



# THE MARTON ACADEMY

LABOR OMNIA VINCIT

## ACADEMY ROUND-UP – TERM 1 – including highlights from the school Twitter

### FAREWELL MRS SPENCER

### POLYTUNNEL NEWS

### ACADEMY EVENTS – DATES TERM 2

**19<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term has been very busy and eventful. **The children have settled well into the new routines and are enjoying their lessons and activities.**

The teachers have embraced our new approach to teaching spelling and children are working hard to improve their baseline scores from September. **Teachers will be able to share more about this at parents' evening in November and at a pupil/parent spelling workshop planned next term. See Term 2 Dates**



This term we are pleased to share the highest attendance figures to date. **98%**

This term we have introduced Class Ambassadors whose job it is to welcome visitors to their class, explaining what their lessons are about. **This enables pupils to develop their confidence and speaking and listening skills. Visitors to the school this term have praised the pupil's leadership and excellent manners.**

**Y6 house leaders have organised and led their first house assembly of the year.**

Our sports coaches have worked alongside teachers to plan and teach a wider range of PE lessons. In addition to this we have welcomed Mr Cooke, a PGCE teacher trainee with sporting expertise as well as a Lincoln City coach who has helped out at the after school football club. **We are working to improve the quality of PE that children receive.**

PRINCIPAL: MR BEN STEPHENSON MA (Ed)

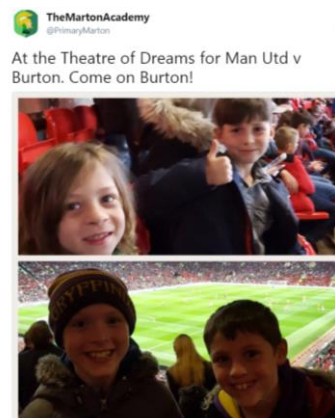
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Next term we have GO dance booked to deliver specialist lessons and Mr Jupp will be offering a fitness club after school on a Thursday to children in Y2 to 6 and any parents who would like to join in too.

Children in Y4, 5 and 6 visited Lincoln University providing them with insight into possible future opportunities. The theme of the visit was to see and learn about science in action.

Amazing wildlife presentation from Nick Williams - we loved your stories! #inspiration #FragilePlanet #conservation



Great day @PrimaryMarton for Polish Early Years teachers. Thanks to @LCHSed and Chris Williams for organising #Erasmus #partnershipworking



Enjoying new science knowledge @unilincn #LiGHTS



Nick Williams, wildlife presenter and photographer visited school to captivate the children with pictures and stories about birds and nature around the world. Thank you to PTFA for funding this inspiring science event. Nick's beautiful photographs are available for children to purchase at £1 each or £2.50 for 3.

We welcomed Polish Early Years teachers to our school last week. They are the second group to visit us. They are learning about how we cater for the youngest pupils. Ruby, Nathan and Jakub did a brilliant job of translating throughout their visit.

Mrs Thombs provided the first Reception pop-in session – thank you to all who attended. This was extremely well supported! These sessions help to best support your child with early reading, phonics, fine motor skills and number.

Thank you to Mrs Ferris for organising the annual Macmillan Coffee Afternoon. We raised over £100

We are delighted to tell you that following the TESCO support a local project scheme that Mrs Ferris bid for on the school's behalf, we have secured for £2'000 for outdoor learning. Mrs Ferris has also secured another £600 for science resources from the Edina Trust.

Finally, we say a fond farewell to Mrs Spencer who has served Marton School for over 20 years in the office. Mrs Spencer has given a great deal to school – more than I could attempt to fit in this short paragraph. Please see further detail on the next page marking her time as school secretary.

Yours sincerely,

Mr B Stephenson  
Principal



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## FAREWELL MRS SPENCER

Mrs Spencer has served Marton School as the school secretary taking on the role part time in October 1995. Based on a maximum entry of 15 pupils starting Reception each academic year, Mrs Spencer has entered over 320 pupils in the official admissions log book.

Mrs Spencer has served 3 headteachers and seen a huge amount of change in the systems and protocols of running the school office.

Mrs Spencer particularly enjoys meeting new children as they arrive at the office to change their signature cards, helping them to use good manners and to share a little story. During Mr Gray's headship when the staff played an annual game of rounders against the Y6 children, she was a formidable opponent. In fact not one plucky salesman has ever managed to bypass her in an attempt to speak with the headteacher either.

Mrs Spencer is a keen painter and crafter and has often helped run craft, art and baking clubs notably helping with the amazing 3D Chinese artwork in the school hall. In her own spare time, Mrs Spencer paints beautiful acrylic paintings. As well as this, she is known as a keen gardener and as well as providing first hand advice for the school, helping with gardening club and helping to plant up the Millennium garden, she is a member of the horticultural society. Ordering all the gardening equipment through Amazon and online stores for the recent Polytunnel Project will be a defining memory for Mrs Ferris particularly. But she will agree it was definitely worth it!

As for ordering equipment, Mrs Spencer has helped ensure that resources have not been wasted – in fact she is known to keep a secret stash of pritt sticks and stationery, so that just when teachers thought they'd run out, Mrs Spencer would be able to provide. Of course, teachers know better than to go hunting for this themselves!

Mrs Spencer has an extensive general knowledge enjoying quiz nights, is a big Elton John fan and an amateur ballroom dancer. One of her passions is visiting stately homes which has included several visits to Buckingham Palace. Also known as a very keen traveller, Mrs Spencer will have more time for exotic holidays (at a cheaper rate in term time) with her husband and also more time to spend with her grandchildren.

Mrs Spencer will definitely be missed! From proof reading letters and reports to maintaining accounts for over 20 years and supporting school clubs and the life of this little school. From the children's perspective they will remember someone who phoned home when they had forgotten swimming kit or a permission slip, keeping score at Sports Day, a printer 'fixer' when they try to collect their work from the photocopier and find it's not there, as well as the friendly face who said well done when they brought a completed certificate. We are extremely grateful and we hope that she will still pop in from time to time to join in with events.

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We arrived back from the summer break to find the whole garden swamped with vegetables! The pumpkins and butternut squash had taken over half the outside garden; sweetcorn was abundant and runner beans were plentiful! Tomatoes, sweet peppers, chilli peppers, leeks and aubergine had excelled inside the polytunnel too. Thanks to everyone who has purchased our produce and given feedback – much appreciated. The children have enjoyed trying a huge variety of raw and cooked vegetables that they may have not tried before.

## **Awards**

We have now achieved RHS level 3, 4 and 5 which provided us with £200 of gardening centre vouchers, £100 of seeds and free plug plants from Rocket Gardens. Our first batch, of 150 vegetables, arrived last week and have been planted by the children. More will arrive after Christmas and early summer. We look forward to trying different varieties of lettuce, cabbage, kale, spinach and lots more.

We also won £2000 in the Tesco Bags of Help scheme which will be used to provide outdoor sensory experiences for all the children. The garden area will be extended to include raised beds for the sensory plants.

## **Hanging baskets/produce sales**

Our little enterprise has had a very successful few months and provided Sapphire Class with funds to keep stocked up with compost, canes and other equipment. We remain self-sufficient and hope this continues in the years to come. We also purchased a small greenhouse where our Christmas potatoes, bulbs and seedlings are currently residing and doing very well. Pots of Spring bulbs, which have been potted will be ready for sale later in the year. Another purchase was the bird feeding station which the children enjoyed putting together. Just have to wait for the birds to find it now!

## **Pallets**

Many thanks to everyone who brought pallets. Some have been turned into a cold frame and others were made into stands for the water butts and shelves. We also intend making raised beds for Alpines/succulents. The planned outdoor seating area hasn't progressed as we would have liked due to the lack of time needed to sand and paint the pallets. If anyone has a spare hour or two we would greatly appreciate your help.

We cannot believe how far we have come in our first year and we are hoping that our success continues. Hard work and enthusiasm certainly pays off! Well done Sapphire Gardeners...

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## DATES for TERM 2

**Please note that school REOPENS on MONDAY 30 October for TERM 2**

|                      |   |                       |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Thursday 2 November  | Second Reception pop-in morning                         | 9am                   |
| Wednesday 8 November | Spelling Workshop for parents led by Y5/6 pupils        | 2:15pm                |
| Thursday 16 November | Pupil, Parent and Teacher Meetings                      | 3:15pm – 7pm          |
| Thursday 7 December  | Christmas Nativity – Emerald and Ruby Class (except Y4) | 11am and 4pm          |
| Friday 8 December    | PTFA Christmas Fayre                                    | 2pm                   |
| Monday 11 December   | PTFA Christmas Bazaar – Little Gems, Yr, 1, 2 & 3       | During the school day |
| Tuesday 12 December  | PTFA Christmas Bazaar – Year 4, 5 and 6                 | During the school day |
| Thursday 14 December | SCROOGICAL – panto performance to children              | During the school day |
| Friday 15 December   | School Christmas Dinner                                 | During the school day |
| Monday 18 December   | Children attending Chapel for Xmas Assembly             | During the school day |
| Tuesday 19 December  | Christmas Fun Day (Christmas Jumpers)                   | During the school day |

## HEALTH and SAFETY requests

At 8:55am and 3pm when the children arrive and leave school could you please ensure that:

- Your child(ren) don't whizz around the playground on bikes and scooters
- Your children leave school using the paths, not the driveway
- Any dogs are tied securely to the school sign posts at the end of the driveway – dogs of any shape or size should not be brought into our playground

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