



20<sup>th</sup> October 2022

JVe/KTr

Dear Parents and Carers

## Term 1 Newsletter

As we approach the end of our first term, I would like to take this opportunity to update you on some of the successes of the year so far.

## Exam Results

Following the publication of national exam results, we are very proud that TMS is now in the top 10 of the highest performing non-selective schools in Kent. I would like to congratulate our staff and students for this incredible achievement.

## Year 7 Parent Survey

Thank you for completing our recent year 7 parent survey, we are very pleased to receive over 100 responses. We always value your feedback and have contacted some of you following this recent survey and acted on any comments or issues. The results were overwhelmingly positive, with 100% of parents saying that their child is happy in the school, 100% feel that the school makes sure pupils are well behaved and that we have high expectations for all children. All parents also stated that they would recommend the school.

We always highly value feedback from our parents and carers and would like to make you aware of the next Parent Forum that will take place on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November, which you are welcome to attend.

## Year 6 Open Evening

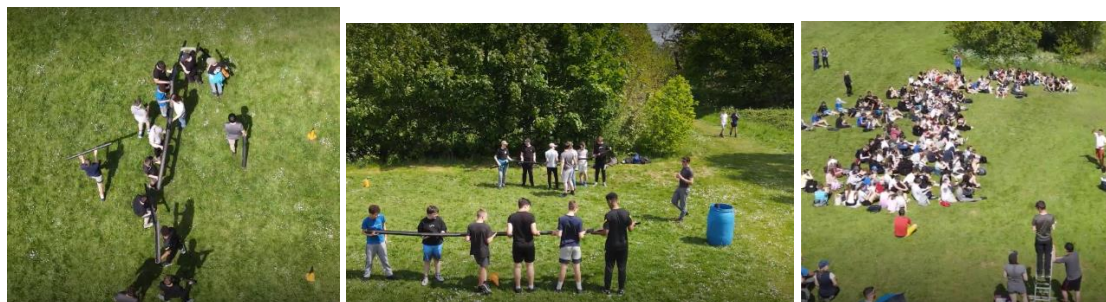
September saw us host our annual Open Evening, for prospective year 6 pupils attending the school, to find out about the amazing things that The Malling School has to offer, followed by visits to classrooms to meet teachers and talk to students. A big thank you to all the staff and pupils who attended to support. Below is a link to our website where you will find a recording of the speeches and a montage of what was a very successful evening.

[Open Evening 2022](#)

## DofE

As part of the continued importance we place on Personal Development & Character Education, this term saw every pupil in Year 9 complete their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expedition. We run this part of the award on our school grounds over the course of four days. We work with a company called 4<sup>th</sup> Dimension who specialise in providing DofE and Outdoor Education courses in schools. Miss Withers, our Pastoral Leader of year 9, oversaw the organisation of the four days brilliantly and our pupils were amazing. The instructors from 4<sup>th</sup> Dimension said they have never worked with a school with such good behaviour and staff that have such high standards and a caring attitude. Well done, year 9.





### Sea Cadets

We have had a successful recruitment campaign to the start of the school year. Eight pupils have newly joined and have started their New Entry Training and we have also recruited one of our cadet's Grandfather as a Probationary Petty Officer. Mr Nichols, our Petty Officer, is just about to complete his initial training in the next couple of weeks.

We have had four Cadets on HMS Cavalier, completing General Naval Knowledge and Basic Seamanship Courses (Cadet Lily-Rose Watson, NEC Thomas Gladdish, NEC Leo Simpson and NEC Fin Slack).

We have had cadets complete qualifications in Basic Catering, Basic Engineering, Basic and Intermediate First Aid, Basic Powerboating, Basic Windsurfing and Basic Hill Walking.

Our cadets also gave a presentation on the history of all the HMS Spitfires to the Parish Council and two gave a presentation to the District Team of four Area Officers and our Commanding Officer, Lt. Hammell, on the Battle of Trafalgar. They learnt new skills by doing this and developed their character too.

Our Padre, Chaplain (SCC) Nick Williams, who is Rev. of St. James the Great Church in East Malling, was appointed as our Unit Chaplain on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October and two of our New Entries were enrolled as Cadets at the same time.

Another significant milestone for our school's Sea Cadet Unit was having 16 qualified cadets on parade this term.

Cadet First Class Archie Lee proved he has a loud voice and has made brilliant progress when performing the duties of Leading Cadet this term.





## The Malling School Community Litter Pick



Some of our amazing pupils went out with Miss Taylor and Mr Ryder in the local community to clear the area of litter. As you can see they achieved great things, and we are very proud of them all. Mr Ryder will continue to run ecology club after school this year- further details can be found in the personal development pathways section later in this newsletter.



## Local MP Tom Tugendhat visited The Malling School on Friday 7th October

During his visit to TMS, Tom Tugendhat (MP) took the time to speak to our Sixth Form regarding a range of issues including his time in Afghanistan, the cost-of-living crisis, Education and the War in Ukraine. He also offered some words of encouragement to the founders of the new school debating society and kindly offered to return as a referee for a future debate. The students found him extremely informative and were very grateful for his time. We would also like to thank Tom for facilitating a recent student trip to parliament.

After meeting with our sixth form students Tom then went on to tour the rest of the school. He met with several of our students, teachers, and support staff, dropping in on many of the different lessons taking place. We were very proud to showcase the great teaching, caring approach from staff and positive learning atmosphere in every classroom we visited.



We would like to thank Tom for giving up his time to see us at TMS and very much look forward to a return visit.



## Sports update

To accompany the excellent personal development pathways and clubs on offer, this term we continued to send pupils from all year groups to fixtures for a variety of sports, with all pupils representing The Malling School with determination, competitiveness, and a sporting attitude that is reflecting of The Malling School Way.

Fixtures included the first ever 11-a-side game for our under 14 girls, who put up a valiant effort only to be defeated on penalties. It turned out that the girls just needed a warmup game as they followed this defeat with a 2-1 win against Lenham!



The year 7 boys football team put together a convincing win on the road in their first fixture of The National Cup (4-0 against Oakwood). The year 8 boys played Harris Academy Beckenham in the Kent Cup but couldn't come away with the win in what was a 13-goal extravaganza! Another goal-fest ensued when our year 7 boys took on Northfleet in the Kent Cup, narrowly missing out 8 goals to 7. Next, we saw the year 7 boys take the honours in the second round of the National Cup with a 6-0 win to take them through to the next round. Our year 7 and 8 girls also showed a winning attitude to secure progress into the second round of the Kent Cup with a 4-1 win.



We have also attended our first cross-country fixture and hosted a friendly netball fixture for the first time this year. Well done to all pupils involved regardless of the result and thank you to the staff who make these fixtures possible.





## Sixth Form Updates

Sixth form students started the new academic year in an extremely positive manner. We welcomed our biggest ever year 12 cohort, including our first students on the IB Diploma Programme pathway. This term, students have experienced educational trips, a visit from our local MP and opportunities to develop their leadership skills through our extra-curricular clubs and school events. Year 13 students are continuing to shape their future, focussing on the completion of their mock exams and their UCAS applications. Our Sixth Form council is currently collaborating with younger years on raising awareness about topical issues. This term, our period 1 sessions have focussed on areas of personal development such as effective organisation and research skills.

## Sixth Form Open Evening

If you have a child in year 11, we encourage you to come along to our Sixth Form Open Evening on 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 6.00pm where you will be able to learn more about our Sixth Form and speak to subject teachers and current Sixth Form students about our courses and life in the Sixth Form. Places are limited and can be booked on Eventbrite by following the link below and on our website:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sixth-form-open-evening-tickets-443192630087>

## Below is a reminder of some of the information available on our website:

On our curriculum pages you can find details of what your child is learning each term (including their P1 lessons, PSHE & RSE) and download copies of their curriculum booklets. The password to download the booklets is **Tms2022!** [Click here to access the curriculum pages](#)

There are many forms of support available to our students. These come in the form of both our pastoral support teams and a range of recommended resources which students can access. These resources can be accessed by clicking the link below. We encourage our students to ask for help when they need it and to not be afraid to let their pastoral teams know if they are worried about a friend. [Click here to find out more about mental health & wellbeing support](#)

Participation in one of the 65 lunchtime and afterschool clubs our staff offer at TMS is an important part of TMSW and ensuring we develop our students' character too. Students are encouraged to participate in at least one PDP each term and can choose to participate in as many clubs as they wish. Attendance this term has been fantastic and is a wonderful reflection of the positive attitude our pupils show. We have some new clubs this term including Debate Club which is being led by some of our amazing 6<sup>th</sup> Form students and Warhammer, to name a few. [click here to find out more about our personal development pathways](#)

Other useful links can be found on our parent portal, including Scopay, parents' evening bookings, letters, uniform suppliers and transport suggestions. [click here to access the parent portal](#)

## Homework

We hosted our first homework support clinics in term 1 and our second sessions are available next term. These were very successful and as a result we will be hosting more sessions in term 2.

If you would like to meet to discuss homework, Mr Dmytruk will be running these sessions on Wednesday 9th November 2022 in the Hawking Room at The Malling School.

There are two slots available:

1. 08:30am to 09:00am
2. 15:30pm to 16:30pm

If you plan on attending either of these sessions, please email Mr Dmytruk directly so that we have a good idea of numbers.

[chris.dmytruk@themallingschool.kent.sch.uk](mailto:chris.dmytruk@themallingschool.kent.sch.uk)



## SEN Parent Forum

The first SEN Parent Forum successfully took place on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October. The aim of the forum is to bring parents together to support each other and to discuss all aspects of living with a young person with SEN and to share their experiences. Parents discussed their worries and concerns, the support they would like to have from the group and the support they would like the school to provide. Outside speakers will be invited to attend future meetings to help answer questions or concerns parents may have regarding support from key professionals or organisations.

The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – 6.00pm -7.30pm in the main school. If you would like to attend the meeting, please email:

[tmssrp@themallingschool.kent.sch.uk](mailto:tmssrp@themallingschool.kent.sch.uk)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their ongoing support and kind messages for our committed and talented staff. An important part of The Malling School Way is to demonstrate exemplary behaviour and be the best person you can be, every lesson, every day. We strongly feel that our students have demonstrated these values through a brilliant start to the academic year. I very much hope you all have an enjoyable and restful half-term and I look forward to another successful term.

Yours sincerely



Mr Vennart  
Headteacher

