Midhurst Rother College The best in everyone<sup>™</sup>

Week B | Monday 10 March 2025

IDHURS'I'

ATTERS

Date	Year Group	Events/Details
Monday 10 March	11	Classroom based exams - all week - all subjects
	All	World Science Week - Science Department
Tuesday 11 March	9	Options Assembly for Students
Wednesday 12 March		
Thursday 13 March	9	Parents evening 4.30pm - 8.30pm
Friday 14 March	All	Pi Day at MRC

Austen	Kipling	Tennyson	Woolf
141,683	164,135	159,946	169,597
(5,261)	(5,857)	(6,013)	(5,891)

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It feels like the seasons have changed this week (long may it last!) and we have the field open again in College for students to use. This gives them more space to be out and is much more beneficial for them. It is good to see them taking advantage of this. Everything looks better in the sunshine and it was great to see the Geese visiting again, as they do at this time every year!

This week, we hosted our Careers Fair for all students in the College. The students had an opportunity to talk with employers from a range of different businesses and industries. I received fantastic feedback from our visitors, who commented on how well behaved and polite your children were when talking with them. On a similar theme, another group of students visited Williams Formula 1 Racing on Thursday this week. This was the second group from MRC to go there and it was only offered to us, as our first group were so interested, asked excellent questions and conducted themselves well.

Last week, in Midhurst Matters, I updated parents/carers about the recent visit to Uganda. Mr Burton talked with our current Year 10 students in assembly this morning, as we would like to offer this opportunity again next year. The students who went this year have told us what an amazing experience it was and because of this we would like to repeat it.

Best wishes,

Stuart Edwards Principal

#### **HOMEWORK REVIEW**

Over the last few weeks, we have completed a review of the homework policies and procedures that have now been in place for 18 months. Thank you for the feedback received from parents, students and staff that have enabled this process to occur.

Here are some of the facts about homework. More students are completing more homework. This has undoubtedly increased the progress that students are making. We recognise that students are now working much harder at home during the term time, particularly our Year 7 students. As a result of this, the decision has been made to stop the 'Get Ahead, Stay Ahead', work over the holidays for Key Stage 3 students. It will continue for our Key Stage 4 and 5 students as they work towards their GCSEs and A levels.

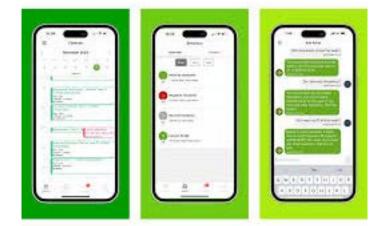
I have also reminded colleagues to follow our policy in Key Stage 3, of setting weekly homework in the core subjects (Maths averaging under an hour, English and Science averaging around 30 mins) and fortnightly for other subjects. Our practical subjects will continue to set projects which run over a longer time frame, as this is valuable time spent away from the screen and provides work that covers the breadth of our curriculum.

I have also asked colleagues to set meaningful homework, which either compliments the taught curriculum, prepares students for future lessons or asks students to research a longer task. All of which are highly valuable tasks/skills to be completed independently of the teacher.

Achievement points continue to be added to Arbor. Currently, the staff have awarded over 36,000 achievement points. This is a huge increase on last years' total, reached at the end of the year, of 37,500. This again shows how hard the students are working. These points will contribute to the learning journey to achieve either the bronze, silver or gold award.

Finally, I have asked colleagues to add all of the homework tasks to Arbor. The **new Arbor App**, which has been shared with all year groups now in assembly and in Midhurst Matters for parents, should aid students to prioritise their work and feel the satisfaction of completing tasks which then disappear from the list. We continue to consider how homework can be introduced to the new Year 7s, improving the platforms that we use and how we can praise students for their completed homework.

Thank you to all the students, parents and staff who have contributed to this review.



Dr Jessop Senior Vice Principal

## KS3 & KS4 ASSESSMENT DIARY

## Week Beginning 10 March 2025

With Year 11 final exams approaching, we will shortly have a further series of papers to help preparations for GCSE exams in the summer. These assessments support students to reflect on their progress, provide opportunities to practice and prepare for GCSEs in a 'low stakes' situation. These assessments cannot be 'failed' and simply give us all an indication of progress and attainment in different subjects – for many an encouragement, for a few some motivation to commit to hard work and progress.

• Year 11: in class assessments begin 24 March 2025 onwards.

Over the next week or two, class teachers will be sharing details of forthcoming assessments with your child, including the length of assessment, type of questions, topics that will be in the assessment and some revision activities that will be useful to help your child prepare. This will be available on Arbor as an assignment. Additional information and revision guidance can be found on the college website (https://www.mrc-academy.org/curriculum/revision-resources) at any time; this page provides useful ideas and strategies to support independent and effective revision by any child at any time.

Experience shows us that students who are well rested, have had a good breakfast and are properly prepared with the right equipment experience less stress and anxiety before assessments, and perform better. We thank you for supporting your child in their preparation.

## **DEPARTMENT NEWS**

## **ADT DEPARTMENT**

## Year 7 and 8 - Insects and Birds Independent Projects Exhibition - Wednesday 12 March

The Art Department would like to invite you to an exhibition of our Year 7 and 8 students, Insects and Birds themed independent projects on Wednesday 12 March from 4pm to 5pm in the main reception area.

We would love to meet you and show you the incredible talents of our students.

Please do not arrive earlier as you will not be allowed into the College until the end of the College day, but friends and family are most welcome.

We look forward to seeing you there.

## **Food Technology**

This week in our Year 10 Food class, students embarked on an exciting culinary journey to master the art of pasta



making!

The hands-on lesson focused on essential skills such as mixing, kneading, and rolling out the dough, as well as understanding the importance of resting the dough for the perfect



texture. Students working as a team or independently, also explored different pasta shapes and their uses, enhancing their appreciation for this versatile and beloved staple.

**Mrs Emery** 

#### **PE DEPARTMENT**

## **Sports Hall Athletics**

Ivo E (Year 9) and Osian L (Year 8) were invited to be part of the Sussex Team for the regional final of Sports Hall Athletics at the start of half term. The competition was fast and furious, with Kent and Surrey dominant as ever, but Sussex put up a valiant fight. Osian took part in the 2 lap time trial, the standing vertical jump and the U13 relay. The competition took a slightly different format for Ivo, as versatility is demanded of

the U15s, who have to do a run, a jump and a shot putt. Ivo also took part in the 8 lap parlarf relay. In contrast to the clean warm conditions inside the sports hall, Ivo finished his half term running for Chichester in the National Cross Country Championships at the iconic Parliament Hill. The were over 400 runners from all over the country in his race – and an awful lot of mud!









## **Chichester Corporate Challenge**

Just a reminder to get signed up if you are running next week. No need to do all three of them.

If you know anyone that's interested, just let me know (aaron.hancock@mrc-academy.org). We have a few signed up but always great to have more.

## **Brighton Marathon Fundraising**

On Sunday 6 April Mr Hancock will be running the Brighton Marathon for Cancer Research UK. He has been racking up the miles since January and is hoping for a strong run. Any donations towards this fantastic cause would be greatly appreciated and brilliant motivation during his training.

https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/aarons-giving-page-3161

## Cheerleading

Massive congratulations to Gaby Hogg, one of our cheerleading coaches and ex-student, who became a National Champion in Dallas, USA this week!

Gaby flew to Dallas, Texas with her team JLDC and competed against 8 American teams in a Level 2 division. They scored an impressive 98.13% and came 1st! Coming back to the UK as National Champions!

The biggest of thank you's to Gaby and Miss Cooper for continuing to coach the cheerleading team. The MRC cheerleaders have been working hard and are ready for their next National competition, which takes place in May.





## **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

## Learning Resource Centre

I recently had delivery of the book bundle I won from the National Literacy Trust as a thank you for my participation in their Holocaust Memorial Day 2025 project. Students at MRC will now be able to enjoy these exciting titles along with all of our others on offer:

## **Mrs Hastings**



## **World Book Day Celebrations**

This Thursday we celebrated WBD across the College. The theme of WBD this year is 'Read Your Way' and we embraced this in many exciting and different ways. In tutor time the students completed a WBD quiz and learnt about libraries around the world, both real and fictional and their importance to both education and society.

Our very own library at MRC ran a series of events, from designing character's bedrooms from well-known fiction and writing 6 word stories. We also ran our group reading intervention sessions as part of our normal timetable, reminding students that reading is important every single day, not just WBD. Today we celebrated the fact that as a College we promote the importance of reading in every classroom, every day.

Winners will be announced soon. A Jones/S Hastings



Mrs Bridger-Pescott embracing World Book Day with a very apt choice of reading!



## **CAREERS INFORMATION - CAREERS FAIR**

We held a very successful Careers Fair on Tuesday with many companies attending the event, including Rolls Royce Motor Cars Ltd, Forestry England, Unilever, University of Winchester, Chichester College, EveryOne Active, Brinsbury College, West Sussex Police, Cowdray Estate, West Sussex Fire, Amberley Museum, West Dean Colleage plus many more local entrepreneurs, further and higher education establishments and a selection of companies offering careers advice.

Thank you to our students who were impeccabile in their behaviour, polite, engaging and made us very proud. The feedback from our Exhibitors also highlighted how great the students were and how impressed they were with their behaviour and communication.

We hope the students spoke to you about the event, enjoyed learning about the possibilities in further education and beyond!

If you feel you have something inspiring to offer next years event, please get in touch as we would love to hear from you - <u>samantha.jones@mrc-academy.org</u>.

## **Ms Jones**





































#### **SIXTH FORM NEWS**

## **UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS**



## **Brave The Shave**

On the 14 March a couple of our Sixth Form students will be 'Braving the Shave' in order to raise money for the local Macmillan service.

The Midhurst Macmillan Service operates throughout Sussex, Surrey and Hampshire providing world class palliative care to patients with terminal diseases. They are funded solely by donations generated by the Midhurst Palliative Care Charity.



We ask if you would please consider donating to the JustGiving Page linked at the end of this appeal in order to support our local service and keep them running and available to help patients and their families in one of the most difficult times in their lives.

https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/brave-the-shave-midhurst-macmillan-2025

Thank you.

Saul Combes Charity Team Coordinator



## **COLLEGE NOTICES**

## FOODBANK

## **Easter Eggs for Foodbank**

It is time for our annual collection of Easter eggs for the Easter Foodbank collection for their holiday lunchboxes. These lunchboxes go out to free school meals children and other vulnerable families. Last year we gathered 243 Easter Eggs at this collection.

Should you wish to give an egg or two, please send them into school before **Friday 21 March**. Easter eggs can be left at Main Reception anytime between now and then.

## MENTAL HEALTH AMBASSADOR TRAINING

Thirty three students took part in our Mental Health Ambassador training delivered by Thoughtful. This is an amazing opportunity for our students to make active changes in our school for the wellbeing of the other students.

Well done to the Year 8 and Sixth Form Students for taking part in the training.

## Mr Thompson and Mr Clements







## **CAREERS INFORMATION**

## **PGCE - Become a Teacher**

If you are interested in teaching and want to find out more about our Post Graduate teacher training programmes, then please join us at our next virtual post graduate open event which is being held on the 26 of March. You can register by contacting <u>studyhere@</u> <u>chi.ac.uk</u>.

You can also email Debs Wilkinson (d.wilkinson@chi.ac.uk) to talk about the primary courses and Jeremy Smith (j.smith@ chi.ac.uk) to discuss the secondary routes.



# Want to make a real difference and inspire the next generation?

## STUDY A PGCE AND BECOME A TEACHER

- Qualify as a primary or secondary teacher in just one year and start fulfilling your career.
  Gain the skills and experience to secure your first teaching job with qualified teacher status (
- We work with a range of excellent partnership scl
- East Sussex, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Surrey • It's a well respected, varied and challenging career,
- It's a well respected, varied and challenging career, where you can have a positive impact on the lives of young people
- It is not as expensive as you might think, and in some subjects, you can even ge a bursary of up to £28,000

o find out more contact: •44 (0)1243 816000 | primaryPGCE@chi.ac.uk | secondaryPGCE@ch ¢chiuni ① ③ ③ ③ ◎ ● @



## Where are you now? Join MRC Alumni

It's been years...we hope that you left Midhurst Rother College with all the tools for your next steps in life. We would really like to know what you are doing now and what you have been doing since you left. Did you go to university, take an apprenticeship course, start a business or perhaps start working for a family business, have you taken a well-trodden or an unusual Career path?

Please scan the QR code to join our central Alumni Community at Lifelong United Learning to update us or click this link <u>Lifelong United Learning</u> | <u>Support Us</u> | <u>United Learning</u>. You might also want to join our new Midhurst Rother College (MRC) page on <u>LinkedIn</u> (if you add us as your Education on LinkedIn you will be automatically added as our MRC Alumni, or you can choose to follow us).

It really would be great to hear from you as it's always nice to hear about old students! Please do get in touch.



## STUDENT RECEPTION

PLEASE...DO NOT **BUY SANITARY PRODUCTS FOR** YOUR CHILD. WE HAVE ENOUGH **TO GIVE AWAY** FOR FREE TO ANY **STUDENT WHO NEEDS THEM!** 

Please tell them to come to student reception or main reception as we have a plentiful and varied stock of sanitary products to hand out. Just pop by and stock up!

## **UNIFORM**

## Hoodies

A gentle reminder to students and parents that coats are obviously allowed to be worn, but HOODIES are not part of the uniform and will be removed from students if they wear them to College or during break times. Leggings are also not acceptable as part of the school uniform.

Coats over blazers are of course perfectly acceptable, we don't want anyone getting cold, but hoodies are not permitted for school, PE or Dance - we have a no hoodies on site policy. Please click on the link below for the uniform policy if you are unsure on any of the uniform.

## **UNIFORM POLICY**

## **Negative Uniform/Jewellery Points**

'Pink Slips' are assigned to students who are not conforming to our uniform/jewellery policy. A negative point is added to your child's Arbor and each point represents one pink slip that has been issued over the course of the current week – one negative point per pink slip. If you have any queries regarding the issuing of the negative point, please email enquiries@mrc-academy.org.

> Thank you for working with us to help keep our students smart, it is so important in setting them up to achieve!





#### LOCAL INFORMATION



£18/£20 · ENTER ONLINE AT www.midhurstmilers.org

Run Company

METIS

GYM

STRIVE - PERFORM - ACHIEVE

## **LOCAL INFORMATION**



Do you have a burning desire to tread the boards? Direct, design a set, be the most organised props person, plot the lighting or learn your way around a sound board, production manage, costumes or help with front of house? Whether you are experienced or fresh out of the box, however you want to help or get involved-from age 16 to 100- your local theatre needs you! We are an active, friendly amateur theatre group always striving to achieve the highest standards.

We are looking for new members for all of the above for future productions. We meet on the last Friday of every month for a social gathering to which you are most welcome, or please contact our lovely secretary Liz to discuss how you can get involved - <u>lizfowler@aol.com</u>.









Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well. As the new term at the Sylvia Beaufoy Centre has, we are excited to share the fantastic opportunities available for young people over the coming months. We have a wide range of activities planned, ensuring there is something for everyone to enjoy, learn from, and participate in.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) – Bronze, Silver & Gold The highlight of this term is our Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme at Bronze, Silver, and Gold levels. We are delighted to announce that booking is now open for those wishing to start their DofE journey in September. This opportunity is available for young people who will be in school Year 9 and above.



The DofE programme offers young people a chance to develop key life skills, build confidence, and engage in adventure and community work, all while earning a recognised qualification. If your child is interested in enrolling or if you require further information, please email <u>dan@sylviabeaufoy.org</u> as soon as possible to secure a place.

## **Greenpower Team**

Our Greenpower Team continues to work hard designing, building, and racing electric-powered cars as part of the Greenpower Education Trust initiative. While new members will not be able to join until November, we encourage all interested young people to find out more about this exciting project for future opportunities.

## **Weekly Activities**

Alongside these larger programmes, we have a variety of engaging activities planned across our different sessions, including:

Evolve Junior Youth Club (school year 5 and 6) – fun and educational activities such as World Logic Day, mental health awareness sessions, creative workshops, and fundraising events. Some highlights include:

Comic Relief Fundraiser (18 Mar) – Night walk, Community Garden Visit (8 Jul).

Monday Night Sessions – sports, cooking, team games, and craft activities, providing a great opportunity for socialising and skill-building. Highlights include:

Petworth Park Sports Activities (19 May)

Xhale Wellbeing Sessions – mindfulness activities, journalling, outdoor trips, and creative projects designed to support young people's mental well-being. Key sessions include:

Outdoor Evening at Botney Bay (20 Mar) – Nature walk and outdoor craft activities. End of Term Party (17 Jul) – A celebration to mark the end of the school year.

We look forward to another fantastic term and hope to see as many young people as possible getting involved in our sessions. If you have any questions or would like more details on any of our activities, please don't hesitate to contact us at <u>dan@sylviabeaufoy.org</u>.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best regards,

Dan Sneller Senior Youth & Community Development Manager Sylvia Beaufoy Centre www.sylviabeaufoy.org

# CALENDARS / DIARY DATES

## MRC Performing Arts - Calendar of Events 2025

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Spring Term 2025	1	I			
Saturday 8 March	CFMDS	Choirs	St Pauls, Chichester, from 9am		
Monday 17 March	Yr 11 Component 2 exam (1)	GCSE Drama Yr 11	MRC Theatre		
Tuesday 18 March	Yr 11 Component 2 exam (2)	GCSE Drama Yr 11	MRC Theatre		
Thursday 20 March	Gilbert Hannam Day	Orchestra	St. Mary Magdalene & St. Denys		
Wednesday 26 March	Spring Concert	Orchestra Choir Jazz Strings, flutes Drama/production groups Soloists (by invite) Bands	MRC Theatre		
Thursday 27 March	Choreography showcase event	Yr 11 Dance Plus dance groups	MRC Theatre		
Friday 28 March	Rother Valley Arts Festival	MRC Dance Teams	MRC Theatre		
Tuesday 1 April	ROH Create and Sing launch for Magic Flute	Invited students – Singers plus orchestral players (audition)	Royal Opera House		
Summer 2025					
April TBC	Yr 13 Music recital	Yr 13	MRC Theatre		
Thursday 3 April	Dance showcase event	Yr 11/10	MRC Theatre		
Wednesday 30 April	Dance House 2	MRC Dance Teams Minibus	Worthing Festival Theatre		
Tuesday 6 May	Yr 10 Drama Performance	GCSE Drama Yr10	MRC Theatre		
Thursday 8 May	Yr 10 Drama Performance	GCSE Drama YR10	MRC Theatre		
Wednesday 21 May	Yr 12 Component 1	Yr 12	MRC Theatre		
Tuesday 24 June	Magic Flute	Invited students	Royal Festival Hall		
June TBC	Drama Day		MRC Theatre		
Thursday 26 June	Addams Family – School production!	Cast and orchestra of Addams Family	MRC Theatre		
Friday 27 June	Addams Family – School production	Cast and orchestra of Addams Family	MRC Theatre		
Tuesday 15 July	Drama and Music House Cup	Yr 7	MRC Theatre Music P1-4 Drama 5-6		

## **DIARY DATES**

These dates are accurate at the time of publishing.

Date	Event	
7 - 21 April	Easter Holidays	
22 April	INSET Day	
5 May	Bank Holiday	
26 - 30 May	Half Term	
18 July	Last Day of Term / Academic Year	

Throughout the year, parents receive Tracking Point (TP) reports which record Attitude to Learning (A2L), subject grades and gives an overview of attendance for their child. There are 3 TPs in Years 7 – 10, and 4 TPs in Years 11 – 13. This information will be released and viewed on the Arbor platform.

#### Attitude to Learning (A2L)

2

ERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S TRACKING POINT REPO

A2L is split into four key focus areas and defined as follows:

Classwork: This measures the degree to which a student engages and contributes to lessons. This considers a student's ability and willingness to ask questions, contribute to discussions, engage with classroom activities, produce work to the highest of their ability, seek out extension tasks, and take responsibility for their own learning.



Homework: This measures student engagement with independent work set. This considers a student's reliability to complete and hand work in on time, the quality of the work being produced, and also reflects levels of personal organisation.

Prepared for Learning: This relates to personal standards in and around the College. This considers punctuality to lessons and having the right equipment for learning. For Sixth Form, this includes meeting deadlines, dress code adherence and the use of study periods.

Behaviour for Learning: This measures student attitudes within the classroom. This considers a student's ability to remain focused on tasks, levels of engagement, and positive and negative incidents that impact on their learning or the learning of others - ensuring that all students have the right to undisrupted learning.

Students will receive a score for each of the above elements on a scale of 1 - 4:

4	Outstanding	ing Exceptionally high standards always met.	
3	Good	Mostly high standards, some inconsistencies which leave room for improvement.	
2	Inconsistent	Variable standards, satisfactory as often as unsatisfactory. Negatively affects achievement.	
1	Unsatisfactory	Standards are often unacceptable. Considerable impact on achievement and learning of others.	



Students receive a GCSE grade in Years 7-11 as part of each TP. As a parent/carer, you will also be provided with a grade following each examination window, along with an average grade. Each year group has a maximum grade they can receive 3+ in Year 7, 4+ in Year 8, 5+ in Year 9, 7+ in Year 10, 9+ in Year 11 and A\* in Year 13.



4+

Grade maximums for each year

54

th Form

#### Attendance

Attendance matters! As a parent/carer, you will see an overall attendance figure for your child (given as a percentage). This diagram details the correlation between attendance and education, and how attendance can impact success and life chances. Discussion and support are always offered to maximise the outcomes for every individual.



If you have any questions regarding the report, please contact your child's Head of Year and/or classroom teacher(s).

## VACANCIES AT MIDHURST ROTHER COLLEGE

Please click on the following link for the latest vacancies at MRC: <u>https://www.mrc-academy.org/about-us/vacancies</u>

## **HELPFUL MRC WEBSITE LINKS**

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

Sparx Reader: <u>Sparx Reader</u>

Lexia POWERUP Literacy - Login and Student Program: <u>Device Setup - PowerUp (lexiapowerup.com)</u> Past editions of Midhurst Matters Newsletter <u>Midhurst Matters (mrc-academy.org)</u>