

— Spring Term -Issue 20 —

Market Field School

Respect, Excellence, Friendship



UPCOMING DATES

27th March
12:30pm Finish

**30th March - 10th
April**
Easter Holiday

13th April
Summer Term
Begins

27th - 29th April
Thorpe Woodlands
Residential

Head Teacher Message

By Ruth Whitehead

As we come to the end of a very busy and rewarding half term, I want to take a moment to celebrate all that our school community has achieved together. It has been a whirlwind of activity, energy and learning, and I am exceptionally proud of each and every one of our pupils.

A heartfelt thank you to all our parents and carers for your unwavering support—particularly during World Book Day, Comic Relief, and our ongoing fundraising efforts for Prom. Your enthusiasm and generosity make such a difference, and our children truly benefit from the strong partnership we share.

This half term has been filled with remarkable achievements across the school: from the wonderful progress in Early Learning Goals, to the growing confidence shown in swimming and lifeskills, to the daily demonstration of our school values in action. Our Year 10 and 11 pupils continue to impress us with their dedication as they work hard in preparation for their upcoming exams.

I am incredibly proud of how our children continue to flourish academically, socially, and personally.

Wishing all our families a restful and joyful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the summer term ahead.

Parking Reminder

Pine Way is no parking and has double yellow lines. The council have been asked by residents on the Asterwood estate to start taking enforcement action against people parking there.

Our gates open at 2:30 for individual pick ups. Do not arrive before this, the gates are not open and you are blocking a main road - which is illegal. We have been asked by the council to remind you of this.

Parent Academy Ambassadors

We had two vacancies for the Parent Academy Ambassadors owing to the expansion of the school and college. We received two nominations from parents for the vacancies and we are therefore delighted to welcome Lucy Little and Jade Sanderson to our Local Advisory Committee.

Red Nose Day 2026

Our Students enjoyed their Red Nose Day this year with events across the school including a dodgeball tournament, silent disco, joke competition and sweet sale. With thanks to your donations, we raised a wonderful £434.00

Jack Petchey Awards



We are very proud in our school to be part of the Jack Petchey Award Scheme. My association with the scheme goes back 23 years and I have witnessed the scheme growing across school and voluntary clubs in South East London and Essex. Jack Petchey was a man with a mission and a motto "If you think you can ...you can"! He recognised achievements in young adults which were way more than just academic achievements. In our school last year pupils were nominated for the Award by their adults in school for many and varied reasons. Personal goals, triumphs and charitable projects to name just a few.

The JP Award Scheme funds both large and small projects, trips and purchases for MFS and we are very grateful for this.

Watch this space for this years nominations and Award Winners. - **Angela Howarth**

Carnegie Centre of Excellence Mental health in Schools Gold Award

We are thrilled to announce that Market Field School has been awarded Gold award by the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools – a fantastic achievement that recognises our commitment to creating a culture where wellbeing truly comes first.

The award was established in 2017 by the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools – part of Leeds Beckett University – and social enterprise Minds Ahead. The Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools aims to strengthen pupils' mental health by supporting schools to make a positive change at all levels of the UK's education system, improving students' outcomes and life chances. Nationally, more than 1400 schools have signed up to take part in the mental health award.

This milestone marks our journey from Silver to Gold, reflecting the dedication and continued commitment for a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing. Students, families, staff, governors, and leaders have all played a vital part in shaping a school where everyone feels supported to thrive.

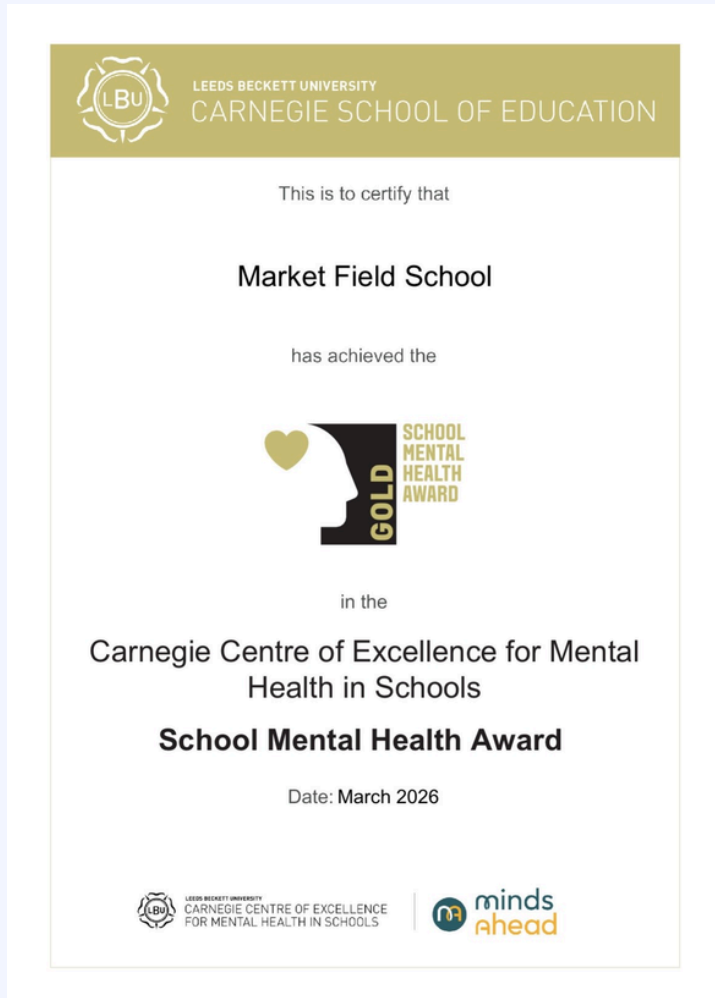
We were rated 'Excelling' across key areas including leadership, school culture, support for staff and students, professional development, and our work with families and external partners.

A reflection from our recent report:

'Market Field School presents as a deeply thoughtful and caring specialist community where mental health and wellbeing are at the core of the school. Since achieving its previous award, the school has continued to build carefully on its foundations, strengthening systems, widening provision and ensuring that mental health and wellbeing remains central to how decisions are made. The clear positioning of happiness and wellbeing as a priority within the school improvement plan is not simply aspirational language; it is reflected in structures, staffing, training and daily interactions.'

Dean Johnstone, founder and CEO of Minds Ahead said:

"This award shines a light on the excellent work schools are doing to promote mental health for their community of children and adults. "It is thrilling and humbling to learn about Market Field School and the many other schools engaged in the quality award process. I'd like to offer my congratulations on this deserved recognition.'



Blue Badge Forms

Please be advised due to operational pressures we are currently working with a 10 working day turn around time for the Blue Badge Forms to be completed. We understand the need for these to be returned to yourselves however please bear this timeframe in mind when submitting your forms.

British Science Week

For British Science Week we had an assembly which focused on the science week topic of "what's your question" we then answered the question how far away can I shoot a cup off another teachers head using an air cannon.

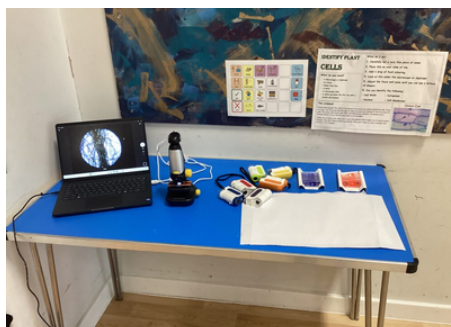
Our science fair was amazing, we had 10 experiments including oobleck, circuits, creating craters, digital microscopes and chromatography.

The classes were so engaged, they all seemed to embrace having a go at everything and understanding how it all worked.

A big thank you to our head boy and girl who helped set up, clear up and ran experiments all day.

Since the fair, so many pupils have approached me expressing the fun they had and their interest in the topics.

We hope to be bringing this back next year with a whole new set of fun experiments -
Mr Birch

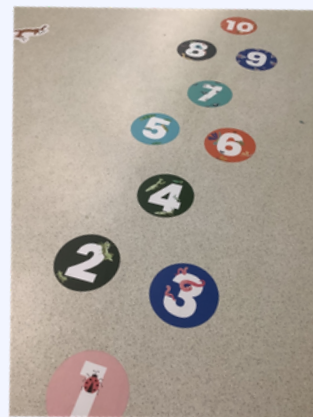


Our Sensory Pathway Corridor



Our team have been hard at work making our primary corridor a sensory regulation space for our students. We would like to make a special shout out to the fantastic painting team for freshening up our walls and making the space much more inviting! Team work really does make the dream work! A special thanks to our parent volunteer Yvonne Smart. We really appreciate you giving your time to support us.

Our sensory pathway has been laid on the floor and has already been well used by our pupils and staff alike. The children have been enjoying moving their bodies to prepare for learning. It has been a pleasure to see students hop, leap or frog jump their way to class in the mornings and start the day on the right foot! We hope the space continues to promote the importance of movement (both proprioceptive and vestibular) for our bodies!



Roofing Repairs

We are very proud of how the students have navigated the roofing works these past few weeks. We are aware this has not always been easy for them however, their resilience has showed.

Whilst the roof repairs are progressing nicely, we are expecting all works to be completed by May Half Term.

Non Pupil Days

Please see below upcoming non pupil days for the rest of the academic year:

Friday 3rd July - School Closure
Monday 20th July - Non Pupil Day

Market Field School Staff Skydive

A special thank you for your very kind donations so far on School Comms/Gateway towards our staff skydive.

Ms Browning in Jupiter class recently held a staff raffle, children's raffle and a name the teddy fundraiser within the school and this has raised a further £705.50.

Ms Bere also held a staff 'day off' raffle and raised a further £221.00.

The team will be completing their skydive on Sunday 19th April. If you would like to donate towards this event please find the payment via the below link
<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>

The team are raising funds to contribute towards our year 11 prom, Duke of Edinburgh and various other projects within the school.

