



Midhurst Rother College

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MUSIC

The Music Department started with a positive atmosphere after achieving excellent GCSE results in the summer holiday. Congratulations to all of 2019's cohort!

We started our events off with the Annual Rotary Concert. This is always a highlight of the music calendar as we get to perform with the other Rother Valley Schools. Our Orchestra and Choir performed, as well as some fantastic performances from the local Primaries.

The Winter Concert is always a favourite, where we see a showcase of different instruments, groups and styles. The standard of the performers improves every year, and the practice and dedication of the students is exceptional. We heard the Orchestra play a mix, from Panis Angelicus, to the music from The Snowman! We had the addition of a new choir this year, with a boys' choir making their debut. This was in addition to our junior choir, and senior choir who performed a goose bump performance of Carol of the Bells. We enjoyed music written from the students themselves, as well as being woken up by the ever-increasing rock bands!

The Carol Services took place at Midhurst Parish Church. The Orchestra, soloists and drama students got the whole school into the festive spirit with Christmas carols and songs, and a very festive sing-along of Slade to finish it all off.



The Music for Youth Proms is a student favourite trip, where students get to visit the Royal Albert Hall and listen to young musicians from all across the country, the students were able to witness a range of fantastic acts from steel pan bands to solo singers.

The Fireworks Night is always a great evening for all the family, where live music makes it complete, with MRC bands and soloists performing throughout with the main fireworks display to finish off.

The Tree of Hope is a moving service where people gather in Easebourne Church around Christmas, to commemorate family or friends who have passed. Carols are sung (accompanied by a small group of the MRC orchestra), quotes from the Bible are read and lights on the tree outside are turned on to represent the lives of those lost and to bring hope for the future.

Last term fifteen KS4 students had the amazing opportunity of attending an opera at the prestigious and beautiful Glyndebourne opera house in Lewes. For most it was their first experience of an opera, and they all came back with a changed attitude towards the art. They had a wonderful time, enjoyed the music of Verdi's Rigoletto, and even got to dress up for the occasion! A trip we hope to repeat again in the future.



Year 10 GCSE Drama Pantomimes

On 16 December last year, the Year 10 GCSE Drama students created four Pantomimes that they had to write, costume design and perform in for the local primary schools and parents. The Pantomimes were 'Alice in Wonderland', 'Peter Pan', 'Wizard of Oz' and 'Snow White'. Year 10 worked hard to bring these Pantomimes to life in their own interesting ways; through use of song, dance and a lot of 'He's behind you!' Two of the GCSE students also supported the groups through lighting and sound, creating an entirely student run production. The performances were amazing with laughs and tears throughout. A thoroughly entertaining evening for all involved. Well done to both Mrs Strachan and Miss Parker for their hard work and support, here's to more Pantomimes next year!



Behind the Nativity

As always, the Drama Club produces a fantastic performance in the Autumn term and this year Miss Parker used 'Behind the Nativity' to bring a bit of festive cheer to the audience. The group worked hard to create a hilarious performance showing the cast of a Nativity backstage. The performance was supported by parents and family who again found the performance from beginning to end a joy. The evening finished with a festive dance to get us ready for Christmas.



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CLiL

Taster Sessions at Midhurst Rother College

It was a pleasure to welcome some adventurous Yr6 students to our Languages Department this week, to participate in the first after school lesson of the term. Assisted by helpful members of our Sixth Form, staff taught a content-led French lesson about the sights of Paris. The colours, shapes and functions of world-famous monuments such as the Arc de Triomphe, La Défense and the Eiffel Tower were presented and discussed together before we all had a go at making a 3D model (in play-dough) to take home.



Content-led learning is a more natural way of acquiring a second language that mirrors how we learn our first language as very small children. By hearing new words, when people teach and demonstrate activities through a new language, we can pick up new words and phrases as we learn new skills.



From September 2020, one new tutor group will spend approximately one third of their school week learning through French. In tutor time, French lessons and in several subjects the content will be delivered through French.

Staff are offering the taster sessions (please visit our College website: www.mrc-academy.org/information/cliil-2020)

to book a place) to show Yr6 students what they can look forward to, if they join the CLiL tutor group. Sessions coming up include mathematics, baking, geography and football skills. We look forward to meeting more prospective linguists over the next few weeks!



SPORTS - MRC students ended 2019 with an excellent set of performances and results.

In summary the Year 9 Netball Team are on course to win the Netball League and the U16 Boys Cross Country Team won their area competition. Alongside this the Year 8 Boys Indoor Athletics Team and U14 Cricket Team both qualified for County Finals.

We also had a few standout individual performances in Cross Country with Hal Edgar coming 16th and progressing onto the next round to represent Sussex.

MRC Primary Sports Partnership



MRC Primary Sports Partnership is an exciting series of Multi Sports Competitions and part of the National School Games aimed at keeping competitive sport at the heart of schools and providing more young people with the opportunity to compete and achieve their personal best. Organized and hosted by MRC the package brings together the Rother Valley Primaries and Conifers School for sports including cross country, tag rugby, basketball and dance. It also gives some the chance to go on to County Finals in hockey, athletics and tennis. Harting Primary School started the year with a win at the football event and then Hollycombe Primary School secured a win in both the hockey and the indoor athletics. Started in 2016 by Aaron Hancock, teacher of PE at MRC with just six schools and six competitions, it goes from strength to strength with this year, 12 schools taking part in 12 competitions and over 100 children taking part in the recent indoor athletics event. There is loads more to come over the coming months and we will find out if Hollycombe can retain the overall trophy!



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