



**Midhurst Rother College**  
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## Transition 2020-2021

At Midhurst Rother College we are aware that the transition from Primary into Year 7 at Secondary School can be challenging for both parents and students. During this period of Covid-19 school closures, we are working hard on making sure that transition continues as best as it possibly can, even though this will look different in many ways. We know we can still achieve a comfortable transition which will give confidence to our new Year 7 students when they join us later in the year.

So far, we have adapted our approaches;

- Instead of going out to visit Year 6 classes we are talking to all Year 6 teachers on the phone to gather information about each student.
- A series of short welcome videos to introduce key members of staff will be emailed to parents and students over the coming weeks.
- We hope that Year 6 students who live out of the area and have not been to see us before, may be able to do so in July for some small group visits and that AEN students who usually participate in a mini-transition event to visit our site, may be able to do this in June/July on an individual family basis.
- It is our intention that we will hold a transition evening/s, if it is safe to do so, where parents and carers are invited to attend a presentation, and where there will also be the opportunity to meet key staff members.

This will evolve as the weeks go on and we look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students to the College in due course.



## Primary-Secondary Transition - CLiL Style!

At Midhurst Rother College, we are very excited about welcoming our first "Content Led Integrated Language" tutor group into Year 7 this September. Whilst we cannot invite the students into College at present for transition events, we are hoping to get to know each other and prepare for the challenges of CLiL in a virtual way!

We had planned to invite the CLiL students into College this term, for a treasure hunt, baking, a picnic or sports activities. Instead, we are challenging them to complete some remote CLiL challenges in May and June. Learning geography, cookery, and sport etc. through French next term will



require an adventurous spirit, resilience, and perseverance.

- Sketch a self-portrait and label your facial features all in French or find out some new words for items around the home. Send in a montage showing the words you learned.
- Find a French word for each letter of the alphabet



and create a montage of photos or pictures from A-Z. Photograph objects around the house or out on a walk for your alphabet e.g. a. comme arbre (tree) b. comme banana.

- Follow a recipe for croque monsieur and send us a photo.
- Film yourself doing "keepy uppys" with a football or tennis racket and tennis ball whilst you count in French...until you drop the ball! Un, deux, trois...
- Research a French speaking person of your choice. Write about their life and achievements in your own words.
- Sculpt a scene in fruit and other small household objects, labelling the picture, e.g. a beach scene might include a satsuma (le soleil = une petite orange as the sun in daytime or a crescent moon formed by a banana for a night-time scene!)
- Explore France on Google Images or similar, to find the most beautiful views. Create a montage, saying where they are situated and what they are called.



All current and prospective Year 7 students are welcome to submit entries (via email to Fiona.lunskey@mrc-academy.org). There will be prizes!

**COMING SOON !!!! MRC English and Library Present:**



**2020**

**What is it?**

It's a knock-out tournament to discover Midhurst Rother College's favourite book. Think of it like the World Cup, or Wimbledon, but for books.

We begin by finding out our favourite 16 books for young adults through nominations from students and staff; then a quick sweep of our library loan records for our most frequently borrowed books in the last 12 months.

We pair the books up, and vote on the pairs so that we end up with 8 books after the first round, and so on for four rounds, when our champion book for 2020 is discovered.

## Drama Classwork Delights!

It's been a strange experience for our Drama students having to adapt to working from home. However, we have been so impressed with the level of written, practical and creative work we have received over the past month.

Parents and Carers have also got involved with helping to design masks, costumes and become audience members for practical performances. It's been so lovely to see how creative the students have become; working on timed exam questions and creating presentations (GCSE and A Level students), learning lines and practical performances (KS3).

GCSE and A Level students have worked hard on set texts and exam questions for their Component 3 Exams producing clear examples on how they have progressed through feedback and self-evaluation. Years 7, 8 and 9 have recently been exploring Greek Theatre, Musical Theatre and Scripted Monologues focusing on creating a character through profiles and costume design. Their practical performances have started to come in and we can't wait to see the final results!

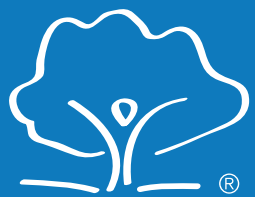
Shown opposite are just a few of the many examples of our students' outstanding work.



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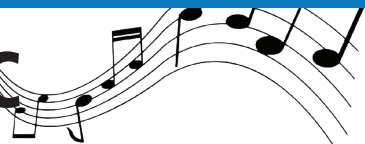


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## Music



It seems such a long time ago now, but it is lovely to put in writing and celebrate some

of our hardworking and talented musicians at Midhurst. In February the Rotary Young Musician Regional Competition was held. We heard some of the region's finest musicians, who I am sure will all go on to do incredible things. It was a proud moment to include some of our students in this for the first time, who, despite not going through to finals, were awarded some fine comments from the judges.

A week later was the turn for three of our ensembles: The Jazz Band, Orchestra, and Flute Ensemble. We performed at the Chichester Festival for Music, Dance and Speech. Another incredibly proud moment, and we did bring a trophy back for all three.

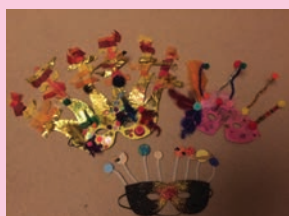


Although not in a classroom, the music hasn't stopped. Year 8 have been working on a stomp project at home and have created some fabulous rhythms out of household items, including pots and pans, brooms and one even using the Thursday "clap for carers" as the inspiration! Year 9 have been improving their composing skills

by creating their own riffs and patterns at home, and Year 7 have been looking at the musical elements and creating their own rhythmic patterns too.

It may be an uncertain time that we live in, but for many communities all over the world, music has been something to turn to. You may have seen videos from Italy and Spain with people singing and playing to each other across apartment blocks, or the many virtual choirs and living room jam sessions emerging. Perhaps now is the time to dust off the guitar that's been sitting in the loft, or digging out the violin from the back of the cupboard, and do something that you have been meaning to do for years.

## Costume Craziness!!



## Virtual Sports

MRC students are currently taking part in the 'Virtual' Sussex School games. Each week four challenges have been set based upon a particular sport. We have already seen hockey, tennis, football and now fitness. They have from Monday to Friday to practice and complete these tasks. We have had an excellent response from students and staff in getting active, and we hope this continues throughout the summer. **Get involved now.**

Before the lockdown, we had a very promising set of individual results in the Chichester Corporate Challenge. It was unfortunate that this race series was cut short, but the final results were very positive for us. The Year 7 & Year 8 girl's teams plus the Year 8 boy's team all finished in 1st place as a team. The Year 9 & 10 boy's teams also finished in an impressive 2nd place overall, in a very tough field of runners. A huge thank you also to all the runners who competed for the staff team this year, we managed to secure 2nd place overall in the competition, which is fantastic.



## Online Tutor Groups

We have been keeping in touch with our Tutor Groups on a daily basis, to keep a sense of routine, as we are not physically seeing them. This has been quite hard for some students due to no internet access. When this is the case the lovely Pastoral Leaders and Mentors, have been in telephone conversations to check in. The morning normally begins with an initial Tutor 'Good Morning', on Microsoft Teams. The group is monitored by the Tutor and the Students can 'chat' to each other. The Tutor Group may be set little challenges for the day, that are fun and gets them thinking - Thunks are quite good for this.



A really nice part of being a Tutor is the sharing of new skills and activities which they have



learnt during Lockdown, as well as sharing photos and celebrating birthdays, like we would normally do in our Tutor Time. This opportunity is also used to make sure that students are coping with the current situation and that they are in a good frame of mind to cope with the schoolwork set. Little reminders are there to let them know that we are here for them if they need help with their work, or they just need to chat.

Looking forward to seeing them all on our safe return in the future.



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