



# James Marks Academy Trust

[www.jmatherts.co.uk](http://www.jmatherts.co.uk)

Friday 14th February 2025

Email [Admin@romanfields.herts.sch.uk](mailto:Admin@romanfields.herts.sch.uk) [admin@jamesmarks.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@jamesmarks.herts.sch.uk) [admin@foresthous.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@foresthous.herts.sch.uk)

## Roman Fields Head's message



Hi all,

I hope you are looking forward to a well deserved break over half term.

Just a reminder that when we return, we will have our second Parents' Support Group meeting on Thursday 27th February, for Roman Fields and Forest House, where you will have the opportunity to speak to Mary, our Autism Lead, and workshop some ideas around sleep and routines; we hope to see you there!

Happy holidays everyone!

Emma :-)

### *Reminder*

Roman Fields Mock Exams for Year 10 and Year 11 will be from Monday 17th March to Friday 28th March





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## **James Marks Deputy Head's message - part 1**



As we hit the halfway mark of the academic year, I think we can all agree that next week's break is well-earned—and probably arriving just in time.

A huge thank you for sending in your child's option choices. I'm still debating whether I should be flattered or deeply concerned that so many pupils are eager to bake with me next half term. Either way, I'll make sure the fire extinguisher is within reach.

On the subject of survival, I'd like to reassure you that Trevor is still very much alive—despite numerous attempts to poison him. From what I've seen in the forensic science lessons, Sophie has thoroughly enjoyed plotting his untimely demise. Much like the baking situation, I'll leave it to you to decide whether that's a promising talent or a cause for concern.

A special thanks to William, who has taken our Politics group and Year 12 pupils on three fantastic trips. We know that the Politics group asked the local representatives of the council some insightful questions. As you'll see from his article, the Year 12 pupils gained a lot from their visit to the National Archive and, I assume, did not attempt to rewrite history while they were there.



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## James Marks Deputy Head's message - part2



A couple of quick reminders:

The next Parent Group meeting for JMA is on Monday 3rd March at 9:30 AM—please let the office know if you're planning to attend.

Year 13 Parents' Evening at JMA is on Thursday 13th March—if you have a pupil in this year group, you should have received your appointment times.

Enjoy the well-deserved break next week—we'll see you back on Monday 24th February, hopefully well-rested and ready for whatever chaos awaits in the baking lessons!

Kind regards  
Scott





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## Pupil successes at James Marks Academy

**Stars of the week -  
07/02/2025**

**GOLD - Harry**

**SILVER - Dominic**

**BRONZE - Nathan**

**100% ATTENDANCE FOR THE**

**WEEK - Amiyah**

**JAMES MARKS SPIRIT AWARD**

- Reece



## Pupil successes at Roman Fields Academy

**Stars of the week -  
07/02/2025**

**GOLD - Jake.W.B**

**SILVER - Freddie**

**BRONZE - Natan, Mason**

**100% ATTENDANCE FOR THE**

**WEEK - Jake.A.F**

**ROMAN FIELDS SPIRIT**

**AWARD - Poppy**



## Pupil successes at Forest House Education centre

**Stars of the week -  
07/02/2025**

**FOREST HOUSE PUPIL  
ATTENDANCE AWARD -  
Lauren**

**FOREST HOUSE SPIRIT  
AWARD - Pierre**





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## Pupil successes at James Marks Academy

Stars of the week -  
14/02/2025

**GOLD** - Kayden

**SILVER** - Zara

**BRONZE** - Amiyah

**100% ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK** - Ben.R

**JAMES MARKS SPIRIT AWARD** - Finley.H



## Pupil successes at Roman Fields Academy

Stars of the week -  
14/02/2025

**GOLD** - Matthew

**SILVER** - Gabriel

**BRONZE** - Lili, Holly

**100% ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK** - Emilia

**ROMAN FIELDS SPIRIT AWARD** - Ash



## Pupil successes at Forest House Education centre

Stars of the week -  
14/02/2025

**FOREST HOUSE PUPIL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** - Lola  
**FOREST HOUSE PUPIL ATTENDANCE AWARD** - David





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## Dates for the diary

Monday 24th February - All Pupils back to school.

Thursday 27th February - Parents Support Group for Roman Fields & Forest House.

Monday 3rd March - Parents support group at James Marks Academy.

Tuesday 4th March - Pancake day at Roman Fields and James Marks Academy.

Thursday 6th March - World Book Day at Roman Fields and James Marks Academy.

Thursday 13th March - Year 13's Parents evening at James Marks Academy.

Thursday 20th March - Red Nose day fun at Roman Fields.

Friday 4th April - Break for Easter.



## 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



07/02/2025

Himi

14/02/2025

Harrison





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## James Marks Academy year 12 National Archives and Kew Gardens trip - Friday 7th February

The Year 12 history and art students had a trip to Kew. First they spent a morning at the National Archives looking at a range of medieval documents ranging from the cartulary for the Abbey of Chertsey, containing all the legal documentation of the Abbey's landholdings, to wooden tallies, a system of medieval financial record keeping involving carving into small bits of wood. The highlight was looking at a copy of the Domesday Book. The year 12s successfully deciphered an entry in Latin for Kingston with its five ploughs, two mills and woodland for seven pigs (all now a shopping centre). After lunch we visited Kew Gardens so that the artists could explore botanic art at the Marianne North and Shirley Sherwood galleries, as well as the wonderful Palm House.





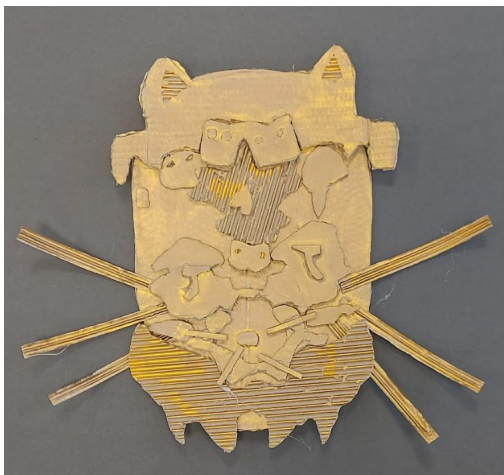
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## James Marks Academy Year 7 artwork - Masks

Year 7 pupils created symmetrical card relief masks based on magazine collages.





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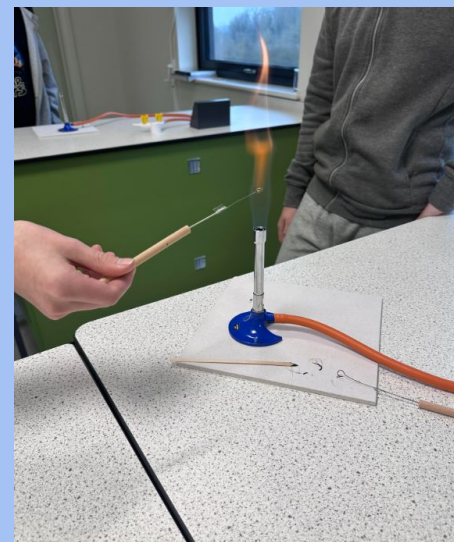
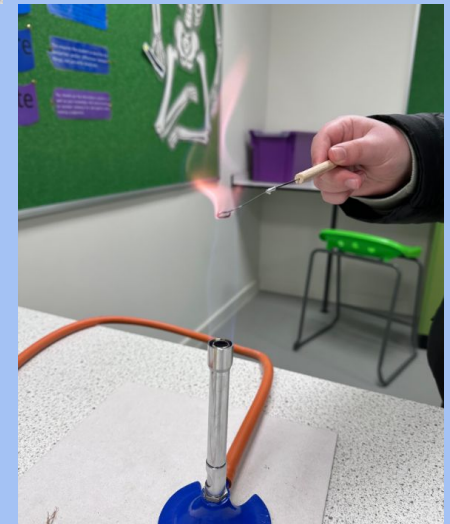
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## James Marks Academy - Forensic Science lessons-part 1

Over the last 6 weeks, the James Marks Forensics Team have been investigating the (fictional) attempted poisoning of our esteemed leader, Trevor. The team have been using their practical and investigative skills to consider the evidence that has been left around the school.

Trevor was admitted to hospital with nausea, weakness and vomiting. He was also given a routine blood test. The team have investigated fingerprints left on a beaker in Svetlana's science lab, a footprint left outside Trevor's office, forensic graphology (the study of handwriting), chromatography (the study of inks and pigments), toxicology and chemical analysis.

The images from the chemical analysis, where the pupils were matching the substance found in the coffee cup to known substances using flame tests.





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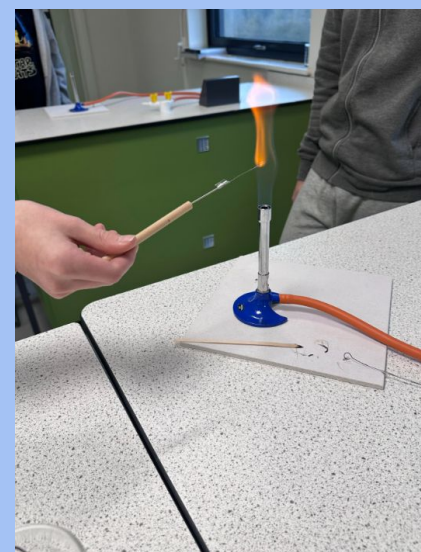
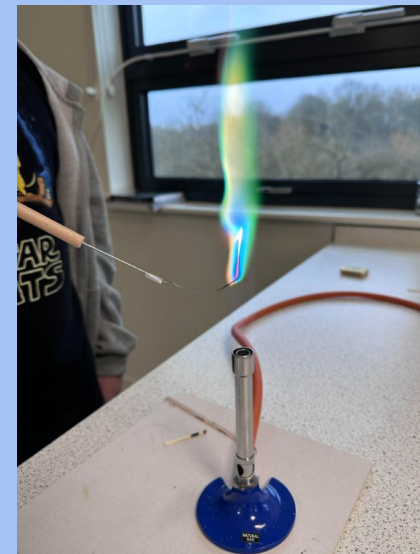
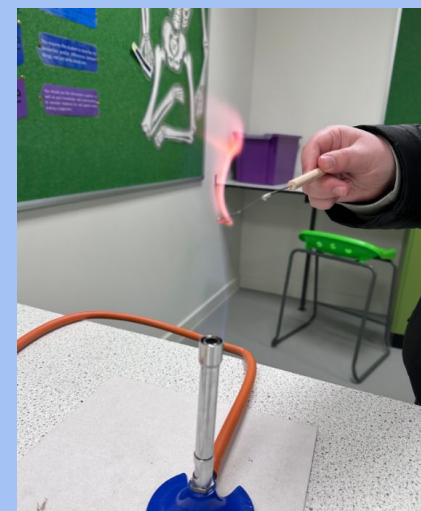
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## James Marks Academy - Forensic Science lessons-part 2

The teams have put forward their findings to the police investigators, and a warrant is out for the arrest of MARK REYNOLDS! The devious nature of Mark has been clear through his manipulation of Kim, whose handwriting he attempted to copy and who he made deliver the near deadly cup of coffee!

For those invested; the substance that was found in Trevor's blood was made from drying, and crushing apple seeds. Mark used this as an ingredient in a cake mixture where he attempted to deliver his near deadly poison!

I have been incredibly proud of the pupil's curiosity, practical skill and ability to look at a situation objectively. Well done Forensics Team, and fingers crossed for a conviction!





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## Pancake day fun at Roman Fields - Tuesday 4th March



# Pancake day

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March



Come join in the pancake fun at Roman Fields. This will be at lunch time in the dinner hall where you can sample some yummy pancakes and take part in who can flip the most pancakes in 30 seconds.





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## World Book Day at Roman Fields - Thursday 6th March

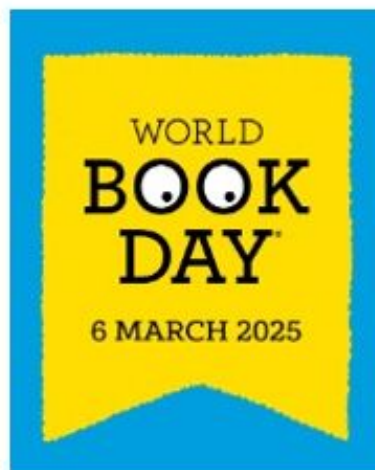
Roman Fields pupils are you ready to show us your amazing short stories? The closing date is Wednesday 5th March.

The winner will be announced at lunch time on Thursday 6th March.

Good luck everyone.

If you are interesting in receiving a digital voucher then please click on the link attached -

<https://www.worldbookday.com/books-and-tokens/book-token/digital-tokens/>



### World Book Day Costume Competition (staff included)!!

Come dressed as a book character. A prize for the best costume!



Take part in the Roman Fields Teachers' Favourite Books Quiz. All you need to do is guess which childhood favourite matches which teacher. A prize for the individual who guesses the most correct!



Enter the Roman Fields Short Story Competition. Can you write a short story (no more than 300 words), using at least 6 of the words below? All entries must be handed to the office by midday on Wednesday 5th March. The best entry will be announced at the end of lunch on World Book Day, with the winner receiving a prize!

Trevor	irrational	harmony	ludicrous	contour
effervescent	serotonin	encryption	metaphorical	tranquil
compassion	dilapidated	haughty	lavish	exuberant
dazzling	abundant	slick	meandering	vibrant



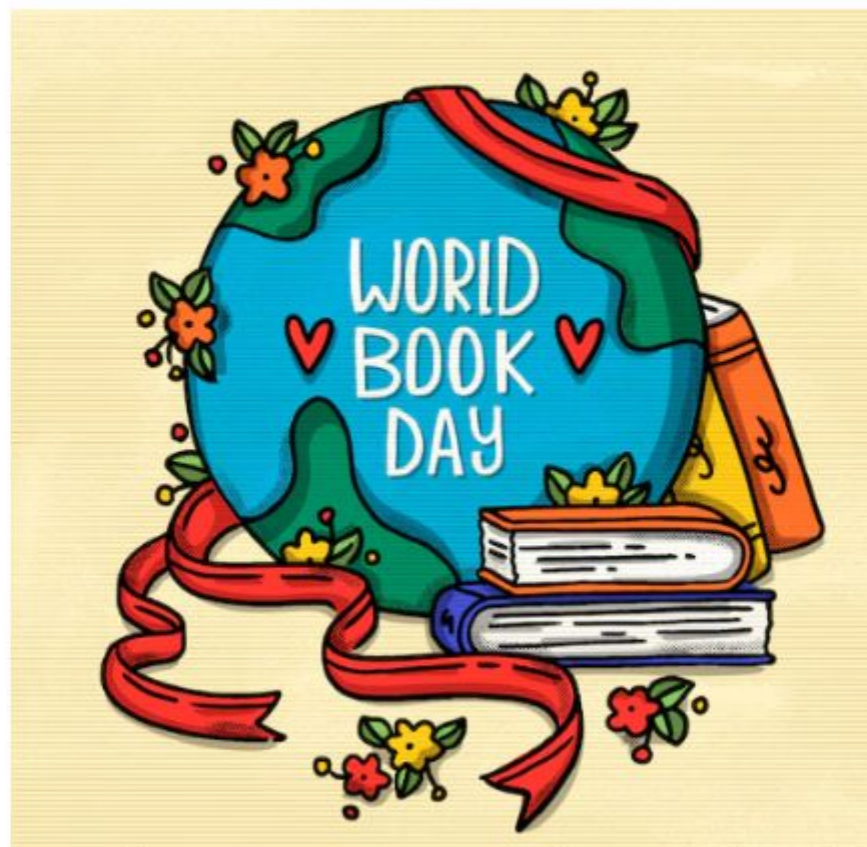
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## World Book Day at Roman Fields - Thursday 6th March

# Thursday 6th March



**Please feel free to dress up as your favourite book character.**



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## **National Apprenticeship Week - Monday 10th till Sunday 16th February**

This week is National Apprenticeship Week. In December pupils across the trust received a talk from Nicole from Services for Young People about apprenticeships.

As ever, if you wish to explore anything around careers please make the Hertfordshire Opportunities Portal your first place to visit for information:

<https://www.hopinto.co.uk/>

There are over 100 live apprenticeship opportunities across Hertfordshire at the moment. Please note that some are Post 16 and some Post 18.

Paul, our Enterprise Adviser from Tesco will be coming into RFA at the end of February to talk to some pupils about the world of work and apprenticeships.

Thank you so much, from Debra and Jan,  
Careers and Transition Lead



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## Camping at Church Farm Ardeley

Please see poster attached about the camping experiences at Church farm in Ardeley.

For further information please call 01438 861 447 or email [info@churchfarmardeley.co.uk](mailto:info@churchfarmardeley.co.uk)

### Address -

Church Farm, Ardeley, Stevenage SG2 7AH

### Camping at Church Farm

At Church Farm Ardeley we have very large camping fields which offer a wonderful opportunity for larger groups of families to book school class camping trips as well as individual family stays.

Accommodation includes the hire of bell tents and cabins (with or without 'glamping' options), as well as multiple woods and fields to pitch your own tents. All large groups are allocated roped private areas so that they can all camp together.

We offer a variety of options to enhance your stay: camp fire packs, BBQ hire, straw bales, and delicious food that can be ordered in advance from our website or purchased from our on-site farm shop. There is also a pub and restaurant (The Jolly Waggoner) as well as our café for the all-important teas, coffees and bacon rolls.

Camping at the farm also includes free farm passes (usually £6.95pp per day) for the duration of your stay. Get to know the animals, explore our woodland play area, follow the farm trail, and find out about growing and horticulture in our polytunnels and kitchen garden. And there are plenty of beautiful family walks in the peaceful, rolling Hertfordshire countryside.

Additional bookable activities include Egg Collecting, Goat Walking, Fairy Trail, Animal Feeding and (from Feb-April) Lamb Bottle Feeding.

Tel: [01438 861 447](tel:01438861447) Email: [info@churchfarmardeley.co.uk](mailto:info@churchfarmardeley.co.uk)  
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## Potential kids - February activities

Please find attached the February Activities including half term .

If you would like further information then please contact Emma Boulton -

Site:

[potentialkids.org.uk](http://potentialkids.org.uk)

Email:

[emma@potentialkids.org](mailto:emma@potentialkids.org)

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

## FEBRUARY & HALF TERM 2025 ACTIVITIES

Sessions for Neurodivergent children/young people and Siblings

Date	Sessions	Time
1st Sat	FREE Family Football - Drop In	16.00-17.00
6th Thu	Bushcraft/Stem Home Ed 4+	10.30-12.00
6th Thu	Trampolining 5 + yrs	17.20-18.30
7th Fri	Welcome Space Community Drop-In	10.00-12.30
7th Fri	<b>**NEW**</b> Therapeutic Gardening Home Ed Group 8 + yrs	12.30-14.00
8th Sat	Soft Archery 7+	16.00-17.00
13th Thu	Bushcraft/Stem Home Ed 4+	10.30-12.00
14th Fri	Welcome Space Community Drop-In	10.00-12.30
14th Fri	<b>**NEW**</b> Therapeutic Gardening Home Ed Group 8 + yrs	12.30-14.00
15th Sat	<b>**NEW**</b> Basketball 7 + yrs	16.00-17.00
18th Tue	Half Term Cooking and Seed Planting 4+ yrs	10.30-12.30
18th Tue	<b>**NEW**</b> Roller Skating 8+ yrs	18.00 - 19.30
21st Fri	Youth Group Games and Crafts 10-14yrs	18.00-19.30
22nd Sat	FREE Family Football - Drop In	16.00-17.00
27th Thu	Bushcraft/Stem Home Ed 4+	10.30-12.00
27th Thu	Trampolining 5 + yrs	17.20-18.30
28th Fri	Welcome Space Community Drop-In	10.00-12.00
28th Fri	<b>**NEW**</b> Therapeutic Gardening Home Ed Group 8 + yrs	12.30-14.00

For further information on any of our Activities or Educational Services please email us at [info@potentialkids.org](mailto:info@potentialkids.org)

### POTENTIAL KIDS

OCN Accredited Training Provider of OCN London Qualifications

PK Hub & Garden



TUTORING



Danecroft Stables



1:1 Horseriding Returning in Spring

Visit us here



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

