

16th May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families are well. I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the rich experiences and amazing achievements our fantastic pupils and staff have been involved with over the past term.

Year 7 Trip to Kew Gardens

One of the best times of year to visit Kew Gardens is in early spring when everything is coming to life, we were hopeful this would inspire and enrich our year 7's learning. We think it did this and more. Our classes got to visit the three great glasshouses of Kew, each with distinct climates and ecosystems. This alone hugely supports students linked learning this year and beyond in geography and the sciences. Staff from outside these disciplines accompanied us to add an additional perspective, such as that of an artist or historian. At Kew the resident scientists gave our groups an educational tour of the notoriously humid Palm house. They tested our students on their learning in biology by discussing how plants and animals adapt to different conditions and were very impressed with how much our students knew. Our classes showed that the hard work they put in trying to understand systems and concepts in lessons meant they could stand tall with academics in the field. It was even mentioned that we have some possible future Kew scientists within our ranks. Overall, the students thoroughly enjoyed their visit, their behaviour was fantastic, it was a huge pleasure to see so many of them shine and enjoy being in such a wonderful place. A huge thank you to Mr Ryder for running this amazing experience for our pupils.

Year 9 Field Work

Year 9 have been finding their river legs in term 5 fieldwork! Work this term builds on knowledge gained from last term in the classroom allowing our students to put their understanding into practice and context. Each class visited the stream that feeds our lake to measure different variables, practise fieldwork skills, and collect data. Back in the classroom the students are processing, analysing and evaluating the whole fieldwork process. The Geography team will also be talking about how these skills and processes can be used in different employment sectors from marketing to manufacturing and highlighting the importance of a methodical approach and safe working practices.



Tower of London Trip

In April, all pupils from year 8 were given the opportunity to visit the Tower of London to enhance their understanding of the History curriculum. Pupils were able to see different examples of defence such as concentric walls. They were also able to explore the stories of individuals who were linked to the tower in some way such as Edward Francis and Leonora Cohen a suffragette. Pupils also had the opportunity to look inside the spaces used as prison cells, discovering signs of prisoners' treatment, their beliefs and their methods of potential escape.



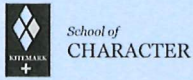
SUP Club

Thank you to Ms Logan and Mrs Bridges for organising and running the Thursday evening Stand-up Paddle Boarding (SUP) club. The first ever TMS SUP group headed out to the River Medway last Thursday. The group picked up some excellent paddling pointers and safety tips in a brief on-shore introduction before heading out onto the water. The group picked up a number of skills, including; forward paddling, backwards paddling and turning. These newly found skills were put to the test in a relay race and a game of Simon says. Of all the skills they learned, I believe that their favourite part of the session was the jumping in at the end.

TMS Awarded Music Mark

The vision of Music Mark is for there to be accessible and excellent musical learning and engagement in and out of school, for all children and young people, which inspires and enriches their lives. They work with schools like The Malling School to achieve this, supporting the department by providing resources, connecting us to other schools, and influencing policymakers on our behalf. Like us, they truly believe that every child and young person deserves a high-quality, diverse, inclusive music education.

To become a Music Mark school, we had to complete a self-assessment document, reflecting on the current music provision in school against the National Plan for Music Education strands and setting developmental targets. By becoming a Music Mark school it shows our commitment to ensuring that music education at The Malling School provides as many opportunities and musical experiences as possible. Thank you to Miss Cox and the rest of the Performing Arts Department for their dedication and hard work in achieving this award.



TMS Awarded IQM and recommended as Regional Centre of Excellence

We are proud to announce that The Malling School has been awarded the Inclusion Quality Mark's Inclusive School Award and is recommended in the report 'that the school becomes a Centre of Excellence because the school has so much to share with others.'

A rigorous two-day assessment took place in the areas of:

The Inclusion Values of the School

Leadership and Management and Accountability

Curriculum- Structure, Pupil Engagement and Adaptation

Teaching and Learning – Learning Environment, Planning Resources, Pedagogy

Assessment

Behaviour, Attitudes to Learning and Personal Development

Parents, Carers, Guardians

Links with Local, Wider and Global Community

Pupils, parents/carers, teaching staff, subject leaders, Governors and senior leaders met with the IQM assessor throughout the visit and written evidence and documentation were provided to support the assessment process.

In the final report it stated that:

'The total commitment to inclusion is evident in every aspect of the school.....provision for pupils with SEN is excellent'

'The school has been innovative and creative in the way it supports pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and the model of inclusion'

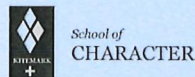
'The relentless focus on improving the quality of teaching and learning through ongoing Continuing Professional Development (CPD) shows a clear understanding that inclusion is mostly about excellence in teaching.'

'Pastoral care is a priority and pupils feel safe and secure and know and respect the routines and expectations.'

'The Malling School is a listening school'

'Collaboration is integral to the way The Malling School works and I know the school will take this responsibility very seriously. The Malling School has much to be proud of.'

Thank you to all those who contributed to the process and to the school community and we will continue to strive to develop our inclusive practice over the coming year. Further information regarding the award can be found through this link: [TMS achieves Centre of Excellence](#)



Congratulations to our U16 Girls

The U16 girls competed in their championship football final which had a lot at stake. Pupils were selected because of their dedication and talent towards football club during the year. This night was a big event for everyone involved, the players, the PE staff and members of staff at The Malling School. The girls were eager to get on the pitch to warm up and prepare themselves for the game. They were filled with excitement but also a lot of nerves. The whistle blew for kick off and The Malling School dominated the ball, with a higher possession rate and greater determination, which was evident from the effort applied to the game, we managed to start the game in the first third 1-0 up scored by Summer Cheeseman. With a team talk from Mr Burden and Miss King and support from the rest of PE department, the girls knew we were in charge but needed to make our finishes accurate to secure our winning possession. Unfortunately, the second third finished 1-1 still with a lot of grit and determination from our girls. Another team talk referring to our work rate, our communication within the team and the passion. These girls wanted to win! This third seemed to be in our attacking half most of the time. Chances were not taken, however, not at one point did their heads drop or did they not think they could create a chance. In the final 5 minutes of the whole game with some great play to the lead up of the ball being passed to Charlotte Waddell's feet, we saw Charlotte taking the ball forward for her to perfectly smash the ball into the bottom left corner. The ball was seen leaving Charlotte's foot and then was seen again in the back of the net. The Gallagher was roaring from the fans.

Thank you so much for all the support. This moment will be remembered by the whole school especially the girls and the PE department. The commitment shown by players and supporters really shapes what we represent at The Malling School.



Thank You

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful staff, students, parents and carers for their ongoing support this academic year. I am extremely proud of our whole school community that continues to grow closer, going from strength to strength, thank you to you all.

Yours sincerely

John Vennart

Headteacher

