



Midhurst Rother College

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Part of United Learning

20 July 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

I write to you at the end of a very busy school year. There is a lot to reflect on since September as well as opportunities to look forward to in the new academic year. It is a privilege to lead the school and to work with your children. They are hardworking and polite young people who also show real kindness towards one another. There is a willingness to achieve, they have a real sense of morality and an obvious willingness to help and support one another. It is lovely to see them, every day, with their friends around the school and in lessons.

Over the course of the year, we have experienced the Omicron covid variant, high levels of staff and student absence, a storm which forced the school to close and, tragically, the war in Ukraine. We now have over 20 Ukrainian refugees in the school, who have been welcomed into our community by your children and our staff. We held the sponsored walk for DEC Ukraine appeal on Friday 15 July and despite the hot weather, we all got round the course. At the time of writing, we have raised £2340 on our JustGiving page. It is still possible to donate: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/midhurst-rother-college1> and I encourage you to do so if you feel able to. We have also raised some extra funds in school through sales of ice-creams and will add this to the final total. Thank you for your support with this.

Our Year 11 and 13 students experienced external examinations this year and it was the first time since 2019 that they were taken. Our exam classes worked incredibly hard and I look forward to celebrating their successes with them on the results days in August. The school continues to grow in popularity and we are expecting to have an additional 80 children in September. This is due to a larger Year 7 group joining us and our largest Year 12 intake at MRC. Our Sixth Form continues to grow and I look forward to seeing the new Year 12 in September.

I would like to thank parents / carers who responded to the survey we sent regarding homework. This was very useful to receive and has helped to shape our planning for the new year. We are very keen to open greater dialogue and communication with parents and will run parents' forum next year in order to gain views on a variety of topics. We will send you dates and areas that will be discussed in the meetings in the new term and I anticipate there will be four meetings during the year.

I am also keen that we streamline our communications with you. We will introduce a weekly update to parents / carers from September which will combine and summarise the information you currently receive as I am acutely aware that it can, at times, be overwhelming.

We have finished this term with students not in uniform, due to the hot weather and the residual heat in the building. We expect all students to be back in full uniform for the start of new term which starts on Monday 5 September at 8.25am for all year groups. I would like to remind parents / carers that the only jewellery we permit is one pair of stud earrings in the lobe only. I am aware that a very small minority of students have facial piercings – these are not allowed in school and we will insist these are

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removed if students wear them in September. The same also applies to acrylic nails, which we will also insist are removed. By restating this expectation now, I hope to provide enough time for these items to be removed before the start of the new term.

Some dates for your diary:

Thursday 8 September	Yellow Photography (individual photos for all year groups)
Thursday 8 September	Year 9 Parent Information Evening 6.30pm
Wednesday 14 September	Year 10 Parent Information Evening 6.30pm
Thursday 15 September	Year 12 Parent Information Evening 6.30pm
Tuesday 20 September	Year 7 Welcome Evening 6.30pm
Wednesday 21 September	Year 8 Parent Information Evening 6.30pm
Thursday 22 September	Year 13 Parent Information Evening 6.30pm
Thursday 29 September	Prospective Year 7 Open Evening 6.30pm
Thursday 6 October	Sixth Form Options Evening
Thursday 13 October	Year 7 Parent Information and Tutor Evening

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very restful summer holiday.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Edwards
Principal