

IMPORTANT DATES SEPTEMBER

Sunday 16th

CCA Program begins

Wednesday 19th

Primary (Year 2 – 6) Headmaster's
Coffee Mornings

Thursday 20th

Secondary School (Year 7 - 11)
Headmaster's Coffee Morning

Tuesday 25th

Early Years to Year 1 Headmaster's
Coffee Morning

THE MCE TIMES



Thursday 6th September 2018

Dear Parents and Friends of Malvern College Egypt,



Welcome back to the new school year. I really hope you all had a wonderful summer and I have been delighted to hear of the many adventures the children have had on their travels and activities over the last two months. I am sure you are now enjoying the recovery of now having the children back in school after the long summer break.

As ever at the start of a new academic year it has been very busy at the College this week. However, by Tuesday it was as if we had been up and running for weeks rather than days after a very smooth start. With over 180 new children joining the College it has been a pleasure to see how quickly they have all been welcomed by the returning pupils and the speed at which learning has started to take place once again.

If you are new to the Malvern community, we all wish you a very warm welcome and look forward to getting to know you and your children more over the coming months. For those of you who are returning to MCE an equally warm welcome back. For all families, we will be hosting the following 'Headmaster's Coffee Mornings' in the coming weeks to help you all become more familiar with the College and meet key staff. These will not involve formal presentations about the College but give you an opportunity to informally meet myself, Heads of School, some teaching staff and, just as importantly, other parents in the same school section.



Headmaster's Coffee Mornings

- Early Years (Pre-Nursery to Year 1) – 10:20am on Tuesday 25th September.
- Primary School (Years 2 to 6) – 10:20am on Wednesday 19th September.
- Secondary School (Years 7 to 11) - 10:20am on Thursday 20th September.



Key Dates

We are about to relaunch some sections of our College website and this will include more information on our events calendar for the year ahead. Please find below some of the dates for key events in Term 1 and we will share more information on these and the many other activities during the term.

- Sunday 16th September – The MCE after-school CCA program begins for all pupils in Years 3 to 11.
- Thursday 11th October – Primary School Prefects Investiture.
- Wednesday 17th October – Egyptian Day.
- Thursday 25th October – Parent Teacher Conference Day.
- Sunday 28th October to Thursday 1st November – Half Term Holiday.
- Wednesday 14th November – Secondary School Prefects Investiture.
- Tuesday 20th November - Prophet Mohamed's Birthday.
- Thursday 20th December – Last Day of Term 1 (Half Day).

I look forward to meeting you all over the course of the year and to celebrating the many pupil achievements on a regular basis.

Warmest Regards,

Headmaster

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



At the start of our third year at MCE, it was heartwarming for me to greet returning parents and children on Sunday and to meet our new families. Many of our youngest children will have attended school for the very first time when they walked into Malvern College Egypt on Sunday. I am sure you will agree that their very first day at school, in their new and smart uniforms was a momentous occasion. To observe our families meeting new teachers, welcoming existing staff and greeting each other reminded me of the family that we all are within at Malvern College Egypt, we really are many nations and a family of one. Thank you for entrusting your precious children to our care, this is an honour and a professional obligation which all of the Early Years team and myself take extremely seriously.



Many of us find change challenging, and for our youngest students moving year groups and teachers can be a stressful experience. Towards the end of last academic year all of the Early Years team gave careful consideration to your child's new class and teacher. We all spent a great deal of time looking at the very best mix for the new classes, taking into account the mix of boys and girls along with friendship groups, social mixes and ability. Thank you to all of our families, who have helped their children to make the transition from their old teacher and class to their new teacher and class. Your positive and supportive approach to The College can make all the difference in achieving a happy and settled child. Children learn best when they feel safe and secure, and as educators and parents it is our joint responsibility to achieve this - thank you all.



I am excited and extremely optimistic that The Early Years within MCE is entering a new and positive phase in its journey. We are now at full capacity with 2 Pre-Nursery classes, 5 Nursery and 5 Reception classes with 3 Year One classes joining our team. All of our new staff are experienced practitioners who are delighted to be in Cairo and embarking on their own personal journeys. We have lots of interesting, fun and challenging curriculum activities planned this term, all of which will be communicated to you via the weekly newsletters which will begin at the end of next week. I look forward to meeting more of you at the upcoming Parents Workshops which Mr. Maher will be communicating to you shortly.

Sally Dibb-Holland

Head of Early Years

Primary School News from Phillip Hunter – Head of Primary School



Welcome to the new school year in Primary at Malvern College Egypt. I hope that you have all had an enjoyable time away and are as excited as I am about the new school year. I have taken over from Mr Kittermaster as Head of Primary and I am responsible for Year 2 to Year 6. Mrs Dibb Holland is the new Head of Early Years, responsible for Pre-Nursery to Year 1.

Thank you to everyone who has come up to say 'Hello', I have been made to feel very welcome in Cairo and Malvern College Egypt is already beginning to feel like home. I have already had the opportunity to speak to all of the students in primary during our first assembly. I was extremely impressed by the smart and mature way in which they entered the theatre and listened to my presentation. The students are a credit to their families and to the College.



I have reminded the children each morning that my focus at the start of the year is on smart uniform. If your child is not sure how to fasten their tie, please help them to learn. There are some fun tutorial videos on YouTube and they will be extremely proud of themselves when they quickly master it. I have also challenged the students to see which class can sing the national anthem the best first thing in the morning; perhaps you might like to hear them practice at home.



We have made a few changes to the routine at lunchtimes this term and as a result we have created a lot more space for the students to play on whilst also making the dining hall a much quieter place to eat lunch. Can I remind all parents that if your child buys a lunch at school they must have enough money on their card to pay for it. It is extremely embarrassing for any child to not have enough money and require credit in order to eat.

APPOINTMENT



You can find me outside every morning if you want to catch me about some small issue but if you want to discuss something in detail or privacy you will need to book an appointment through my PA, Yasmine El Badrawy. Her email is yasmine.ElBadrawy@malverncollege.edu.eg

I look forward to a happy and successful year working in partnership with you to ensure the very best education for your children.

Phillip Hunter

Head of Primary

MFL Primary School News from Mrs Kerry Moore – Head of MFL Department

Welcome back to MCE MFL Department! We are looking forward to another exciting year and we are delighted to welcome our newest member in the department, Madame Solomon, who will be our main primary French teacher. Together with myself and Madame Pante, we are all very excited to continue working with our returning students and also to welcome new students into our French classes.



Year 3 to 6: In the next few days, we will be distributing the Vocabeille booklets for the whole year to the students, which need to be kept in a safe place at home and used to revise for their weekly Vocabeille spelling tests. The booklets will also be available to view or download on Firefly within the Primary French section. Vocabeille tests will take place on a weekly basis and students will also receive 3 or 4 extensive tasks to be completed at home throughout each term.

Years 1 and 2: Further to feedback from parents, in the next couple of weeks, we are going to send home a termly overview with a list of useful links as well as some core vocabulary that students will be covering over the course of the term. The list is not exhaustive and this is not intended as a home learning task, but simply to help you interact with your child in French.

We are always open to suggestions and comments and to that end, please do not hesitate to contact me at Kerry.moore@malverncollege.edu.eg.

With best wishes,

Kerry Moore

Head of MFL Department

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



A warm welcome to all new parents and students and welcome back to those who were part of the MCE family last year!

I have been so impressed with how the pupils have returned. They all look incredibly smart and have settled into their studies exceptionally well.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new staff who have joined us this year and I know you will share with me in wishing them well. I hope you will meet them all very soon. The selection process for teachers joining MCE is very vigorous and we were delighted to recruit such high caliber and experienced teachers.





I was enormously proud of the IGCSE exam results this summer. There were some exceptional individual results and an overall 40% A*-A & 9-7 reflecting the enormous efforts from all pupils and their teachers. Congratulations to everyone involved.

Also joining the Secondary School team is Basma El Kersh who is the new PA to the Head of Secondary School if you need to contact her please email her on basma.elkersh@malverncollege.edu.eg

This week I sent a letter to all Secondary School parents regarding this year's IGCSE and AS level exams and chosen pathways, if you didn't receive this please do contact Basma. The letter has important information regarding exam entries for this year and movement between pathways.

The final IB authorization process is due to be completed this year and in the next few weeks and months you will have the opportunity to come to various talks about the benefits of the IB Diploma and how it will be implemented at MCE.



As always please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any suggestions or concerns! We do also always love to hear how our pupils are doing outside of the College so please let us know if your son/daughter has achieved something special so that we can all celebrate.

I know this is going to be a busy and exciting year ahead and I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

Warm regards,

Richard Moore

Head of Secondary

MFL Secondary School News from Mrs Kerry Moore – Head of MFL Department



Year 7 French Baseline tests

In the next few days, students will sit baseline tests in French lessons which are used to determine their current level of French. These will not count towards any grades or attainment levels, these are simply an effective way for teachers to get a snapshot view of where each student in their class strengths lie and where there are areas for development. This will therefore help us to personalize and individualize their learning. Please reassure your children that they will not be reflected in reports. Students should not revise for these tests.

Thank you for your continued support!

Best wishes,

Mrs. Moore, Head of MFL

Sports News from Joshua Sussex – Head of Physical Education



It has been a busy first week back for the PE and sports department working through the curriculum and schedule for the new academic year. Our focus for the Early Years PE for the first six weeks will be gymnastics, movement and dance, Year 3 all the way through to Year 11 are focusing on bench ball. We believe these sports and activities will allow students to transfer skills to numerous sports and activities. Our swimming program is now up and running with the CCA to follow in due course. We as a department are excited about the new challenges ahead and we look forward to competing in various sporting events across Cairo.

Drama News from Kim Harries – Director of Performing Arts



Welcome back to a fresh new year at Malvern College Egypt! The performing arts faculty is really excited to introduce two new Music teachers to the team this year, Mr Paul Russell and Ms Siobhan Challis; both are experts in their field and we are very lucky to have them join us at MCE.



We have already begun planning some exciting performing arts opportunities for students this term and indeed this year! Here at MCE we do not shy away from hard work and this year we plan to produce **two** school productions. One for the secondary students in the first half of the year and one later in the year for primary students. Listen out for your chance to audition and be a part of the musical theatre CCA.



We have also started preparing for the Winter Concert, so students please let us know if you would like to perform either as a solo artist, or perhaps you want to be part of a band or perform a short skit, we welcome all your ideas.

The new Drama GCSE group is now up and running and we have had a fantastic first week, mastering the art of improvisation. Watch out for these students performing 'street theatre' at lunchtimes and break times around the school!

Kim Harries

Director of Performing Arts

Music News from Paul Russell – Director of Music



I am delighted to have been appointed as the new Director of Music and am very much looking forward to developing the good work that Mrs Marsh has put into this busy department. Previous to this position, I was teaching in Ukraine and Russia, where there was a huge passion for vocal

work and high-quality concerts for parents to enjoy. I am looking forward to working with your child in developing their musical potential to the fullest and using the wonderful facilities that this school has to offer to showcase their skills.

Also joining the music department this year is Siobhan Challis, who will be teaching years 2 to 5. Siobhan has a wealth of experience teaching music to this age group. Leen Raslan returns to teach music from Early Years to Year 2.



Instrumental lessons will begin at the end of September and students may take lessons in piano, guitar, drums, voice and violin. If you wish for your child to take weekly lessons on an instrument within school hours at a competitive rate, then please see me for a letter. Lessons on other instruments can be arranged also. Any queries regarding instrumental lessons can be sent by email to myself at paul.russell@malverncollege.edu.eg



Music CCAs this year will be very varied. This term Mr Tucker will offer recorders on a Monday for years 3-6, musical theatre (secondary) will start rehearsing on a Tuesday led by myself and Miss Harries. Band will run on a Tuesday by Mr Tranmer, our new ICT teacher. On a Wednesday Mrs Challis will run keyboard club, and musical theatre (primary) will also take place that afternoon with Ms Driscoll and Ms Hallinan. Towards the end of October we will start rehearsing for the school's Winter concerts and students will form choirs in their year groups, developing their vocal

skills as part of the curriculum. As the term progresses more events will be planned and I will let you know of these in due course. The department would like as many students as possible to be involved in music making and to make full use of the department, instrumental teachers and CCAs on offer to develop their musical skills.

Paul Russell

Director of Music