

Hello, Spring!

THE CHALFONTS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

May 2023



CHALFONTS NEWS

Success is an Attitude

Issue 16



POWERED BY



The Parliamentary Review

BEST PRACTICE REPRESENTATIVE



HERTS  BUCKS
TEACHING SCHOOL ALLIANCE



**Our
School's
Four Core Values;**

**Courteous!
Community Minded!**

**Conscientious!
and Committed!**

Year 7 Prom

As part of the BTEC Business Level 3 course, the Year 13 students are required to manage an event. This year the BTEC students organised and hosted Year 7 Prom. They did an amazing job and the Year 7 students thoroughly enjoyed the event. The evening was full of excitement, including the crowning of Prom King and Queen, awards and raffles. The students raised money for a Family Fund; Team G Singh, for Fight for Sight. They raised money for a condition called Choroideremia and raised

over **£1000**. As a school we are very proud of the Year 13 BTEC students. If you wish to learn more about the family fund or would like to contribute [click here](#).



Sports Tour

After five years we finally embarked on another sports tour over the Easter holidays to Estepona, Spain. **66 netballers and footballers** and 7 staff wearily met at the school at the early time of 2:45am on the Saturday 8th April to begin our adventure. After smoothly sailing through the airport, we were on our way.

Throughout the week we had three two-hour training sessions, the footballers in particular benefited from an extremely good pitch to train on which they described as "Wembley without the stands". In all the training sessions the students showed a great willingness to work on their game.

The netballers travelled to Gibraltar on the Tuesday to play their matches but not

before enjoying a morning at the Gibraltar rock seeing the caves and the monkeys followed by an amazing dolphin cruise where we saw multiple dolphins in glorious weather. This was a contrast to the boys' boat trip on the same day in Malaga which was described in one word... choppy! The netballers had a tough opening set of matches on this day, but we couldn't fault the resilience of the girls. The netballers travelled back to Gibraltar on the Thursday for another round of matches which again were challenging. After listening to a motivational speech on the way from **Miss Noble** they showed a much-improved attitude and commitment throughout all four games they played for which the staff were proud.

The footballers played their first match on the Monday against local side Alahurin De La Torre. The Year 9s were up first, and they put on a show winning **8-0** goals by **Freddie** x3, **Connor**, **Kai**, **James** and goal of the tour from **Harry**. [\(Article continues below...\)](#)



Charity!

Mr Fawcett's Charity Swim

Late last year, a friend of mine of 30+ years was diagnosed with Leukemia. I was really impressed with the various treatments and support that appeared around him to help him on his path to recovery. One of the charities involved was Anthony Nolan. They found a stem cell donor match for him in America, arranged for the collection from the donor, transport of stem cells through volunteers and commercial flights, and delivery of these stem cells as a critical part of his treatment. This charity is directly saving the lives of those who need them.

To raise money for this wonderful charity, this year I will be swimming the length of all of the lakes in the Lake District. There are 17 in total (named further down this page) with the shortest one being 500m and the longest being 17km!!

I'm training hard (5-6 times per week) and will be doing some of the longer lakes in the summer when it's warmer, which is important as for the longer lakes I expect to be in for between 4 and 6 hours. If anyone wants to join me for one of the lakes then you'd be most welcome.

Your donation will go toward saving a life. Someone else's donation has already helped my friend towards his recovery. Your donation will help someone else's friend towards theirs. Please [click here](#) to donate.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/duncan-fawcett-1682358527172?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=one_page&utm_content=page/duncan-fawcett-1682358527172&utm_campaign=pfp-2-share&utm_term=5eea6f4f380e4315aeb0dd677fa06349

Thanks for considering giving.

Mr Fawcett - Teacher of PE



(...Article continued)

This was followed by an unlucky defeat for the Year 10s with goals by **Frankie** and **Jake**. Then on the Thursday we played at our training ground which felt like a home game at this point as it was only ten minute walk from the hotel. The Year 9s again won **4-1** goals by **Connor**, **Kai**, **Freddie**, and **Ollie**. The tens followed that with a hard fought **1-0** victory with the goal by **Alfie**.

Overall, the week was a great experience for the students and staff with lots of memories created in temperatures that didn't drop below 25°C. We had loads of pool/chill time at the hotel (topping up the tan), we had an informative and interesting stadium tour of Malaga FC which the girls in particular were enthusiastic about, and we had a competitive bowling session. Wednesday, we had a fun filled day with the morning spent at a waterpark and the afternoon scaling the heights on the high ropes.

Finally, a thank you to all the students you were a credit to the school and to the staff **Miss Irvine**, **Mrs Byrne**, **Ms Dickinson**,

Mr D'Arcy, **Mr Dalmedo** and **Mr Barker** for giving up their time and all their support.

Mr Brooks - Teacher of PE/ICT



Athletics Success

This month has already seen two major athletics events take place at Hillingdon Athletics Stadium. On Friday 5th May, 40 students took part in the annual Year 7 and 8 Performance Trials, while on Thursday 11th May, 60 students from Year 7-10 represented the school in the very competitive English Schools Cup 1st Round. Though the Performance Trials were based around individual performance, the National Cup competition was a team event. In the latter event, our Junior Girls, Junior Boys and Intermediate Boys teams all finished in a respectable 9th place, while our Intermediate Girls teams finished 8th.

Well done to everybody that competed over these two events, but special mentions should go to the following for achieving, Gold, Silver or Bronze! If you’re interested in taking part in athletics outside of school, our local clubs are listed below. All of these have websites, which will provide more information, if needed!

- Wycombe Phoenix Harriers and Athletic Club
- Hillingdon Athletics Club
- Windsor, Slough, Eton and Hounslow Athletics Club

Performance Trials

Isla Mincham 200M (Gold) and Long Jump (Gold), **Harley Swain** 200M (Bronze), Javelin (Gold) and High Jump (Silver), **Rebecca Gabb** 1500M (Gold), **Bobby Brennan** Hurdles (Bronze) and 300M (Silver), **Will Fairchild** 100M (Silver), **Zac McCarthy** High Jump (Silver), **Ava Bradley** 300M (Silver), **Eliza Prieg** Long Jump (Silver), **Harvey Allen** Shot (Silver), and **Izzie Holdom** 1500M (Bronze)

English Schools 1st Round

Olivia Edwards 200M (Silver), **Harley Swain** High Jump (Bronze), **Kassim Fornah** 300M (Bronze)

Mr D’Arcy -
Leader for PE



Super Sport!

PE Notices

Athletics Squad

Training is every Tuesday after school. If you want to compete for the school, or just improve your times/distances, come along!

Swimming Team

If you’d like to be considered for the school Swim Team from **September**, please pass your 50m times, in any stroke, on to **Mr D’Arcy** in the PE office. Training and events begin in **September**

Rounders

Practice takes place **every Thursday** after school. If you want to be considered for the year 7-10 squads, you’ll need to be there!

Tennis

We’ve recently been given the opportunity to use the grass courts at **Gerrards Cross Tennis Club**. This will be every Wednesday after school until the summer holidays. Speak with **Mr Barker** to secure your place.

Girls Cricket

If you’re interested in playing some cricket in school and against other schools, training is **every Tuesday** after school with **Ms Dickinson**. All are welcome!



CCC PE Extra-Curricular Timetable – Summer

	<u>Before School</u> 8 – 8.35	<u>Breaktime</u> 11.05 – 11.35	<u>Lunch</u> 1.35 – 2.05	<u>After School</u> 3-4.30		
Monday	All Years Fitness Fitness Suite FCT	Year 11 Football MUGA LDA	Y9/10 Basketball Gym DCY	Year 7/8 Golf GX Golf Club LDA	Year 9/10 Cricket Leisure Centre KNE/SPR/DCY/JBA	Year 7-9 Gymnastics Gym Miss Wright
Tuesday	All Years Fitness Fitness Suite FCT	Year 10 Football MUGA NBL	All years Inclusive Sports Hall FCT		All Years Athletics Field BRH/More staff	All Years Girls Cricket MUGA AIR/LDI
Wednesday		Year 8 Football MUGA NBL	11/6 th Form Basketball Gym DCY	Year 9 Football MUGA BKS	Year 7/8 Cricket Leisure Centre KNE/SPR/LDA/BKS	
Thursday		6 th Form Football MUGA LDA			All Years Tennis GX Tennis Club JBA	All years Rounders Field NBL/BKS
Friday	All years Fitness Fitness Suite FCT		KS3 Dodgeball Gym BRH	Year 7 Football MUGA CLK		

LRC Fund-raising

We would like to update our LRC, this space has not been decorated in over 20 years! We would love to inspire our students to read more as the benefits to reading consistently everyday will enormously help them to achieve the highest grades possible.

The LRC is a large space and is used by 150 different students every day. It needs to feel inviting and more inspirational to our pupils.

Our literacy governor's husband has kindly agreed to give us his time to carry out the work as he is a builder, so all we would need is to raise the money for painting materials, new chairs, tables and a new floor.

We have held a **Krispy Kreme** doughnut

sale and a cupcake sale this term. We have raised

£1,800 for our renovation fund and will be continuing during next term with a doughnut sale. We would like to thank **Mrs Hall** for donating her time to making 300 cupcakes for us. They were delicious and we sold out!

Thank you so much for supporting our LRC fundraising.

Miss Vinten and Miss Gilbert - LRC Staff



The Return of Sora

For our students who have not yet discovered the pleasure of reading through **Sora**, here is a quick reminder.

The school has subscribed to **Sora** until April 2024, a user-friendly app that lets you access books and audio books through a laptop, phone or tablet. There are over **4,500** quality ebooks on offer from popular authors. The collection has **award winning fiction, non-fiction and audio books**. There is a variety of text types one which is particularly good for dyslexic students. There is also a comic corner to hopefully engage even the most reluctant reader.

For a video introduction please [click here](#)

For more information on how Sora works and to download the app, please [click here](#) for the **user guide**.

Sora provides a quick and easy way to get started: students can register using the school's name: **The Chalfonts Community College** and log-in with their school Google account name and password: **Password**. Please contact **IT Support** or **Miss Vinten** if students need their password reset: itsupport@chalfonts.org; missvinten@chalfonts.org

LRC



All About Books!

The Sora App is Back!

Upcoming Author Visit

On Friday 30th June, an author by the name of **Joe Craig** will be visiting The Chalfonts Community College and we do not want your child to miss out on this fantastic opportunity to be a part of his presentation.

We have chosen the **Year 9 students** to be a part of this experience and hope this experience will help in our quest to motivate students to either develop a love for reading or continue to embrace the habit of reading if they are already avid readers. We are hoping to inspire the student's creative writing skills. We will also have some of the author's books on sale. Joe will sign the books for our students.

We have created a package to offer you a choice where you can buy a ticket and a book for **£6.50** or only buy a ticket to the event for **£1.00**. Please be advised that all payments need to be made prior to the event on **ParentPay**. Deadline for all payments is **Monday 26th June**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me: kirstyvinten@chalfonts.org.

Miss Vinten - LRC Manager

'Wordle'

Fancy a game of **'Wordle'**? Then [click here](#) to play. ENJOY!



A few benefits for using the Sora App below;

- It has 5,000 books the students and teachers can access up to date and classics (not revision)
- Audio Books available
- Foreign Language books (x32 Ukrainian also Spanish, Italian, Polish, Portuguese etc)
- Font can be changed to an easy read for dyslexic students
- May-nga books - x150 of these. Our LRC has very few and are always out on loan
- Comics corner x320 different ones
- Updated every quarter to include new and relevant titles for schools
- Waiting lists for the popular books waiting time is a maximum of one week
- If the student does not understand a word you can highlight it for it to be explained

LRC

Young Writers' Poetry Competition

Over forty Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 students have entered the Young Writers' Poetry Competition and I am so proud of their effort and hard work. They have really showcased their creativity, originality and talent by producing some fantastic poems. Here are a few examples for you to enjoy.

Miss Brooks - Year 9 English Coordinator, Literacy Coordinator

Springtime

The world is waking up anew,
With flowers blooming bright and true.
The sun is shining in the sky,
And birds are singing, soaring high.

The air is fresh, the breeze is light,
And all the world is bathed in light.
The trees are green, the grass is tall,
And everything is full of life.

As springtime comes and winter goes,
The world is filled with sweet repose.
The days are long, the nights are warm,
And all the world is free from harm.

So let us welcome spring with glee,
And all the joy it brings to thee.
Let's dance and sing and laugh and play,
And make the most of every day.

By Bella Strudwick – 8G3

Foster Families

Foster families are special and strong,
Giving love and support all day long.
They open their hearts and homes with care,
Welcoming children who need them there.

Through all the challenges and the joy,
Foster families offer a safe, secure employ.
They help kids grow and learn and thrive,
Creating memories that will last a life time.

So here's to all the foster families out there,
For all the love and dedication they share
You make a difference in so many ways,
And we are grateful for you every day.

By Lexi Macbride – 8G3



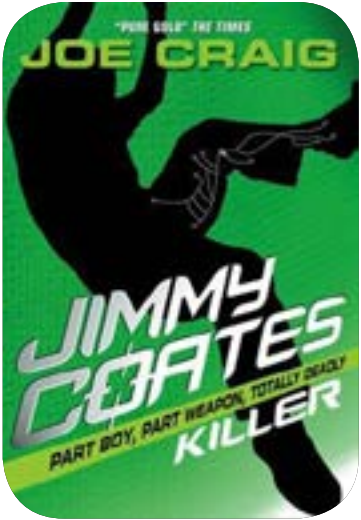
Book Reviews

Every week Miss Gilbert recommends a book for Key Stage 3, 4 and Sixth Form. These are her latest recommendations.

Jimmy Coates: Killer
By Joe Craig
Genre: Spy/Adventure

Blurb:
An 11-year-old boy discovers he has strange powers, and a future that holds mystery, adventure - and death! Who are the mysterious men chasing Jimmy across the city? Why are they after him? What are Jimmy's parents keeping from him and who can he trust? And how come he can suddenly do all this really cool stuff!?

Find out in this electrifying debut novel from Joe Craig.



Skandar and the Unicorn Thief
By A.F. Steadman
Genre: Fantasy

Blurb:

Thirteen-year-old Skandar Smith has only ever wanted to be a unicorn rider. To be one of the lucky few selected to hatch a unicorn. To bond with it for life; to train together and race for glory; to be a hero.

But just as Skandar's dream is about to come true, things start to take a more dangerous turn than he could ever have imagined. A dark and twisted enemy has stolen the Island's most powerful unicorn - and as the threat grows ever closer, Skandar discovers a secret that could blow apart his world forever...

Get ready for unlikely heroes, elemental magic, sky battles, ancient secrets, nail-biting races and ferocious unicorns, in this epic adventure series that will have your heart soaring.



Benefits of Reading!

Miss Gilbert Recommends!

Warfare

War criminals attack when no one realises

Air strikes when the bombs strike down

Rifles pointing everywhere and shock and horror on people's face

Fights can cause World War

Atomic bombs are the most dangerous bombs

Repulsive behaviour can create tension between nations

Everything can start arguments between countries.

8

By Zac McCarthy – 7K4

Words

The words are like knives,
The stress is like rocks,
The words are too strong,
They knock me down.

I cry for hours,
And make a river
Float like driftwood
Then start to drown.

The words are too strong,
They push me down,
By the end of the day my
Heart feels so down.

They circle me like eagles,
As if I'm their prey,
Then throw me down,
And pin me to the ground.

I tell them to stop!
Stop! Stop! Stop!
But there's no escaping
now they've gobbled me up.

I feel like a mouse,
Shy and scared.
They're a brave lion,
Big and strong.

They pass a note,
giggle
and laugh,
Look at me and laugh
some more.

When the bell goes I
Race for the door,
But they're already
There and blocked the door.

Now I'm trapped, tired
and scared,
I feel like I could crumble,
And never return.

I sometimes wonder if
It will ever stop,
My ears are sore,
I can't take anymore!

When I get home I feel safe
and secure
But then I hear the voices,
Of my parents arguing.

A slam of a door,
A cry from my mum
It's the end of the day,
And I just want to run!

The words are like knives,
The stress is like rocks,
The words are too strong,
They push me down!

By Ella Ballard – 7K1



Romantic Comedy
By Curtis Sittenfeld
Genre: Romance/Comedy

Blurb:
With a series of heartbreaks under her belt, Sally Milz - successful TV script writer for a legendary late-night TV comedy show - has long abandoned the search for love.

But when her friend and fellow writer begins to date a glamorous actress, he joins the growing club of interesting but average-looking men who get to

date accomplished, beautiful women. Sally channels her annoyance into a sketch, poking fun at this 'social rule'. The reverse never happens for a woman.

Then Sally meets Noah, a pop idol with a reputation for dating models. But this isn't a romantic comedy - it's

real life. Would someone like him ever date someone like her?



Did You Hear About Kitty Karr?
By Crystal Smith Paul
Genre: Historical

Blurb:
When Kitty

Karr Tate, a White icon of the silver screen, dies and bequeaths her multimillion-dollar estate to the St. John sisters, three young, wealthy Black women, it prompts questions. Lots of questions.

A celebrity in her own right, Elise St. John would rather focus on sorting out Kitty's affairs than deal with the press. But what she discovers in one of Kitty's journals rocks her world harder than any other brewing scandal could—and between a cheating fiancé and the fallout from a controversial social

media post, there are plenty.

The truth behind Kitty's ascent to stardom from her beginnings in the segregated South threatens to expose a web of unexpected family ties, debts owed, and debatable crimes that could, with one pull, unravel the all-American fabric of the St. John sisters and those closest to them.

As Elise digs deeper into Kitty's past, she must also turn the lens upon herself, confronting the gifts and burdens of her own choices and the power that the secrets of the dead hold over the living. Did You Hear About Kitty Karr? is a sprawling page-turner set against the backdrop of the Hollywood machine, an insightful and nuanced look at the inheritance of family, race, and gender—and the choices some women make to break free of them.

Art News

Congratulations to all of our students who entered the **Royal Academy of Art Young Artists’** summer show.

Art exams take place before the rest of the curriculum, a huge well done to all our GCSE and A Level students, the ideas, ambition, and standard of work just seem to get better every year. Parents and Students will be able to view the A Level work at our upcoming Art Show on June 22nd in the Chikara building.

Art Department



Bucks New University ‘Futures Day’

On Friday, 12th May, we took another group of our Year 9 students on a visit to a ‘Futures Day’ at Bucks New University in High Wycombe. It was such an informative event with so many activities organised for the students, to help them understand life as a student. They participated in a money mastermind game whereby they had to consider costs relating to accommodation, food, socialising/entertainment, books, travel and bills; there were some very interesting discussions! The students had a tour of the university covering the amazing library facilities, music and drama studios, sports facilities and social club. The final session involved the students creating a graduate poster, illustrating what they feel a graduate is like; characteristics and skills. The teams then presented their posters to the larger group, giving them some great practice of their presentation skills. The student ambassadors were amazing and provided our students with so much information. We have had some very positive feedback from our students:

“Amazing trip, gives an insight into university student life.”
“The university taught me more about being independent.”

We look forward to one final trip in the Summer term.

Mrs Sanders - Leader for Employability



Amazing Art

Careers Hub



‘Teacher Encounters Programme’ – off to Pinewood Studios!

We feel very privileged as a school to have been invited to participate in a ‘Teacher Encounters Programme’, partnering with the very local Pinewood Studios. The purpose of this programme is to consider how we:

- Weave information about careers and industries into curriculum learning
- Share insights into progression routes and how companies recruit
- Raise aspirations amongst students to inspire all learners
- Raise awareness amongst more SLT and Governors of the value of an effective careers programme

We have 5 teachers involved in the project, covering English, Media, Art, Drama, Science, Geography and History. Our first visit this week took us to the Pinewood Studios site to have a presentation about its history and an education on the variety of companies and roles in situ. Pinewood is the World’s leading Global Studio Partner and is increasing in size to have approximately 52 stages over the next few years. Pinewood state that the Creative Industry will need 25,000 more people working there by 2025 – and we are on their doorstep!

The objective of the teachers participating in this programme is to learn about Pinewood and consider how they might design lesson plans to further engage students and bring subjects ‘to life’. Our next visit in June will involve us starting to work on these lesson plans and the programme will be completed by the delivery of a CPD session to other staff to share information. We are very excited about returning in June!



Artist of the Month - **Amanda Harrison** Year 13





Chalfonts Success Stories

Name: Natalie Ellis
Job title: HR Consultant and Director

What is your current role and who do you work for now?

*I am the Founder and Director of **Rebox HR**, an HR consultancy for small businesses based in Northamptonshire. I am an employment law expert and HR influencer.*

Tell us a bit about your job.

I created Rebox HR from my living room in February 2020 (2 weeks before the pandemic) I had always wanted to work for myself and having completed 17 years in corporate HR positions, I wanted to create something of my own. I have a better work life balance even though I work full time than I did when I worked for the bigger companies, plus I get to choose my work and who I work

*with. In my first year of trading, I made a substantial profit, in year two I have doubled that and now employ someone full time. The business has won four awards and I was named on the **HR Most Influential List with HR Magazine in 2021**. I work with small businesses but have completed projects with **Formula 1 Teams** and even **Premiership Football Clubs**.*

What did you study at The Chalfonts Community College and which years were you in Chalfont?

I studied Travel and Tourism at The Chalfonts Community College sixth form from 2000 – 2002 and GCSE's I studied all of the core subjects, but my favourite was English and English Literature.

(Interview continues below...)



Promoting a love of problem solving

In April, students in Years 7 & 8 competed in the 2023 **UKMT Junior Maths Challenge**.

The Maths Challenge is a nationwide competition that is very tough. Over 200,000 of the most able maths students from more than 3000 schools and colleges across the UK participate in the JMC each year. Only the highest scorers are awarded certificates.

Pupils at The Chalfont's achieved **5 Gold**, **11 Silver** and **29 Bronze** certificates which is fantastic. A special well done to **Sidney F** in Year 7 who achieved a Gold as well as the 'Best in School' certificate.

This year's winners are:

Gold: **Sidney F** (Y7 Best in school); **Oscar S** (7); **Mohammed H** (Best in Y8); **Henry** (8); **Jake N** (8).

Silver: **Louis C-P** (7); **Prajna B** (7); **Jaskeerat N** (7); **Maya D-T** (8); **Charlie F** (8); **Harry J** (8); **Rares M** (8); **Ellie M** (8); **Thomas S-C** (8); **Henry T** (8); **Pritvi V** (8).

Bronze: **Grace B** (7); **Tom C** (7); **Sienna D** (7); **Holly F** (7); **Vinny F** (7); **Joseph F** (7); **Olivia H** (7); **Dillon H** (7); **Lei N** (7); **Maria P** (7); **Raya P** (7); **Eliza P** (7); **Dylan R** (7); **Louis S** (7); **Patrick S** (7); **Samuel S** (7); **Lewis W** (7); **Adhithi A** (8); **Balarko B** (8); **Aimee G** (8); **Eddie H** (8); **Izzie H** (8); **Florence K** (8); **Oliver L** (8); **Sophie M** (8); **Harrison M** (8); **Emily N** (8); **Ria S**

We are now looking forward to the Senior challenge for Years 11-13 in November. If you would like to know more about the Maths Challenge, please [click here](#).

Mr Vahora - Assistant Head

Chalfonts Alumni

(...Interview continued)

What inspired you about doing this role? When did you decide to take this career?

*When I left school I didn't know what I wanted to do, even after sixth form. I couldn't afford to go to university like some of my friends did, so I went to work in a high street travel agency. From there I learnt people management skills, and got a job in an office after a customer offered me a job, she said she liked my work ethic and motivation and thought I'd be a good fit for her team. I worked in an office for a few years before moving into HR, I worked for high profile companies like **ASOS.com**, **Allied Milling and Baking** and **Forterra PLC**. My role is so varied, I even helped a business get onto the London Stock Exchange, HR isn't just about hiring and firing.*

*I got to where I am now because of my passion for what I do. The right people notice when you work hard and are motivated to do a good job. I wanted to create a career for myself and have even published my own book "**Launch Your HR Career**" in 2020.*

What tips would you give to students about their future careers?

It's ok not to know what you want to do straight away. Research lots of careers and see what the opportunities are like. If not look at job adverts online, they'll give you an idea of the career path you could take.

Don't overlook the small companies, some of my biggest opportunities came from my time working for small businesses, there's a lot you see in small businesses that you don't see in larger ones.

If you can't get a degree after you complete your studies, don't panic! You can achieve your degree later, there is always enough time, don't put yourself under unnecessary pressure, I achieved my first degree whilst working full time at the age of 28, I achieved my masters at age 35. There is always time!

We work for a long time, do what makes you happy. It's not about earning a big salary, the car you drive or the size of your house, if you're stressed out when you drive or get home, it's not worth it as you won't enjoy it.

It's ok to make mistakes and to ask questions, it's how you handle them that matters – enjoy learning and enjoy the journey!

Marvellous Maths



