



MIDHURST MATTERS



Midhurst Rother College
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Week B | Monday 23 March 2026

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Principal's Message

Today is Comic Relief Day and students are in their own clothes today for a voluntary contribution of £1. They have also had a variety of different events to take part in this week, organised by our Sixth Form students and House Leaders. I'd like to thank our students for their participation in this and also for organising it. We are pleased to say that between us we have raised £784.34 this week.

Yesterday we held our annual Gilbert Hannam Awards Day and Evening. The Foundation has supported the school for many years and donates between £80 - £100,000 to the school every year to pay for safeguarding support, counselling services, late buses for clubs (the Local Authority don't pay these) and support with school trips for students who need it.

They make a massive positive difference to our students. Yesterday evening was a celebration of the successes of our Year 11 and Year 13s, which followed a church service where the orchestra played. I estimate the foundation has donated over £1M since I joined the school in 2016 - a huge amount of financial support and a big part of our school community. There is more information on the history of Gilbert Hannam on our website here: <https://www.mrc-academy.org/about-us/gilbert-hannam-education-foundation>

Next week is the last week of term. We will finish at normal time next Friday at 3.05pm. A brief reminder that our Spring Concert is next Wednesday at 6.30pm. I hope you will be able to make and look forward to seeing you there.

Best wishes.

Mr Edwards



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE contd



Respect, Happiness, Achievement

Fortnightly Ahead

Week B Mon 23 March	Year Group 11 12	Dance Exams this week Internal Exams continue this week
Tues 24 March	12	Drama Mock Exam
Wed 25 March	10 & 11 All years	Golf Tournament (3.05pm - 5.30pm) Chichester Corporate Challenge Spring Concert 6.30pm
Thurs 26 March	13	Parents Evening (face to face)
Fri 27 March		BFG Puppetry Workshops Ski Trip Departs
Week A Mon 13 April		INSET DAY
Tues 14 April		FIRST DAY OF TERM
Wed 15 April	10	Parents Evening (Online)
Thurs 16 April		
Fri 16 April	13	Sixth Form Showcase

AUSTEN
181,568

KIPLING
161,840

TENNYSON
217,292

WOOLF
172,983

FOODBANK FRIDAY – FRIDAY 27 MARCH

We will be holding a FoodBank Friday on Friday 27 March to support our local food bank. From **Monday 23 March, we will be collecting donations in College** and would be very grateful for any items families are able to give. Suggested items include tinned foods, pasta, rice, cereal, long-life milk and other cupboard essentials.

As it is close to Easter, we would also love to include Easter Eggs or small Easter treats so families supported by the food bank can enjoy something special.

Thank you for helping us support our local community. Your generosity helps the food bank provide support to over 500 of our local families, and every donation truly makes a difference. No matter how big or small, each contribution is greatly appreciated.



Chichester District
Foodbank
Together with Trussell



Felix J - Year 8

Felix in Year 8 joined the Royal Navy Volunteer Cadet Corps (VCC) as a recruit. Over the past six months he has developed a wide range of skills including drill and marching, seamanship, naval history, communication drills (C2), knots, presentation skills, leadership, and engineering, among many others.

Felix has also represented the unit at the Portsmouth Remembrance Parade at the Guildhall and attended a STEM event at RNAS Yeovilton. During this event, he learned about the history of Royal Navy aircraft, the evolution of landing gear over the past 100 years, and worked as part of a team to design and build a landing gear system using methods such as hydraulics and pneumatics.

All of this training led to a recent weekend exercise where recruits took part in a DISTEX (Disaster Exercise). During this, Felix participated in a series of Practical Leadership Tasks (PLTs) based on a scenario supporting those affected at Browndown by "Hurricane BOB".

These tasks included:

- Constructing a communication tower.
- Establishing roadblocks.
- Delivering first aid, including CPR.
- Safely managing simulated IED scenarios.
- Creating refugee camps for displaced or injured personnel.
- Living in field conditions using mess tins and ration packs.
- Completing a night-time hike.



This culminated in a formal parade where Felix was promoted from Recruit to Cadet and presented with his new rank by a Sub-Lieutenant.

Congratulations Felix on your outstanding achievement and we are incredibly proud of your dedication, growth, and well-deserved promotion to Cadet.



YEAR 10 – MATCH REPORT – MRC vs CHICHESTER FREE SCHOOL

MRC faced Chichester Free School in a well-contested fixture that delivered plenty of excitement from start to finish. MRC got off to the perfect start, taking an early lead through Ivo E, who finished confidently after a great assist from Jack H.

Buoyed by the opener, MRC continued to apply pressure, creating several chances with efforts from Henry B, Ivan C, and Frank C. However, the Chichester Free School goalkeeper proved determined and resilient, making a series of impressive saves to keep his side in the game.

This resilience paid dividends in the second half, as CFS's number 10 produced an outstanding individual performance. He scored two goals and provided an assist, turning the game around in emphatic fashion. His display was appreciated by both teams, who showed their respect at the final whistle.

The match ended 3–1 to Chichester Free School. As always, the Year 10 team provided plenty of entertainment, and we look forward to more exciting performances in the next fixture.

Mr Marshall



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE YEAR 11
CNAT SPORT
STUDENTS WHO
COLLECTED THEIR
GCSE RESULTS
TODAY!**





DANCE NEWS

Last week the MRC Dance students had a very busy and exiting week!

We are so proud of all the students that performed on Tuesday 10 March in the Worthing Pavillion Theatre for "Dance House". The Junior Dance Team and the Year 10 GCSE students performed their pieces in front of a full theatre audience. The performances were delivered in the most professional way and our students stood out with their creative and slick choreographies.

On Thursday 12 March around 100 Dance students performed in the annual MRC Dance Show Event, the audience was able to appreciate choreographies from the Junior Dance Team, Senior Dance Team, Year 10 and Year 11 Dance students, Year 12 A Level Dancers, the Sadler's Wells Dance Team, the Year 8 Choreography Cup Finalists and the Boys Chaos Dance Company.

We would like to say a massive thank you to all families, friends and staff who came to support all our talented and hard working students and we hope to see you all again next year!

The Dance Department



FINALS – MRC MASTERCHEF 2026

Our talented Hospitality & Catering students have worked tirelessly in the lead-up to the MRC MasterChef 2026 Finals, and their dedication truly shone on competition day. The finalists - including this year's champion **Jasper H** - showcased exceptional creativity, technical skill, and professionalism throughout the event. Jasper impressed the judges with a beautifully presented lamb and beef kofta served on homemade flatbread, complete with fresh garnishes and vibrant pomegranate molasses, earning him the title of **MRC MasterChef Champion 2026**.

Jacob D was rewarded for his exceptional organisation throughout the competition. His dish was Chicken & Vegetable Kebab with Spiralled potatoes and candied apples.

Benjamin K brought a taste of sunshine with his homemade Beef Tacos and Salsa.

Finally, a huge thank you to our local judges!

We are incredibly grateful to the local hospitality professionals who gave their time, expertise, and encouragement to support our Hospitality & Catering students.

Their thoughtful feedback, industry insight, and high standards helped our students grow in confidence, skill, and ambition. Opportunities like this make learning real, meaningful, and inspiring -and we couldn't do it without the support of our wider community.

Thank you for helping shape the next generation of chefs and hospitality leaders.



Jasper H - MRC Masterchef Champion 2026

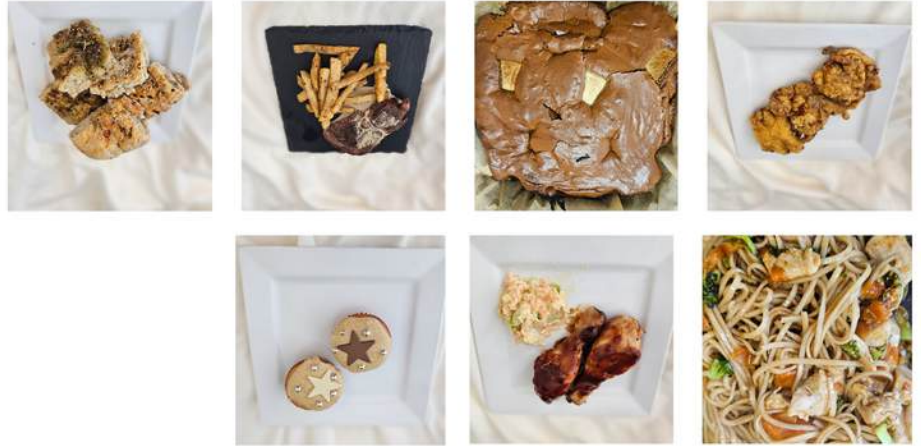


Jacob D



Benjamin K

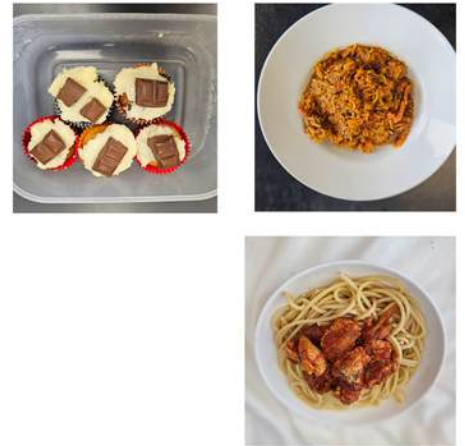




YEAR 11 SERVE UP A SPECTACULAR FINAL COOK

Our Year 11 students rounded off their final practical session with an impressive display of creativity, confidence, and culinary skill. Given complete freedom to choose their own dishes, they produced a vibrant spread that showcased just how far they've come in their culinary journey.

From savoury classics to indulgent sweet treats, the room buzzed with energy as students chopped, stirred, whisked and plated with real professionalism. Among the standout dishes were creamy risottos, golden ham and cheese turnovers, flavour-packed homemade beef burgers, fresh and comforting pasta dishes, and beautifully baked lemon drizzle and vanilla cakes. And for those with a sweet tooth, perfectly gooey chocolate brownies made a memorable appearance.



As our Year 11s move forward to their next chapter, this final cook stands as a delicious reminder of their dedication and creativity. We are incredibly proud of all they've achieved—both in the kitchen and beyond.



Well done, Year 11!



YEAR 6 – MATHS DAY

On 17 March, 13 Year 6's from local primary schools spent the morning with the Maths Department, looking at all things mathematical.

They started by solving a series of cyphers - well done to our cypher stars, Emily and Toby. We then moved onto measuring a selection of round things to help them discover Pi - Stephenie and Alfie were the most accurate and finally, they discovered that Mrs Bell doesn't have the magical skills she claimed! All the students left smiling, especially Emily who won the chocolate bar. Thanks to the primary schools and parents for giving the students the chance to experience some different maths and we look forward to seeing them again when they join us in September.

$$\pi = 3.14159$$

26535 89793 23846 26433 83279 50288 41971 69399 37510 58209
 74944 59230 78164 06286 20899 86280 34825 34211 70679 82148
 08651 32823 06647 09384 46095 50582 23172 53594 08128 48111
 74502 84102 70193 85211 05559 64462 29489 54930 38196 44288
 10975 66593 34461 28475 64823 37867 83165 27120 19091 45648
 56692 34603 48610 45432 66482 13393 60726 02491 41273 72458
 70066 06315 58817 48815 20920 96282 92540 91715 36436 78925
 90360 01133 05305 48820 46652 13841 46951 94151 16094 33057
 27036 57595 91953 09218 61173 81932 61179 31051 18548 07446
 23799 62749 56735 18857 52724 89122 79381 83011 94912 98336
 73362 44065 66430 86021 39494 63952 24737 19070 21798 60943
 70277 05392 17176 29317 67523 84674 81846 76694 05132 00056
 81271 45263 56082 77857 71342 75778 96091 73637 17872 14684
 40901 22495 34301 46549 58537 10507 92279 68925 89235 42019
 95611 21290 21960 86403 44181 59813 62977 47713 09960 51870
 72113 49999 99837 29780 49951 05973 17328 16096 31859 50244
 59455 34690 83026 42522 30825 33446 85035 26193 11881 70110
 00313 78387 52886 58753 32083 81420 61717 and so on...

Mystical Mathematical Mind Reader

 8	 9	 10	 11	 12	 13	 14	 15	 16	 17	 18	 19	 20	 21	 22
 23	 24	 25	 26	 27	 28	 29	 30	 31	 32	 33	 34	 35	 36	 37
 38	 39	 40	 41	 42	 43	 44	 45	 46	 47	 48	 49	 50	 51	 52
 53	 54	 55	 56	 57	 58	 59	 60	 61	 62	 63	 64	 65	 66	 67
 68	 69	 70	 71	 72	 73	 74	 75	 76	 77	 78	 79	 80	 81	 82

FRENCH EXCHANGE

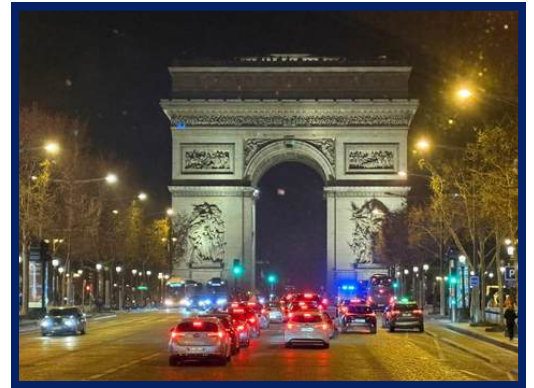
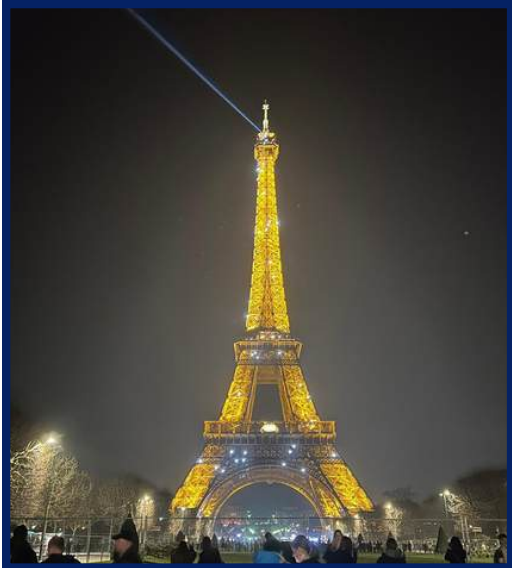
Last week, twenty three adventurous students from Yr 9 to Yr 12 took part in the French Exchange with the Lycée Remy Belleau in Nogent-Le -Rotrou, Nogent and Midhurst have been twin towns for nearly 50 years, so many local parents and grandparents may have also taken part in this tradition of hosting and visiting new friends when they were at school in the town.

MRC students were hosted by French families to experience French life. They tried typical foods, played board games, went to the funfair, bowling, out for pizza or watched films whilst staying with their exchange partners. They also had the chance to spend a whole morning in classes, experiencing school life at the Lycée, with their pen friends.

This leg of the exchange also included a drive out one day, into the famous Loire valley. The students visited the pretty town of Amboise, where students discovered Le Clos de Lucet, last home of Leonardo da Vinci before his death. On Sunday morning, after three days with the host families, MRC staff (Mrs Good, Ms Charpentier and Mr Prevot) took the group on a wonderful tour of some of Paris' most famous landmarks: the Palace of Versailles, the Eiffel Tower (which we climbed on foot...) Le Sacre-Coeur and Montmartre, which we visited before heading home to Midhurst.

In May, the group from the Lycée will be here with us in Midhurst for 5 days. It will be the turn of our students to welcome a visitor and show them around. The beauty of an exchange is of course that on top of seeing new places, young people improve their speaking skills, as well as making new friends. Well done to all the students for approaching the whole experience so positively!





SIXTH FORM



GILBERT HANNAM AWARDS EVENING

Last night's Gilbert Hannam Awards evening was a truly proud and emotional occasion for our Sixth Form community. It was a celebration not only of achievement, but of character, commitment, and the incredible journeys our students have taken.

A particularly special moment of the evening was the handover from our outgoing Head Boy and Head Girl, Ben and Kelly, to our newly appointed Head Boy and Head Girl, Sam and Aurora. Ben and Kelly have been nothing short of exceptional in their roles. Their dedication, leadership, and genuine care for the Sixth Form have left a lasting legacy. In recognition of their outstanding contributions, they were both presented with the Principal's Award by Mr Edwards - a first in the history of the College, and a testament to the impact they have made.

As Mrs Shadbolt, Sixth Form Manager, so perfectly expressed:

Ben & Kelly are the heart of the Sixth Form and this is a true reflection of what they deserve with their tireless work as Head Boy and Head Girl. In their roles they have raised over £3,000 for local charities. I am also so proud of them all and how lucky I am to have this job, working with inspirational students every day, watching them grow and blossom into exceptional adults.

We now look ahead with great excitement as Sam and Aurora step into their new roles. We wish them every success and look forward to seeing them build on the fantastic foundations laid by Ben and Kelly.

We are exceptionally proud of our Year 13 cohort, and it was truly wonderful to see so many students recognised with awards last night. The evening was a powerful reminder of the talent, resilience, and spirit within our Sixth Form, and it is a privilege to be part of their journey.



BEN S- HEAD BOY 2025

I just want to say thank you again to every Year 11 and Year 13 whose hard work made last night so special, and to all the parents who came to watch.

I am so privileged to have been your Head Boy for 2025 and will never forget all the wonderful people I have met. I am also so incredibly grateful for everyone who has participated, donated, or just supported all the events we have run over the past year.

Another special highlight for Mrs Shadbolt, who is the kindest, sweetest, smartest person I have ever met. Thank you also to Mr Edwards, Miss Rae, Mr Puttock, and every other teacher who has been incredibly generous with help. For the last time, thank you everyone.

Ben S

KELLY O - HEAD GIRL 2025

The Awards Evening for Gilbert Hannam was both moving and inspiring. I think all of us were teeming with immense pride and joy when celebrating those who had worked terrifically hard for their awards and achievements. Ben and I - all of us, rather - are so, so proud of all the awardees! Academics are a difficulty at times and so their perseverance and determination are beyond admirable! Well done and congratulations - you are all so brilliant! We wish you all the best and hope you all continue to shine regardless of the path you take.

Passing over the title of Head Girl was truly emotional as it has brought me ever closer to the school: its teachers, the students, and the community - as a whole - over the past year. It has really been a privilege to be Head Girl and I will forever be grateful for being trusted with such a role. I have loved every moment of it with Ben - thank you, Ben - and wish Aurora and Sam the best of luck along their Head Student journey!

Kelly O

GUEST TALKS FROM LEGAL PROFESSIONALS - BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, PARALEGAL

Law careers continue to be a popular choice for MRC students, it is one of our more popular A levels and the routes into the profession are wide ranging, from degree pathways, apprenticeships and entry level routes. On Wednesday the 24 April we have a range of legal professionals joining us from 5-6pm in the theatre to discuss entry routes and the wide range of roles. There will be an opportunity for a question and answer session after. We would like to invite any students (guardians welcome to attend as well) from Years 10-13 to join us.

If you are interested in attending, please email Michael.puttock@mrc-academy.com to confirm.

YEAR 12 FUTURES EVENING

Our Year 12 Futures Evening Presentation will be on the 24 April from 6-7 pm in the theatre. The talk will cover information regarding post 18 education / careers, providing updates on University applications, student finance, apprenticeships and more. Parents and students are invited to attend, there will be an opportunity for a question and answer session after plus 1:1 discussion with a member of the Sixth Form Team.

CAREERS INTERVIEWS - MONDAY 23 MARCH

The following students have been scheduled to receive a one to one careers interview with our independent careers advisor at the following date and times. The location and time will also be on their Arbor timetable.

Following the interview the students report will be uploaded to their Unifrog account for you to view with them and which you may wish to discuss at home.

Careers Interviews -		Tutor Gp	Period	To go to:
Y	Grace	10K-KWD	REG (08:30) - 09:10	A117
W	Poppy	10K-KWD	09:10 - 09:52 (p1)	A117
S	Daniella	10K-KWD	10:00 - 10:42 (p2)	A117
V	Florence	10K-KWD	11:10 - 11:52 (p3)	A117
R	Sophie	10K-KWD	12:00 - 12:46 (p4)	A117
S-H	Edward	10K-KWD	13:30 - 14:11 (p5)	A117
S	Amelie	10K-KWD	14:15 - 15:05 (p6)	A117

HOMWORK CLUB – LUNCHTIME SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

We would like to remind parents and carers that Homework Club is available every lunchtime to support students with their homework and independent study.

Homework Club takes place in Room T107 and is open to all students. There is no need to sign up in advance – students can simply turn up on any day that suits them.

The club provides a quiet, supportive environment where students can:

Complete homework tasks

Ask for help or clarification if they are unsure about an assignment

Homework Club is a great option for students who benefit from additional structure or support during the school day.

We encourage students to make use of this valuable resource whenever they need it.



D OF E TRAINING DAY: A BIG STEP FORWARD FOR OUR BRONZE, SILVER AND GOLD TEAMS

Last Sunday saw an exciting and challenging day for all nine of our Duke of Edinburgh's Award teams, as our Bronze, Silver and Gold participants headed out for a full day of expedition training.

For our Bronze groups, it was a particularly important milestone. For the first time, they completed their training walk without a leader accompanying them along the route. Instead, leaders met the teams at pre-planned checkpoints—giving the students the responsibility of navigating independently while still ensuring everyone stayed safe. All groups rose to the challenge brilliantly, showing growing confidence, teamwork and map-reading skills.

Our Silver participants took on a tougher navigation challenge. Their route required more advanced skills, including accurate bearings, contour recognition and adapting timings as the terrain changed. It was a demanding day, but every team showed excellent perseverance and made real progress in their expedition abilities.

Meanwhile, our Gold teams tackled the longest and most physically challenging route of the day. Their walk tested stamina, resilience and route-planning, and they handled the full day with great determination. The experience was a valuable step towards the high standards expected at Gold level.

Across all groups, there was lots of learning and plenty of achievement. The leaders were proud of how each of the nine teams approached the day, supported one another and reflected on areas to develop.

Looking ahead, some of our Gold participants will be heading to Dartmoor next weekend for further training—an exciting chance to experience remote walking and their first taste of solo navigation in truly wild terrain.

If you'll be in Year 9 or above in September and would like to sign up for Bronze, Silver or Gold DofE, places are now open! You can book at

www.sylviabeaufoy.org or email dan@sylviabeaufoy.org

Spaces are filling up fast—don't miss out on the adventure!





COCKING TRAIL RACES

10k 20k
Junior 3k & 5k



10th May
2026

Enter online at www.midhurstmilers.org



10K, 20k
Junior 3K & 5K



Perfect Motion
Physio.

CHICHESTER HOCKEY CLUB

HOCKEY

Ladies & Girls Open Day

at Chichester College Astro

22ND MARCH
11:30AM - 1PM

Recruiting new, old and developing players.
Come along, grab your stick and give it a go.
Open to all levels in a friendly environment

RSVP - ladies.captain@chichester-hockey.co.uk



Respect, Happiness, Achievement

SUMMER TERM 2026

Monday 30 March - Tuesday 14 April	Easter Holidays
Monday 13 April	INSET DAY
Monday 4 May	May Bank Holiday
Monday 25 May - Friday 29 May	Half Term
Tuesday 21 July	Last day of term for students
Wednesday 22 July	INSET Day

CALENDAR – PERFORMING ARTS

MRC PERFORMING ARTS - CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026

DATE	EVENT	STUDENTS INVOLVED	VENUE
Spring 2026			
Friday 16 January	Rotary Young Musician competition. (District)	Instrumental candidates Vocal Candidates	Theatre
Saturday 7 Feb	CFMDS Woodwind Strings	Flute ensemble Clarinet ensemble (+ any soloists who have entered)	New Park, Chichester
Tuesday 10 March	Dance House 1	MRC Dance Teams Minibus	Worthing Theatre
Thursday 12 March	Choreography showcase event	Y11/10/12 Dance Dance Teams Choreography cup	MRC Theatre
Tuesday 10 Feb	YR 11 Component 2 exam (1)	GCSE Drama YR11	MRC Theatre
Wednesday 11 to Friday 13 February (one date will be finalised soon)	Making Moves regional Platform Performance in London	Making Moves team	Travelling to London (venue tbc)
Wednesday 11 Feb	YR 11 Component 2 exam (2)	GCSE Drama YR11	MRC Theatre
Thursday 12 Feb	Yr 13 Component 2	A level Drama	MRC Theatre
Spring Term – date tbc	Sixth Form Show	Drama Y12/13	Theatre
Thursday 19 March	Gilbert Hannam day	Orchestra	St. Mary Magdalene & St. Denys
Monday 23 March	West Sussex Music event - <i>The Water Diviner's Tale</i>	Choir	Worthing Assembly Hall
Wednesday 25 March	Spring Concert	Orchestra Choir, Jazz. Strings, Flutes, Drama/production groups, Soloists (by invite) Bands	MRC Theatre
???	Rother Valley Arts Festival	MRC Dance Teams	MRC Theatre
Summer 2026			
April TBC	Y13 Music recital	Y13	MRC Theatre
Thursday 3 April	Dance showcase event	Y11/10	MRC Theatre
Wednesday 30 April	Dance House 2	MRC Dance Teams Minibus	Worthing Festival Theatre
Thursday 23 April	YR 10 Drama Performance	GCSE Drama YR10	MRC Theatre
Friday 24 April	YR 12 Drama Performance	GCSE Drama YR12	MRC Theatre
June TBC	Drama Day		MRC Theatre
Wednesday 1 July	Pre tour concert/info	Tour students	Theatre or amphitheatre
Monday 6 July	Austria Tour!	Performing arts group	Salzburg
Tuesday 14 July	Drama and Music House Cup	YR 7	MRC Theatre Music P1-4, Drama 5-6

MRC VACANCIES AND WEBSITE LINKS

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

SAFEGUARDING, Wellbeing and Mental Health - ([Click here](#))

Selfcare Newsletter - ([Click here](#))

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

Arbor Link: Midhurst Rother College ([arbor.sc](https://www.arbor.sc))

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))

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

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

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

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

Sparx Reader: [Sparx Reader](#)

Lexia POWERUP Literacy - Login and Student Program: Device Setup - PowerUp (lexiapowerup.com)

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