



# Sir Roger Manwood's School

## Head Master's Newsletter

**September 2005**

Dear Parents and Members of the School ,

### 1. Structure of the School Day September 2005

Next September we are moving from our present 8 period day to a 5 period day with one hour lessons, and from a 5 day timetable to a 10 day timetable with a Week One and Week Two. The beginning and finish times of the day remain the same, but the timings within the day obviously change. The new structure will be as follows:

8.40am Registration

8.50am Period 1

9.50am Period 2

10.50am Big Break

11.15am Period 3

12.15pm Period 4

1.15pm Lunch

2pm Registration

2.10pm School Assembly/Year Assembly/Tutor Time

2.25pm Period 5

3.25pm End of School Day

The termly School Calendar and the Homework Diary will both indicate which week is Week One and which Week Two. The plan for the year follows a logical pattern and should not present a problem.

## 2. The School's Web-Site – [atschool.eduweb.co.uk/srms/index.html](http://atschool.eduweb.co.uk/srms/index.html)

Alternatively ask Google to search for Sir Roger Manwood's School and it will offer the web-site as the first option.

Further to the last newsletter the school's Web-Site is now being looked at with a view to up-dating its appearance and using it more as a means of communication to parents and any interested outside observers.

In September a Web-Site committee will be set up, along similar lines to that which oversees the Manwoodian magazine, looking to regularly up-date the site with current information and to celebrate the activities of the pupils and staff.

In the next academic year we will also be looking to communicate with families more via email where you have furnished us with your address.

## 3. Term Dates 2005-2006

I am attaching to this newsletter a schedule of dates for the coming academic year. Please try to avoid taking holidays in term time for the obvious disruption that this causes to the academic progress of the pupils.

## 4. Staff Farewells and Arrivals

Mrs Naiomh Rook joined the Art Department only last September but soon proved herself to be an excellent acquisition for Manwood's. Unfortunately she has decided to move back to her native Scotland.

Mr Peter Colthup has worked part-time in the Games Department since 2000. He, again, has been a great asset, organising and running many teams, as well as making his regular contribution during the school day. He has decided to take a break from paid work so he can devote all his time to raising a young family.

Mrs Helen Dean is completing her second spell of part-time teaching at the school in the Consumer Technology Department. Her conscientious professionalism has been much appreciated by her pupils and colleagues alike. She is now pursuing a career outside teaching.

Miss Clare Colyer has completed two years in the Geography Department having come to Manwood's as an NQT. She has contributed much across the department, teaching

examination classes at GCSE and A-Level. She is now moving to East Anglia and has secured a teaching position there.

Mr Peter Dean's association with Manwood's is a very long one. He was appointed to the position of Head of Biology in 1974 and has therefore had a long career in Science teaching here, overseeing many changes. In addition to his work in the classroom Mr Dean has also contributed a great deal to the extra-curricular life of the school, most notably the CCF in which he has been a stalwart member for many years. He now retires from teaching.

Mr Howard Pashley came to the school in 1976 to teach in the Chemistry Department. In addition to his classroom teaching, for many years he held the position of Head of Junior Science and he was also a Head of Year. In recent years he has focused more on his role in the school's CCF for which he assumed overall leadership. He now retires from teaching but his recent ordination will undoubtedly lead to a continued strong commitment to the local community.

Mrs Johanna Westwood arrived at Manwood's in 1986. Her contributions to Manwood's have been many and far-reaching, as Head of German, as Head of Year, as SENCO and as a member of the Senior Management Team. The present annual German exchange owes everything to her initiative and she leaves a similar strong legacy in many areas of school life. She now retires from teaching but it is typical of her energy and enthusiasm that in her final weeks here she should be part of the staff team that took the Year 10 trip to Berlin.

New staff will therefore be joining Manwood's in September:

Miss Vicky Beale : Science Department

Miss Toni Scott: Modern Foreign Languages Department

Mr Antony Lawrence: Head of Chemistry, i/c Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Mr Scott Grimshaw : Art Department

Miss Elizabeth Limentani : Science Department, Key stage 3 Coordinator

Mrs Carol Wilkinson : part-time ICT Department

Mr Ian Wallace : P.E. Department

5. Recent Achievements

The girls' sports teams have enjoyed a very successful season. The tennis teams won all but one of their matches culminating in the junior team's victory at the District Tournament held at Walmer Tennis Club.

There were also strong performances from the girls in athletics. The Junior team beat 8 other schools to win the South East Kent Competition whilst the Intermediate team were placed 3 rd . Manwood's also retained the Powell Trophy for the District Competition.

Amy Hill-Turner was selected for the County team in the 800 metres and subsequently for the National Schools Finals.

In Rounders all four teams finished the season unbeaten, winning their District Tournaments and all inter-school matches.

The summer term has also been extremely busy for boys' sport. A large contingent from Manwood's competed against six other schools in the South East Kent Athletics Championships at the Julie Rose Stadium in Ashford, the Junior Team finishing 3 rd and the Intermediate Team 2 nd . Romain Dennison (Year 9, 100m) and Noah Werth (Year 9, shot put) went on to represent the region in the County Championships.

Boys' Tennis has flourished this term. A Junior Team was entered for the Dover and District Schools Tournament and were overwhelming winners. Ten boys across Years 7 to 10 competed in the Kent Schools Annual Championships held in Bromley. Harry Collins and Alex Jarrett qualified for the last 16 of the Senior competition. In the Intermediate competition Charlie Michael and Tom Carnegie reached the quarter-finals and Elliott Brookes and Toby Churchill the semi-finals.

In Cricket the U15 team did particularly well, beating Kent College in the Kent Cup but losing to the eventual winners in the next round, the only match they lost all season. Both the U13 and U12 squads had impressive seasons. Highlights include an impressive result against Kent College U13's which saw Jack Payne take 4 wickets and Tom Carnegie score 98 and the U12's winning the Thanet Cup by 43 runs against Chatham House Grammar School. The 1 st XI had a tough season but ended on a high note winning the Alan Carpenter Memorial Cup with an excellent victory over the Old Manwoodian Vets.

Cricket has also seen two girls continue to excel. Tamsin Beaumont is presently in the Kent U15 Girls' squad and Toni Alder in the Kent U13 Girls' squad.

Golf has continued to progress in the school and 3 teams were entered this year for the British Heart Foundation Junior Golf Championships. The best result was achieved by a Year 9 team comprising Sam Grant, Chris Burnap and Katie Cornwall who came 4 th /20 teams competing at the Ashford Golf Club. Ed Cannons and Dean Griffiths play off 5 and 4 respectively which is indicative of the standard of play. Altogether the teams raised over £1,000 for the British Heart Foundation.

A final point on sport. We were fortunate with the weather this year on Sports Day and it proved an excellent day and thanks go to the Games Department for organising it so well, to the staff for officiating so efficiently, to the students for competing so wholeheartedly and to all those who spectated in such a good spirit. Outstanding performances on the day came from Adam Asher (Year 7, 200m), Romain Dennison (Year 8, 200m) and Femi Ogunbiyi (Year 9, 100m), all of whom set new school records. It was also very pleasing to have a Swimming Gala. The swimming pool has been much more reliable this year and has been well used.

This term has been as busy as ever for the Music Department. A significant amount of the activity has been outward looking with ensembles performing to the wider community in a series of events.

As part of the “Sea Britain” celebrations, the Girls' Choir joined forces with the Manwood Singers in June in a successful performance of “Hip Hip Horatio” at St Mary's Church, Sandwich.

In July The Chamber Choir sang at a concert in St George's Hall in Deal in aid of Macmillan Cancer Research.

Music students in Years 10 and 12 had the opportunity during May and June to participate in a series of composition workshops sponsored by the Deal Festival. The students produced pieces which were then performed by professional musicians in concerts as part of the Deal Festival.

Manwood's Jazz Band has also been out and about playing a key musical role in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme Presentation Ceremony held at Northbourne Park in June. In July they gave a joint concert with the Sandwich Technology School's Jazz Band at Woodnesborough.

The Jazz Trio (Toby Boalch, Nicola Vella-Burrows and Jack Frowde) along with Kitty Swanson and Rachael Gordon also provided excellent musical entertainment at Mr Williams' wedding reception in the International Study Centre, Canterbury Cathedral in April.

In school there have also been many events. On 16 th July the Divertimento was held in support of the fund-raising efforts of the Friends of Manwood's. Two very successful and well-attended evenings of Rock and Pop Concerts took place in early July. Most recently A Summer Soloists' Concert was held in the School Hall showcasing performances given by students from all year groups and covering music of all types from Purcell to Dolly Parton.

School drama saw an outstanding senior production of Euripides' “The Trojan Women” in late April. Under Mr Holden's direction, ably assisted by Miss Clancy, the dark events following the fall of Troy were brought to life with some excellent acting performances and imaginative lighting, sound and set design.

The Junior and Senior Dance Clubs have continued to meet and we look forward to the next Synthesis production.

The Art Department has also had a very active term. In April six sixth form students had their work accepted for an art exhibition in Maidstone for the John Downton Awards for Young Artists 2005. One of the six, Naomi Tipping, went on to win "The Canterbury School of Fine Art for Drawing Award".

The Department has also been very successful in winning two further awards. Together with Sandwich Technology School and Sandwich Junior Manwood's has won the title of "Schools of Culture 2006" for the South East of England. This prestigious award brings with it a financial bonus of £10,000 to facilitate a collaborative programme of cultural activities which are planned for the coming year.

The Art Department has also made a successful Lottery bid. The money awarded will be spent on setting up a Photography Club and an Animation Club which will run at lunch-time and after school. An exhibition of the resulting work will be held in 2006.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme has continued to run in school under the enthusiastic guidance of Mr Acourt. The White Cliffs Area Panel Presentation held at Northbourne Park School in June saw Manwood's very well represented. 9 students received their Bronze Award, 6 students their Silver Award and Claire Williams, Sam Johnson, Lee Waddon and Greg Upton all received Gold Awards.

This year Manwood's hosted the Young Enterprise Presentation Evening for the Dover Area. One of our three companies, ICON, was declared overall winner as well as winning the award for best company report. Another of our companies, ZEUS, won the award for best presentation. ICON went on to the Kent Final held in Maidstone in May where they acquitted themselves very well.

Following on from a very successful Adventure Week in Snowdonia at Easter, the CCF has had a very full term of activities. In May there was Inspection Day in school and the Civic Sunday Parade in Sandwich. Manwood's were Division 6 winners of the Dover and Folkestone Rifle League 2005 and Greg Upton received the Bond Cup for scoring the highest total in the League.

In June there was a Year 9 Self-Reliance Weekend and in July the Annual Camp is being held at Penhale in Cornwall.

Academic pursuits have also seen some excellent achievements this term. In the UK Mathematical Trust Junior Challenge 13 of our students were awarded Gold Certificates and Richard Thomas (Y8) was also awarded "Overall Best in School".

In the Thanet Mathematics Competition for Year 12 students the school entered 3 teams competing against three other grammar schools and Sandwich Technology School. A

very close competition resulted in a Manwood's team comprising Jared Bond, Nathan Blundell and Luke Richards winning by half a point over a team from Chatham House Grammar School.

Two Year 12 students secured prestigious places in summer schools in their chosen subjects in July. Liam Macadam gained a Sutton Trust place at Oxford to study History and Gini Sharvill gained a place at the Eton Summer School to study French.

This term has also seen many initiatives with an international dimension which reflect our status as a Language College. In June we had an "India Week" with Indian musicians, artists and dancers coming into school to run workshops with different year groups. There were also yoga sessions held, Kabaddi and Carrom tournaments organised, an Indian flavour to many lessons and special assemblies held every day. Mrs Venn is to be congratulated for putting together such an imaginative programme of events.

There have also been many trips abroad organised. The French Department took all of Year 8 on day trips to Boulogne. The History Department took Year 9 to the Somme and Year 10 to Berlin. The Art Department took their sixth formers to Florence. A group of Lower VIth students studying German have spent three weeks at a school in Southern Germany. We have also had a group of students and staff from Hengshui High School in China spend over two weeks here at Manwood's. I would like to express my gratitude to those families who helped to host and look after them. This week a group of our own students, led by Mr Taylor and Mrs Cullis, are making a reciprocal visit to Hengshui before moving on to Beijing for a two week visit that combines language lessons and daily excursions to all the major sights.

All of these activities offer very special opportunities to the students and the effort that staff make in organising and running them must not be underestimated.

Not surprisingly everyone, staff and students alike, are feeling very tired at the moment and very much in need of a holiday. It was nice to see so many sixth formers at the Summer Ball, another well organised event, and the next time we will meet will be on A-Level results day, rested and hopefully celebrating many successes.

Another very busy term then. Apologies to those whose worthy activities I have failed to mention, the above is by no means an exhaustive account of life in the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a good summer holiday.

Yours sincerely

C R L Morgan

Headmaster