

# THE MCE TIMES

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**SEPTEMBER**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>**

CCA Program begins

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>**

Primary (Year 2 – 6)

Headmaster's Coffee

Mornings

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>**

Secondary School (Year 7 - 11)

Headmaster's Coffee Morning

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>**

Early Years to Year 1

Headmaster's Coffee Morning



Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Parents and Friends of Malvern College Egypt,



It has been another busy week at MCE. From baseline assessments in the Primary School to A-level classes picking up their pace, our pupils are already being challenged in many aspects of their learning. Pupils and parents have also been busily selecting from the wide array of CCAs on offer and will soon receive the confirmations of these selections. CCAs start from Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September and the school/bus times will run as follows for

the entire 6-week programme

- Sundays and Thursdays – All lessons will finish at 15:00 with buses departing by 15:20
- Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays – Pre-Nursery to Year 2 lessons will finish at 14:10, with buses departing by 14:20 and Year 3 to 11 CCAs finishing at 16:20 with buses departing by 16:30.

**Headmaster's Coffee Mornings**

A reminder that we are running the following informal Headmaster coffee mornings over the next two weeks. We have placed the Early Years coffee morning to the following week as our Head of Early Years, Sally Dibb-Holland, is taking part in an inspection of an international school in Kenya.

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





### Strategic Planning

MCE has now moved into a new phase of our journey. We are no longer a 'new' College, but now a 'Young' and 'Growing' College. Although this may appear to just be a change in words, we strongly believe that this is a significant point in our

history whereby the long-term course of the College will be set in motion. Building on the many successes of the first two academic years, the strengths present within our staff, from teachers to management, and our founding principles from Malvern College UK, we are now aiming to firmly establish a long term vision and strategy for Malvern College Egypt.



At the end of last academic year, myself and our CEO, Azza ElSherbiny, held a number of meetings to begin the process of setting out a full MCE Strategic Development Plan. This has now picked up pace with much wider whole staff, school and team meetings over the last few weeks. We aim to soon send you much

more detail on the contents of our strategic planning and how we will include the thoughts of parents, pupils and the whole community in the process. However, below is a brief outline of what key focus areas are being used to create timelines for our development as a College.

- September 2018 – Review of our College Guiding Statements and Development of a single Vision statement to outline exactly what we intend Malvern College Egypt to deliver over the next 5 years.
- October 2018 – Detailed timelines created with measureable targets for improvement agreed upon within the College Leadership Team
- November 2018 – Full strategic development plan to be shared with the MCE community outlining the details of the following key areas:
  - College Identity – Updated College Guiding Statements, Vision Statement and shared understanding of the goals of MCE
  - Learning and Teaching – Focus on achieving the highest possible levels of learning across all areas of the College. To include a rigorous teaching and learning policy that outlines the standards expected in the classroom and the assessment methods used to track and monitor learning.
  - Parent Communication – further link home and school through the development of a full learning community
  - Appraisal and Accountability – agreed framework for all community members to understand their role(s) within the College and the systems in place to support these.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the Primary and Secondary School coffee mornings next week.

Warmest Regards

Wayne Maher  
Headmaster

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

The children in Early Years and Year 1 have all done fantastically well at settling into their new classrooms. They have been busy making new friends and learning new routines. It is lovely to see everyone engaged, happy and settled so early in the year.



**In Year 1** this week we have been working hard in all areas of the curriculum. We have been exploring number in Mathematics and reading and understanding stories in English. We also had a fabulous first assembly in the theatre where children sat beautifully and behaved wonderfully. Once the children are settled and accustomed to this new venue we will begin inviting parents to our new Star of the Week Assembly's. Our first topic is Explorers - with a focus on Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong. Reading books will be issued this week – Please remember to continue reading at home with your children. Do take time to speak with your child to ensure you select a suitable CCA for them, all CCA's in Year 1 begin next week.



**In Reception** this week we have introduced our discovery area to the children, which is open to all the classes at certain times of the day. This allows the children to work with friends and teachers from other classes, creating a collaborative learning environment. This area is designed to support the children explore their own interests and engage in independent learning. The topic for this term is Ourselves, please take a look at the weekly newsletters for details of the Learning Outcomes and Activities linked to this topic. The Reception children enjoyed their first assembly in our Theatre this week. Once the children are settled and accustomed to this new venue we will begin inviting parents to our new Star of the Week Assembly's.



**In Nursery** this week, we are having a great time getting to know all the new Nursery children. The children are settling into the class routines and have been introduced to the class cuddly (a soft toy of a dog, a rabbit, a bear or a cat). All the children are eager for their turn to take the class cuddly home for the weekend. Each class cuddly has a diary which accompanies them on their visit to your homes and your child will enjoy adding photos to the diary of their weekend together. Ask your child what they have to do at school to bring the class cuddly home. Next week we will begin our topic All about me which will focus on body parts and body movement. Please keep an eye out for our weekly "Pic-collages" and lists of activities to find out more about what the children have been up to.



*Myself and My Family*

**In Pre-Nursery** this week the focus has been on continuing to settle the children and ensure each and every one feels safe and secure within their new environment. I have been delighted to pop into the Pre-Nursery classrooms at different times of the day to find the children busy learning and actively engaged in a variety of exciting learning opportunities. The topic for this half of the term will be Myself and My Family. We will communicate the weekly activities associated with this topic through the Pre-Nursery newsletter.

Sally Dibb-Holland  
Head of Early Years

## Primary School News from Phillip Hunter – Head of Primary School

Life in the Primary School is back in full swing and the summer break seems a long time ago now.

### BASELINE ASSESSMENT

It has been a short week this week with the public holiday on Tuesday, but teachers in each year group have still managed to complete their 'Baseline' assessments of each student's ability in Reading, Writing and Maths. This will allow us to track the progress that the students make through the rest of the academic year. We will then be able to report back to you later in the term with accurate information about your child's progress in their learning.

The challenge that I gave to each class last week, to be the loudest and proudest when singing the national anthem in the morning still stands. However, we appear to have a very shy group as they are still reluctant to sing 'with gusto'. Perhaps you could encourage your child to practice with you at home.



Students in Year 6 have been preparing their applications for prestigious posts of responsibility this week. In the coming days, senior staff will be interviewing students for the position of Head Boy and Head Girl, Prefects and also House Captains. I look forward to announcing the successful candidates in the near future.



The weather is beginning to cool down now, but students still get very hot when playing outside. Please make sure that your child brings a water bottle into college every day.

You can usually find me outside at the start and end of the college day, if you want to catch me about some small issue. However, if you want to discuss something in detail or privacy please book an appointment through my PA, Yasmine El Badrawy. Her email is [yasmine.ElBadrawy@malverncollege.edu.eg](mailto:yasmine.ElBadrawy@malverncollege.edu.eg)

Thank you for your continued support.

Phillip Hunter.  
**Head of Primary.**

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

*Thank you*

Thank you, Parents.

I would like to start this MCE times by thanking all the parents who have sent their congratulations to us concerning MCE's first ever set of exam results.



### Pathways

Thank you to those parents who have responded to my letter with regard pathways and I am glad to hear this has help clarify matters. I have taken the liberty below to add the main points of my letter. As a parent I totally understand the stresses of choosing the right combination of subjects, unfortunately no school in the world will be able to accommodate everyone students requests but we will try our best to help each and everyone of them find a suitable path on the educational journey.

.....I would like to make it clear that this year only the following pupils will be taking external exams:

- Those on the Year 12 Pathway – All Final IGCSEs.
- Year 10 pupils taking 1 or 2 IGCSE Science subjects.
- Year 11 pupils on the 13 Year pathway completing IGCSEs.
- Year 11 IAS level pupils taking modular courses
- A small selection of other pupils that the college deems it appropriate, such as early entry French IGCSE.

### **Important Notice**

Due to individual unique situations, we have allowed in the past for some students on the Year 13 pathway to take some of their IGCSE exams early – this will not be the case this year.

Whilst we are ecstatic with our IGCSE results it is clear that pupils must be taking exams at the right time to meet their educational needs. The College always aims to fully prepare pupils to achieve their best possible grades and entering them for exams before they are ready is not appropriate.

This decision also allows for clarity in terms of teaching and learning and ensures teachers can prepare their students fully for their IGCSE's and (I)A levels.

Once a decision on pathways has been chosen I do not recommend changing and without exceptional circumstances this will not be allowed. To change mid-flow effects learning, progress and attainment.

Curriculum Overview Booklet

As last year we will be shortly sending out a Curriculum Overview Booklet which shows and overview of each subject and the material being covered in the lessons.

**Homework Timetable**

MCE Secondary School Study Timetables 2018-19

Year 7	Whole Year Group		7M	7A	7L	7V
SUNDAY	Science	Mathematics	French	History	Geography	ICT
MONDAY	English	Mathematics	Geography	French	ICT	Geography
TUESDAY	English	Arabic	ICT	Geography	History	French
WEDNESDAY	English		History	ICT		History
THURSDAY	Mathematics				French	

Year 8	Whole Year Group		8M	8A
SUNDAY	Science	English	History	Geography
MONDAY	Mathematics	Science		History
TUESDAY	Arabic	English	Geography	ICT
WEDNESDAY	Science	Mathematics	ICT	
THURSDAY	English	Mathematics	French	French

Year 9		
SUNDAY	English	Option A / Option C
MONDAY	Science	Mathematics / Option B
TUESDAY	Science	Option C
WEDNESDAY	Mathematics	Option B
THURSDAY	English	Option A

Option A Arabic / AFL / French
Option B Business Studies / ICT / Drama / French / Computer Science
Option C Art and Design / PE / Music / History / Geography

Year 10		
SUNDAY	Mathematics	Option B / Option C
MONDAY	English	Option A / Science
TUESDAY	Mathematics	Option C
WEDNESDAY	Science	Option A
THURSDAY	English	Option B

Option A Arabic / AFL / French
Option B History / Business / Studies / Computer Science / Geography
Option C Art and Design / PE / ICT / Business Studies



### Lockers

All students are being allocated lockers this week – If you do have any questions please do email Basma.

### Walkabout

I thought I would just let you know that Senior Staff on a regular basis do walkabout visits to classrooms and watch the teaching and learning in progress. The lessons I have watched have been fascinating and of an extremely high standard.




### **IB**

Mrs. Maher our IB Coordinator continues to work hard on our IB application. We have now completed the consultation period and now move onto the final authorization in the new year. We will be running assemblies for students in the coming weeks to explain to them what the IB is and soon parents will be invited in for their own information sessions.

Last weekend I had the pleasure of attending an IB Administration Course, the IB is certainly a fantastic educational programme and I am excited we have chosen to apply to run the IB at MCE.

## Head of Secondary School House System News from Ms Isabel Pante

Welcome back everyone!



We have an exciting year ahead of us with Inter-House quiz, giant House scrabble, “trashion” show, photography competition, House assemblies, sports events, dress up days, charity visits, bake sales, and so much more! We hope students are ready to take on challenges and win House points! All Heads of House are as excited as the students about what is to come, and they look forward to working closely with students to prepare for these events.



Here are a few examples of how students can contribute to and support their House this year:

- Earning House Points
- Entering and getting involved in House events
- Leading House Assemblies and School Assemblies
- Communicating ideas to Heads of House and House Captains
- Supporting the Heads of House and House Captains
- Working towards building a sense of belonging and community within the House
- Representing their House with pride!

We look forward to a fantastic year in the Secondary House System. Let the games begin!

Ms Pante

**Head of Secondary School House System**

## Sports News from Joshua Sussex – Head of Physical Education



It has been a busy week for the physical education department, but we feel it has been an excellent start. The students have started the program of study with the Early Years focusing on gymnastics, movement and dance to Year three and up, focusing on bench ball. The swimming program has had an excellent start, with Mr Salah and his swimming team really focused on students making as much progress in the lessons as possible.



With the CCA's starting very soon, the sports coaches within the College have started planning and preparing their first coaching sessions as well as the departments long term goals. We are very excited at being able to offer football, basketball, netball and swimming to both boys and girls across the College this year. MCE has re-entered the swimming, basketball and football league for this year as well as the new netball league recently set up across four Cairo schools. We hope to see as many students as possible at the training sessions for these sports, to help both student development and the Colleges success.



### **UNIFORM POLICY**

May I please remind parents to look at the 'Student PE & swimming uniform policy' and ensure each student arrives to each PE lesson with the correct PE/swimming uniform. We have had an excellent start to the academic year

regarding PE/swimming uniform and general participation levels and I would like to maintain this throughout the year.

Joshua Sussex  
Head of Physical Education

## Drama News from Kim Harries – Director of Performing Arts



It has been a busy and exciting week for the performers in the secondary school. Auditions for this years school production MARY POPPINS took place on Wednesday and Thursday and what a talented bunch you are! It has been very difficult for myself and Mr Russell to decide the casting but we are nearly there and look forward to starting the musical theatre CCA next Tuesday.



The Drama GCSE students have begun component 1 of their course which is the Devising process. Devising is a group collaboration in response to a stimulus leading to the creation of an original performance. They will be performing their devised pieces in front of a live audience later this term.





Year 8 Drama students have started exploring *The Woman in Black* a Victorian Ghost story that uses minimal theatrical elements, just the power of imagination to really frighten the audience!

Kim Harries

**Director of Performing Arts**