



James Marks Academy Trust

www.jmatherts.co.uk

Friday 18th October 2024

Email Admin@romanfields.herts.sch.uk admin@jamesmarks.herts.sch.uk admin@foresthous.herts.sch.uk

Roman Fields Head's message



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy few weeks at Roman Fields which have seen lesson observations, new pupils and transition trips out to exciting places. I am sure our pupils are looking forward to the upcoming half term break when they can enjoy a well-earned rest; on that note, just a reminder that Friday 25th October will be an Inset day so pupils are not expected to attend. Can I also take the opportunity to remind parents that we have our first Parents' Support Group meeting on Monday 21st October at 4pm (see email for specific details and agenda). This first half term has been full of energy, positivity and excellent learning; it is always such a joy to walk around lessons and see pupils fully engaged. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and dedication to promoting attendance as, as you know, it really does make all of the difference. Wishing you all a lovely half term, Emma :-)





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James Marks Academy Head's message



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the first holiday of the school year, we want to say a huge thank you to all the parents for their amazing support —we'd give you all an award but we don't have that number of Amazon vouchers!

We know that getting back into school mode after a break can sometimes feel like trying to wake a hibernating bear, but we can't wait to welcome your child back on Monday 4th November.

Next week, students will start choose options for after the half-term break. We will guide them through it to make sure they make appropriate choices.

Thank you to those parents who have already completed the travel survey. We would be grateful if you could spend a few minutes completing this, as it a requirement for the opening of the new site.

Kind regards
Scott Martin





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Pupil successes at James Marks Academy

Stars of the week -
04/10/2024

GOLD - Fin

SILVER - Dylan

BRONZE - Aimee

100% ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK - Niffler

JAMES MARKS SPIRIT AWARD - Max S



Pupil successes at Roman Fields Academy

Stars of the week -
04/10/2024

GOLD - Thomas

SILVER - Mason

BRONZE - Gabriel, Holly

100% ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK - Emilia

ROMAN FIELDS SPIRIT AWARD - Chloe



Pupil successes at Forest House Education centre

Stars of the week -
04/10/2024

FOREST HOUSE SPIRIT AWARD - Lillie

FOREST HOUSE ATTENDANCE AWARD - Sasha





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Pupil successes at James Marks Academy

**Stars of the week -
11/10/2024**

GOLD - Lottie

SILVER - Josh.M

BRONZE - Ben

100% ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK - Ollie

JAMES MARKS SPIRIT AWARD - Emily.T



Pupil successes at Roman Fields Academy

**Stars of the week -
11/10/2024**

GOLD - Emilia

SILVER - Ash

BRONZE - Lili, Leo

100% ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK - Jake.W.P

ROMAN FIELDS SPIRIT AWARD - Himi





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Dates for the diary

Friday 25th October - Inset Day.

Monday 28th October till Friday 1st November - Half term.

Friday 29th November - Occasional day (school closed).

Friday 20th December - Last day of term.

Monday 23rd December 2024 till Friday 3rd January 2025 - Christmas holiday

Monday 6th January - Inset Day.

Tuesday 7th January - Pupils return.

Monday 17th February till Friday 21st February - Half term



Become a Star Reader!



Here at Roman Fields, we understand and value the importance of reading. Reading - in whatever form you choose to engage in - fills you with knowledge. It improves your comprehension and analytical abilities. Furthermore, it stimulates the memory and broadens your imagination.

Therefore, each week, Roman Fields will be championing a *Star Reader*. You can be rewarded for your reading in any lesson, but you will also have the opportunity to demonstrate it in a specific session on your timetable. In these lessons, your teacher will be looking opportunities to award you points for your engagement in reading

Each week, the pupil with the most points awarded will receive a Star Reader certificate and a voucher.



Star reader of the week for Roman Fields Academy



04/10/2024

Ollie





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Careers and Transition - Shendish Manor Careers Fair

On Wednesday 2 October, 15 pupils went to Shendish Manor to participate in a careers fair where there were many local employers. The pupils were encouraged to ask questions about what sort of job roles exist and the routes into these jobs. We would like to signpost parents to the Hertfordshire Opportunities Portal as a one-stop online destination as there is a wealth of information including information on apprenticeships and virtual work experience. There is also a link to this site from our website. <https://www.hopinto.co.uk/>



Tuesday transition group at Forest House Education Center

We have had two workplace visits recently - one to Pets at Home where the pupils learnt about caring for guinea pigs and rats and routes into working with animals whether in a retail store or the veterinary route. The second trip was to The Range where we learnt about the company and what key skills they look for in employees - reliability and honesty being key. They are already planning their easter displays for next year but we enjoyed the Halloween and Christmas ones!





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Friday Transition group at Roman Fields

We have been developing our social and team building skills by getting out and about beyond the school gates with recent trips to the Dunstable Downs to fly the kites, the Natural History Museum at Tring, Wendover Woods for a walk and St Albans park.





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Horticulture lessons at Roman Fields

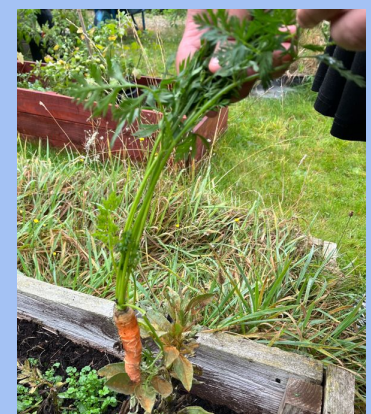
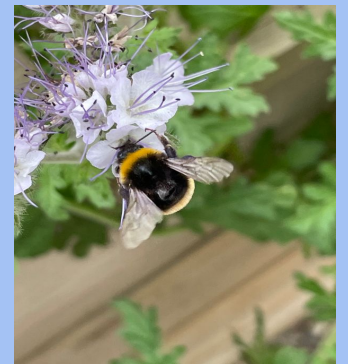
Steve and the pupils have been working hard over the last few months. The horticulture classes were only for one hour per week, so a lot of hard physical work was undertaken in order to achieve our goals.

Before the amazing harvest in July and early September of broad beans, peas, tomatoes, carrots and potatoes the pupils worked extremely hard in preparing the soil for planting.

The planters were de-weeded and the soil was turned over and mixed with manure to enrich its growing potential. Some seeds were planted directly into the soil, but the tomato seeds were planted in the greenhouse where they were nurtured until large enough to be planted outside. The pupils were all rewarded for this with an abundance of vegetables and very tasty cherry tomatoes.

This term the groups are preparing the planters for the next season. Some are being replaced and the redistribution of soil is another physical undertaking for the pupils.

We have already planted some garlic cloves in small pots in the greenhouse and we've used a variety of soils to observe which one promotes the quickest plant growth. Also we've collected some plant cuttings and we will try to create a pollinating area with Butterfly bush, Fuchsia and Lavender. We have also started our herb garden project and will continue with our autumn planting which will include onions and leeks. The enthusiasm of the pupils during these horticulture classes is impressive and inspiring.





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Mentoring scheme



If any pupils are interested in going to university then please contact Head Up! (which stands for higher education access for disabled and disadvantaged students) and is an organisation that offers free support. If you know anyone who is 14-18 and has a disability whom you think might benefit from Head Up! mentoring, please let them know that they can sign up for the 2025 mentoring cycle by visiting <https://head-up.org/mentoring>

Herts Parent Carer involvement Annual Survey

Herts Parent Carer Involvement, the independent parent carer forum for Hertfordshire, has asked us to share their annual survey with you. They want to hear from Hertfordshire parent carers of children and young people (age 0-25) with any Special Educational Need and/or Disability. Your child doesn't need to have a diagnosis or EHCP for you to take part. The survey is open until **Sunday 3 November** and can be accessed here:

<http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HPCISurvey2024>

If you would like to know more about HPCI or to become a member, you can visit their website:

www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk or call 07840 360 245.

Services for Young People

Our lovely Nicole from Services for Young People will be in all 3 schools seeing the leavers in years 11 and 13 for personal one to one guidance over the next few weeks. These are to help focus young people's minds on what they may want to do in the future and explore options. No specific preparation is required.



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Springboard open event

North Hertfordshire College is pleased to announce its open afternoon at **Springboard Watford** which will be held on **Thursday 14th of November 3pm – 5pm** at its prestigious premises. This is an opportunity for professionals, parents, and prospective students to meet the team and find out more about the Springboard programme. A number of pupils from Roman Fields have successfully attended Springboard over the past few years.

The address is:

**Springboard
Unit 8 Wilmington Close
Watford
Hertfordshire
WD18 0FQ**

The nearest car park is the local Sainsbury's where you can park for free for two hours, or Gade car park in Rosslyn Road and Wilmington Close is off Upton Road:

<https://citipark.co.uk/car-parks/watford/gade-car-park>

If you would like any more information then please contact -

Mark Kucper

Springboard Centre and Transition Coordinator (Watford)

North Hertfordshire College

Tel: 01923 630408

Email: mkucper@nhc.ac.uk



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Charity news - DENS

DENS Sponsored Sleep Out on Friday 22nd November at Lockers Park School, Hemel Hempstead.

Join us for an action-packed evening of team games, live entertainment and community spirit. Then, it's time to bed down and experience just a small glimpse of what rough sleepers face during the harsh winter months.

We would love to welcome as many people as possible from across our community, so please help us by sharing this event with your school...or perhaps even team up and come together? It's a truly unique experience whilst making a real difference to a local charity. We will also have a SEN area with a calming and quiet zone.

Book your FREE places now at www.dens.org.uk/sleepout

Do let me know if you have any questions or need any more info.

Best wishes
Charlotte

SPONSORED SLEEPOUT

GIVE UP YOUR BED ON A COLD WINTER NIGHT TO HELP LOCAL PEOPLE FACING HOMELESSNESS

BOOK YOUR FREE PLACES
DENS.ORG.UK/SLEEPOUT

FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER - 9PM-7AM
LOCKERS PARK SCHOOL, HEMEL

Supported by:

LOCKERS PARK



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Celebrate half-term with Electric Umbrella's Happy Hour

Come and join Electric Umbrella as their team of professional musicians and learning disabled superstars deliver an hour of music, in a show for all the family, guaranteed to leave a lasting memory.

- Date: Monday 28th & Tuesday 29th October
- Location: Electric Umbrella Arena, The Marlowes Centre, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1LA
- Time: 2pm – 3pm
- Entry: £5 per person (all ages) or £15 for Family of 4 (maximum 2 adults)
- Buy your tickets [HERE](#)

Half-Term Happy Hour

**Mon 28 + Tues 29
October, 2pm**

Electric Umbrella Arena, The Marlowes
Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1LA

Get your tickets: 

£5 per person
(all ages)

Family of 4 - £15
(maximum 2 adults)

Come and join Electric Umbrella as our team of professional musicians and learning disabled superstars deliver an hour of music, in a show for all the family, guaranteed to leave a lasting memory.

If you've seen any of our performances, at school or on stage, you'll know what's in store! If not, come and discover the fun of our amazing live, interactive music experiences.

electric
UMBRELLA 

Electric Umbrella: Where Music Unites People and Creates a More Inclusive Society.
electricumbrella.org.uk/half-term-shows | @electricbrolly    



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Potential Kids

Please find attached flyer with the October sessions, including half term.

If you would like any more information then please contact Emma Boulton.

Site: potentialkids.org.uk

Email: emma@potentialkids.org

Teams: emma@potentialkids.org

Address: [Potential Kids, The Galleria Outlet Centre, Comet Way, Hatfield, Herts, AL10 0XR](#)

OCTOBER & HALF TERM 2024 ACTIVITIES

POTENTIAL KIDS

BOOKINGS:
www.potentialkids.org.uk/events

Date	Sessions	Time
3rd Thu	Bushcraft/STEM Home Ed Groups for 8-13 yrs and 13+ yrs	10.00 - 11.30 11.45 - 13.15
3rd Thu	Trampolining 5 + yrs	17.20-18.30
5th Sat	FREE Family Football - Drop In	16.00-17.00
6th Sun	1:1 Therapeutic Riding	See website
10th Thu	Bushcraft/STEM Home Ed Groups for 8-13 yrs and 13+ yrs	10.00 - 11.30 11.45 - 13.15
11th Fri	Welcome Space Community Drop-In	10.00-12.30
11th Fri	**NEW** Therapeutic Gardening Home Ed Group 8 + yrs	12.30-14.00
11th Fri	Youth Group 16+	18.30-20.30
12th Sat	FREE Family Football - Drop In	16.00-17.00
13th Sun	1:1 Therapeutic Riding	See website
15th Tue	**NEW** Roller Skating 8+ yrs	18.00 - 19.30
17th Thu	Bushcraft/STEM Home Ed Groups for 8-13 yrs and 13+ yrs	10.00 - 11.30 11.45 - 13.15
18th Fri	Welcome Space Community Drop-In	10.00-12.30
18th Fri	**NEW** Therapeutic Gardening Home Ed Group 8 + yrs	12.30-14.00
18th Fri	*NEW* Youth Group 11-15 yrs	18.00-20.00
19th Sat	**NEW** Basketball 7 + yrs	16.00-17.00
20th Sun	1:1 Therapeutic Riding	See Website
24th Thu	Bushcraft/STEM Home Ed Groups for 8-13 yrs and 13+ yrs	10.00 - 11.30 11.45 - 13.15
25th Fri	Welcome Space Community Drop-In	10.00-12.30
25th Fri	**NEW** Therapeutic Gardening Home Ed Group 8 + yrs	12.30-14.00
27th Sun	1:1 Therapeutic Riding	See Website
29th Tue	Fun Zone 4-12 yrs	19.00-20.45
30th Wed	Halloween Party in the Garden 4-11 yrs and 11+ yrs	13.00-14.30 14.45-16.15
31st Thu	Pony Morning 6-11yrs	10.00-12.00

PK Hub & Garden

TUTORING

Neurodivergent PK TECH TEAM

Danecroft Stables

1:1 Horse Riding Groundworks/Care Equine Therapy Sessions

Communication, Learning & Social Support for everyone through our inclusive programmes

Therapeutic Gardening 1:1 & Group Sessions. Volunteers Needed

Contact us for details of our PK offer:

- Tutoring
- Teaching
- Mentoring
- Therapies
- 1:1 & Group Work
- Alternative provision
- EOTAS
- DoE

For further information on any of our Activities or Educational Services please email us at info@potentialkids.org