



MARLING
SIXTH FORM
Downfield Road



SPOTLIGHT

SPECIAL CELEBRATORY EDITION

Class of 2021 | 1st Co-ed Year

Celebrating Our Amazing Students

We were all so proud to welcome Marling's first ever co-educational year group in September 2019. The term got off to a great start and we had so many plans, but, as we all know, 2019/20 was not a year in which plans really worked out! But, in spite of everything life threw at them, our students were amazing. They met each challenge with creativity, humour and resilience. We are very proud of them. Looking back through the pictures in this edition of Spotlight it is cheering to see how much they still managed to do, even in two years dominated by lockdowns and remote learning. It was wonderful to be able to bring them all together for a final celebration on 24th May - you can see from the photos at the end of this publication how much they enjoyed the chance to have a farewell party even though the weather chose not to smile on us this year. We wish them all the best of luck for their futures, wherever they are going next.

Marling Sixth Form Team

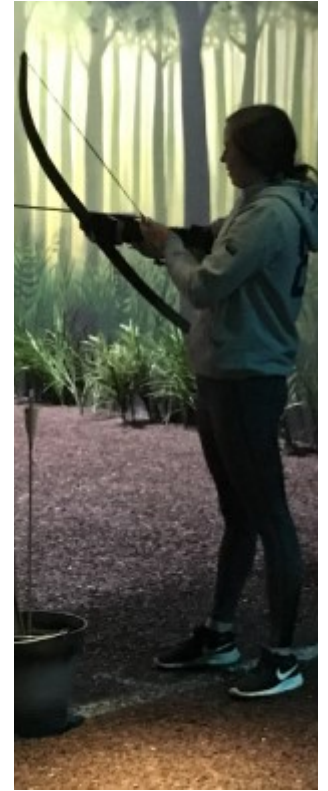


Class of 2021 - Start of Year 12

The Year Got Off to a Fun Start...

September 2019

Class of 2021 started their Year 12 with an action packed trip to The Bear Grylls Adventure at the NEC Birmingham.



Girls Said Yes to Marling Sixth Form

Girls from around Stroud gave Marling School's new Co-educational sixth form a big thumbs up.

Sixty girls joined in September 2019, which was a fantastic achievement for the first year of Co-education and a ringing endorsement for Marling School's commitment to continue providing a Co-educational setting for post-16 education.

Students on Stage

March 2019



Students at Marling School are always proud to show off their musical and theatrical talents. In March 2019 sixth formers joined lower school students to perform the popular musical 'Oliver!'.





Freshers' Fair

October 2019

In the Autumn students attended Freshers' Fair to find out about the wide range of super-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities available to them as part of the Marling Diamond Programme. Below are some examples.



Academic reading
Biology Olympiad
Charity events
Chemical Analysis workshops
Classical Civilisation
Classroom TA work
Creative writing
Crest Award
Cricket
Debating Society
Dissection Club
Downfielders
Eco-Society
EPQ
Essay competitions
Establish/Lead a student society

Exchange visits
Expeditions
Fencing
Fitness Suite
Football
Foreign Language Film Club
Geology
Global Perspectives
Gold DofE
Greencar project
Handball
Hockey
Horticultural Society
INK Magazine
KS3 club assistant
Law Society
Library Assistant
Marling Big Band
Mathematical Studies

Maths Olympiad
Media Group
MedSoc
Mentoring in school
Mentoring in partner school
Microscopy Club
MOOCs
Music Tuition
Netball
New York UN Conference
OMA link work
Particle Physics Society
Personal Training
Recreational sport
Rugby
Running
School council
Senior Choir
String Ensemble

Sixth Form Council
Sports Leadership
Student Ambassador
Student leadership team
Student Outreach
Table Tennis
Talks/lectures
Theatre production
Theatre visits
UNIQ
University taster days
Visiting museums/exhibitions
Voluntary work
Work shadowing/ experience
Wellbeing society

Marling Hustings

8 November 2019

Students from across the school had the opportunity to question four parliamentary candidates, in a hustings-style event.



The year 12 politics students planned the event. The candidates included David Drew (Labour), Siobhan Bailey (Conservative), Desi Latimer (Brexit), Molly Scott-Cato (Green), Keith Rippington (Liberal Democrats). It was the first event where the candidates had come up against each other. Each candidate gave a three-minute opening statement which was followed by questions from the students. The questions varied from the purpose of grammar schools to Brexit, tuition fees, pros and cons of the 'unite to remain' pact, the environment and Boris Johnson's comments about women, ethnic minorities and members of the LGBT community.

Sixth Form Life

Marling 1st Rugby Team



The team travelled to Plymouth college for the last round of matches in the NatWest Rugby Bowl Competition.

Girls Made Their Mark at Marling



Girls led the way in Marling for the first time in the school's history. They won four of the seven roles in the student leadership team – a reflection of the enthusiasm and vision they brought to the new co-educational sixth form.

Marling's 1st Netball Team



2019



New York, New York

The trip to the Change the World Conference in New York was all planned and ready to go ahead when Lockdown hit. As and when restrictions allow, we'll be heading off to the Big Apple once again.



Christmas 2019 Quiz and Dinner

Covid Hits

23 March 2020 The beginning of lockdown.



PM: 'Stay at home, this is a national emergency'

Johnson drastically movement to coronavirus

ings of more people in be prohibited

given powers se groups and ockdown

ourt

will order police to coronavirus lockdown, gathering of more than 100 people in the street is prohibited

customer reached up house with an address last night, warning that allowed non-essential travel to work if necessary, otherwise would close



1st Lockdown

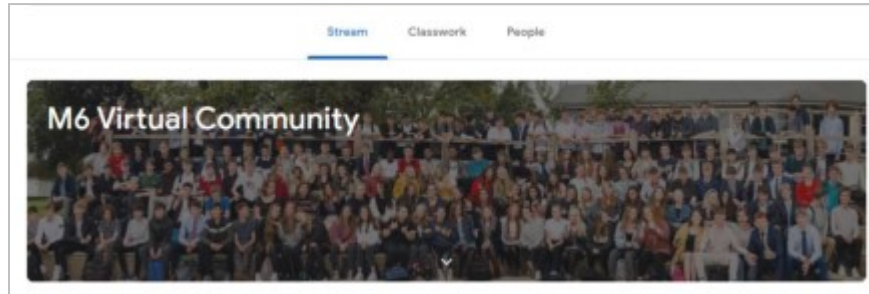
March 2020 - July 2020

To comply with Lockdown rules, a socially distanced Virtual Induction Day was created for the incoming Year 12 students. The Student Leadership Team (below) ran a Q&A session.

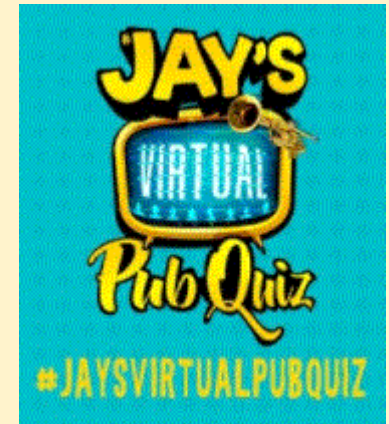


1st Lockdown

March 2020 - July 2020



When the school closure was announced the student leadership team realised that the wider sixth form community, which they had spent so long building, would be broken up, so they started up a Virtual Community. The team ran the Virtual Community all the way through the Spring and Summer terms, posting weekly quizzes, videos, challenges and articles.



On Thursdays, staff and students along with their families competed in Jay's Virtual Pub Quiz. Scores were then posted on Virtual Community.



Imogen Grover

19 Mar 2020 (Edited 20 Mar 2020)

Hi all,

Welcome to Marling Sixth Form's Virtual Community Space which we're using during the period of school closure to keep a sense togetherness going in this disruption to our school year. We will be posting interesting/amusing/inspiring things to help everyone get through this somewhat strange & confusing time. If you have anything you wish to share with the year group please email it to us at

studentSLT@marling.gloucs.sch.uk

or contact us personally, thank you!

Baking Challenge: Lockdown Theme



1st Lockdown

March 2020 - July 2020

Students set challenges and competitions and awarded a weekly winner.

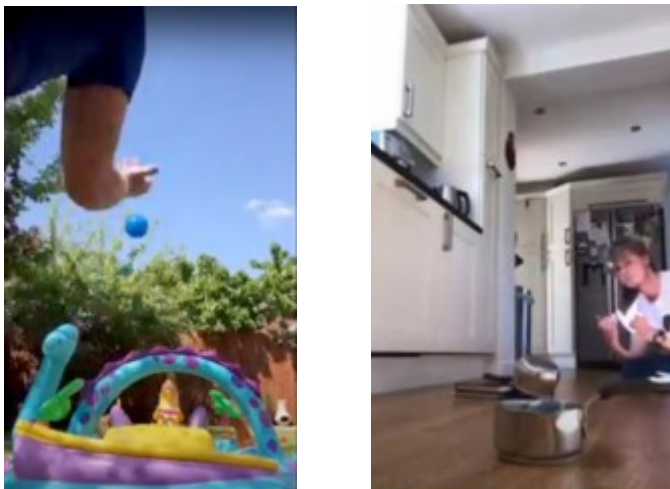
Dance Challenge: TikTok to Blinding Lights



Picture Challenge: Best Towel Animal or Best Fruit Animal



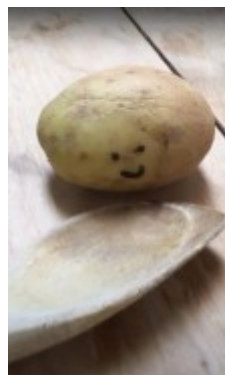
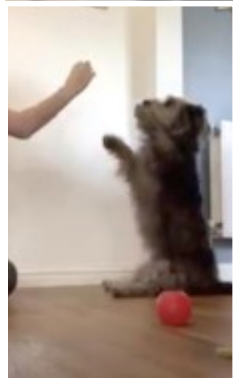
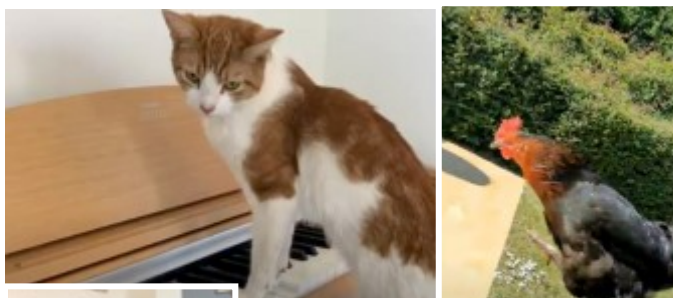
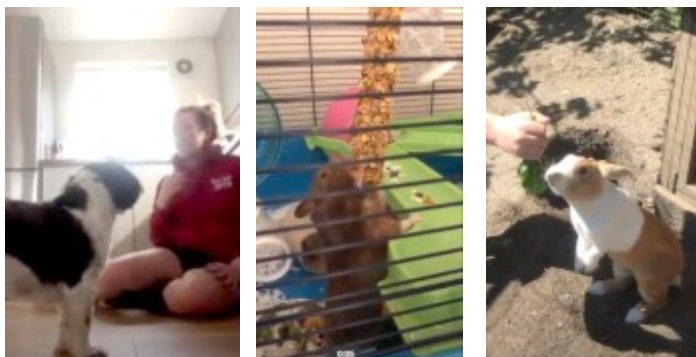
Challenge: Most Creative TikTok Trick Shot



1st Lockdown

March 2020 - July 2020

Competition: How Talented is Your Pet?



Quizzes were created and posted weekly on the Virtual Community to keep everyone connected.

Quiz – Week 1

HELLO, GOOD EVENING AND REMAIN INDOORS!

1) What is the most western European capital city?

- A) Reykjavik
- B) Dublin
- C) Lisbon
- D) Madrid



Week 2

Hello, good evening and remain indoors

Your email address will be recorded when you submit this form

Not [Switch account](#)

*Required

Week 17 - The Last Quiz

As it's the final week of term, this will be the last quiz of this school year and, as such, I thought we could do a quiz of things that came last. Please note this quiz is case sensitive and requires correct spelling.

*Required



Joseph Hollier

17 Jul 2020

Hi everyone,

Today is the last day of year 12 and it's safe to say that none of us had ever expected to be stuck at home today. We will all have to make up for lost time with friends and family as soon as we can.

It has been 119 days since schools closed and this period has been tough on everyone. All we can do is look on the bright side, remain optimistic and assume that we will fade back to some form of normality sooner or later. We can all hope to be back in school by September, back together again as a year group.

I like to think that we are currently living through future history. In decades to come, we will look back on 2020 and the Coronavirus crisis. We will tell our children and grandchildren about it, everyone in the world of our age will. Future historians will argue about the effectiveness of the British government in their handling of lockdown. This is a monumental period in history and you are a part of it, never forget that.

We would like to thank all of the key workers in our community, not least of all our teachers. Thank you all for the work you've put in during lockdown and for all the help you've given each and every one of us. This situation has never been planned for or experienced before in history, it is entirely unprecedented and the response from the key workers across Britain has been spectacular so thank you all so much.

Please stay safe over the summer holidays and enjoy your rest. We will see you all in September when hopefully we can all be back in school.

Best wishes,
The Student Leadership Team



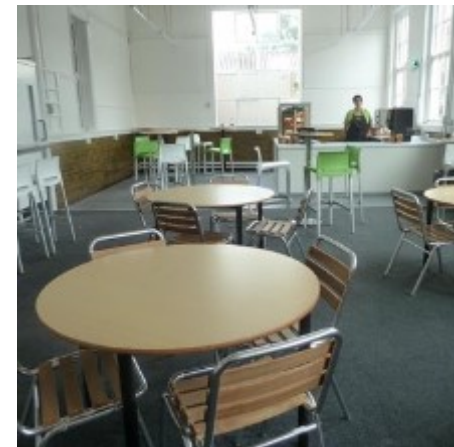
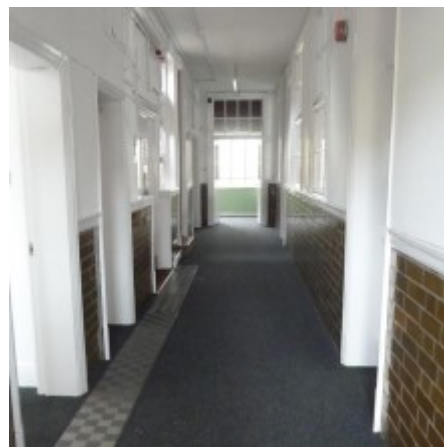
Add class comment...



2nd Lockdown Year 13 Begins

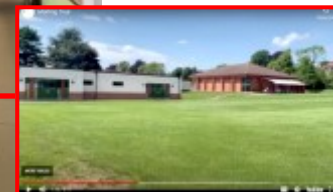
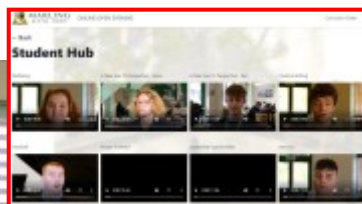
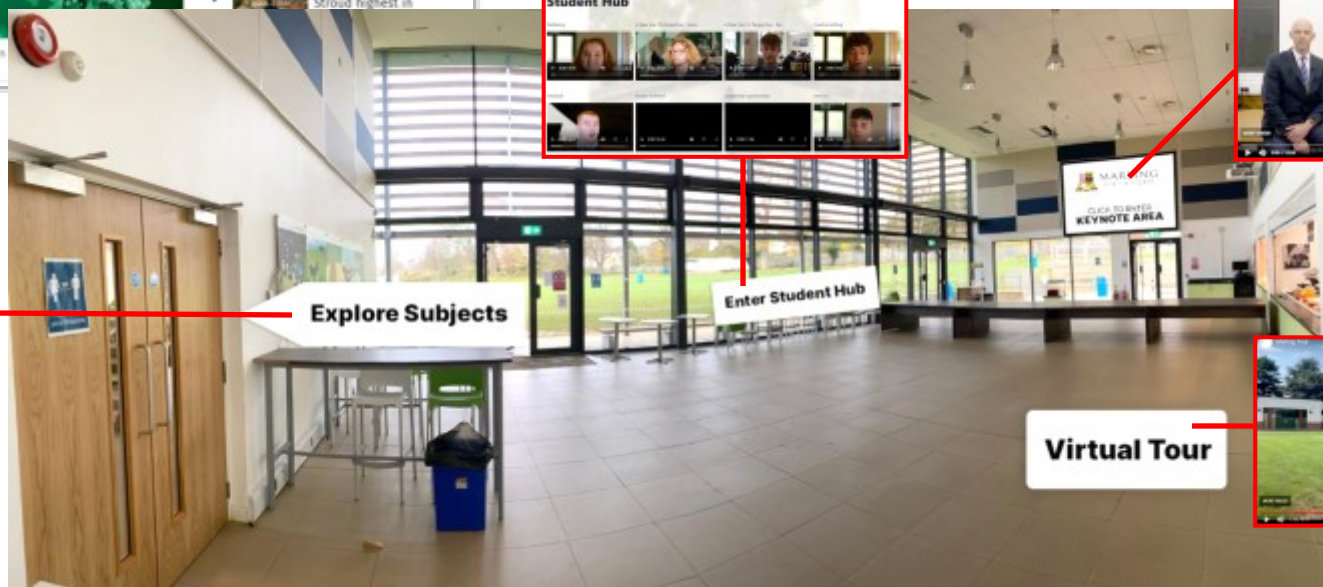
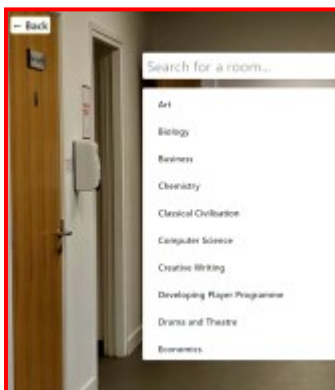
September 2020

Students returned to face-to-face lessons in September 2020 and these continued until Christmas time. Bubbles, masks and social distancing were now the new normal - not what any of us expected at the start of the Year 13 journey.



Back to School (for a while)

Our Open Evening went ahead despite the restrictions. A couple of Marling students developed a platform for students and parents to engage with the teachers and current students. They could go into subject rooms to ask questions, listen to speakers, take a tour and listen to current students in the hub - all virtually.



Christmas 2020 Celebrations

December 2020

Year 13 took part in a Christmas Quiz and a enjoyed a Christmas dinner!



**Winners of the Year 13 Quiz:
The Gingerbread Girls
2nd Year in a Row!**

Lockdown Again!

5 January - early March 2021

We were experienced lockdowners by now, and so, as winter set in, Marling staff and students were kept busy with a full programme of live lessons and virtual talks and tutor sessions. Final university applications were submitted to meet the January deadline and thoughts turned to planning for assessments. The work was hard, but many of us enjoyed the chance to adopt a more relaxed dress code (pyjamas for some!) as we worked from our bedrooms, spare rooms, living rooms and kitchen tables. On 9th February we downed tools for a Wellbeing Day. Everyone was encouraged to go screen free for the day and get involved in relaxing activities such as walking or exercising outside, gardening, reading, listening to podcasts, cooking or being creative.

UK Covid: Boris Johnson tells people to stay at home as England enters third national lockdown – as it happened



“We Got **LOCKED** Down, but we got up again...”

March - May 2021

Early March saw the introduction of a massive Covid testing programme prior to students returning to face-to-face lessons once again. Students were glad to be back together, in spite of the fact that this term was all about preparing for and doing assessments to gather a range of evidence to determine final A Level grades. Bubbles, masks and social distancing continued as we once again got used to the ‘new normal’. After weeks of hard work and untold resilience, Y13s ended their Marling journey with the traditional Old School Uniform day, followed by a final garden party. In true 2020 style, the sun deserted us and the rain poured down, but we carried on regardless.



Old School Uniform Day

14 May 2021



It's a tradition for Y13s to spend their last day dressed in their old school uniforms. This year it was great to see so many different uniforms, showing what a wide range of schools Y12s now join us from.



End of Year

May 2021

Marling staff joined the Class of 2021 in celebrating the graduation of the first co-ed year by holding a Formal Garden Party.



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May 2021

Marling celebrates graduation of first co-ed year

Marling Sixth Form has said goodbye and good luck to its first ever co-educational year group. The incoming students made history in September 2019 by including the first girls to join Marling since it opened in 1887.

Caitlin Griffiths, who joined Marling from Severn Vale School said:

'I was so excited to be one of Marling's first girls and then to be appointed as one of four girls in the student leadership team. In spite of the challenges caused by Covid, I've learnt so much, had such a positive experience and am really proud to have been part of this pioneering group of students. I'm now hoping to go on to study politics at Cardiff University.'

Rufus Wells, who joined from Katharine Lady Berkeley School, said:

'I'm so pleased that I chose Marling to do my A Levels, it is an exceptional sixth form with amazing academic focus and a community like no other. I've made many new friends and I found it a welcoming and supportive environment in which to study. Next year I am planning to study Architecture at Manchester School of Architecture.'

This group of students has had an extraordinary sixth form journey. Not only have they led Marling's move to a co-educational environment, but they have also coped with two periods of lockdown alongside a completely changed system of A Level assessment.

Steve Farr, Head of Sixth Form said:

'We are all so proud of each and every student in this resilient year group. These past two years haven't been easy for anyone, and they have risen to the challenges they faced so well. We wish them every success for the future.'

Since Marling opened its doors to girls two years ago, the school has become an increasingly popular choice for local students. Up to 100 new students now join Y12 from schools across the area and a third of sixth formers are now girls.

This year's graduating cohort - the largest ever - are planning to go on to a wide range of courses and destinations across the country, including 11 holding offers to study medicine or study at Cambridge University and others heading to dance school, drama college or to study music at a conservatoire. In addition, some students are moving straight into employment, beginning apprenticeships or entering the armed forces.

Garden Party

24 May 2021

The Sixth Form said good bye and good luck to the Class of 2021.

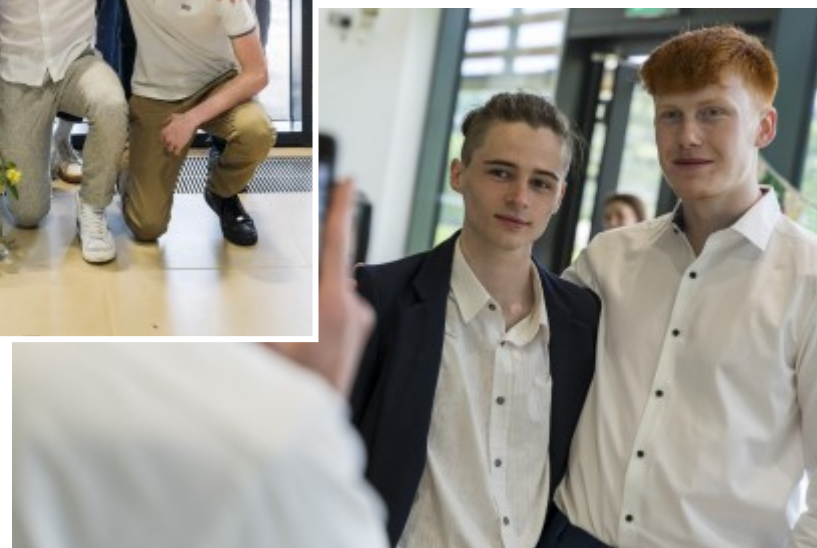




Class of 2021



Class of 2021





Class of 2021





Class of 2021





1st
co-ed
year

Good
Luck

CLASS OF
2021

 MARLING
SIXTH FORM

