

IDHURST ATTERS

| Date | Year Group | Events/Details |
|-----------------------|------------|---|
| Monday 10 February | All | House Event - PE Dept - Mario Cart Final |
| | 9 | Other subject exams continue - Classroom based |
| Tuesday 11 February | All | STEM Talk - International Woman and Girls in Science (P3- Lunch) |
| Wednesday 12 February | | |
| Thursday 13 February | 10 | Williams Racing STEM experience day |
| Friday 14 February | | |

| Austen | Kipling | Tennyson | Woolf |
|---------|---------|----------|---------|
| 122,152 | 140,865 | 136,458 | 145,360 |
| (6,610) | (7,439) | (7,059) | (8,018) |

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Tuesday 11 February is National Internet Safety Day. We know the internet has many positive aspects that we use in our daily lives. This newsletter could not be sent to you without it. There are also some more dangerous elements of the internet, in particular for young people. In assemblies this week, Mr Pitkin talked about being safe online. I talked with Year 11 about 'sextortion' and the dangers of this. This is where a person befriends a child over a period of time and eventually convinces them to share nude or intimate images. When they have done this, they are then blackmailed into paying a large sum of money, or the images will be shared with their contacts. Cases of this have increased by nearly 200% over the past two years.

You may have heard in the news that a young person was murdered in a school in Sheffield recently by another student with a knife. We talk about the impact of knife crime with our students in PSHE lessons and assemblies. You may remember the case of a local boy, Charlie Cosser, who sadly was stabbed and later died in hospital in the summer of 2023. We have been in contact with his Dad, Martin Cosser, who now runs a charity to educate children about the dangers of carrying knives. He will come to school and lead assemblies on this in the summer term. I know this will be hard for students to hear, but also feel it is necessary to do. We will talk with children about the assemblies beforehand and will send you more information so that you can discuss at home. The assemblies will be age appropriate, Martin speaks in lots of schools raising awareness around knife crime.

I appreciate that my messages this week are less optimistic and positive than normal. That should not detract from the fact that your children are doing really well in school and I see them every day, doing the right thing and doing really well.

Best wishes,

Stuart Edwards Principal

KS3 & KS4 ASSESSMENT DIARY

Week Beginning: 10 February 2025

Assessments are coming up for:

Year 8: in class assessments begin after half-term for all subjects (except English, mathematics and science) (24 February 2025 onwards).

Detailed dates for assessments are found via the link below. This page is updated every week: https://www.mrc-academy.org/curriculum/assessment-dates.

Class teachers have shared details of forthcoming assessments with your child, including the length of assessment, type of questions, topics that will be in the assessment and some revision activities that will be useful to help your child prepare. These are available on Arbor as an assignment.

Experience shows us that students who are well rested, have had a good breakfast and are properly prepared with the right equipment experience less stress and anxiety before assessments, and perform better. We thank you for supporting your child in their preparation.

We are also mindful that these assessments can create a degree of stress and anxiety – please do contact your Head of Year for support and advice should this be the case.

COLLEGE NOTICES

URGENT SPARE UNIFORM REQUEST

Skirt Shortage

We would be extremly grateful for any donations of school skirts. We keep a stock at Student Reception should anybody need a change of uniform whilst in College, but our reserves are depleted. If you have a skirt that is in good condition but the zip has failed we can replace the zip and continue to use the skirt.

Thank you in advance.

Student Reception



EASTER EGGS FOR FOODBANK



It's almost that cracking time of year again.

A quick heads up that after Half Term we will again be collecting Easter Eggs for the Foodbank Easter Holiday lunchboxes. These lunchboxes go out to free school meals children and other vulnerable families. Last year we gathered over 200 Easter Eggs at this collection.

Further details to follow after half term.

UK GOVERNMENT HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND

With half term approaching, West Sussex County Council has confirmed that families with Free School Meals (FSM) eligible children will be entitled to a £10.00 voucher for each FSM child during the upcoming February half term school holiday.

For children who are not FSM eligible but whose families need urgent support with food and other cost of living related support in West Sussex, the Community Hub is operating.

From 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025, the UK Government is providing funding through the Household Support Fund. West Sussex County Council will use this funding to support low-income households with the rising cost of living, including energy, food and essential bills.

The fund is intended to cover a wide range of low-income households in need including: families with children of all ages, pensioners, unpaid carers, care leavers, disabled people, larger families, single-person households and those struggling with one-off financial shocks or unforeseen events.

HOW SUPPORT IS PROVIDED

Food and Household Essentials Vouchers

Successful applicants will be awarded the below supermarket voucher values dependant on the size of their household.

Energy Support

If you are currently experiencing financial hardship with no alternative option available and are concerned that your energy supply may be at risk of disconnection, please complete an application for support.

More details and how to apply can be found here: Community Hub - West Sussex County Council

MRC COMMUNITY DAY 2025 - SAVE THE DATE

Attention all local businesses, agencies and groups!

The Midhurst Rother College Community Day 2025 will be held on Saturday 26 April from 10am-2pm.

It's a great event where we open up the College to demonstrate what our community has on offer and for you to advertise your wares and also grab a few sales too. Stalls are free of charge to all.

If you would like a space at the event please use this link to express interest: MRC Community Day -Expression of Interest

Midhurst Rother College Community Day Saturday 26 April 2025 10am-2pm

Calling all local businesses, agencies and groups to join us at this event to

- share your skills
- demonstrate your crafts
- promote your goods
- recruit new members
- engage with the local community

It's all about what's on offer on our doorstep!

ALL STAND & EXHIBITION SPACE FREE OF CHARGE

For more information email: madeline.hathaway@mrc-academy.org or contact the College Office: 01730 812451





UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS











DEPARTMENT NEWS

PE DEPARTMENT

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Ivo in Year 9 was pleased to be able to put on his first Sussex Schools' vest and run as part of the Junior Boys Team against five other counties in the regional Schools' cross country at Newbury Show Ground last weekend. It was a very competitive race. Though the winner was from Essex, Kent and Hampshire fielded very strong teams. The course was flatter than most cross country races held in Sussex, but it had long stretches of narrow paths through woodland, where it was almost impossible to overtake. On the last stretch, where it finally opened out, Ivo was able to use his speed to pass at least 12 other runners, including several Sussex team-mates. He finished 9th out of 18 Sussex runners and 68th over all. He has also recently been selected as part of the Sussex team for the regional final of the National Sports Hall competition in two weeks time. Well done Ivo!



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

wCoffee Morning - Reading Intervention

Thank you to all those who attended our Coffee Morning on Friday, we had a great turn out and talked about how reading interventions work here at MRC and discussed ideas for helping reading at home.









SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Scientists of the Week

The Scientists of the Week are listed below, well done, keep up the good work!

Year 7 - Alana D, Nate P

Year 8 - Sophia M, Jed K

Year 9 - Sophie B, Archie A-S

Year 10 - Bryony B, Josh A

Year 11 - Neive R, James A







MUSIC DEPARTMENT

In partnership with West Sussex Music, MRC are now hosting Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme (TOP25) for wannabe musicians in Years 3-6.

TOP25 is a three-term programme for complete beginners aged 7 to 11 yrs old (Year 3 to Year 6). It includes:

- Free instrumental lessons.
- Instrument loan for the year.
- Membership of the TOP Orchestra.

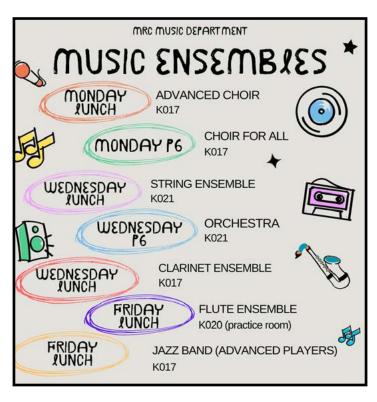
Space still available for brass and woodwind Tuesday at Midhurst Rother College 4:30pm-6:00pm.

TOP25 runs for three terms from January to December. The first term is free* and terms 2 and 3 just £75 per term.

*There is a one-off non-refundable booking fee of £10.

For more details scan the QR code or visit https://www.westsussexmusic.co.uk/top/ to book your place.





ART DEPARTMENT

Spare Newspapers Please!

The Art Department would be very grateful for any surplus newspapers you may have. If you could bring them to Main Reception. Please contact amy.kinally@mrc-acaedemy if you have an questions.



MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Music Lessons

New Year – Time to try something different? Please check out all the instrumental lessons we have on offer here at MRC. There is something for everyone: From Violin lessons to DJ lessons!

If you are looking to try something a bit different, we are calling out for more brass students! If you fancy learning the trumpet or trombone, please contact Emma Button for lessons.

If you learn through one of our West Sussex teachers there is also a bursary program that can support financially. Help with costs - West Sussex Music



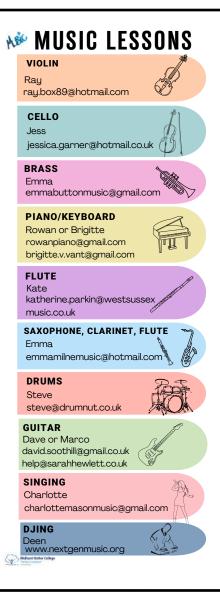
LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

Author of the month

In honour of the Chinese New Year, the Author of the Month for February is Marie Lu. There are copies of her works in the Library for your to enjoy.







Author of the Month

Marie Lu

Marie Lu is a prolific, best-selling
Chinese American author, who has
focused on writing for teenagers in
the science-fiction and fantasy
genres. Her works are widely
acclaimed and include the
'Skyhunter' and 'Stars & Smoke'
series', graphic novels and short
stories, among others. We have
some copies of her works waiting
for you in the library...



MRC GYM CLUB

Why You Should Join the Gym Club at MRC

Staying healthy and active while balancing school can be tough, but joining your school's free gym club makes it easy—and fun! Here's why you should consider it:

1. It's Free!

No costs—just a chance to work out and stay fit.

2. Stress Relief

Exercise helps reduce stress, anxiety, and depression, so hitting the gym is a great way to clear your head and feel better after a tough day.

3. Boost Your Focus

Regular workouts can improve your concentration and memory, helping you stay sharp in class.

4. Build Healthy Habits

Joining the gym club teaches you discipline, goal-setting, and how to balance fitness with schoolwork.

5. Meet New People

The gym is a great place to make new friends and connect with others who share your interests.

6. Convenient and Accessible

The gym is open to KS3 on Tuesdays and KS4 on Wednesdays, just bring your PE kit with you!

Mr Marshall











CAREERS INFORMATION

MRC Careers Fair 2025

Can you help us, do you have an interesting employer or own business that you feel would be an excellent addition to our Careers Fair this year? Please email samantha.jones@mrc-academy.org for more information.





Where are you now? Join MRC Alumni

It's been years...we hope that you left Midhurst Rother College with all the tools for your next steps in life. We would really like to know what you are doing now and what you have been doing since you left. Did you go to university, take an apprenticeship course, start a business or perhaps start working for a family business, have you taken a well-trodden or an unusual Career path?

Please scan the QR code to join our central Alumni Community at Lifelong United Learning to update us or click this link <u>Lifelong United Learning | Support Us | United Learning</u>. You might also want to join our new Midhurst Rother College (MRC) page on <u>LinkedIn</u> (if you add us as your Education on LinkedIn you will be automatically added as our MRC Alumni, or you can choose to follow us).

It really would be great to hear from you as it's always nice to hear about old students! Please do get in touch.

STUDENT RECEPTION



PLEASE...DO NOT BUY SANITARY PRODUCTS FOR YOUR CHILD.

WE HAVE ENOUGH
TO GIVE AWAY
FOR FREE TO ANY
STUDENT WHO
NEEDS THEM!

Please tell them to come to student reception or main reception as we have a plentiful and varied stock of sanitary products to hand out. Just pop by and stock up!

UNIFORM

Hoodies

A gentle reminder to students and parents that coats are obviously allowed to be worn, but HOODIES are not part of the uniform and will be removed from students if they wear them to College or during break times. Leggings are also not acceptable as part of the school uniform.

Coats over blazers are of course perfectly acceptable, we don't want anyone getting cold, but hoodies are not permitted for school, PE or Dance - we have a no hoodies on site policy. Please click on the link below for the uniform policy if you are unsure on any of the uniform.



UNIFORM POLICY

Negative Uniform/Jewellery Points

'Pink Slips' are assigned to students who are not conforming to our uniform/jewellery policy. A negative point is added to your child's Arbor and each point represents one pink slip that has been issued over the course of the current week – one negative point per pink slip. If you have any queries regarding the issuing of the negative point, please email enquiries@mrc-academy.org.

Thank you for working with us to help keep our students smart, it is so important in setting them up to achieve!

LOCAL INFORMATION

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well. As the new term at the Sylvia Beaufoy Centre has, we are excited to share the fantastic opportunities available for young people over the coming months. We have a wide range of activities planned, ensuring there is something for everyone to enjoy, learn from, and participate in.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) - Bronze, Silver & Gold

The highlight of this term is our Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme at Bronze, Silver, and Gold levels. We are delighted to announce that booking is now open for those wishing to start their DofE journey in September. This opportunity is available for young people who will be in school Year 9 and above.



The DofE programme offers young people a chance to develop key life skills, build confidence, and engage in adventure and community work, all while earning a recognised qualification. If your child is interested in enrolling or if you require further information, please email dan@sylviabeaufoy.org as soon as possible to secure a place.

Greenpower Team

Our Greenpower Team continues to work hard designing, building, and racing electric-powered cars as part of the Greenpower Education Trust initiative. While new members will not be able to join until November, we encourage all interested young people to find out more about this exciting project for future opportunities.

Weekly Activities

Alongside these larger programmes, we have a variety of engaging activities planned across our different sessions, including:

Evolve Junior Youth Club (school year 5 and 6) – fun and educational activities such as World Logic Day, mental health awareness sessions, creative workshops, and fundraising events. Some highlights include:

World Logic Day (14 Jan), Mental Health Awareness Week (4 Feb), Comic Relief Fundraiser (18 Mar) – Night walk, Community Garden Visit (8 Jul).

Monday Night Sessions – sports, cooking, team games, and craft activities, providing a great opportunity for socialising and skill-building. Highlights include:

Table Tennis Competition (3 Feb), Black History Month Quiz (10 Feb & 24 Feb) Petworth Park Sports Activities (19 May)

Xhale Wellbeing Sessions – mindfulness activities, journalling, outdoor trips, and creative projects designed to support young people's mental well-being. Key sessions include:

Journalling & Mindfulness (6 Feb), Outdoor Evening at Botney Bay (20 Mar) – Nature walk and outdoor craft activities. End of Term Party (17 Jul) – A celebration to mark the end of the school year.

We look forward to another fantastic term and hope to see as many young people as possible getting involved in our sessions. If you have any questions or would like more details on any of our activities, please don't hesitate to contact us at dan@sylviabeaufoy.org.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best regards,

Dan Sneller
Senior Youth & Community Development Manager
Sylvia Beaufoy Centre
www.sylviabeaufoy.org

CALENDARS / DIARY DATES

MRC Performing Arts - Calendar of Events 2025

| Spring Term 2025 | | | |
|-----------------------|--|---|--|
| Saturday 8 February | CFMDS - Woodwind | Flute ensemble Clarinet ensemble (+ any soloists who have entered) | New Park, Chichester |
| Wednesday 26 February | Dance House 1 | MRC Dance Teams Minibus | Worthing Theatre |
| Saturday 1 March | CFMDS Festival | Orchestra Jazz Band Flute ensemble | St Pauls, Chichester |
| Saturday 8 March | CFMDS | Choirs | St Pauls, Chichester, from 9am |
| Tuesday 18 March | Yr 11 Component 2 exam (1) | GCSE Drama Yr 11 | MRC Theatre |
| Wednesday 19 March | Yr 11 Component 2 exam (2) | GCSE Drama Yr 11 | MRC Theatre |
| Thursday 20 March | Gilbert Hannam Day | Orchestra | St. Mary Magdalene & St. Denys |
| Wednesday 26 March | Spring Concert | Orchestra Choir Jazz Strings, flutes Drama/production groups Soloists (by invite) Bands | MRC Theatre |
| Thursday 27 March | Choreography showcase event | Yr 11 Dance Plus dance groups | MRC Theatre |
| Friday 28 March | Rother Valley Arts Festival | MRC Dance Teams | MRC Theatre |
| Tuesday 1 April | ROH Create and Sing launch for Magic Flute | Invited students – Singers plus orchestral players (audition) | Royal Opera House |
| Summer 2025 | | | |
| April TBC | Yr 13 Music recital | Yr 13 | MRC Theatre |
| Thursday 3 April | Dance showcase event | Yr 11/10 | MRC Theatre |
| Wednesday 30 April | Dance House 2 | MRC Dance Teams Minibus | Worthing Festival Theatre |
| Tuesday 6 May | Yr 10 Drama Performance | GCSE Drama Yr10 | MRC Theatre |
| Thursday 8 May | Yr 10 Drama Performance | GCSE Drama YR10 | MRC Theatre |
| Wednesday 21 May | Yr 12 Component 1 | Yr 12 | MRC Theatre |
| Tuesday 24 June | Magic Flute | Invited students | Royal Festival Hall |
| June TBC | Drama Day | | MRC Theatre |
| Thursday 26 June | Addams Family – School production! | Cast and orchestra of Addams Family | MRC Theatre |
| Friday 27 June | Addams Family – School production | Cast and orchestra of Addams Family | MRC Theatre |
| Tuesday 15 July | Drama and Music House Cup | Yr 7 | MRC Theatre Music P1-4 Drama 5-6 |

DIARY DATES

These dates are accurate at the time of publishing.

| Date | Event | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 17 - 21 February | Half Term | |
| 7 - 21 April | Easter Holidays | |
| 22 April | INSET Day | |
| 5 May | Bank Holiday | |
| 26 - 30 May | Half Term | |
| 18 July | Last Day of Term / Academic Year | |



ERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S TRACKING POINT REPO

Throughout the year, parents receive Tracking Point (TP) reports which record Attitude to Learning (A2L), subject grades and gives an overview of attendance for their child. There are 3 TPs in Years 7 – 10, and 4 TPs in Years 11 – 13. This information will be released and viewed on the Arbor platform.

Attitude to Learning (A2L)

A2L is split into four key focus areas and defined as follows:

Classwork: This measures the degree to which a student engages and contributes to lessons. This considers a student's ability and willingness to ask questions, contribute to discussions, engage with classroom activities, produce work to the highest of their ability, seek out extension tasks, and take responsibility for their own learning.



Homework: This measures student engagement with independent work set. This considers a student's reliability to complete and hand work in on time, the quality of the work being produced, and also reflects levels of personal organisation.

Prepared for Learning: This relates to personal standards in and around the College. This considers punctuality to lessons and having the right equipment for learning. For Sixth Form, this includes meeting deadlines, dress code adherence and the use of study periods.

Behaviour for Learning: This measures student attitudes within the classroom. This considers a student's ability to remain focused on tasks, levels of engagement, and positive and negative incidents that impact on their learning or the learning of others - ensuring that all students have the right to undisrupted learning.

Students will receive a score for each of the above elements on a scale of 1-4:

| 4 | Outstanding | Exceptionally high standards always met. |
|---|----------------|--|
| 3 | Good | Mostly high standards, some inconsistencies which leave room for improvement. |
| 2 | Inconsistent | Variable standards, satisfactory as often as unsatisfactory. Negatively affects achievement. |
| 1 | Unsatisfactory | Standards are often unacceptable. Considerable impact on achievement and learning of others. |



Grades

Students receive a GCSE grade in Years 7-11 as part of each TP. As a parent/carer, you will also be provided with a grade following each examination window, along with an average grade. Each year group has a maximum grade they can receive 3+ in Year 7, 4+ in Year 8, 5+ in Year 9, 7+ in Year 10, 9+ in Year 11 and A* in Year 13.

Attendance

Attendance matters! As a parent/carer, you will see an overall attendance figure for your child (given as a percentage). This diagram details the correlation between attendance and education, and how attendance can impact success and life chances. Discussion and support are always offered to maximise the outcomes for every individual.



If you have any questions regarding the report, please contact your child's Head of Year and/or classroom teacher(s).

respect, happiness, achievement

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)

Arbor Link: Midhurst Rother College (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)

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

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)