



Parent/Carer Notices

Spring 2 – Monday 31st March 2025

Upcoming Events

- Tuesday 1st April - 6pm Performance of Aladdin at MCA6
- Wednesday 2nd April - 5pm and 7pm Performances of Aladdin at MCA6
- Wednesday 2nd April – Prefect Trip – Thorpe Park
- Wednesday 2nd April - MCA6 South Africa Fundraiser Quiz Night
- Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April – Easter Break
- Thursday 24th April – Year 8X Parents Evening
- Friday 25th April – D of E Silver Expedition
- Thursday 1st May – 8Q Parents Evening
- Monday 5th May – Bank Holiday – Academy Closed
- Wednesday 14th May – Immunisation Catch Up Session
- Monday 26th May – Half Term
- Friday 20th June – ATT PD Day
- Tuesday 22nd July – Last Day of Term
- Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September – PD Days
- Wednesday 3rd September – Students Return

General Notices

As we enter the end of the Spring Term I wanted to share how proud I am of our Year 11's who have started the exam season so adeptly with excellent performances in Music this week. The students have pulled together to support each other and continue to impress us all, setting an excellent example to our younger students. Year 11's are receiving their final exam timetables as we gear up to the big exams commencing in May.

Please look out for our Spring newsletter later this week which will showcase all of the excellent opportunities on offer and the hard work from our students and staff. I am really looking forward to the excellent Alladin performances taking place on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. I hope that we have a full audience at MCA6 to celebrate the collaborative efforts of the Music and Drama Faculty with our amazing students from a range of year groups.

I am pleased to share updates from our Governors and the Parent Community Meeting. This is part of my drive to open up our relationship with parents and carers to keep you informed of developments and to seek your opinions and ideas more frequently.

I am sure we will have an industrious and positive week as we approach a well-deserved break. *Thankyou all, James Oxley*



Governors Update

Dear Parents,

I currently act as Chair of Governors for MCA.

Today we had our latest Governor's meeting and we agreed it would be good to share with all the stakeholders at the school, of which you and your child(ren) are key, what we do and what we are focused on.

The Governor group is made up of parent Governors, a staff governor and then a variety of community governors and our role is to review MCAs activities, help where there are issues and challenge the Leadership team, Mr Oxley mostly, about the school performance.

As part of the Academy Transformation Trust, MCA has access to excellent educators who challenge and ensure the school is delivering for its pupils academically and meeting all relevant guidelines and government initiatives. As such we, as the local governing body, are trying to focus more on how we can improve other aspects of school life whether that be engagement with the community, improved communications, celebrating the schools and its pupils successes or helping those that need it to get the most out of their schooling.

A variety of topics were covered this in our last meeting, some of which I have set out below:

The schools approach to bullying

We looked at the latest statistics and actions being taken and how the school best shares those actions with parents. Initial findings are that large steps have been taken to act and the number of incidents are down but we are always conscious of the data and whether or not things are being properly reported. We are therefore working with the Leadership team at the school to share the message and ensure that bullying and other pupil on pupil abuse and things that make your children not want to go to school are cut out and we make it a safe space for them be and they can maximise their potential.

You will hear more from the school in the next half term on this topic but if you do have concerns then please contact MCA-Governors@attrust.org.uk

Sanctions and rewards

We questioned the appropriateness of the current sanctions and rewards and in particular questioned whether the reward system had become too generous such that there are now too many and they are therefore less valued? It was also raised that sometimes parents and pupils are not aware of what a reward is for so is the communication working effectively?



The school confirmed that it continually reviews the sanctions and rewards and would take on board the feedback and revert at the next meeting on any actions or changes it had taken to reflect the feedback.

Communication

We challenged how best to communicate to yourselves as parents to make sure you get the full picture of what is going on and can best support your child(ren) to succeed at MCA. Often we find that relationship can break down because the school has managed the communication so we want to look at that and make sure everyone is aligned and supporting the pupils.

This is the first stage in that increased communication and you will see more over the coming weeks and months and MCA keeps you informed of what is going on and how you can help and where you can get help if you have concerns or just need help. We are setting up a Governors email that provides an independent access for parents with concerns or who need help and want someone to go to if they are not happy with something at the school.

Community engagement

The school already has some good initiatives underway to better engage with the community and this is something that the Governors are fully behind so will be working with the school leadership team to better integrate and as always respond to community challenges, littering came up as a key topic and so actions are being put in place; whilst the school acknowledges its pupils are some of the offenders they are not the only ones so we need to ensure there is balance.

Objectives

A personal drive of mine is to introduce some key objectives that we can take responsibilities for as a Local Governing Body and we will be working on these over the next term to have them in place for the 2025/26 Academic Year. I feel that the academic side is pretty well covered by ATT so I believe we should be looking at other areas where we can make a measurable difference. Examples I am thinking of include:

- How do we get better engagement with parents so they better understand what is going on at school and feel more engaged?
- How do we better engagement with teachers and build a stronger team that delivers even better teaching and feel supported as part of MCA?
- Is there an opportunity for us to get more support for the school either financially or in kind which enables it to better support pupils or do things that its budgets currently don't have capacity for, eg sponsorships etc
- How do we make the Mildenhall Community proud of MCA?



These are just initial thoughts but focused on creating a better MCA that its community is proud of, pupils want to attend and are proud to attend. More on this next term.

Governor recruitment

There are always opportunities for people to get involved and help, we have limitless opportunities for Community Governors and so if you think you can help then why not become a Governor. Being open, this is not an opportunity to engage and get a better schooling for your child or for a group to respond to your specific challenges with the school, we are here to help the MCA community as a whole.

If you would be interested in chatting about becoming a Governor then please email MCA-Governors@attrust.org.uk

I hope you found this useful, and feel that we can help and are people you can engage with and are here to support your child(ren). The email is now set up if you have any questions, suggestions or dare I say it complaints and we will respond.

Best regards,

Steve Shore

PE Results and Fixtures

Results w/c 24/03/25

- U13 Boys Handball:
 - MCA travelled to Sybil Andrews for the West Suffolk Final for handball. The boys' won the previous game 15-2 to book their place in the final tournament. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts, MCA fell short losing 2-1 to Sybil Andrews and 4-2 to Stowmarket, before drawing 3-3 against King Edwards. The boys were resilient throughout and represented the academy exceptionally.
 - *Star Performers: Ashton Sharwood*
- U15 Girls Handball Final:
 - On 25th March MCA hosted Ixworth for the Handball Area Develop Final. This was one of the first competitive handball games for many of our students, so there were a few nerves at the beginning. However, the nerves didn't show after a convincing 12-4 win. Well done girls!
 - *Star Performers: Peyton Strike, Isla Beale, Ella Brewer*
- U13 Boys Basketball:
 - The U13 boys compete basketball team competed in their tournament on Wednesday 26th March at Samuel Ward. The boys played in two games and looked strong in both. Two comfortable wins against Samuel Ward (45-26) and Ormiston Sudbury (28-6) see MCA go into the finals.



- *Star Performers: Riley Warren, Emil Skorek*



- Year 9 In House Football:
 - A lovely sunny evening in Mildenhall saw a well organised event from Mr French. Four Year 9 teams were put together to compete in an In-house game. Game 1 saw Mr Burt (oranges) and Mr Waterson (blues) go head-to-head. The blues came out on top with a convincing 5-1 win. Game 2 saw Mr Weeks' reds compete in a close game against Mr Taylor-Freeman's pinks. An end-to-end game saw the pinks score a late winner to make it 2-1. The game was officiated well by Jacob Watkins. Everyone who participated were fantastic and made the event extremely enjoyable for everyone.
 - *Star Performers: Jay Thompson, James Mcauley, Tobias Barrett, Wesley Bere, Kaden Heffer, Aidan Woodeson, Kaleb Redmond.*





- U13 Girls Football:
 - On the 27th march the u13 girls football team had their semi-final against St Benedict's in the Suffolk cup. The girls put on an amazing performance for their first time playing together this year. The girls won 2-0 to book their place in the finals.
 - *Star Performers: Brooke Gathercole, Ella Brewer, Hannah Langley, Scarlett Clarke*

Fixtures w/c 31/03/25:

- Hostin U14/U16 Girls Ruby Tournament
- U16 Girls Football