNCHTIME TO HELP WITH RECOMMENDATIONS, SUGGESTIONS OR QUESTIONS! COME AND CHAT TO US!

**Literacy is Power**

**Marden Literacy Leaders**

**Literacy**

We need Literacy Leaders to come up with ways to encourage writers, inspire readers and empower voices!

Are you a voracious reader, a brilliant writer, a superb public speaker? Would you love to be involved in planning events, activities and competitions?

- Mentor younger students
- Create & run literacy events & competitions across the school to get other students interested in reading & writing!
- Create engaging displays.
- Develop the library website!
- Run activities & competitions.
- Develop the Literacy Cloud
- Create reading lists, books of the week & books of the month.
- Run the library & come up with ways to develop the library & make it an exciting place to be!
- Decide on new books for the LRC!

Interested in becoming a Literacy Leader?  
Email Ms Taylor [a.taylor@mardenhigh.net](mailto:a.taylor@mardenhigh.net)

Ms A Taylor



## Sunflower competition is back

- The Sunflower Competition is a friendly competition that the Green Team is hosting to encourage and promote environmental care.
- Each form will be given 2 planted sunflower seeds.
- The aim of the competition is to grow and look after your sunflower until the end of the summer term to see who can care for their plant the best!
- **House points are awarded**
  - **House points for:**
  - **Tallest plant**
  - **Largest flower**
  - **Best name (voted for by the Green Team.)**
- When they are ready the Green Team will plant the sunflowers outside.



## Earth Hour

Earth hour takes place every year to highlight what steps we can take to help the environment. Turn off your lights/electricity for one hour.

***Switch off and Give an hour for Earth on Saturday, March 23rd at 8:30 pm - 9.30pm. Together, let's create the Biggest Hour for Earth!***

There is another element that has been introduced this year. Give an hour doing something you love to help the planet. There are different categories for this

- Fitness and Wellness
- Nature
- Food
- Sustainability
- Arts and creativity
- Entertainment

A google form has been sent out to students who would like to take part. House points are awarded for any uploaded photos, pictures, videos, artwork, written work about what they have done.

<https://www.earthhour.org/about/the-biggest-hour-for-earth>



Mrs C Mellor



# MARDEN

## READS

### Reading List

Here are some suggestions of books you might want to read over year 7.

(You should be trying to read at least

- The Enemy - *Charlie Higson*
- Cosmic - *Frank Cottrell Boyce*
- Wonder - *R.J Palacio*
- Treasure Island - *R.L Stevenson*
- The Adventure Series *Lee Tony*
- The Adventure of Huckleberry Finn - *Mark Twain*
- Blitzcat - *Robert Westall*
- Holes - *Louis Sachar*
- Stormbreaker - *Anthony Horowitz*
- The Hobbit - *J R R Tolkien*
- Madame Doubtfire - *Anne Fine*
- The Edge - *Alan Gibbons*
- Millions - *Frank Cottrell Boyce*

### Want a challenge?

- War Horse - *Michael Morpurgo*
- Great Expectations - *Charles Dickens*
- The Lord of the Rings Trilogy - *JRR Tolkien*
- The Book Thief - *Marcus Zusak*
- The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes - *Sir Arthur Conan Doyle*

### Reading List

Here are some suggestions of books you might want to read over year 8.

(You should be trying to read at least one of these per half-term)

- The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes - *Sir Arthur Conan Doyle*
- The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy - *Douglas Adams*
- The Hunger Games - *Suzanne Collins*
- After the First Death - *Robert Cormier*
- The Universe Versus Alex Woods - *Gavin Extance*
- The Enemy - *Charlie Higson*
- Cosmic - *Frank Cottrell Boyce*
- Carrie's War - *Nina Bawden*
- The Foreshadowing - *Marcus Sedgewick*
- The Northern Lights series - *Philip Pullman*
- Noughts and Crosses - *Malorie Blackman*
- Treasure Island - *R.L Stevenson*
- Martyn Pig - *Kevin Brooks*
- The Ruby in the Smoke - *Philip Pullman*
- Small Steps - *Louis Sachar*

### Want a challenge?

- The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time - *Mark Haddon*
- Life of Pi - *Yann Martel*
- The Help - *Kathryn Stockett*
- Animal Farm - *George Orwell*
- Jane Eyre - *Charlotte Bronte*



# MARDEN READS

## Reading List

Here are some suggestions of books you might want to read over year 9.

(You should be trying to read at least

*Animal Farm - George Orwell*

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time - Mark Haddon*

*Of Mice and Men - John Steinbeck*

*The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian - Sherman Alexie*

*Looking for Alaska - John Green*

*Lord of the Flies - William Golding*

*The Help - Kathryn Stockett*

*Life of Pi - Yann Martel*

## Want a challenge?

*Wuthering Heights - Emily Bronte*

*Junk - Melvin Burgess*

*1984 - George Orwell*

*The Catcher in the Rye - J.D. Salinger*

*The Great Gatsby - F.Scott Fitzgerald*

## Reading List

Here are some suggestions of books you might want to read over year 10 & 11.

(You should be trying to read at least

*Tip! Try to get into the habit of reading newspapers too! This will help for your*

*1984 - George Orwell*

*Animal Farm - George Orwell*

*A Room with a View - E.M. Forster*

*The Book Thief - Markus Zusak*

*Brighton Rock - Graham Greene*

*Catch 22 - Joseph Heller*

*The Catcher in the Rye - J.D. Salinger*

*The Color Purple - Alice Walker*

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time - Mark Haddon*

*David Copperfield - Charles Dickens*

*East of Eden - John Steinbeck*

*Frankenstein - Mary Shelley*

*The Grapes of Wrath - John Steinbeck*

*The Great Gatsby - F.Scott Fitzgerald*

*The Help - Kathryn Stockett*

*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings - Maya Angelou*