

THE MCE TIMES



Thursday 17th May 2018

Dear Parents and Friends of Malvern College Egypt,

I would like to wish you all a wonderful holy month of Ramadan. Please do remember that we are following the adjusted timetable, shown below, during Ramadan.

	Reg	Period 1	Period 2	Break	Period 3	Period 4	Primary – P5 / Secondary - Lunch	Primary - Lunch / Secondary - P5	Period 6	Period 7	Buses leave at
Start	8:15	8:30	9:10	9:50	10:05	10:45	11:25	12:00	12:35	13:15	14:00
End	8:30	9:10	9:50	10:05	10:45	11:25	12:00	12:35	13:15	13:55	



Ramadan Bags

Thank you to those of you who have donated items to our collection for the Ramadan Bags for people less fortunate than ourselves. Our Friends of MCE group will now look to support the school in packaging all of these items and delivering them during the early part of Ramadan.



Learning Journey to Oz!

At Malvern College Egypt we understand that every child follows a different path through their learning journey. Throughout the journey every single child has their own strengths and areas for improvement. It is this ethos that drives us to look to provide the students with a wide range of new opportunities to explore what might be their strengths. The change that we often see in children as they try something

new and excel is quite incredible and is a key motivational factor for many of us to become teachers in the first place. This was most evident this week at the final performance of the College production of the 'Dorothy's Journey to Oz'. It was a truly spectacular event and I was personally delighted to see the incredibly mature and professional performances from such a wide range of students from both Primary and Secondary. To see some of our usually more quiet students on stage giving such confident performances was wonderful. Thank you to all of the parents who were able to attend the performance and also for supporting your children at home with learning their lines. The production was the culmination of months of rehearsals and backstage preparations and I would like to thank all of the teachers and admin staff who helped to make this such a successful event. CONGRATULATIONS to the whole cast for your exceptional performances.

Wayne Maher

Headmaster

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

Dear Parents,

Ramadan Kareem to all of our families. We have been busy in Early Years this week, the Read, Write Inc (RWInc) programme is in full swing and all the new topics are inspiring the children. Within RWInc each child is working within a small group with learning outcomes specifically tailored to meet their individual learning needs. The progress of your children who started RWInc in Nursery and who are progressing through the school is exceptionally strong. We have our first cohort of Nursery readers starting on the College Reading Scheme this week. These children know all their letter sounds and can blend these sounds to read. Each child makes their own progress at their own pace and we celebrate each and every success.



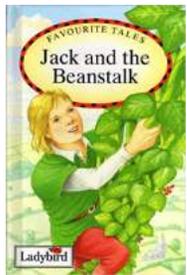
Hats – as the weather becomes hotter please ensure your child has their own named hat in school each day, along with their refillable water bottle.



Baker Books –All catalogues have been distributed and pupils should have returned their order form on Monday, 14th May. Delivery of books will be on: Wednesday, 13 June. I do hope you have taken the opportunity to gather more books for your children to share and enjoy at home as sharing books with your children is one of the most enriching experiences, it builds the bond between you and extends both their vocabulary and imagination. Building a love of books so early on is a truly special gift for your children.



In Pre-Nursery this week the children have started their new topic *Under the Sea*, they have been talking about which creatures live under the sea. They have also been busy revising their numbers 1-5 and 2D shapes circle, triangle, square, rectangle and star. The children have benefitted from many different approaches, singing number songs and rhymes, counting on their fingers, art activities and using our Numicon mathematics equipment. This week the craft activities within Pre-Nursery have been painting bubble wrap star fish and using rectangles to make googly eyed, long tentacle sea creatures! Amongst all the other enriching activities available to them every day.



In Nursery this week the children are reading '*Jack and the Beanstalk*'. Within mathematics they have been measuring the beanstalks that are growing and observing and discussing whether they are tall or short. The children have been using standard and non-standard ways of measuring: -

- Using rulers
- Using measuring snakes
- Using use beans eg. five/ ten beans long

They have also been using beans with Numicom shapes – to count, add and subtract

Within Literacy the children have enjoyed and shared story time: "Jack and the Beanstalk". Linked to this they have played the *What's Missing Game?* They have listened to the story and added missing characters. They are building their skills of retelling and sequencing the story independently and in small groups. This includes *Helicopter storytelling* where each child takes a turn to join in telling the story. RWI sounds, phoneme "ch" - *chocolate, chips, cheese* with letter formation using pencils, drawing and playdough. Within their topic sessions they have planted beans, are looking after their beans by ensuring they receive plenty of sunshine and watering their plants every day. They have enjoyed craft activities including making beanstalks and using vegetables for printing.



In Reception this week, the children are concluding their study of *Dinosaurs* and will be starting their second summer term topic *Weather and Water* next week. The children have really benefitted from the rich and inspirational approach the Reception team have taken to their topic of Dinosaurs. This week, the children have considered what might

happen if dinosaurs came back and each class created a class book full of imaginative ideas. The children also discussed which dinosaur they would have as their pet?

All the children wrote sentences to accompany their drawings. In mathematics the children have been learning about money and purchased items by working out which UK coins to use. The children practised their adding skills and continued to use counting on methods. They have used their addition skills to create a money caterpillar and investigated different ways to make the same amount of money. We enjoyed playing an interactive supermarket game. Have a go at home!

<http://www.ictgames.com/payForIt/index.htm>



Reception class assemblies coming up in the College Theatre: -

RM on Monday 28th May

RA on Monday 4th June

RL on Monday 11th June

Please note the slightly earlier start time for each assembly due to our Ramadan Timetable rescheduling. **All the assemblies will start promptly at 1pm, so please be seated in the Theatre for 12:55pm.** Your attendance is so important to your children, all of whom will be looking out for you in the audience.

Wishing you all a pleasant and restful family weekend,
Kind regards,
Sally Dibb-Holland

Primary School News from Johnnie Kittermaster – Head of Primary School

Dear Parents,

*Thank
you!*

Thank you for your offerings of various food items for others less fortunate than ourselves as we approach the holy month of Ramadan. Thank you also for returning your slips informing Lite Bites as to who is fasting from Years 3-6 so that the correct numbers are being catered for and there is little waste. The children will have cool calm areas to go to in break times as well as using the prayer room.



The play 'Dorothy's Journey to Oz' was fabulous and I was delighted to see so many of the Primary School taking part. They looked fabulous and sang and danced with enormous confidence. Next year, the Primary School will have their own production! My thanks to all of the staff who were involved in making it such a memorable musical.

ASSESSMENT



Next week is assessment week and the students are well prepared for all of the tests that will be taking place over the five days. I have every confidence that the results will demonstrate a massive improvement over the year.

As some of you may know Mrs Dibb-Holland is an Independent School Inspector and she has been invited to inspect a school in Lagos, Nigeria next week. We wish her a safe journey and if you have any concerns next week please speak to your form teacher and then come and see me if you need to.

Year 2 gave us a sneak preview of their musical “There is a Sunflower in my Supper” which will be performed in the last week of term at assembly this week with all of them singing and doing various actions with great enthusiasm and confidence. They sang three very catchy songs It promises to be wonderful!

Year 1

Class assemblies:



Year 1A were the first class to share their assembly with parents in the theatre. The children worked really hard to prepare a dance and poem on the theme of ‘friendship’. We thank all of the parents that were able to attend. 1M and 1L’s assemblies will follow soon.

Magic book

In Year 1, we have seen a wonderful improvement in playtime behaviour. Children are playing nicely with their friends and demonstrating a good understanding of expected behaviour. Children who are spotted being wonderful have their names put into the Magic book with a chance of winning a prize in assembly.



Trip

Year 1 went to Fagnoon Farm and enjoyed learning about farming and planting and creating pottery. The Farm were very impressed with the children who were excellent representatives for Malvern College Egypt. Children also had opportunities to

learn how to make ‘baladi’ bread and rode on a camel, horse or donkey.



Learning through play

In Year 1 we try to incorporate lots of opportunities for the children to explore learning through play and discovery. Here are some pictures of our learning areas which children make use of regularly.

STAR OF THE WEEK	
PNM	Moez ElSallab
PNA	Mourad Youssef
NM	Oudai Mohamed
NA	Yousef Abdelrahman
NL	Layan Hamada
NV	Mesk Mohamed
RM	Youssef Osman
RA	Mostafa Soliman
RL	Mohamed Hazem
Year 1M	Farida Fathelbab
Year 1A	Youssef Hamza
Year 1L	Mariam Amin

Star of the Week	
Year 2 M	Jacob Maher
Year 2 A	Adam Elkhodary
Year 2 L	Aly Awadien
Year 3 M	Saba Al Nuseirat
Year 3 A	Lara Mostafa
Year 4 M	Aisha Ibrahim
Year 4 A	Karim Swiliam
Year 5 M	Judy El Gebily
Year 5 A	Kanzy El Sallab Arwa Hammam
Year 6 M	Ahmed Abdeen
Year 6 A	Sandra Fanous
Year 6 L	Yassin Fawzy

House Points

1 st	Foster
2 nd	Elgar
3 rd	Lewis
4 th	Sanger

Warm regards,
Johnnie Kittermaster

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

Dear Parents,

From all in the secondary school may we wish you and your families a peaceful and joyful Ramadan.

The biggest event this week was the Journey to Oz production. I was so impressed with the students' performance and it was lovely to see the audience recognize what a wonderful production it was.



The end of the CCA was last week and I would like to thank all those staff who arranged activities. I was so happy to see the students' engagement in the activities and I look forward to next year's programme. With this in mind of you as parents or your child has any ideas or opinions on the CCA's please do drop me or Lamees an

email. We are always happy to hear from you.

I have had some interesting conversations lately with parents about approaches to teaching and learning and I thought I would share with you an interesting article I found. I am a big believer in allowing our students to learn in a way which allows them not just to be able regurgitate facts but have a passion for learning, challenge themselves and be able to question what they are learning and why. In years gone by rote learning was the traditional form of learning...

WHAT IS ROTE LEARNING?

Rote learning is the memorization of information based on repetition. Examples of rote learning include memorizing the alphabet, numbers, and multiplication tables. Some consider rote learning to be a necessary step in learning certain subjects.

Memorization isn't the most effective way to learn, but it's a method many students and teachers still use. A common rote learning technique is preparing quickly for a test, also known as cramming.

ADVANTAGES OF ROTE LEARNING

There are some benefits of Rote Learning, including:

- Ability to quickly recall basic facts
- Helps develop foundational knowledge

DISADVANTAGES OF ROTE LEARNING

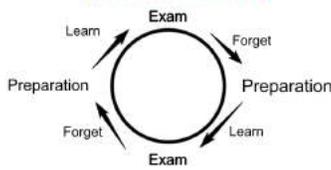
The drawbacks of learning by memorization include:

- Can be repetitive
- Easy to lose focus
- Doesn't allow for a deeper understanding of a subject
- Doesn't encourage the use of social skills

No connection between new and previous knowledge

- May result in wrong impression or understanding a concept

The Rote Loop



While being able to quickly recall pieces of information is helpful, to understand information on a deeper level students must use a different method of learning: meaningful learning.

WHAT IS MEANINGFUL LEARNING?

Meaningful learning involves understanding how all the pieces of an entire concept fit together. The knowledge gained through meaningful

learning applies to new learning situations. This type of learning stays with students for life.

Meaningful learning is **active**, **constructive**, and **long-lasting**, but most importantly, it allows students to be **fully engaged** in the learning process.

Two important goals of all types of learning include retention and transfer. “Retention” is the ability to remember the material at a later time. “Transfer” is the ability to use prior knowledge to solve new problems. Students achieve meaningful learning when both of these goals are fulfilled.

ADVANTAGES OF MEANINGFUL LEARNING

Meaningful learning helps students achieve success in the classroom by:

- Encouraging understanding, not memorization
- Encouraging active learning techniques
- Focusing on the outcome of the learning process
- Relating new information to prior knowledge



DISADVANTAGES OF MEANINGFUL LEARNING

The challenges associated with meaningful learning include:

- Takes longer to achieve
- Should be tailored for different types of learners

Some students may face challenges with meaningful learning, as it requires building off previous knowledge. This is where dedicated

teachers and tutors can help ensure students understand concepts so that meaningful learning can continue to happen.

ROTE LEARNING VS. MEANINGFUL LEARNING

Experts emphasize the importance of deep understanding over the recalling of facts. Students who learn with meaningful learning are able to problem solve better than those who learn by rote.

Meaningful learning teaches students important cognitive skills they will use throughout their life. Cognitive skills are what students use to evaluate, analyse, remember and make comparisons. In the long run, meaningful learning is the most effective way for students to engage in learning.

Secondary House Points Standings

1 st	Sanger
2 nd	Lewis
3 rd	Elgar
4 th	Foster

Warm regards,
Richard Moore

Sports News from Joshua Sussex – Head of Physical Education

Dear Parents,

On Sunday 6th May Malvern College Egypt Lions under 12 boys Football team undertook a friendly match against The British School of Rehab (TBS). The MCE Lions team took two squads of six players and played a match of four quarters. The team played against a very physical and well organised TBS side and played some elegant and entertaining football. The final score was 4-2 to TBS, however, Malvern College Lions fought to the end and did themselves and the College proud.



Continuing on with the friendlies, Wednesday 9th May saw MCE Lions boys and girls play against the New Cairo British International School (NCBIS) Under 13 football teams, MCE played with 2 squads and four quarters. The final score was 5-5 where every player played their part and contributed to the match. The girls team also worked incredibly hard to achieve a 0-0 draw against the NCBIS girls, with both teams showing excellent levels of motivation and determination in not allowing the other side to score a goal. The future is extremely bright for Malvern College Egypt's football teams and I look forward to the next season.



A very well done to both the boys and girls for competing in this seasons Football fixtures across all age groups and a special mention for Mr. Gale, Mr. Birch and Mr. Bailey for coaching and guiding the students onto great success.



Saturday 12th May saw the MCE Lions swim team compete in a swimming competition which was held at the Cairo American College (CAC). The MCE Lions fought very hard throughout the day's event with a number of our students achieving first, second and third places to round off a fantastic year of swimming.

A very well done to all of the participants who took part in this year's swimming competitions, competing against a number of schools in Cairo. The hard work certainly paid off, with a respectable third place finish in the swim league. A special mention to Mr. Salah, Mr. Diab, Mr. Dahe and Mr. Nasr for all of their hard work and commitment to the swim team and making this success for the students possible.

Warm regards,
Joshua Sussex

Music News from Tina Marsh – Director of Music

Dear Parents,



WOW! What a wonderful week! Dorothy's Journey to OZ was performed to staff, students and parents this week. Everyone who watched it were amazed at the talent of our students at MCE. We have some emerging talent which we look forward to seeing develop in future years. Students over the past months have been working incredibly hard in the CCA sessions and on Saturdays to make the show the success that it was.

The Witch's cackle, to the boom of the Great and Powerful Oz, had the audience spellbound from the moment they arrived at the theatre.



While the students performed magnificently, no show can be put together without the tireless dedication of staff. Key people to thank this year are: Miss Harries, Mrs Marsh, Mrs Driscoll, Miss Griffiths, Fran Descher, Miss Hallinan and Mr Watt. Of course there is also Bebo from the IT Support Department to thank as well. The set was built and designed by the Art department - thank you Mr Faux and Mr Bennett.

In true creative style, staff are already considering next year's performance, and plans are well on the way for it to be even bigger and better next year. Students wishing to be part of the School Production should sign up for the appropriate CCA in September.

End of Term Assemblies

All students, Pre-Nursery to Yr 8, are busy working towards performances for the end of term assemblies, that will be happening in the last week of the term. All students will be involved in some way, it is therefore important that students are in school for these assemblies. If for any extenuating reason your child will not be in school for this week, please could you let music staff know, so we can make appropriate performance arrangements. Classes are busy working on group numbers, and absence of individual students will significantly affect the performances.

Those students that have been picked out as instrumental soloists will also need to be in attendance for the last week of term.



Instrumental Lessons

As the school is now operating Ramadan hours, please carefully check the instrumental lessons schedules that I have sent home. There are time changes and alterations to the regular timetables. We do not want students to miss lessons, due to the fact they have not checked the updated versions. Timetables are clearly displayed on the practise room doors for students to check as well. A member of staff will not always come to collect your child for the lesson. Parents of Year 1 students having lessons are expected to collect and return their child for each instrumental lesson.

Warm regards,
Tina Marsh