



# MIDHURST MATTERS

Date	Year Group	Events/Details
Monday 18 March	13	Law Revision Workshop/Conference - London
Tuesday 19 March		
Wednesday 20 March	12	Royal Holloway Trip - Geography Study Day Spring Concert 7pm in the Theatre
Thursday 21 March	8,9,10	HPV Vaccinations West Sussex Schools Literature Quiz
Friday 22 March		

Austen	Kipling	Tennyson	Woolf
85,608 (1,949)	99,228 (2,370)	101,423 (2,651)	84,600 (2,037)

## PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

This has been a very busy week both inside and outside of school. On Saturday, the MRC Singers won first place at the Chichester Music Festival, which is a fantastic achievement! A special mention must also go to Bella J, who played Piano Open Playing Chopin Op 9 No 1 and was commended for this.

On Monday, astronaut Major Tim Peake led our whole school assembly at the start of British Science Week. We managed to squeeze all of Years 7-11 in the sports hall to hear Major Tim give an inspirational talk to the students about his experiences as an astronaut, as well as his training for this. Major Tim also took questions from students in the assembly – the most interesting one (in my opinion) came from a Year 7 who asked ‘what does space smell like?’. Major Tim’s answer: ‘burnt metal!’

I write this to you on Thursday morning and it is sent to parents / carers on Friday. Today is our annual Awards evening – I will write to parents about this in next week’s edition of Midhurst Matters.

**Best wishes**

**Stuart Edwards**

## A Passion for Learning! - Visit to St John's College, Oxford

One message came through loud and clear during our visit to St John's College at Oxford yesterday. If you are truly excited about a subject and you can talk about your passion for learning, you could study for a degree at this world-famous university.

Each Oxford College has adopted a region of the UK to foster an increase in successful applications from state school pupils. St John's College (SJC) links with state schools and Colleges in West Sussex to inform, advise and inspire young people about aiming high and applying for a place to study at Oxford University.

Mrs Hathaway and I accompanied thirty-one MRC students to learn about what sets Oxbridge apart from other degree courses and how to make a successful application. A busy and informative day was enjoyed by all, which included a tour of the college and a delicious lunch. SJC buildings are a mixture of old and new with some courtyards dating back over four hundred years. As an SJC undergraduate, you might live in one of these beautiful old courtyards, just across the quad from the library, dining room and common rooms. Each college forms a supportive home community for its students during each intensive term. Students still attend labs and lectures in specialist facilities and join clubs or societies anywhere in the university.

Unlike many other universities, Oxford Colleges will always interview applicants before offering places. This is where a student must be willing to express and debate ideas, demonstrating a true passion for learning. To do well here, ambitious learners need to read around their subjects, not just excel at the taught curriculum. MRC students can be hesitant about sharing ideas in discussion. Reluctant to be seen as big headed, or maybe scared of sounding silly, students can be a little quiet in discussion activities although they have good ideas. So, in the afternoon at SJC, we were debating good answers to possible interview questions. Developing oracy needs to be addressed as well as achieving high grades, if students are to impress at interview.

It was interesting to find out more about student finance and bursaries available to SJC undergraduates. We also had a short visit into the city centre to see the Bodleian Library and peruse the shops before travelling home. We hope students are inspired to aim high and feel confident to apply to Oxbridge.





## PE DEPT

### Area Indoor Athletics

On Tuesday 12 March we took four teams (Year 7 and 8 girls and boys) to the area qualifying event at the Weald School. Each team competed over six running races and five field events, scoring points for their position in each. Every student performed fantastically and after calculating the scores we had the following results:

#### Year 7 Boys

- 1st **MRC** - 140pts
- 2nd Tanbridge - 106 pts
- 3rd The Weald - 90pts

#### Year 7 Girls

- 1st Tanbridge - 114pts
- 2nd **MRC** - 113 pts
- 3rd The Weald - 81pts & Millais - 81pts

#### Year 8 Boys

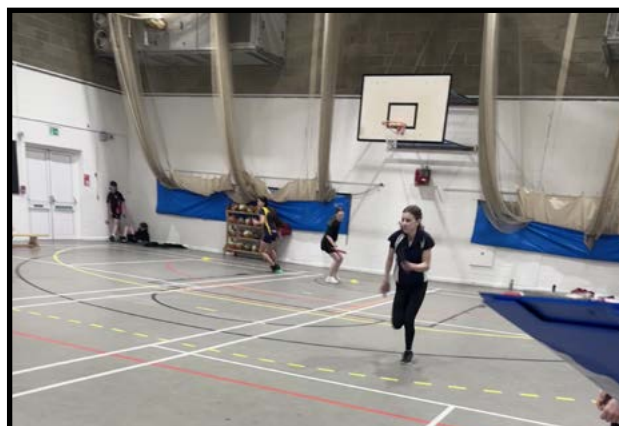
- 1st **MRC** - 131pts
- 2nd Forest - 92pts
- 3rd Tanbridge - 84pts
- 4th The Weald - 79pts

#### Year 8 Girls

- 1st **MRC** - 109pts
- 2nd Millais - 92pts
- 3rd The Weald - 87pts
- 4th Tanbridge - 77pts
- 5th Forest - 64pts.

The results were fantastic and three out of our four teams have qualified for the indoor athletics county finals in April, with the Year 7 girls missing out by 1 point.

Hopefully we can get some practice in and reach a podium place in the finals!





### **Year 10 Boys Football**

Archie T lead the side as captain this week in a great game against The Academy Selsey. The boys started brightly with Owain A picking up his first goal of the season with a lovely close range finished which went over the Selsey goal keeper. Selsey grew into the game but the boys kept pushing until the final whistle, with Will A having a floury of chances at the end (mostly created by himself!). The boys were gracious in defeat and well mannered as always, a pleasure to ref!

**Mr Marshall**



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## Scotland U18's Rugby Squad

It is with great pleasure and pride that a former MRC student, Scarlet Down has been selected to play rugby for Scotland Women's U18's.

Scarlet will be playing in the Six Nations 2024 Festival which takes place at Stadium CSM in Colwyn Bay, Wales, starting on Friday 29 March and running until Saturday 6 April.

Scotland will play 35-minute matches against France, Wales, England and Italy before finishing with a 70-minute match against Ireland.

The selection comes after the Girls' Regional Game Series which ran in January and February, with 19 players including Scarlet being selected from the programme. Additional players from the Scottish Qualified programme have also been selected into the U18 side.

In preparation for the upcoming festival, Scarlet will be training hard with the rest of the squad in a series of training camps every weekend in Scotland.

We wish Scarlet all the best and we will continue to watch Scarlet's international career soar.



## West Sussex Growers Association - Year 7 & 8 Assembly

On Thursday 13 March we were very lucky to have the West Sussex Growers Association visit us and hold an assembly to encourage the students to start a conversation about our food, where it comes from and horticulture careers sector in West Sussex.

They will be returning after Easter for a post-assembly session with Year 7 & Year 8 to tie in their talk with the students curriculum which relates to a range of subjects from Science to Geography, Maths to IT careers.



## MAJOR TIM PEAKE'S VISIT TO MRC

Renowned British astronaut Tim Peake visited us on Monday 11 March, captivating students with a fascinating talk on space exploration. The event, held with all of Year 7-11 in the college sports hall, generated a genuine buzz of enthusiasm, leaving students talking about it all day.

Peake, who spent six months aboard the **International Space Station**, shared his unique experiences during his time in space, his training prior to it, and his current work with the European Space Agency. His descriptions of the training involved, experiencing weightlessness, life on the ISS, and the awe-inspiring view of our planet were listened to with wrapped attention by all our students. He emphasized the importance of perseverance in study and training, scientific curiosity, and taking every opportunity to achieve one's dreams.

Later in the day, Major Peake held a Q+A session with Sixth Form science and maths students who asked a wealth of interesting questions and gained from his fascinating experience and extensive space-based scientific research. Peake explained how research on growing proteins in space for organ transplants is paving the way for improving outcomes for patients and reducing the need for side-effect inducing anti-rejection drugs, amongst other things.

The students were particularly intrigued by the question: "How does space smell?" Peake revealed that space has a distinct odour—a mix of burnt metal, gunpowder, and ozone.



## ATTENDANCE

We express our thanks to Major Tim Peake for awarding our Tutor Group Attendance Cup to Ben Braun who collected the cup on behalf of the brilliant 7A/CRN with a consistent 94% attendance they deserved the win – The question now is can they retain it and continue their interstellar performance!

### **DAILY HOMEWORK SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS**

Please be reminded that all students are able to access support with homework every lunchtime in Room T107, supported by subject teachers. Please encourage your child to attend these sessions at lunchtime to help them with their homework/Sparx/Seneca, should they need it.

### **YEAR 11 EASTER WORKSHOPS 2 - 12 APRIL 2024**

MRC teachers are kindly offering bespoke revision sessions in a range of subjects during the spring break. Students will enjoy learning in a relaxed, quiet school environment with expert help, a nice addition to revising independently at home for your GCSEs.

Yr11 students and parents please look out for invitations and reply on Arbor "clubs".

### **ARBOR - STUDENT LUNCH ACCOUNT**

Please be reminded to ensure your child's canteen account is topped up regularly so that they are able to access the food on offer at both break and lunch.

If your child is entitled to Free School meals, the allowance is credited to the account in time for lunch. If you wish your child to have something from the counter at break time, please add funds to cover this.

We will always ensure that a child is fed at lunch time, and understand that at times an account may show a small negative. In such circumstances we will remind the student to arrange a top up.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me, [katherine.chard@mrc-academy.org](mailto:katherine.chard@mrc-academy.org).

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The MRC choir sang in the final weekend of the Chichester Festival, and they certainly ended the event on a high! A well-deserved 1st place and a distinction awarded with their arrangement of 'Jar of Hearts' and 'What is this Feeling'. A huge thank you and well done to our choir leader and singing teacher, Charlotte Mason, who has directed them so well. They sang beautifully and did themselves and the school proud. Well done all!

We received a proud email from father of Bella, Year 9, who entered into the Piano Forte, the very last session of the Festival. She performed 758 – Piano Open Playing Chopin Op 9 No 1.

Her performance received a mark of Commended, which is an incredible achievement for a 13 year old up against some of the local areas accomplished adult pianists..

**CHICHESTER FESTIVAL FOR  
MUSIC, DANCE & SPEECH**

Class: PIANO OPEN Class Number 758  
Title(s):  
Name: Izabella [REDACTED]

ADJUDICATOR'S COMMENTS:

Chopin - Nocturne in B $\flat$  minor

Some feel for the mood of the lovely Nocturne was evident at the outset and you shaped the phrases with some sensitivity. Gentle, smooth LH appoggiaturas would have created a more effective 'cushion' for the RH, however. Take care not to rush the middle section and aim for greater calm in the 'sotto voce'. Further calm would have added atmosphere to the final page whilst giving impact to the more dramatic moments.

Some good fluency in your playing.

MARKS AWARDED

<input type="radio"/>	90+ or OUTSTANDING An exceptional performance, both technically and artistically
<input type="radio"/>	87-89 or DISTINCTION An excellent performance technically and artistically
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	84-86 or COMMENDED A convincing performance technically and artistically
<input type="radio"/>	81-83 or MERIT A capable performance showing some artistic appreciation and/or technical ability
<input type="radio"/>	78-80 or MODERATE A performance showing development of technique and/or communication
<input type="radio"/>	75-77 or FAIR A performance limited in its communication





**Midhurst Rother College**

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning



# Spring Concert

**in the Theatre**

**Wednesday 20 March 2024**

**at 7.00pm**

**Entry £5 adults • £1 Concessions**

**Refreshments available**

**Music**  
DEPARTMENT

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## MIDHURST ROTHER COLLEGE COMMUNITY DAY

This year's event on Saturday 27 April from 10am-2pm, promises to be the biggest and best yet. We look forward to warmly welcoming the local community and clubs, groups, businesses and agencies who will be displaying their wares to drum up interest in whatever they have to offer. A wide range of craftsmen will be showing off their crafts and giving the public the chance to have a go. There will be lots of food and drink to taste and buy from local suppliers and food trucks. Sports clubs will be providing fun activities for all ages, plus new this year, small fairground rides for the younger children and the return of the small animal zone from Chichester College, Brinsbury Campus. Sky Farm Farm have confirmed their attendance and will be giving everyone the chance to win a family day pass to their amazing deer park near Harting and Afterburn Gym will give one lucky visitor one months' free membership and a free PT session.

Why not come along and see who else has joined the crowd for a day of fun this year. The event is free to all to join and attend. There may be a small charge for some activities. If you belong to a club or group, own a business, or run an agency and would like to join us for this event, please email [madeline.hathaway@mrc-academy.org](mailto:madeline.hathaway@mrc-academy.org) for further details.



# Midhurst Rother College

## Community Day

### Saturday 27 April 2024



Local Artists, Creators and Makers, Community Groups  
Sports and Activities, Delicious nibbles to taste

Family Fun for Everyone

Childrens Rides and Face Painting

Meet the Minibeast

Great prizes

from Sky Park Farm and  
Afterburn Gym

**FREE  
ENTRY**

*small charge for  
some activities*

Fabulous  
Food and Drink Trucks



**10am  
to 2pm**

**Come along • Bring your friends • Have some fun**

For more information email: [madeline.hathaway@mrc-academy.org](mailto:madeline.hathaway@mrc-academy.org)

or contact the College Office on: **01730 812451**

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## DIARY DATES – SPRING TERM

These dates are accurate at the time of publishing.

Date	Event
Thursday 28 March 2024	Last day of Term
Monday 1 April 2024	Easter Holidays (1-12 April)
Monday 15 April 2024	Summer Term
Friday 19 April 2024	INSET DAY
Monday 27 May 2024	Half Term (27-31 May)
Friday 19 July 2024	End of Summer Term

## House Events Calendar 2023/24

Month	Events & Faculty	Year Group	Head of House Link
March	Open Music	All	CHS
March	Table Tennis	All	AHK
March	Science Week	All	JOT
March	English - World Book Day	All Years	JOT
April	Maths/University Challenge	All	RHN
April	Bake Off	All	CHS
May	Gym Challenge	Yr10/11	AHK
June	Art House Competition	TBC	JOT
July	Drama	Yr7	RHN
July	Music - Battle of Bands	Yr7	CHS
July	PE House Cricket	Yr7-8 Combined Yr9-19 Combined	AHK
July	PE - Sports Day	Yr7-10	All

## STUDENTS

If you have any further ideas for house events or competitions, please share these with your House Captain and Sixth Form House Leader.



### MRC INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS

@mrc\_p.e  
@mrc\_1st  
@mrcperformingarts  
@mrcfineart  
@mrcphotographic  
@mrcsixthform



## Performing Arts Calendar of events - Spring and Summer 2024



Spring 2024			
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	CFMDS Festival	Musical Theatre Y13 duologue	St Josephs Chichester
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February	Dance House 1	MRC Dance Teams Minibus	Worthing Theatre
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	CFMDS Festival	Orchestra Jazz Band Flute ensemble	St Josephs School 9.45am Chichester
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	CFMDS Festival	MRC Singers Choir	St Josephs School Chichester
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	YR 11 Component 2 exam	GCSE Drama YR11	MRC Theatre
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Spring Concert	Orchestra Choir Jazz Strings, flutes Drama/production groups Soloists (by invite) Bands	MRC Theatre
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Rother Valley Arts Festival	MRC Dance Teams	MRC Theatre
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Courtney Pine at Ronnie Scotts	Y11 & 6 <sup>th</sup> form music	Ronnie Scotts London
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	YR 11 Choreography Showcase	GCSE Dance Yr11	MRC Theatre
Summer 2024			
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Dance House 2	MRC Dance Teams	Worthing Theatre
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	YR 10 Drama Performance	GCSE Drama YR10	MRC Theatre
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> -Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	School of Rock!	School Production Cast Band/musicians	MRC Theatre
June TBC	Drama Day	BTEC Performing Arts	MRC Theatre
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Pre-tour Concert	<b>Students that are coming to Belgium</b> Orchestra Choir BTEC Performing Arts Jazz Band Drama (Invite only)	Amphitheatre
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Drama and Music House Cup	YR 7	MRC Theatre Music P1-4 Drama 5-6
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> - Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Tour- Belgium	Orchestra Choir BTEC Performing Arts Jazz Band Drama (Invite only)	Belgium

## 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/about-us/vacancies)

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

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/communication/letters)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



# TRY GIRLS RUGBY



**ALL AGES WELCOME**  
**- YR7 TO YR13**

Join a free training session:  
Tuesdays from 6:30pm or  
Sunday Mornings (timings vary) at  
Pulborough RFC, RH20 4HP

To register interest please contact  
**JANE** on 07773 362770 or  
[Jane@PenrosePartnership.com](mailto:Jane@PenrosePartnership.com)

**OR JOIN OUR  
END OF SEASON  
FUN SESSION  
SUNDAY 5TH MAY**

