## Transition to Midhurst Rother College

Transition to Midhurst Rother College for a Rother Valley School child begins in Year 3 with a visit to the College

Rother Valley All Sing. With a catchment area of over 400 square miles and children transferring from small villages, the College takes seriously the importance of providing the young student with opportunities to visit the College during their time at primary school and so be prepared for the move to much larger surroundings in Year 7.

In a normal year the College hosts a huge range of events for whole year groups, the Rother Valley Primary Schools Sports Package and manages

the Rother Valley School's enrichment programme, which provides a wealth of enrichment days for the locality's more able primary students across the year groups.

This year due to the Covid 19 situation, the College is unable to host physical visits for Primary School students,

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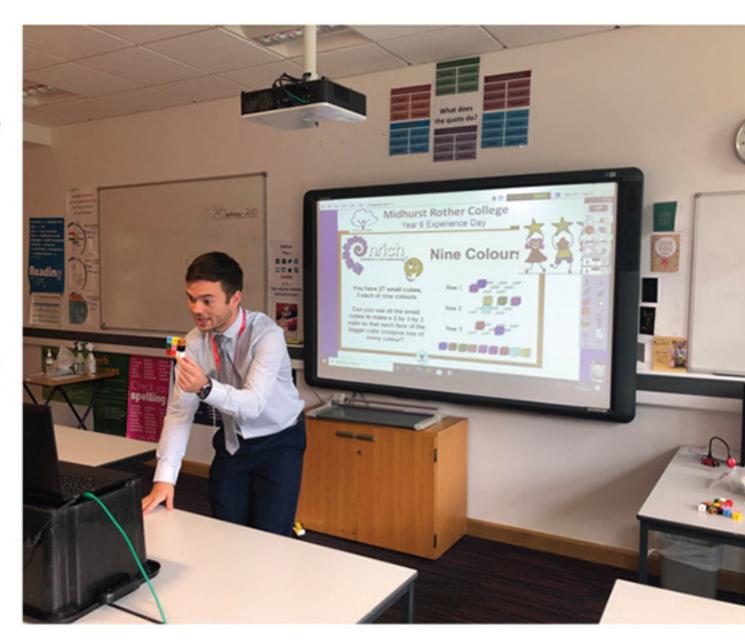
So are me and Mrs Gibbs!

11:29 AM has everyone finished watching so is taking advantage of the technology available and the skills of their members of staff and going virtual with a full programme of primary events.

This has already proved to be a great success with the first virtual event, the Year 6 MRC Virtual Experience Day being held on 30 September for children from the Rother Valley Locality Schools. 180 children joined the event and thoroughly enjoyed taking part in live streamed activities from maths, science and English

via Microsoft Teams. The activites were supported in the primary schools by the primary class teachers. On top of this, they were provided with pre-recorded videos of the

College building and it's fantastic facilities, introduction to shared experiences from their current students; introducing the children to the life they can expect at Midhurst Rother College.



The Experience Day was run in conjunction with the Prospective Year 7 Open Evening, which was held as a virtual presentation evening.

The new Year 7 cohort are demonstrating their resilience to all that life has recently thrown at them. Without a Year 6 Transition Day in July and little input to prepare them for their September start at the College, it is a delight to see that a month in and all are well settled in their new surroundings and enjoying the opportunities and experiences that are on offer to them at Midhurst Rother College.

## Sociology - Year 13

The Covid-19 pandemic sweeping the world is a graphic illustration of the importance of understanding how what happens in one part of the world is affecting us here at home, no matter how far distant the original event may be.

This is a major part of our Year 13 A-level Sociology syllabus, and the class have just begun to study the various elements leading to globalisation and global development. We had a lively class debate on how similar many of our beliefs are to those in less developed societies: many theorists suggest poorer countries need to change their way of thinking to become more like Western liberal societies if they are to develop and become "rich like us", but it really is debatable how different some of our values are, or perhaps, aren't to those in poorer countries. The debate boiled down to the old question: is it WHAT you know, or WHO you know that sorts out how well you get on?

The debate continues



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This year, the Modern Foreign Languages department at Midhurst Rother College is running an immersion programme for one very lucky Year 7 class. The CLiL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) group are learning French through other subjects. It has been a very busy few weeks for our 27 linguists: so far, they have been learning about the British Isles in their Geography lessons, through French. They have perfected their numbers 1-100 through games and basic operations in Maths. During their "vie de classe" (Tutor time) with Ms Charpentier, they have learnt how to talk about their school day in French. Then they have used what they learnt in their French lesson to play some ice-breaker games at the start of all their drama lessons.

Our new CLiL students have had a great start to the academic year. Indeed, they are to be admired as after the CLiL taster sessions in February, the planned transition

sessions at College could not take place. Mrs Lunskey and Ms Charpentier were very impressed with the cultural and research tasks they undertook independently, whilst schools had to close.

- "I really like CLiL. It is a very good idea to add French in our daily lives. I think it will definitely help us in the future."
- "I am enjoying CliL and it's definitely improving my French. I do struggle with a few words, but I just ask for help."
- "I think CLiL is an amazing opportunity to make French more fun. I have really enjoyed it so far."
- "you may have times were you don't understand but you should just ask because it helps and it's worth it."

Throughout the year, they will also have some enrichments in French such as PE and cookery. With so much exposure to the French language, the CLiL group will progress very rapidly and we are looking forward to see how they all develop their confidence and linguistic skills through immersion teaching and learning.

