



MIDHURST MATTERS

What's Going On?

Date	Year Group	Events/Details
Monday 18 September	Year 9 Year 11 Year 7	Normandy Residential Classroom Based Exams Baseline tests – Classroom based
Tuesday 19 September	Year 9 Year 8 Year 11	Normandy Residential Parent Information Evening (6.30-7.30pm) Classroom Based Exams
Wednesday 20 September	Year 9 Year 11	Normandy Residential Classroom Based Exams
Thursday 21 September	Year 9 All Years Year 7	Normandy Residential INSET DAY Welcome Evening and Parental tours (6.30-7.30pm)
Friday 22 September	Year 9 Year 11	Normandy Residential Classroom Based Exams

Austen
908

Kipling
1319

Tennyson
1904

Woolf
957

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGES

Welcome to the first Midhurst Matters of this academic year! As a reminder, the newsletter is designed to be relatively informal and provides you with upcoming dates and information about the school.

Our new Year 7 have been with us for just over a week – they already know their way around the school and have settled in well to the MRC community. In assemblies last week with every year group, I reiterated our expectations for the year with students. One of the key areas we are focussing on, as last year, is homework completion. I feel that that homework is an essential part of the learning process. It consolidates learning from lessons and also helps prepare



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students for their examination years by creating good study habits. Most of our homework is online – if your child does not have access to a device, please let Mr Burton know and we can arrange a loan of a chromebook to complete their work.

Last week was the hottest week of the year. We relaxed the uniform because of this but as temperatures have returned to normal all students should now be in full school uniform, including wearing their blazers. I would like to remind parents / carers that the v-neck jumper is optional, but the blazer is not. Students are also not permitted to wear hoodies to school – they will be confiscated and are not part of our uniform.

Thank you to parents / carers who have provided names to my PA, Mrs Banbury, regarding participation in a learning visit to school. This is an opportunity for parents to go on a tour during the school day and see us in action. We have reached our limit for numbers for this half-term – please email sarah.banbury@mrc-academy.org if you would like to participate in a future visit.

In the summer term, I wrote to all parents / carers about year group residential visit opportunities for this year. These are open to Years 7, 9 and 10 this year. Our plan is to repeat the visits each year, so that each child has opportunities to participate in residential(s) should they wish to. Letters will be coming to parents / carers about the visits in the coming days requesting deposits.

Mobile devices are very much part of everyday life, but we must ensure that they do not disrupt learning during the school day. Phones should be “not seen or heard” unless instructed otherwise by a teacher as part of a lesson. Mobile devices being used when they should be out of sight will be confiscated and logged on Arbor, from the third occasion an email will be sent home informing parents that the device will need to be collected by a parent or relative.

Results Day - A Level and GCSE

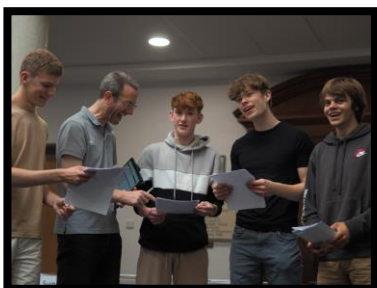
Sixth Form

Our Sixth Formers confirmed their places at high-quality university destinations, after receiving an excellent set of A Level results. Their hard work was recognised with 40% of A Level entries achieving grades A* - A and 63% achieving grades A*-B. Similarly impressive, in their BTEC studies, 63% of entries achieving Distinction* - Distinction, equivalent to the top A Level grades.

Students also displayed their prowess in STEM subjects with 86% of entries achieving A*-A in Computer Science and 75% of entries achieving A*-A in Mathematics.

GCSE

A stand-out raft of GCSE results was cause for celebration on results day back in August. Pass rates were high at the College this year, with 80% of students achieving a grade 4 or above in both English and maths, and 57% achieving a grade 5 or above in both subjects. Many of our Year 11 students have gone on to take up places in our Sixth Form, where they will undoubtedly continue to make excellent progress.





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Welcome to our New Year 11

The class of 2024 have made a great start to the new term. Students have joined new tutor groups and are working hard to address gaps in their learning, attending early morning masterclasses conducted in tutor time by specialist teachers of maths, English, science humanities and languages.

We have been impressed by the courtesy, punctuality, and attendance of the whole year group so far. Such a positive approach to their learning gives us much optimism about how well they can build on strong relationships to cope with the demands of Year 11 and all the exams ahead! It was great to set out the busy Year 11 timeline for so many students and meet parents in person at the recent Information Evening on 12 September. We look forward to working in partnership with this cohort and their families to ensure every student can progress to their chosen courses and future careers next year.

Mrs Lunskey

Attendance

When a student's attendance is below 95% it is a cause for concern. As you can see from the graphic below, lost learning time can be detrimental to the outcomes of your child.



Ensuring attendance at school is a parent/carer's legal obligation and we are keen to support parents with this, not least because of the huge amount of national data that proves the correlation between good attendance and academic progress.

If your child is unable to attend college, please notify us on 01730 812451 then select option 1 or via email: attendance@mrc-academy.org.

As always, punctuality will also continue to be monitored. Regular poor punctuality will be flagged to parent / carers and sanctions may be put in place. Please can we ask parents to support us in encouraging good attendance and punctuality.

Any more information or forms regarding attendance can be located on our website: <https://www.mrc-academy.org/information/attendance>



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Fireworks Night – 3 November 2023



On behalf of MRC Parents, we invite local businesses to sponsor the annual MRC Fireworks Night, which will be held this year on Friday 3 November. This is the third year this event has been held and it is a wonderful event for our community. Last year more than 2500 people attended the event. As a valuable sponsor, your company banner can be showcased during the event. You can also provide your company logo for the advertisement on the event banner and promotional material. Sponsors will receive two complimentary tickets for the event. Last year proceeds from the evening went towards vital ventilation works in the ADT area. We do not set a fixed amount for sponsorship and welcome all offers of support. To find out more please contact katherine.chard@mrc-academy.org or madeline.hathaway@mrc-academy.org.

Foodbank Collection this Term

The Midhurst Foodbank warehouse is currently closed for refurbishment. With this in mind our first Foodbank collection of the year will be on Thursday 23 November when we will be asking for all those lovely special treat items in various sizes, so those in need can have a little extra over the festive period.

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

NEW MRC Instagram Account

We now have a new Instagram account for Midhurst Rother College which will be filled with achievements/events/vacancies/latest news etc. Please follow us at [@MRC_1st](https://www.instagram.com/MRC_1st)





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Student Reception – Spare Uniform & Naming Uniform

Thank you to all the parents who sent in spare uniform at the end of last term. It makes a huge difference to the school as we can fill the gaps where uniform is needed and have a stock of emergency replacements!

Naming Uniform – We have had many items of lost property handed in to Student Reception already this term. Please ensure that all uniform and equipment are labelled so we can return items to students.

PE

Afterschool clubs will start next week, Monday 18 Sept. These are recreational clubs to allow all students to access a variety of sports in a very relaxed environment. Students must make sure their parents/carers know they are attending; they must wear full MRC PE kit and should have arranged for their transport home.

Monday	3.40 - 4.30pm	Netball (Miss Howard)
Tuesday		NO CLUBS
Wednesday	3.40 - 4.30pm	Gym/Fitness (Mr Marshall)
Thursday	3.40 - 4.30pm	KS4 Basketball (Mr Hancock)
Friday	3.40 - 4.30pm	Boys Football (Male Staff)
Friday	3.40 - 4.30pm	Girls Football (Miss Howard)

Music Department

Music and Performing Arts Tour – Belgium 8 -12 July 2023

It is with great excitement that I can announce our first ever joint Performing Arts Tour! We are planning a tour to Belgium during Activities Week in the Summer Term, where we will have the opportunity to perform at some of the county's most beautiful venues. This is a unique opportunity for your child to experience performing in different venues to a wider audience. A letter will be sent home with details in due course.

Music Lessons

Learning a musical instrument is not only an enjoyable experience but is also known to have a positive effect on both academic ability and social skills. We are very proud of our successful music department, and we are keen to involve as many students as possible in the full range of musical experiences. We do hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity.

We currently offer musical tuition on the following instruments:

Woodwind - Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Oboe and Bassoon.

Brass – Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone, French Horn, Tenor Horn, Baritone, Euphonium and Tuba.

Strings – Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass

Drums, Piano/Keyboard, Guitar and Singing.

Lessons are offered weekly and can be between 20 minutes and half an hour, prices vary depending on length, group, and provider. In certain circumstances, there may be financial support for lessons, please do let us know if this is something that may apply to you. For further information please contact sally.tidbury@mrc-academy.org or roger.spinner@mrc-academy.org.



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Sixth Form

Student Spotlight

Gwen in Year 13 has been an amazing Textiles student who has achieved so much in the last two years. Her work is creative and innovative and has shown such a range of skills both in decoration and construction. She has received the 'United Learning Best in Everyone Award' for Design and Technology Textiles and achieved an A* in her A level Art and Design Textiles. Gwen has now gone on to Wimbledon College of Art to study Costume Design and we are all very proud of her and wish her every success for the future.

Tracey Bedford



'NEW' Vacancies at Midhurst Rother College

Please click on the following link for the latest vacancies at MRC: [Midhurst Rother College > About Us > Vacancies \(mrc-academy.org\)](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/arbor)
Arbor Link: [Midhurst Rother College \(arbor.sc\)](https://www.mrc-academy.org/arbor)
- College Calendar: <https://www.mrc-academy.org/information/calendar>
- Homework: <https://www.mrc-academy.org/curriculum/homework>



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- Letters: <https://www.mrc-academy.org/communication/letters>
- Educational Visits: [Midhurst Rother College > Communication > Letters \(mrc-academy.org\)](#)
- Staff emails: <https://bit.ly/StaffEmailAddress>
- Term dates: [Midhurst Rother College > Information > College Term dates \(mrc-academy.org\)](#)
- School Cloud: <https://midhurst.schoolcloud.co.uk/>
- Sparx Maths: <https://www.sparxmaths.uk/student>
- Lexia POWERUP Literacy - Login and Student Program: [Device Setup - PowerUp \(lexiapowerup.com\)](#)

Past editions of Midhurst Matters Newsletter [Midhurst Matters \(mrc-academy.org\)](#)

Midhurst Society – How to Read a Tree

The Midhurst Society is hosting a talk by Tristan Gooley at the Memorial Hall on Thursday the 21 September. Tristan, who lives locally in West Sussex, is the author of several books on nature and the environment. He will talk to about his latest book 'How to Read a Tree' and he will be signing copies at the end.

The cost is £5 for visitors and only £1 for students/children.



**Our next talk is on Thursday 21 September at
7.30pm at the Memorial Hall, Midhurst GU29 9DH**

**Best selling author Tristan Gooley will give a talk about his latest book
'How to Read a Tree'**



The Midhurst Society is fortunate to have engaged Tristan Gooley to talk about his book 'How to Read a Tree'. Tristan will be happy to sign copies which will be on sale on the night. But if you wish to pay by credit card they can be paid for in advance from Wheelers Bookshop in Red Lion Street. Just phone Wheelers on 01730 817666 and collect your copy when you come to the talk. The book costs £22.

We are greatly looking forward to Tristan's talk and we look forward to seeing you there.

Free to Midhurst Society members
Visitors £5, Students £1
All are welcome!
www.midhurstsociety.org.uk





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sussex
county
council



Early

Are you struggling with
your mental health?

Help

Would you like information and
advice about relationships,
friendships, managing emotions
and general wellbeing?



Dedicated Schools Team
Support Worker-Maxine Trent

I will be here at
Midhurst Rother College every
Wednesday 09:30-14:30

“Come and see me for
a chat!”



INFORMATION ADVICE
GUIDANCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
SUPPORTED BY WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL