



Malbank School and Sixth Form College



Rejoice in being the best that we can be

July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the end of every academic year, it is important to stop, reflect and celebrate how far we have come as a school and community. It is a year that has seen us enjoy collective success and perhaps more importantly, the return to a semblance of normality following the previous year and the unprecedented nature of Covid disruption that we experienced.

Of all those affected by the pandemic, our year 11 and 13 students sitting the first actual public exams in two years deserve the most praise and celebration. Their resilience, determination and desire to achieve has been inspirational and I very much look forward to seeing what the summer will bring for them.

As a school we have made massive strides forward in terms of school improvement, developing a level of consistency in behaviour and attendance in particular that we are very proud of. Attendance at Malbank needed to get better and the work of Mrs Machin, Mrs Bratt and the pastoral teams that support our children have had an enormous impact on seeing such an impressive rise compared to national levels of attendance.

This desire to be *in* school, coupled with a keenness to make the 60 matter each lesson undoubtedly makes Malbank an exciting place to be. Like any good student, we know we have work to do, know we are by no means perfect and until the experience is right for every single student and the outcomes ideal for all learners, we can never ever allow ourselves to stop looking for ways to better ourselves in the pursuit of success. But equally, as we would expect of any student giving their all – I want all the staff at Malbank to feel proud of themselves for working so hard this year in helping the students to feel happy, supported and challenged to be the best they can be.

As you know, we were visited by Ofsted around a month ago and as I sadly expected, the final report is now likely to arrive after the summer holidays. Whilst I cannot share the outcome, as I noted in a letter home following the inspection, I was incredibly proud of how the students conducted themselves and how parent, staff and student voice painted a picture of our school. I look forward to sharing the report with you in the new academic year.

Included in the following pages are a collection of messages I feel you need to know about before the summer break. Please also have a look at the forthcoming summer edition of our termly newsletter “Gaudeamus” for more lovely features and my end of year video update which will be released next week.

It has been an absolute pleasure to work with the students at Malbank this year and I am incredibly excited about getting started again in September as we continue on our shared journey of improvement. I wish everyone a restful and relaxing summer and look forward to seeing all students return in September with batteries recharged, eager to make the 60 matter once again.

All the best,

Mr J Harrison
Headteacher
Malbank School

Headteacher: John D. Harrison B.A. (Hons.)

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Key end of term messages – July 2022

Staff leaving us this month.

Mr Spencer, Mr Pritchard, Ms. Jeffries, Miss Peters, Miss Scott, Miss John, Mr Purvis, Mrs. Doano and Mr Falamarzi will all leave us for new roles elsewhere at the end of term. It goes without saying that they will be greatly missed and I am sure all of our students would like to join me in wishing them well on their next career steps.

We also sadly lose the wisdom and expertise of Mr Sherran, Mrs. Tyrer, Mrs. Walton, Mrs. Miller and Mr Pickles, all of whom retire this summer. The collective contributions of these members of staff (40 years from Mrs. Walton alone!) are virtually impossible to do justice to. A particular personal thanks must go to Mrs. Miller and Mr Pickles who I have worked with on the senior leadership team for many years and whose support and guidance in my first two years of headship have been invaluable.

On behalf of everyone at Malbank I want to thank all our departing staff for everything they have done for our students during their time with us.

Arrangements for the end of term.

Term will finish for students at 12.50pm on Wednesday 20th July. Transport has been rearranged where possible but if any student is unable to get home, we will, of course, supervise them until 3.00pm. All school buses will depart from school at 12.50pm except for the D&G services which will leave at the normal time.

Exam results days arrangements

For all year 11 and 13 students, there will be separate communications with clear instructions about the plans for our two results days on August the 18th (A-Levels) and 25th (GCSEs) in the summer. Please ensure you pay attention to MS Teams and emails over the summer for any further communication.

Uniform

In the likely event that parents/carers may need to buy new uniform before September, please note that details of our school uniform can be found in the attachment below:

http://www.malbank.com/images/Letters/Final_Uniform_expectations_Sept_2021.pdf

The school Blazer and tie will be sold in school on the following dates and times:

- Sunday 31st July 2022 between 10am and 12pm
- Wednesday 10th August 2022 between 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Parents evenings 2022/23

Following my consultation with staff and parents about whether to retain virtual parents' evenings, return to face to face events or balance a mixture of both, the feedback from all stakeholders implied that a mixture would be the best solution. As such we have put together a calendared 7-year plan of parents' evenings and events that ensures there are a mixture of moments when parents will come on site across the school journey alongside being able to retain the flexibility and freedom allowed by virtual events. The school will be investing in a bespoke online parents evening product to support this move.

Return dates for September 2022

Unlike September 2021 where we phased back into school life as year group bubbles, in September 2022 we will return to a more traditional restart to the academic year.

Thursday and Friday the 1st and 2nd of September are INSET days which are 'twilighted' for staff development across the academic year. This means that the school is closed and staff are not on site, but the training hours are spread across 6 evening sessions for staff development throughout the year.

Monday the 5th of September is a traditional on-site INSET day and staff will be in school preparing for the year ahead. Students are not expected to be in on this day.

Tuesday the 6th marks the return for Year 7,8,9,10,11 and 13. All students should arrive at the usual time of 8.45 for registration. As part of the day one arrangements, all students will have an extended return to school assembly with the leadership team and will spend time with their tutor learning about their timetable and the year ahead. Normal lessons will begin from period three onwards so students must come equipped for the day.

Wednesday the 7th sees us welcome our new year 12 students to join the rest of the school. They will have a morning session to integrate them into 6th form life before starting their lessons later in the day.

If you have any questions about any of the above information, please contact the relevant key stage office for support. Take care, stay safe and have a lovely summer.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J Harrison', written over a faint, light-colored rectangular stamp or watermark.

Mr J Harrison
Headteacher
Malbank School