

THE MCE TIMES

IMPORTANT DATES JANUARY

Monday 21st

CCA's begin

Tuesday 23rd

Parent Reps Meeting

Wednesday 24th

Open Morning for Prospective Parents

Thursday 25th

Revolution Day – College Closed

IMPORTANT DATES FEBRUARY

Tuesday 6th

Safer Internet Day

Thursday 15th

Lewis House Dress up day

Sunday 18th to Thursday 22nd

Half Term Holiday

Sunday 25th to Wednesday 28th

School Photographs (Pret-a-Portrait visiting from the UK)



Thursday 18th January 2018

Dear Parents and Friends of Malvern College Egypt,

Time is flying by so quickly and we are already two full weeks into term. Students have once again experienced a vast array of activities from early morning football practice and the girls House football during lunch time to inspiring assemblies and the fantastic lessons that continue to amaze me. The term picks up a new gear next week with the CCAs beginning as well as sports fixtures looming and our first trips in the final stages of planning.



CCAs

With our incredible CCA programme set to start again next week that the school timings will now revert to the normal with students in Pre-Nursery to Year 2 going home at 2:20pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, while all

other students stay for period 7 and CCAs ending for departures by 4:30pm

INTERNATIONAL DAY



International Day – Saturday 3rd March

One of our flagship events, the annual International Day celebration, will take place on Saturday 3rd March at the MCE campus. Although many more details will soon be shared with our whole community we wanted to make sure you all have this date saved firmly in your busy calendars. Our exceptional, and very busy, Friends of Malvern College Egypt (FoMCE) group have been

working for the last few months in the background to replicate, if not surpass, the wonderful event they created last year. The success of events such as this are all down to the strength with which our community pulls together and the FoMCE International Day committee would most certainly welcome any and all parents who are interested in offering support in any of the following areas:



- Country Stalls and Food – a central part of the event (and by far my favourite!!!!) are the stalls put in place by members of each nationality to not only celebrate the amazing array of cultures in the Malvern Family, but also offer the opportunity for people to try new food and experiences from a new place. Whether you are Egyptian or British, Dutch or Chinese we would welcome volunteers to help run these stores. All parents will soon receive further information regarding the potential for your country stall so please do keep an eye out for this should you wish to contribute in any small (or large) way.



- Performances – as ever our fantastic students will be presenting a number of performances during the day. However, there is always room for more and if you or someone you know would like to perform please do let FoMCE know.

- Sub-committees – the main FoMCE committee has establish a group to oversee the whole International day event but have a range of sub-committees (from student activities to vendors) and would be happy for any support from other parts of the community

- Sponsorship and Vendors – Should you know of any company or individual who might be interested in being a sponsor of the event or having their own stall to sell items then please do get in touch and we can send more information about the various pricing options available.

Should be you be able to assist in any of the above please contact the FoMCE committee via their dedicated email address: FOMCE@malverncollege.edu.eg



Swimming

Although more information is available in the Sports Focus below we would like to confirm that swimming lessons will continue to be postponed until further notice. With the outside air temperature fluctuating during the day we are unable to run the lessons at present. We hope to be able to resume the normal swimming programme as soon as possible but this may not be until after the February half-term break.

Early Years News from Sally Dibb-Holland – Head of Early Years

The Early Years children have settled extremely well, and have welcomed new students warmly into the MCE family. Our new topics are underway, and if you take a look into the Early Years shared area you will see a train track which has been requested by the children. The children are enjoying riding the ride along toys along the track, keeping carefully to the rails. I observed one brother driving along the train tracks this morning, whilst turning to ensure his younger sister was behind him and safely following along!

If you have any spare boxes or cardboard the Nursery teachers would be very grateful as they are building with cardboard constructions and need as many materials as possible. There is a space-station underway in one of the classes and the children are all enjoying the problem solving and blue sky thinking associated with these open ended learning opportunities.



The Reception children have been constructing wonderful transport creations all of which are displayed outside their classrooms. Each time I pass by I am delighted to have another child share their explanations of their transport models and what each one is capable of doing. So much rich language is associated with this wonderful learning, as well as developing fine motor and problem-solving skills.

We want your children to become independent learners, developing their thinking skills and helping them to adapt and solve problems is giving them the very best start possible.

Primary School News from Johnnie Kittermaster – Head of Primary School

We have had a really productive week with the Primary School having a very smooth and busy week.

Mr. Birch has kept us all entertained with the inter house girls football matches at lunch times. The games have been of high quality with some excellent skill on display. There are two more matches to go and we will publish the results next week.

Looking ahead we have the inter house spelling competition and an eagerly awaited inter house tug of war competition!

Student Council



The Student Council met on Wednesday with Mr Bailey. As you may recall the students elected their class representatives last term and they will be talking to their class mates to discuss ways in which we could improve things for the school. This is a great opportunity for us to hear the student voice and listen to their views on various school matters.



Mrs. Dibb Holland gave us a wonderful talk at celebration assembly where she gave a recount of the time just before the end of last term when she and some Secondary School Student Council members took the shoe boxes to a school in Maadi. The pictures of utter joy on the faces of the children receiving their boxes was a sight to behold and hugely uplifting. It is so important that the students at MCE appreciate what they have and to realise that there are so many children

who have very little in life. Giving to charitable causes is a quality we hope the students will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

This week we would like to highlight some of the activities from Year 6

Year 6, as part of their efforts to develop skills for learning, have been reflecting on their lessons and asking their teachers what they are studying in the future.

6M – Art

We are learning Tempra Batik. Also sketching and drawing skills and using primary colours. We will, later in the term, make a large-scale piece for the Art Exhibition. Finally, we will learn and develop perspective and isometric drawing where we will also make models. All this will be completed through focused practical projects using various media. We are looking forward to all projects because we will use some special equipment but our favourite is painting because we can mix colours and increase our knowledge of what colours they produce. (Hanna and Alia 6M)





6A – Computers

Computing is great fun and a very important subject. We learn new things that we couldn't even imagine were possible, such as coding and the use of Excel to produce tables and grids. These are some of the most important things to learn, so that we can use them effectively in our future.



During computing, we experience using a new device compared to our usual ones, but it is educational and fun at the same time. In addition, we learn how to use the internet safely and to prevent any possible danger. In our opinion, we really like computing because we can see how it will help us in the future but also it helps immediately. Using technology to help us in other ways is fun and exciting.



When we go to the computer suite during Humanities lessons or PSICHE, we are able to use our time properly because we have the skills to find and record information. We have activities that help us with our lives now and in the future for university and even further in the future, for our jobs.

Farida and Mehraeel



6L – Science

In Science, we have really enjoyed learning about fossils, dinosaurs and animal classification. We have been watching and conducting experiments to tell us information which no one can as there is no one alive today who lived when the dinosaurs did, hundreds of thousands of years ago. Through discussions, we have identified different classes of animals: reptiles, mammals, invertebrates, fishes and birds. These are all important skills as they help us to identify animals from fossils and what type of animal they are. We would like to thank our teacher, Miss Swann

as she has been making Science incredibly fun to learn. (Collaborative effort)

Secondary School News from Mr. Richard Moore – Head of Secondary

Another week has passed by in a blink! Students continue to work well, and I have been delighted with both the teaching and learning which I have seen on my visits to lessons.

I had the pleasure to be asked to the Year 10 Business Studies class to judge their presentations on a Business Studies Marketing Project. We certainly have some very talented entrepreneurs in the making! Each group had to create a business plan from naming the product, working out their overheads and then how they were going to make a profit! We had companies like “Taza’s cups” looking at selling plastic cups to reduce the impact on the environment to the Hot Chocolate company “Kakao” selling luxurious hot drinks. Their confidence and maturity in their presentations were second to none. Well done to you all.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you;

Whilst the weather is cold we understand that students need to keep warm but please ensure your son and daughter has appropriate college uniform and not casual hoodies or other attire.

A number of students continue to speak Arabic outside of the Arabic classrooms. Please talk to your child and help reinforce the need to speak English. This policy is in place for a wide variety of reasons including the desire to make the students’ English as good as possible. However, English is our language of inclusion and every member of the MCE team is expected to be able to communicate with others in English. We do not wish for someone (student or teacher) to be left not understanding someone else based on the use of a different language. Thank you in advance for your support.

We are busy finalising information for the IGCSE pathway for next year and the Sixth Form Options. The next chapter of MCE in terms of offering **A levels** is an exciting one and I look forward to sharing more details on this during the parents information session for students and parents of Year 10 on 13th February (more information will be given to you next week).

Year 10 should also have received a letter and timetable for the upcoming Mock Examinations. Please can you go through this with your child and reinforce the need for them to take this seriously. In my experience, the students who develop a revision timetable, revise effectively and ensure they try their very best in the exams do better during the summer examinations. Mock examinations are very important.

The School photography competition was a great success and the photos entered were of a high quality. I would like to thank all students and staff for submitting such beautiful photos to support their House as well as everyone who voted. We are delighted to announce the winners:

Staff Photos:

1st place: Mrs K Moore [Lewis House]

2nd Place: Mr A Bennett [Elgar House]

3rd Place: Mr P Marsh [Sanger House]

Student Photos:

1st place: Yassin Koura – year 9 [Lewis House]

2nd place: Aamina Daya – year 7 [Foster House]

3rd place: Lara Abdelwahed – year 7 [Sanger House]

Sports News from Iain Driscoll – Director of Sport

We start this week's Sports Focus by congratulating Sherif Elmorsy on his selection to the Egyptian National team for Horse riding. Sherif will be travelling to the UAE to represent Egypt at the end of the month and all at MCE wish him the very best of luck!

Swimming lessons are currently on hold as the weather has become a lot cooler recently and it is simply too cold outside of the pool for students. Students will therefore continue learning the core sports in their PE lessons until at least the end of the February half term. The Elite swim team will continue to come in for their morning sessions and will complete a swim fitness program focusing on improving their core strength and stroke fitness. Mr. Diab and Mr. Salah will run these sessions on Sunday and Thursday mornings.



Next week sees the start of all sports CCAs. It is fantastic to have had so many students sign up for one or more sporting CCA and it really highlights the fantastic program that the MCE staff offer. My thanks in advance to all staff running a sports CCA this term.

Basketball and netball take center stage in terms of sports fixtures this term. The U13 and U16 boys play their first games on Monday 29th January against CES and the girls take on NCBIS in a netball tournament the following day.



CALLING ALL SQUASH PLAYERS!!!! The Black Ball Sporting Club in New Cairo, is offering MCE students between 5 and 10 years old the opportunity to attend squash coaching with their two world class coaches. Students who are interested in attending these sessions should see Mr Driscoll for more information.

Music News from Tina Marsh – Director of Music

Primary School Music.

With the start of the new term we have made some adjustments to the curriculum in Primary School music. Classes up to Year 4 are now using the learning scheme 'Music Express' from the UK. It is a highly interactive course that will help pupils to develop all round music skills. This course is being delivered by Ms Raslan and myself. I am teaching all music classes from Year 5 and 6.



Parent Choir

This fabulous choir will continue this term and new members are always welcome. This will take place on Sunday mornings from 10:00 to 10:45 in the Music department at MCE. All parents are welcome to join us. We will be working towards a performance for International Day.



Instrumental Lessons

We are pleased to announce that our piano lessons are proving very popular, so we have included an additional day of lessons. If you wish for your child to have piano lessons please contact myself and Ms Daya as soon

as possible, please check the details in emails to parents this week.

There are available spaces with our violin, singing, drums and guitar teachers as well. To make the most of this opportunity please contact myself and Ms Daya by 31st Jan 2018. The cost is 2000LE for 10x 30 minute lessons.

Full payment is needed before lessons can begin.

We also sent out emails to all parents of children currently having instrumental lessons about payment dates for the new block of 10 lessons. Please respond to these emails, by the deadlines stated in order to confirm places in the lessons.

Performance Opportunities

We like to encourage all students across the whole school to take part in as many performance opportunities as they can.

- Primary School Assemblies: this term we are giving young musicians the opportunity to perform in front of their peers. We would like to encourage all ability levels to perform. If your child would like to perform in one of these assemblies, please contact me so that I can arrange this.
- Lunch time concerts: Once the weather warms up again, from around the beginning of March, we will begin our Thursday lunch time concerts. An informal performance by students for students during the lunch break. The Performing Arts Prefect, Nisan Harmanci, will be organising these. If students wish to perform at one of these they must speak to Nisan.



School Production: The Wizard of OZ.

Next week CCAs begin again, and it is full steam ahead towards our performance in May. Once cast members have been given their scripts and lines to learn, please could you support your child at home by helping them learn their lines. The sooner performers are 'off script' the better.