



MIDHURST MATTERS

Date	Year Group	Events/Details	
Monday 16 September	11	GCSE Success Evening 6pm in the Theatre	
Tuesday 17 September	8	Information Evening 6.30pm in the Theatre	
Wednesday 18 September	13	Information Evening 6.30pm in the Theatre	
Thursday 19 September	7 13	Information Evening 6.30pm in the Theatre Geography fieldwork day	
Friday 20 September			
Austen	Kipling	Tennyson	Woolf
3063	2916	3302	2823

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to a new term! It has been a really positive start to the new academic year. Our Year 7s are settling in well and are already very good at finding their way around College. They are also using all areas of the school at break and lunch and are making new friendships, which is great to see. I know that the start of term for Year 7 can be a challenging time – if you have any concerns, please contact Mrs Silverthorne: Vivienne.Silverthorne@mrc-academy.org.

Students in other year groups have also made an excellent start to the year. They are working hard in lessons and are showing that they are keen to learn. It is important that students start the year well – in particular with staying on top of homework. We run clubs to help at lunchtime in the T corridor, as well as offering homework support in enrichment time through clubs. Learning from home is an essential part of every students' success.

Finally, I must congratulate our Year 11 and 13 on their excellent examination results. Once again, we have students who have achieved the very top grades at both GCSE and A-Level, with many of our Year 13s going to study courses at the best universities in the country. Well done to them all!

You will notice some messages about attendance in this edition of Midhurst Matters. Attendance is lower than pre-pandemic nationally and we are no exception to this. Our attendance is improving and we know it is always good at the start of term. We must maintain this throughout the year – we know that students with low attendance do not do as well as those who are here. Attendance really does matter.

Have a good weekend.

With best wishes.

Stuart Edwards
Principal



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

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 help 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. 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 actually is.

Did you know that an attendance figure below 90% classifies a child as being persistently absent? Equally, an attendance figure below 50% 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.

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 5 points each week, with an additional 25 points for 100% over the whole half-term.

Beyond this, all those students whose attendance was at 96% or above by the end of the last 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. We will also be running a silent disco for those students who have 100% attendance from Monday 23 September through to Friday 4 October. More details to come on these.

Holidays

Headteachers are no longer able to grant leave for holidays during school term time. The Secretary of State for Education has stated that all holidays during term time are unauthorised and could be subject to a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN).

The real cost to your child of a holiday in term time is that they miss learning, could become anxious and stressed through falling behind in their work, receive lower test/examination results and miss out on opportunities in the future. Is it worth the price

Good attendance means that your child will have better chances, better choices and be able to take control of their life.

Absence

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.

If your child needs to attend an appointment, please send us a copy of any supporting information such as a medical letter or appointment card. Our website (Attendance Matters (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? We work closely with the legislation as laid out in the DfE's Working together to improve school attendance (applies from 19 August 2024) (publishing.service.gov.uk) publication to ensure that we fulfil the government's mandate on attendance and support you and your child.

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

KS3 ASSESSMENT DIARY

Week beginning : 16 September 2024

Students in Year 7 will be sitting 'baseline assessments' in some of their subjects over the next two weeks. These assessments are designed to help us understand what students have learnt at KS2, since they join us from a wide variety of primary schools. It also helps us to understand the ability and potential of students, and thus plan and deliver lessons appropriately pitched for them.

Teaching staff should be sharing details of forthcoming assessments with your child. This will be available on Arbor as an assignment. At this stage of Year 7, we do not expect students to revise and prepare for these assessments, and once marked they are not viewed in a "pass/fail" light.

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 are able to better reflect their true capability in an assessment. We thank you for supporting your child in their preparation.

Mr van Hoek - Assistant Principal - KS3 Raising Standards

ARBOR - DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

To allow the canteen to be aware of your child's food allergies and intolerances, would you please ensure that you have filled in your child's 'Dietary Requirements' in the 'Meal Preferences and Dietary Requirements' section found in the student profile section on Arbor (see image below). This will then pull through the information to the catering system and show at the tills.



Meal Preferences & Dietary Requirements		Add
Meal preference	None recorded	
Dietary requirements	None recorded - click here to add	

For example you can state nut allergy or allergic to dairy, or even vegetarian. When your child's account comes up at the till, this will show alerting the serving staff to the allergy. It is also recommended that your child states when being served that they have an allergy as a double check.

Many thanks

Kath Chard - Director of Business

STUDENT RECEPTION

FREE Sanitary Products

We have a plentiful and varied stock of sanitary products at Student Reception, **FREE** to students! Just pop by and stock up - we have female staff in the hub to help if preferred.



Uniform

A reminder to label all uniform so it can be returned to its rightful owner should it be misplaced. Especially blazers as they are a key piece of uniform and a costly item.

Winter Is Coming

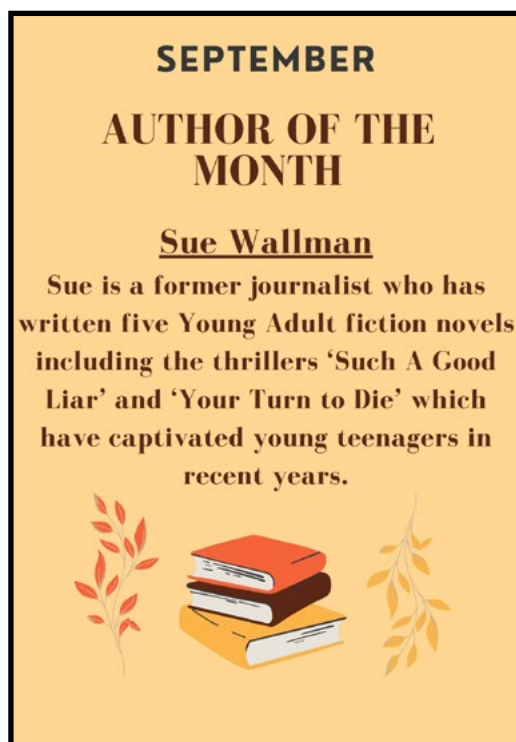
As the weather gets colder, a gentle reminder to students and parents that coats are obviously allowed to be worn, but that HOODIES are not part of the uniform and will be removed from students if they wear them to College or during break times.

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.

<https://www.mrc-academy.org/Portals/0/Information/Policies/Behaviour%20and%20Attitudes/Uniform%20policy.pdf?ver=foOwQucg9s5BDEfPR4hREA%3d%3d×tamp=1621346226293>

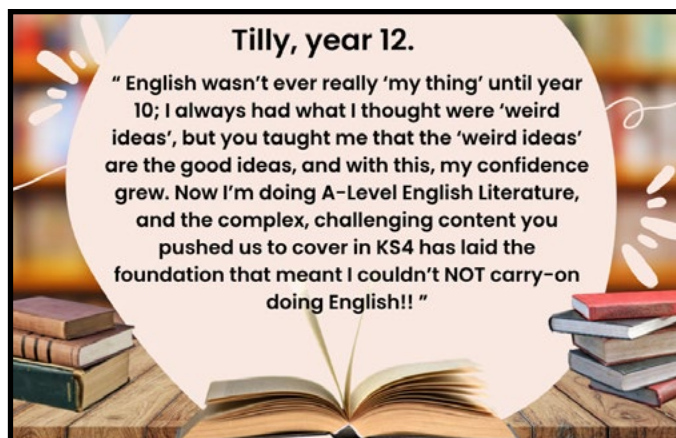
LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

A new academic year brings a new month, which means a new Author of the Month.



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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT



DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Year 7 Drama Homework - Greek Mythology

At the end of last term our then Year 7 students created these incredible masks as part of their Drama Greek Theatre homework project. Such a diverse collection of styles and materials used. Well done!

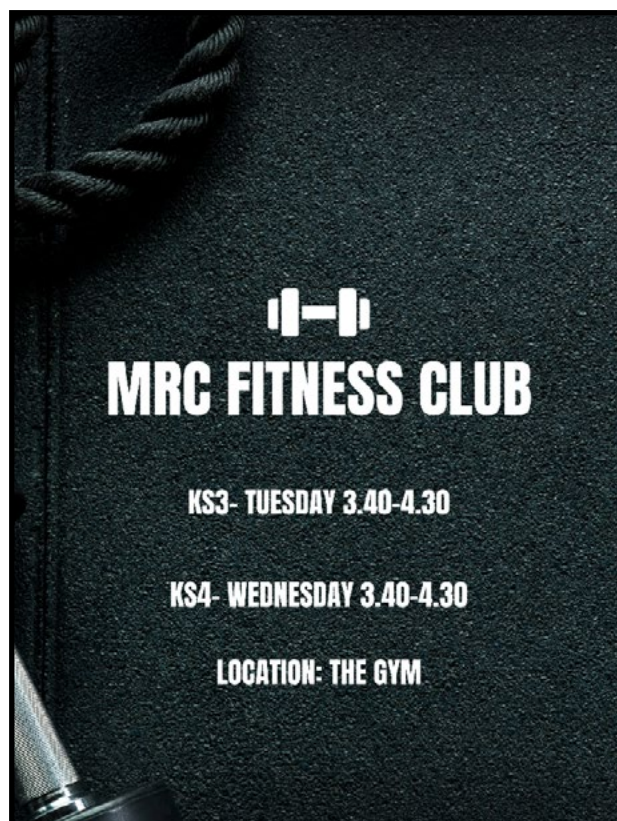
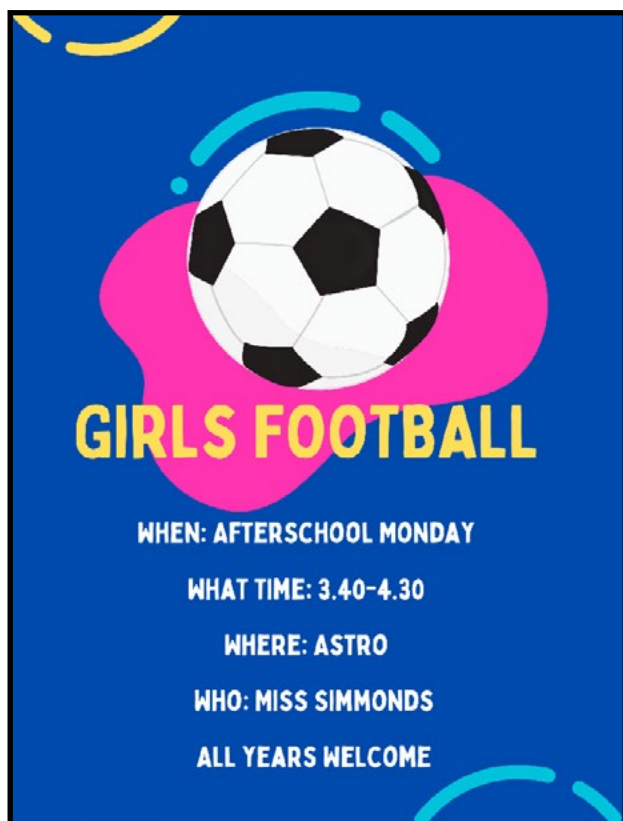
Mrs Strachan



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PE DEPARTMENT

We will be running a variety of after school clubs this term, details below.



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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

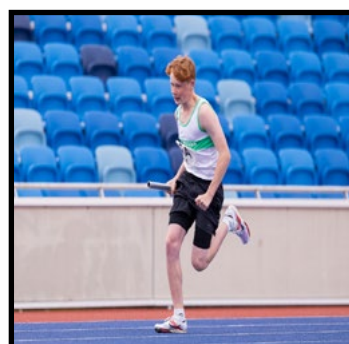
Nellie B in Year 8 - Surrey County Swimming Team

Last Sunday Nellie B in Year 8 was selected to swim at the prestigious London Olympic Aquatic centre taking part in the Surrey County Relay's representing her team, Haslemere Swimming Club. Well done Nellie!



National Standard Performance in Athletics from Ivo in Year 9

Ivo in Year 9 had a VERY exciting summer with his running and his mum very kindly sent in an update for us to see just how good it was for him and his fellow team mates.



On the first weekend after school broke up, the Chichester 4 x 300m team ran a storming relay in their last YDL match at Guildford. They obliterated the club record by 8 seconds and ended up with a 3rd fastest ranking in the country. Ivo was the only younger year member of the team (and not the slowest!). Unexpectedly they were then invited to the first England Athletics's National Relay Champs in 40 years. So we ended up coming home from holiday on the Isles of Scilly via Birmingham. Only a 200 mile detour!

Thanks to short notice and it being held in the middle of the school holidays – and on a bank holiday weekend – only 9 of the top 16 invited clubs entered a team. Needless to say, Chichester were total underdogs and probably the only club without a track to train on. But the boys ran their hearts out and took another half second off their previous time. They came 7th of 9 teams, but Blackheath and Bromley, who won, clocked the 4th fastest time, of all time, on Power of 10. So it was a very competitive race. The top 7 teams – including Chichester – now have all time rankings. The boys were a bit disappointed to miss the Sussex record by 0.3 of a second, but having an all time ranking is a nice consolation and they still have the 7th fastest time this year. They ended the season on Friday night breaking the record for the U15 Sussex League at Withdean.

If, at the beginning of the season, we had told them they would be well inside the top 10 by the end of season, they'd have taken that!

Well done Ivo!



Foodbank Friday

On Friday 18 October, we will be holding our first Foodbank Friday of the year. We are always overwhelmed by your generosity in supporting our local Midhurst Foodbank. For this collection, the Foodbank have suggested items from the list below would be very useful for them to receive:

Tinned fruit, tinned custard or rice pudding, instant whips, tinned meat products, tinned fish, barbecue sauces, liquid hand wash, shower gel, shampoo, deodorant, rice, instant flavoured noodles, long life milk.

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



GCSE and A Level Fine Art/Textiles/Photography Coursework and externally set Assignments 2024

A reminder that all coursework is available for collection between 31 October 2024 - 14 February 2025 (students work cannot be collected before this date due to exam regulations) - after this date we cannot guarantee storage of the work. Please email tracey.bedford@mrc-academy.org to arrange collection.

Mrs Bedford

MIDHURST MILERS



MIDHURST MILERS

IN CONJUNCTION WITH FERNHURST
RECREATION GROUND TRUST PRESENT

BLACKDOWN HILL CHALLENGE

A 6.5km race from Fernhurst Recreation Ground to Temple of the Winds, Blackdown. In addition to a climb of 230m the route provides outstanding views across Sussex, Surrey and Hampshire. We will also offer a less challenging trail race for adults of approximately 4.5km.

10:30 Sunday 20 October 2024

The Pavilion, Fernhurst Recreation Ground GU27 3HY

£15/£16 • ENTER ONLINE AT www.midhurstmilers.org



MIDHURST MILERS

IN CONJUNCTION WITH FERNHURST
RECREATION GROUND TRUST PRESENT

2K & 4K JUNIOR TRAIL RACES

6-8 YEARS

9-11 YEARS

12-15 YEARS

Junior races from Fernhurst Recreation Ground, a 2k trail race for 6-8 and 9-11 years, and 4k race for 12-15 years.

9:30 Sunday 20 October 2024

The Pavilion, Fernhurst Recreation Ground GU27 3HY

NEW
FOR
2024

SCHOOL TEAM RACE

Mixed teams of six pupils • Primary and Secondary school categories
£42 per team • For details please email Sarah Jenkins sarah330@hotmail.com

ONLY £7 • ENTER ONLINE AT www.midhurstmilers.org

PETWORTH YOUTH CLUB

Duke of Edinburgh Infomation Evening, Wednesday 11 September 2024. Full information and times below.

Video link here: <https://www.youtube.com/>

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award DofE



<https://youtu.be/iX2cBhPuoh4?si=a1fpP5R9hv7a1Cha>

**Check out
this video**

Thinking about taking the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) Challenge?

Come to the Sylvia Beaufoy Centre on the 11th September to find out more.

Bronze - School years 9 and up from 6pm

Bronze Level from 6pm to 7:30pm for school years 9 and above.

Silver - School years 10 and up from 7:30pm

Silver Level from 7:30pm to 9pm for school years 10 and above

For more information please contact Dan Sneller at dan@sylviabeaufoy.org

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teamwork | respect | enjoyment
discipline | sportsmanship

Open Day

Sunday 15th September

10am - 3pm

Adult Men	Over 18
Tots	U6
Minis	U7 - U11
Youth	U12 - U18

* Free Entry * Fun & Games * Bar & Food *



The Pavillion, Cowdray Ruins,
Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9AL



DIARY DATES – AUTUMN TERM

These dates are accurate at the time of publishing.

Date	Event
16 Sept	Year 11 Parent/Carer Information Evening - 6pm
17 Sept	Year 8 Parent/Carer Information Evening - 6.30pm
18 Sept	Year 13 Parent/Carer Information Evening - 6.30pm
19 Sept	Year 7 Welcome Evening from 6.30pm
25 Sept	Prospective Students Open Evening - 6pm - 8pm
27 Sept	INSET Day
3 Oct	Year 7 Parent/Carer Information and Tutor Evening - 6.30pm

VACANCIES AT MIDHURST ROTHER COLLEGE

Please click on the following link for the latest vacancies at MRC:

<https://www.mrc-academy.org/about-us/vacancies>

HELPFUL MRC WEBSITE LINKS

Arbor Information Guides: [Arbor Information Guides \(mrc-academy.org\)](https://www.mrc-academy.org/information-guides)

Arbor Link: [Midhurst Rother College \(arbor.sc\)](https://www.mrc-academy.org/information/arbor)

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 \(mrc-academy.org\)](https://www.mrc-academy.org/visits)

Staff Emails: <https://bit.ly/StaffEmailAddress>

Term Dates: [Midhurst Rother College > Information > College Term dates \(mrc-academy.org\)](https://www.mrc-academy.org/information/term-dates)

School Cloud: <https://midhurst.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Sparx Maths: <https://www.sparxmaths.uk/student>

Sparx Reader: [Sparx Reader](https://www.sparxmaths.uk/reader)

Lexia POWERUP Literacy - Login and Student Program: [Device Setup - PowerUp \(lexiapowerup.com\)](https://www.lexia.com/powerup)

Past editions of Midhurst Matters Newsletter [Midhurst Matters \(mrc-academy.org\)](https://www.mrc-academy.org/matters)