



MIDHURST MATTERS

What's Going On?

Date	Year Group	Events/Details
Monday 25 September	7 11 8	Baseline tests continue Classroom exams continue Football Fixture
Tuesday 26 September		
Wednesday 27 September	9	Netball Fixture at The Regis School
Thursday 28 September	11	Netball Fixture
Friday 29 September		

Austen

**4305
(2811)**

Kipling

**5761
(3783)**

Tennyson

**6389
(4074)**

Woolf

**5046
(3334)**

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGES

On Tuesday this week, we hosted around 200 Year 6 primary school pupils for an MRC Experience Day. It was lovely to have them with us for the day – as well as their teachers, too. They had lessons in the school, had a tour and spent time with some of our current students. We held our Open Evening on Wednesday this week. We had very high numbers and there was a great buzz in the school.

The residential visit to France is taking place this week. Forty students have gone to Normandy for an immersive French programme to both improve their language skills and experience French culture. Mrs Lunskey has sent some photos back to us and I have received very positive feedback. I look forward to hearing about it when the children and staff return to school next week.



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Parents will be aware that we are increasing the number of residential visits this year. Information about the drama and music Tour to Belgium next summer has recently been advertised to parents. We always want to make sure we are offering experiences to students that meet their interests. We will shortly be offering a five-day residential Trans-Wales horse / pony tour for next summer. Numbers for this residential will need to be kept low (around 14 students). Students do not need to have their own horse but do need to be competent riders. We are also planning on launching our own equestrian team this year, too.

I would like to remind parents / carers that hoodies are not part of our uniform. We will confiscate hoodies if students wear them to school. Students are allowed to wear a plain black V-neck jumper if they would like to.

Attendance

We would like to start by saying that it has been an absolute joy to see so many students attending College since the start of term and bringing the building to life. The vast majority of students arrive on time and are ready to learn each and every day. This is something that we obviously want to continue, whilst ensuring that every child is safe and accounted for, as we strive to secure attendance levels that match pre-pandemic levels and we need your support to guarantee it happens.

Key Information

Over the past few years, all colleges and schools have faced significant challenges regarding attendance. MRC is no different. Despite being higher than the national average for attendance last year, we did not see enough students on a regular basis. This is a concern to us as losing time in education can significantly impact a child's life chances. Over the years there have been numerous studies on this topic and the findings all seem to reach the same conclusion - a child who attends school or college has the best chance of success both personally and academically. This infographic, which we use weekly with students, gives you an idea as to how precious time in education is.



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Did you know that an attendance figure below 90% classifies a child as being persistently absent? Equally, an attendance figure below 80% would mean that a child is severely absent. These are situations that we wish to avoid in order to maximise the potential of every student here at MRC.

The world of attendance also leans heavily into the world of safeguarding, and we uphold the view that attendance is everyone's responsibility, and no child must become a "known unknown" to those responsible for protecting them.

Talk to Us

Talk to us is a phrase that we use with students on a daily basis, helping us to help the children in our care (regardless of the subject matter). We now ask you to do the same and encourage you to get in contact with us if you feel that there are long term issues or barriers that are impacting your child's attendance. Our dedicated team of tutors, Heads of Year and the Attendance Team are here to support you and your children - so, talk to us.

Equally, please ensure that you communicate with us each day for any/all absences. Leave a message for the Attendance team on 01730 812451 (select option 1) or make contact via email: attendance@mrc-academy.org. Our website ([Attendance Matters \(mrc-academy.org\)](http://AttendanceMatters(mrc-academy.org))) contains further information, including links to our policies and a link to our student absence request form. You may also find this link useful from the NHS, [Is my child too ill for school?](#) and [a guide for parents on school attendance](#). We work closely with the legislation as laid out in the DfE's [Working together to improve school attendance](#) publication to ensure that we fulfil the government's mandate on attendance and support you and your child.

Rewards

As part of our daily and weekly routines, we run attendance competitions between form groups, year groups and the four Houses. By simply attending, your child can contribute to the success of these different groups. In addition to this, and we are very excited to introduce this, individual students can now gain 10 achievement points for each week where their attendance is at 100%. Beyond this, all students whose attendance is at 96% or above by the end of the academic year will be entered into a prize draw and could win cinema vouchers for a year, a bike, or a Nintendo Switch games console.

Thank you for your continued support in relation to all matters related to attendance, and we hope that you agree that attendance really does matter.

The Attendance Team

Student Reception – Naming Uniform

Naming Uniform – We have had many items of lost property handed in to Student Reception already this term. Please ensure that all uniform and equipment are labelled so we can return items to students.

Educational Visits and Trips

We have an exciting range of visits, as set out at the end of last year, and these are now coming out for you to sign your child up.



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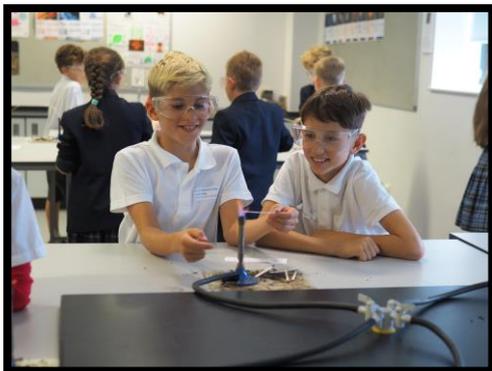
Visits are now done through Arbor, allowing you to give consent and to make payment all in the same place. On Arbor, go to Quick Actions > Trips. You can then see any trips/visits that each child is invited to, any you've already signed up for and any past ones too. Any letters or handouts will be added as attachments.

We will take medical and contact details from Arbor, so please update these on the Parent Portal if there are any changes. For overseas visits we may also ask for a signed form, as we need to have written proof that we have parental permission to take a child out of the country and have permission for medical treatment etc.

Please contact the visit leader or your child's Head of Year with any queries about any visit.

Rother Valley Year 6 College Experience Day

194 Year 6 students from schools across the Rother Valley joined to college to experience a day in the life of an MRC Student. Taster sessions from science, English and maths plus team building were on offer, as well as a grand tour of the building it also provided the opportunity to meet other Year 6s who would be joining them at MRC next September. A busy day was had exploring the building, meeting teachers and making new friends. All left the day full of excitement and enthusiasm for their upcoming move to secondary school. This was followed by a well-attended open evening, where families visited to explore the facilities and see what the various departments would offer the children when they joined the College.





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Fireworks Night – 3 November 2023



On behalf of MRC Parents, we invite local businesses to sponsor the annual MRC Fireworks Night, which will be held this year on Friday 3 November. This is the third year this event has been held and it is a wonderful event for our community. Last year more than 2500 people attended the event. As a valuable sponsor, your company banner can be showcased during the event. You can also provide your company logo for the advertisement on the event banner and promotional material. Sponsors will receive two complimentary tickets for the event. Last year proceeds from the evening went towards vital ventilation works in the ADT area. We do not set a fixed amount for sponsorship and welcome all offers of support. To find out more please contact katherine.chard@mrc-academy.org or madeline.hathaway@mrc-academy.org.

Foodbank Collection this Term

The Midhurst Foodbank warehouse is currently closed for refurbishment. With this in mind our first Foodbank collection of the year will be on Thursday 23 November when we will be asking for all those lovely special treat items in various sizes, so those in need can have a little extra over the festive period.

A reminder that we are a referral point for the Foodbank and if you at any point require any food bank vouchers then please do not hesitate in contacting us via foodbank@mrc-academy.org or through your child's pastoral leader.

NEW MRC Instagram Account



Don't forget we now have a new Instagram account for Midhurst Rother College which will be filled with achievements/events/vacancies/latest news etc.

Please follow us at [@MRC_1st](https://www.instagram.com/MRC_1st)



English Department



Year 8 are currently studying the gothic genre through extracts of Dracula! Why do we do this? To allow students to understand the concept of peoples' worst fears lie in the unknown. It challenges students to think critically as well as looking how they can overcome their own fears.

Link: [Sparx Reader](#)

PE Department

Afterschool clubs have now started. These are recreational clubs to allow all students to access a variety of sports in a very relaxed environment. Students must make sure their parents/carers know they are attending; they must wear full MRC PE kit and should have arranged for their transport home.

Monday	3.40 - 4.30pm	Netball (Miss Howard)
Tuesday		NO CLUBS
Wednesday	3.40 - 4.30pm	Gym/Fitness (Mr Marshall)
Thursday	3.40 - 4.30pm	KS4 Basketball (Mr Hancock)
Friday	3.40 - 4.30pm	Boys Football (Male Staff)
Friday	3.40 - 4.30pm	Girls Football (Miss Howard)

Music Department

Music Lessons

Learning a musical instrument is not only an enjoyable experience but is also known to have a positive effect on both academic ability and social skills. We are very proud of our successful music department, and we are keen to involve as many students as possible in the full range of musical experiences. We do hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity.

We currently offer musical tuition on the following instruments:

Woodwind - Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Oboe and Bassoon.

Brass – Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone, French Horn, Tenor Horn, Baritone, Euphonium and Tuba.

Strings – Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass

Drums, Piano/Keyboard, Guitar and Singing.

Lessons are offered weekly and can be between 20 minutes and half an hour, prices vary depending on length, group, and provider. In certain circumstances, there may be financial support for lessons, please do let us know if this is something that may apply to you. For further information please contact sally.tidbury@mrc-academy.org or roger.spinner@mrc-academy.org.



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Sixth Form

Year 11 Taster Day 2023

On October 5th, Year 11 will get to experience a day as a Sixth Former and possibly even try subjects which they have never studied before. This is a great opportunity for our students to experience the independence of sixth form or college before they make final options choice or decisions about their future. When students join MRC Sixth Form, they are coming to the highest ranked sixth form or college in West Sussex for the past two years. We look forward to welcoming our Year 11s into Year 12 when they achieve the very best exam results which we know they are capable of achieving.

Year 11 students will be able to use the Sixth Form Common Room, wear their own clothes, and enjoy a 'free period' during the day.



Collection and Drop Off of Students on Site

We have high movement of students on site at the beginning and end of the school day, with students being dropped by buses, or arriving on foot. To allow safeguarding and health and safety of all our students we would ask that you refrain from driving onto site to drop or collect your child. This minimises traffic allowing for safer student movement.

'NEW' Vacancies at Midhurst Rother College

Please click on the following link for the latest vacancies at MRC: [Midhurst Rother College > About Us > Vacancies \(mrc-academy.org\)](#)

Helpful MRC Website Links

- Arbor Information Guides: [Arbor Information Guides \(mrc-academy.org\)](#)
Arbor Link: [Midhurst Rother College \(arbor.sc\)](#)
- College Calendar: <https://www.mrc-academy.org/information/calendar>
- Homework: <https://www.mrc-academy.org/curriculum/homework>
- Letters: <https://www.mrc-academy.org/communication/letters>
- Educational Visits: [Midhurst Rother College > Communication > Letters \(mrc-academy.org\)](#)
- Staff emails: <https://bit.ly/StaffEmailAddress>
- Term dates: [Midhurst Rother College > Information > College Term dates \(mrc-academy.org\)](#)
- School Cloud: <https://midhurst.schoolcloud.co.uk/>
- Sparx Maths: <https://www.sparxmaths.uk/student>
- Sparx Reader: [Sparx Reader](#)



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- Lexia POWERUP Literacy - Login and Student Program: [Device Setup - PowerUp \(lexiapowerup.com\)](https://lexiapowerup.com)
- Past editions of Midhurst Matters Newsletter [Midhurst Matters \(mrc-academy.org\)](https://mrc-academy.org)

SEPTEMBER SATURDAYS
FREE EVENTS in MIDHURST

Get Active Day

GET ACTIVE DAY at The Grange Leisure Centre

Saturday 23rd Sept

There will be a BMX bike display team, Slackline School, face painting and opportunities to rollerblade, play table tennis and more.

11am – 4pm
at The Grange Centre GU29 9HD
To find out more - 01730 815285

west sussex county council
Children first

Early Help

Are you struggling with your mental health?

Would you like information and advice about relationships, friendships, managing emotions and general wellbeing?

Dedicated Schools Team Support Worker - Maxine Trent

I will be here at Midhurst Rother College every Wednesday 09:30-14:30

"Come and see me for a chat!"

FIND IT OUT
INFORMATION ADVICE
COUNSELLING FOR SCHOOLS

How to get your FREE TICKETS:

Scan the QR code to book tickets for the event/s you'd like to attend, or go to midhurst.co.uk/whats-on

Thank you to MIDHURST for facilitating bookings.

Tickets required for all events except live music and fairs (table bookings may be required for restaurants).

For more information: [visitmidhurst.co.uk/whats-on](https://midhurst.co.uk/whats-on)

FREE EVENTS IN MIDHURST
SEPTEMBER SATURDAYS

2 September FARMERS' AND ARTISAN MARKET

9 September OUTDOOR CINEMA » SING 2 and ELVIS

16 September FOLD OUR TOWN » origami event
LIVE MUSIC » at venues around town

23 September GET ACTIVE DAY » BMX display team, face painting, rollerblading and more
VINTAGE FAIR » artisan makers and vintage finds

30 September FAMILY FUN RUNS » 5k and 2k

every one ACTIVE | MIDHURST ALLIANCE | MIDHURST TOWN COUNCIL | ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL | midhurst town team etc

#loveMidhurst

FREE EVENTS IN MIDHURST
SEPTEMBER SATURDAYS

» Sat 2 September
FREE ENTRY » Farmers' and Artisan Market
9am-2pm » Market Square and The Old Library, Midhurst.

» Sat 9 September
FREE ENTRY » Outdoor cinema at Market Square, Midhurst
Bring your chair and/or blanket - sit back and enjoy!
1pm » Kids' karaoke with singer Lizzie Hoyman - come and join in!
2pm » Film: SING 2 (2021) Dance along to the ultimate feel-good film.
6pm » Kick-start your evening with live act Suspiciously Elvis.
7pm » Film: ELVIS (2022)
by Baz Luhrmann - Immerse yourself in the iconic world of the King.

» Sat 16 September
FREE ENTRY » FOLD OUR TOWN at The Old Library, Midhurst
11am-3.30pm » Create a wonderful, evolving origami installation inspired by Midhurst. Fold and decorate your own paper house, cat or local landmark.

» Sat 16 September
FREE ENTRY » Live music
7pm onwards » Great live music from around the world in the restaurants and pubs across Midhurst.

» Sat 23 September
FREE ENTRY » Get Active Day and Vintage Fair
11am-4pm » Get active at The Grange Centre, Midhurst. BMX bike display team (every hour), slackline school, face painting, rollerblading, table tennis and more... To book call **01730 815285**.
10am-4pm » Midhurst Vintage Fair at Market Square.

» Sat 30 September
FREE ENTRY » Midhurst 5k (12+) and 2k (4+) family fun runs
10am » Runs start at The Wharf and finish at St Ann's Hill. 2 hours' free parking at The Grange - facilities and café open until 2pm. Under 6s must be accompanied. Organised with The Midhurst Miles.

ENTRY IS FREE TO ALL EVENTS. SEE OVERLEAF HOW TO BOOK AND GET YOUR FREE TICKETS.