

Sir Roger Manwood's School



September 2022
Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

A very warm welcome to the new academic year, especially to those new to Sir Roger Manwood's School.

ART SHOW

Please join us between **1pm and 3pm on Saturday 17 September**, when the best works done by last year's Year 11 and Year 13 will be on display in the Hall as part of Sandwich Art Week.

MANWOOD'S ALUMNI & FAMILY OPEN EVENT

If you are an alumnus or alumna of Manwood's please do come along on either **Saturday 17 September or Sunday 18 September between 1pm and 3pm** to meet up with old members of staff and fellow alumni at the School's first ever Alumni & Family Open Event. The School will be open between 1pm and 3pm on both days for alumni to wander round and see how things have changed (or not as the case may be!). The Hall will also be open so that anyone attending can also visit the Art Show in the Hall. The Grange will also be open for those alumni who boarded there to visit and reminisce about living there. If any of your friends or relatives are alumni do please pass on details about this event to them.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Congratulations to the following students who completed their Gold assessed expedition during the summer holiday: Elissa Blacklock, Zac Bowles, Albane Colin-Salingue, Eliza Collighan, Ed Dill-Russell, Nancy Douglas, Emily Hill, Libby Harmes, Lottie Harmeyer, Sam Hammond, Matt Hogben, Melissa Mundy, Seb Norton, James Rush, Emilia Strathdee, Issak Sutton, and Charlie Tutton.

A further 7 students completed their practice expedition in the holiday and will be undertaking their assessed expedition during the October half term. We wish the following all the best (although I'm sure they won't need it): Lizzie Allen, Matt Barras, Elissa Kingsbury, Libby Pollock, Eve Pryde, Kofi Wayman, and Finlay Webb.

E³ DIPLOMA

We introduced the E³ Senior Diploma to Year 12 last year for three main reasons:

- to recognise, reward and encourage participation beyond the academic, acknowledging the 'whole person' rather than a pure focus on grades;
- to foster a sense of community in the school by allowing more directed interaction across year groups; and
- to aid the individual's preparation for post-school applications, providing opportunities to support university, apprenticeship or job applications.

The diploma comprises three parts:

- The *Engage* section encourages students to engage with their community - both inside and outside of school - with awards given for the amount of time spent on extra-curricular pursuits and volunteering (Bronze - 10 hours, Silver - 25 hours, Gold - 50 hours).
- The *Explore* section is completed through the school's Enrichment programme, with students selecting one of the options available to explore a subject beyond their choice of A levels.
- The *Excel* section requires students to prepare and give a presentation to their tutor group on any topic of their choice, with the clearest and most detailed presentations being awarded a Distinction.

All students in the year group completed the Diploma, with 14 being awarded Bronze, 25 Silver and 61 Gold. 18 students received Distinctions, and the entire year group should be commended on how they approached the initiative.

Our Year 7's follow a programme designed to aid their transition from primary to secondary school. We call these lessons *E³ lessons* and they take place once a fortnight. They are based upon elements from two national initiatives - High Performance Learning and VESPA (Vision, Effort, Systems, Practice and Attitude). They involve students exploring topics such as resilience, growth mindset and independent learning, and recording how they are Engaging, Exploring and Excelling both inside and outside of school. The lessons also introduce Year 7 to the careers platform we use, Unifrog, which holds the world's largest database of Post 16 and Post 18 opportunities.

There will also be some exciting developments this year in the E³ Junior Diploma. This year, with extra lesson time allocated to PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health and Careers Education) in Years 8 and 9, students will further explore and embed the elements of VESPA building upon the independent learning skills learnt from Year 7. Students will also have the opportunity to Engage in the SRMS Junior E³ Diploma, a project that helps celebrate the successes of our students both in and out of school. The Junior E³ Diploma will be a project mainly completed independently. Those who engage in it will need to complete an independent exploration project based upon the topic of British Values. This project could be done in any format; a piece of art, an essay, performance, sculpture, poetry etc. along with an accompanying description explaining how it relates to the topic. Students will have until before the end of year exams (exact deadline date to be confirmed) to hand it in. These students will be given support by Mrs Hall and Sixth Formers in mentoring sessions (which will be either during lunch or after school) throughout the year. Alongside the exploration project, students will need to have completed a table explaining how they have Engaged, Explored and Excelled both inside and outside of school and have a fully updated Unifrog Profile. After these elements have been completed and submitted, students will then celebrate their successes in an Excel Evening after the May half term where they will have the opportunity to show their Exploration projects to invited guests, parents, governors, sixth form and staff. The Junior E³ Diploma will be introduced to students after the October half term and we hope lots of people will consider Engaging. It's a brilliant way for students to record and celebrate their excellence.

During Years 10 and 11, students put into practice their independent learning skills to support their GCSE studies. They are encouraged to reflect on their learning again via VESPA as well as to look to the future considering relationships and healthy lifestyle choices alongside the Unifrog careers platform. There is currently no E³ Diploma for these year groups, but that will be the next stage of the initiative after it has been rolled out to the Lower School and Sixth Form.

A NEW LUNCHTIME CLUB

Come And Meet Each Other (CAMEO) is a lunchtime club set up by Mrs Hall at the end of the last academic year. It is a club where students can come and meet to play board games, do colouring, quizzes, puzzles etc. They can also bring their lunch with them. CAMEO meets in the PSHCE Room (C109). The Year 7 CAMEO Club on a Monday lunchtime and the Year 8 CAMEO Club will be on Wednesday lunchtime. They both start during the week beginning Monday 12 September i.e. next week. Everyone is welcome. Students should not worry about not knowing anyone as it is the perfect opportunity to meet other people. Similarly, it can just be a space to hang out on their own if they prefer. The CAMEO Club always welcomes donations, so if you have any unwanted games, stationary, puzzles (with all the pieces) at home, then Mrs Hall would gratefully receive them. Students can drop them in to Mrs Hall's room, C109.

A full timetable of the other extracurricular clubs and activities on offer will be published shortly. Please do encourage your children to Engage with at least one of these opportunities.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

A Level

85% of all grades achieved were at grade C or above, and 65% were at grade B or above. Despite government predictions of results being lower than in the two previous years, where examinations were not taken, these figures are only slightly below those from summer 2021 but higher than those in summer 2020. They are in fact the school's best results since summer 2016. The students deserve much praise for their resilience in overcoming what the past two and a half years has thrown at them.

- 4 students will be starting at Cambridge or Oxford in October.
- 5 students achieved the grades to take up their offer of a place at medical or dentistry school.
- 49 students gained at least 3 B grades (= 43% of the year group)
- 22 students gained at least AAA or better (= just under 20% of the year group)
- 16 students achieved at least A*AA or better (= 14% of the year group)
- 10 students achieved at least A*A*A or better (= 9% of the year group)
- 5 students achieved at least 3 A* grades
- 2 students achieved 4 A* grades

Those moving on to higher education will be joining some of the UK's most prestigious universities, including Bath, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Cardiff, Durham, Edinburgh, Exeter, Glasgow, Imperial, Kent, Kings', Leeds, Loughborough, Nottingham, Oxford, St Andrew's, Southampton, University College London, Warwick and York.

These results are particularly pleasing given the disruption to the students' education since March 2020, particularly during the first year of their two year A Level course. In addition, this year group did not sit their GCSE exams in the summer of 2020 so these A Level exams were their first experience of sitting high stakes external examinations in an examination room. The students have necessarily missed out on many of the milestones events that would have taken place if it were not for the pandemic - which will make this year's A Level Celebration Evening (at 6pm on Monday 19 December 2022 in the Sports Hall) all the more special, as it will bring the whole year group together so that the students, their parents and the staff will be able to celebrate together what they have achieved.



Congratulations to **all** of our Year 13 students! We look forward to hearing about what they have been up to since leaving us at the Celebration Evening on Monday 19 December.

GCSE

Despite the overall national results being lower than in the two previous years when examinations were not taken, the results achieved by our Year 11 students are not only **above** our results from 2020 and 2021 but are in fact our best since the introduction of the new style GCSE in 2017. Furthermore, they are the second best set of grades since 2006 in terms of the percentage achieving a grade 7 (equivalent to the old grade A) or above. To have such superb GCSE results follow on from last week's excellent A Level results is a fitting testament to efforts and resilience displayed by staff and students over the past 2 and a half years. The students and staff deserve much praise for their resilience in overcoming the problems encountered over the past two and a half years - not only have they overcome them, they have truly surpassed them. We look forward to celebrating the year group's superb achievements alongside their parents at this year's Celebration Evening at 6pm on Monday 19 December 2022 in the Sports Hall.

97% of all GCSEs were at grade 4 (equivalent to the old C) or above, 91% were at grade 5 or above, 75% were at grade 6 or above, 51% were at grade 7 (equivalent to the old A) or above, and 30% were at grade 8 or 9 (equivalent to the old A*). Stand out statistics include:

47% of the students achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grade 7 or above (equivalent to the old A grade)

45% achieved 6 or more GCSEs at grade 7 or above

40% achieved 7 or more GCSEs at grade 7 or above

Just under a third achieved 8 or more GCSEs at grade 7 or above, and virtually a quarter of the year (24%) achieved 9 or more GCSEs at grade 7 or above

Particular congratulations must go to the 20 students who achieved at least a grade 7 in all 10 of their GCSEs, the 14 students who achieved a grade 8 or 9 in at least 9 GCSEs and the 3 students who achieved a grade 9 in all 10 of their examinations.



Congratulations to all of our Year 11 students. We look forward to seeing them blossom into fully fledged young adults over the next two years.

ADVANCED WARNING: EARLY DISMISSAL FOR YEAR 7

On Monday 19 December, the school will be holding its annual Speech Day and Prize Giving. As is traditional, Year 7 will be dismissed early as they do not attend the ceremony as it refers to events of the last academic year. Details of what time Y7 will be dismissed will be sent nearer the time.

STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to Miss Noy and Miss McGuinness who both got married during the holiday, and to Mr Lawrence on the birth of this daughter.

We warmly welcome the staff below to the Manwood's community. I have also included existing staff who will be taking up new positions. You will notice in the list below that 3 existing members of staff are now to become Heads of Lower School, Upper School and Sixth Form, We decided to move from each year having a Head of Year to one where each Key Stage has a Head of Key Stage and Deputy. Many schools have already moved to this system, and their feedback was that this system gave students and parents greater continuity of connection to pastoral staff plus also enabled those Heads of School a far greater ability to track the progress and wellbeing of the students in their care we decided to also move to that system.

| Pastoral Staff | | Teaching staff | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Head of Sixth Form | Mr Stedman | Head of Biology | Mrs McGuinness |
| Deputy Head of Sixth Form | Mr Outen | Business | Mrs Newson |
| Head of Upper School | Mr Ross | English | Mrs Theisen |
| Deputy Head of Upper School | Mr Williams | English | Miss Williamson |
| Head of Lower School | Mr Vere | French & Spanish | Mme Coinaud |
| Deputy Head of Lower Year | Miss Deveson | Geography | Mr Kenyon |
| AEND Manager | Ms Craig | Geography | Mr Symaka |
| Cover Supervisor/LSA | Ms Marchant | Head of History | Mr Acourt |
| Cover Supervisor/LSA | Mr Wilson | KS3 Science Coordinator | Mr Mitchell |
| Cover Supervisor/LSA | Ms Evans | Maths | Mr Martin |
| KS3 Pastoral Administrator | Mrs O'Sullivan | Head of PE | Mr Riordan |
| | | PE | Mr Williams |
| | | PE | Mr Meadows |
| Support Staff | | | |
| Caretaker | Mr Bunnell | Head of PSHCE | Mrs Hall |
| | | Science | Mr Pang |

As always, every student has been given a Student Planner and the email address for each Head of Department and Head of School can be found on the inside of its front cover.

As mentioned in the end of year newsletter, do please follow or like the School's Facebook or Instagram page in order to stay in touch with the wide variety of activities taking place in school. The links to each page can be found at the top right of every page on the School website (<https://www.manwoods.co.uk/>)

Best wishes to all members of our School community for the coming academic year.

Mr Hunter