



May 2009

Dear Parents

It is just two weeks into the term and, as I write to you, those taking the International Baccalaureate are putting the final touches to their revision and their examinations will be well under way by the time you receive this letter. I do hope that they will be going into the exam room with well-founded optimism, based on their hard work over a two-year period. My good wishes go to the parents of all of those taking public examinations; I know at first-hand how nerve-wracking the 'examination season' can be for parents!

Influenza A H1N1

We continue to meet at the College every 48-72 hours to reflect upon the developments associated with this virus and, of course, will update you when it is appropriate to do so.

Inter-House Athletics and Barbecue

In an attempt to make the Inter-House Athletics afternoon on Friday 22 May more of an 'occasion', we will be having a barbecue at 5.00 p.m. alongside the athletics track. We will see what interest this holds for families in our planning for future years.

Holiday Activities

Classical Tour of Greece: Twenty-one of our Sixth Form classicists spent a week in Greece visiting the Acropolis in Athens, Delphi, Mycenae and Olympia where they were able to race each other on the track in the ancient stadium. The tour party had warm sunshine throughout their visit and returned greatly invigorated by it. My thanks go to Mr Thurlow and his team: Mr & Mrs Blair, Mr Harris and Mrs Jackson for their stewardship of this successful venture.

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Practice Expedition: No fewer than 48 pupils headed for the Lake District on the Duke of Edinburgh Gold practice expedition. The achievement of a Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award Certificate is highly prized by both universities and potential employers, and there are relatively few schools where as many as 48 pupils are in line for such an award. My thanks go to Mr Wastie, who oversees the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, as well as Mr Major, Mr Scurfield, Mr & Dr Holroyd, Dr Jackson, both Mr Jacksons, Mrs Atkins, Miss Miller, Miss Ehlers and Dr Winwood for their enthusiastic support of our pupils.

More recently, success has been achieved by these pupils at Bronze Level: Ed Davenhill, Greg Kirchhoff, Ed Cooke and Labhaoisa Cromie; at Silver level, Thanawat Hutaserani, Emma Hicks and Harsh Hiranandani. Well done to them!

Rackets: At the start of the holidays, our rackets players competed at the Public Schools' Pairs Tournament at The Queen's Club in London. Whilst there were some early reversals for our senior players, Will Vanston and Will Wright performed exceptionally well, beating the First and Second Pairs of Harrow and then the Second Pair of Eton before narrowly losing to the Eton First Pair in the semi-final. A very fine effort from both boys.

Cultural Activities

Music: Our warmest congratulations go to Beth Lloyd who has won the Richard Fice Memorial Award in a competition held at the Royal Welsh College of Music in Cardiff. This award, with a prize of £2,500, was set up in memory of a promising young brass player who died at the age of nineteen. Beth was competing against other brass players from a range of counties and, therefore, won this award in a distinguished field. We are proud of her.

In the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music practical examinations, the following Malvernians achieved at Grade 5 or higher: Claire Fung - Grade 8 Singing (with Merit), Alice Lau – Grade 8 Percussion (with Merit), Fifi Mbabazi – Grade 8 Singing (with Merit), Andrew McDade – Grade 8 Percussion (with Merit), Ivan So – Grade 8 Alto Saxophone (with Distinction) and Grade 5 Organ (with Merit), Nathan King – Grade 7 Singing (with Distinction), Rebecca Flynn – Grade 6 Singing, Laurence Odlum – Grade 6 Cornet, Alex Jupp – Grade 5 Piano, Harry Rose – Grade 5 Singing (with Merit) and Philippa Vandome – Grade 5 Alto Saxophone (with Merit).

In the Music Theory examinations, Siri Sothisiri gained a Distinction, whilst Jessica Hamilton, Rebecca Raby-Smith and Anna Wagner achieved Merit, and Alice Makin and Philippa Vandome passed.

Our Chamber Choir sang last weekend in Oxfordshire; the programme included a variety of choral items such as Mozart's *Ave Verum* and more modern pieces. Harriet Sale, Natalie Wander, Jennifer Simpson, Simon Eaton, Beth Lloyd and Adam New have been praised for their solos. The following evening an excellent informal concert was held here at Malvern – again with a splendid range of soloists contributing to a high-quality performance.

Finally, in the realm of music, we congratulate Verity Bramson who has been singing in the Rodolfus Choir which, in effect, is the choir for the best under-25 year olds in Great Britain. What an achievement!

Literary Successes: In the Malvern Young Writers' Competition, the following pupils won prizes: Camilla Penrice came second in the 13-15 Prose category, whilst Wulstan Nixon and Hebe Morgan were commended in the same category. Alex Cornelius came second in the 16-18 Poetry category.

With regard to poetry, we were privileged to host at Malvern Jonty Driver, ex-Master of Wellington College, who is an acclaimed poet. He read from his most recent anthology and was well received.

LAMDA Examinations: Congratulations to the following who have achieved success in the Drama examinations: at Grade 4 level, Jonathan Bray achieved a Distinction, whilst Oluwadamilola Williams and Zoi Sevastopulo achieved Grade 4 with Merit and Daana Bolot passed. Amongst the Grade 5 successes were Hebe Morgan and Porsche Ma, both of whom achieved Merit, and Hugo Williams. At Grade 6 level, a Bronze Medal was won by Will Vanston and Matthew Crumpton, whilst Alasdair Riley won a Bronze Medal with Merit. A Silver Medal at Grade 7 level was won by Kaan Sapanatan, Phillip Kaiser, Kathryn Nolan and Fiona Tong, whilst Jannis Fischer, Johnny Chapman and Ikemba Ihejiahi won a Silver Medal with Merit; Hebe Dickins and Alex Jupp achieved their Silver Medals with Distinction.

At the top level, Maximilian Pohl achieved Grade 8 with a Gold Medal and Helen Cruden, Alex Cheadle and Olga Avramenko achieved their Grade 8 Gold Medals with Merit. Congratulations to all of these pupils on their considerable success.

Sport

Girls' Tennis: The girls got off to a good start against Westonbirt and, in blustery conditions, all age groups were victorious. There was a brilliant display by the U15 team which won eight out of nine games, with Flora Paterson and Ella Cripwell our best pair. The U15s continued their good form against Malvern St James, winning all nine matches. In the U14s, all of our pairs won two out of

three games against Westonbirt and then won 7 of our 9 games against MSJ, resulting in a 9-6 win, with Maitie Wright and Henrietta Ross impressing most. Our Senior girls recovered from their exit in the Aberdare Cup to record an 11-3 victory over Westonbirt, but lost 1-8 to MSJ.

Boys' Tennis: In the Senior House Competition, No. 7 won for the third year in a row, even though they were pushed very hard by No. 9 in the final. In a long and arduous match against King's, Worcester, for the Glanvill Cup, we lost 2-4.

Athletics: Over 60 pupils travelled to Bromsgrove for their first match of the season against RGS-AO, Oundle, Uppingham, Repton and Bromsgrove School last Saturday. In the boys' competition there were A race wins by Alex Betteridge in the 200m and James Eaton in the 110m Hurdles, both of whom recorded personal best times and set new school records. In the Intermediate age group Tobi Ofili won the Triple Jump and Johnnie Betteridge was a very convincing winner in the 800m, knocking five seconds off his previous best time. In the girls' match the Senior 100m A race was won by Tabitha Griffiths and, in the Junior category, Vicky Moritz ran a very good tactical race to win the 800m, also a personal best and school record. The 4 x 100m relay team of Kirsty Imm, Vicky Moritz, Rebecca Raby-Smith and Alys Marr benefited from some extra practice and won thanks to some extremely good changeovers.

Rounders: In this sport, Westonbirt proved stronger than us in two recent matches, but there was some encouraging play by our U14 and U15 sides, with Ellie Richardson, Annie Crowther and Harriet Shuker being named players of their respective matches.

Squash: Well done to Will Vanston on retaining the boys' Open Squash Competition.

Cricket: We have had some excellent matches against Wellington, Repton, King's (Gloucester) and Cheltenham recently and, though our 1st XI has performed very well, we have narrowly lost several matches in the final over of the game! For example, against Repton, we batted first and set a target of 212, with Jonty Hylands making a fine century (107). Repton won off the penultimate ball by three wickets. In a similar match against Cheltenham, our opponents chased down a target of over 200 to win by two wickets in the final over. Good cricket all round!

In the Chesterton Cup first round game against King's (Gloucester), we made 287 off 40 overs with Odge Davey making 74, Simon Harwood 54 and Charlie Lacey 51. King's Gloucester replied with 136, Stephen Coffey taking 4 for 30.

In the block fixture against Repton, the U14 B team had a nail-biting one-wicket victory. Luke Smith took 4 for 13 and was Man of the Match, and Henry Salmon struck the final boundary. The U14 A team lost by nine wickets, Francis Burke making 34 and Mark Jefferson 30. Francis Burke then made 80 and Mark Jefferson 33 in the next match against Cheltenham, in which we went down. The U15Bs recorded a victory over Repton by 130 runs, Toby Hurdle scoring 65 not out and Jamie Nicholls taking 5 for 21. In the U15A match against Repton we lost, but Jack Barnett made 54 and took 4 wickets. This team also went down in a spirited fashion against Cheltenham. In the Thirds and Seconds against Repton our opponents triumphed, but Charles Bridge made a notable 26 for the Thirds. Against Cheltenham, George Heath made 53 for the 3rd XI and Kit Lister and Charlie Fox-Davies 53 and 51 respectively for the 2nd XI.

Miscellaneous

Manners: We have been speaking at the school over the course of the past year and, indeed, recently, about the importance of manners, looking people in the eye, proper dress, good behaviour and taking pride in our school and environment. It is not always clear to young people what behaviour is expected in certain circumstances and part of our aim is to try to develop an understanding of appropriate interaction with others.

Catering: From the end of next September, the College will enjoy the benefit of its significant investment in 'state of the art' food preparation and cooking facilities as part of the new Entertainment Suite adjoining the new Sports Complex.

The majority of House catering will, from the autumn, be produced from this new facility but finished by Avenance staff within each House. The objective is to provide an even better quality of fresh food to Houses, whilst at the same time reducing costs. House dining, recognised as such an important part of Malvern College's approach to pastoral care and special ethos, will be unaffected by the new catering arrangements.

Scholarships and Awards: The Council of the Lord Kitchener Memorial Fund is offering up to 25 scholarships, tenable from October 2009, to undergraduates at university in the United Kingdom who are reading for a first degree. The candidate must be over 17 and under 21 years of age on 1 January 2009 and be the son or daughter of a parent who has at any time served or is serving on a full-time engagement in HM Armed Forces. There are some other stipulations to this and, if you would like more information, please contact my PA, Theresa Bensted, on tjb@malcol.org. There are also other awards that can be made to Upper Sixth leavers who are about to embark on gap year projects and, similarly, if you would like more information on this, please contact Theresa Bensted at the above email address.

Ellerslie House: Mrs Sarah Angus, the Housemistress-Elect of Ellerslie House, will be visiting Malvern over the weekend of Commemoration, and parents who wish to meet with her should speak to our Registrar, Sheila Jackson. Congratulations go to Amanda Budge who has been appointed the first Head of Ellerslie House which, like the new No. 7, is moving towards completion on time and on budget. Over the past seven months we have registered 309 pupils for the years ahead, as opposed to 145 pupils in the same period last year, and the creation of new boarding houses will be a terrific boon to our pupils.

Our new Sports Complex Operations Manager, Rob Young, has also arranged 'hard hat' tours for current parents on Sunday 31 May (at the end of half term) and Sunday 21 June (at the end of the leave out). Tours will run between 6.30 p.m. – 8.00 p.m. and will last 30 minutes. For health and safety reasons, spaces on these tours are limited but, should you wish to register an interest in a tour, please do email Rob on rwyoung@malcol.org and he will be in touch to confirm arrangements.

BEACONS Conference: A very successful conference for our Lower Sixth IB pupils was held recently: our students were exposed to university specialists in the realm of Third World Poverty & Corruption, as well as Climate Change. I believe strongly that our young people should grow up with an awareness of the immense challenges facing so many developing countries and I hope some will feel inspired to make a real difference to people in those countries in later years.

Morgan Cars: You may have seen in the press that the Princess Royal visited the Morgan car factory here in Malvern on the occasion of the centenary of Morgan Cars, the first of which was developed in our workshops (currently the Medical Centre). On the first day of term, a glorious Sunday, we had well over 100 immaculately-kept cars, including three-wheelers, arrive at Malvern at the conclusion of their run from Repton. Charles Morgan, the current owner of Morgan Cars, accompanied by the Lord Lieutenant of Derbyshire, Sir Henry Every (OM), graced the occasion and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

DVD: Some of your sons and daughters will have been involved in the production of a DVD for the College. This should be ready by November and will provide an insight into our ethos and activities.

<p><i>Email Addresses:</i> It is important, wherever possible, that we should be able to contact you by email. Should your email address change, please ensure that we know of this. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in this matter.</p>
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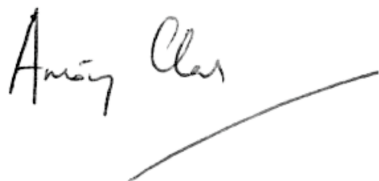
FY Trip to France and Belgium: On Thursday, we say *bon voyage* to our FY group who head off on their annual study visit. For over ten years we have organised these very fruitful and enjoyable visits to France and Belgium during the Summer Term. The visit represents an excellent opportunity to consolidate thinking towards the end of the first year at Malvern College in both French and History: it is a rewarding educational experience, rather than 'part of the syllabus'. We visit the main First World War battlefields in Flanders, the military cemeteries at Tyne Cot and

Langemarck, and the Flanders Fields museum at Ypres. There are also visits to Le Touquet, a chocolate factory and a confectionery factory as well as to the seaside.

Malvern Walking Festival: This takes place between Saturday 30 May and Sunday 7 June; some parents may wish to participate in one of the 27 guided walks in combination with a visit to see your children – or your friends may wish to experience Malvern at this time. This venture has nothing to do with Malvern College, but you may like to find out more by emailing walking@malvern-hills.info.

With my best wishes to you all.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Antony Clark". A long, thin, curved line extends from the end of the signature towards the right.

Antony Clark
Headmaster