



Mark Rutherford School

Nightingale ASC Centre News

“The school’s resource unit for pupils with autistic spectrum disorder continues to offer high quality provision for a small number of pupils, some of whom are in the sixth form. These pupils receive individually tailored programmes of work, some of which lead to formal qualifications and some of which are designed to prepare them for their next steps.” Ofsted, March 2016

Introduction

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter. This school year has been an extremely busy one with four new students joining us at various points throughout the year, five Year 11 students sitting GCSEs and five Year 10s busy preparing to take their GCSEs next year! We have also been busy organising transition visits for our three new students joining us in September in Year 7 and in Year 9—where they have been able to experience mainstream lessons and also working in base.

We were very pleased to welcome Jenson who enjoyed making carrot cakes during one of his transition visits.



Starting at Mark Rutherford by Jen

Hi, my name is Jen, I am 15 years old and I started Mark Rutherford in April 2017.

When I first started, I had been out of school for 18 months. When it was my first day, I felt shy as it was something new. The school is great and everyone is really friendly. I am looking forward to September when there are some more girls here.

I am currently enjoying learning about childcare. I would like to work with little children when I am older or be a Youtuber.

Autism Awareness Week 2017

This year, staff and students held a cake sale during Autism Awareness Week. With help from both Tesco and Waitrose, we were able to sell all the cakes and made a total of £90 which was donated to Beds. Garden Carers, a very worthwhile local charity.



ASC Provision Award ★ ★ ★ ★

This year’s award was given to Daniel Clarke. Daniel has consistently demonstrated an excellent attitude to learning. He is a positive role model for his peers; his behaviour and attendance are superb. He has been a joy to work with and support.



Year 11 Prom

This year's prom was held at Pavenham Golf Club in July. Two of our students went along with their mainstream friends with staff available to support if needed. A great time was had by all.



Students leaving us this year

Sadly we have to say "Goodbye" to three of our students at the end of this term. Daniel Clarke has completed Yr 11 and is off to Bedford College, Daniel Watson is moving out of Bedford and Billy Khan is transferring to another school within the Borough. This is what Billy has to say about his time here:

"I have enjoyed my two years here at Mark Rutherford and I have learnt a lot. My favourite lessons were DT, History, English, PE and Art. I liked going on trips—I went to the Science Museum, First Place Training and bowling. I have made lots of friends at Mark Rutherford."



Year 10 Trips to Sheringham and The Science Museum

Two of our students enjoyed trips out towards the end of this term as a reward for good behaviour in lessons. Matthew Fenner and Jordan Cathrall went to Sheringham with their Geography class and also down to London to visit The Science Museum as part of a group from their science lessons. A good time was had by all :)



And finally ...

We look forward to welcoming back all our students in September including three new students —George Terashvili-Rocha, Jenson Hartup and James Logan.

We would also like to wish all our current Yr 11 students the best of luck with their GCSE results in August.

We are also pleased to report that some of our previous students have been back to visit us recently to update us on their progress since they have left. It is great to hear that they are all doing well.

On a sad note, we say "goodbye" to three members of staff. Mrs Silver, Mrs Lockwood and Miss Percival are off to pursue exciting new careers and although we shall miss them very much, we do wish them the greatest success.