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# MALTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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## ISSUE 1 September 2003

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### Exam Success – Best ever again

For some years now we have been able to claim either the A-level results or the GCSE results as “the best ever”, but not both in the same year. 2003 is an exception, with results at both key levels better than ever before.

#### GCSE Results

- The percentage of 16 year old students gaining 5 or more grades at A\*-C was **66.7%**
- For the first time ever, all students in the year group achieved **five** GCSE passes
- The average points score per student is our highest ever, at 48.84, four points higher than our previous best in 2001. Students took more exams than ever before, with each student averaging 9.6 entries – General Studies and GCSE PE boosting the usual quota of 9 for many. In fact, 12 students gained 11 grade C or better passes this year. A further 21 gained 10 grade C or better.
- Contrary to national trends, the boys outperformed the girls, for the first time in a number of years. Boys got 1 point more than girls on average, and 72% passed 5 or more at A\*-C, compared with 59% of girls. Well done lads – it was about time you showed your mettle.
- Individual successes include **Kate Baker** (5 A\*, 4A and 1B), **Lorna Vasey** (4 A\*, 4 A and 3 B), and **Matthew Young** (3 A\*, 5 A and 2 B). 12 students achieved an A\* in at least one subject.

Well done to all students. The hard work put in by them and by staff, is always worthwhile when the results come through in such a positive way.

We are confident that we can do even better in the coming years, and will certainly not be easing off with our efforts – we expect to break 70% 5 A\*-C's in the coming years.

#### A level results

- The number of grade A's achieved is our highest ever, with 28 (previous best - 24)
- 41% of entries resulted in an A or B grade – 1% better than last year's high. 63% resulted in A,B or C.
- The pass rate is once again very high - in excess of 90% for the fifth year running. It is actually 97.6% - there were only four fails in major subjects. This is worthy of repeating – only 4 fails from 166 entries!
- The average points scored per student this year is our best ever, at 314.5 – we managed 260 last year. (the points system used is A=120, B=100, C=80, D=60, E=40)
- The star individual performances come from **Adrian Barker** and **Michael Chapman**, with an impressive four grade A's and an AS grade A in Further Maths (taken this year). **Tom Vasey** achieved the same point score, achieving 2 A's and 3 B's in his five full A level subjects. **Emily Arnott**, **Crystal Spencer** and **Donna Monkman** each achieved AAB in their main subjects.

#### AS results – Year 12

This is the third year of these interim exams, and our pass rate has risen once again to its best ever, at 90%.

- There were 39 grade A's, spread across 13 of the 18 subjects entered.
- Four students achieved straight A's in all subjects: **David Smith**, **Lauren Horsley**, **Anna Pietrowski** and **Lindsey McKenzie**. David also achieved an A in the two Further Maths modules he has taken to date.

These results should provide a firm basis for progression to the second year of Advanced study, and some more excellent results next year.

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## Staff News

At the end of last term we said farewell to one of our longest serving teachers - **Mr Richard Hilton**, Head of Maths, who retires having taught at Malton School since its opening as a comprehensive school in 1971. A first class mathematician, Mr Hilton has guided many students through to mathematical careers, as well as being instrumental in introducing computers into the school in the early days. Our best wishes go with him.

**Mr Matthew Richmond**, has been with us two years, moves to teach PE at a Sixth Form College in Warrington, and to **Mrs Emma Richmond**, who taught French, of course goes with him. Best wishes for their expected new arrival.

**Mr Trevor Wilford** leaves us after being our site manager for the last two years. Rumour has it that he was made an offer by The Chippendales following his appearance in our Easter show this year!

**Miss Susan Robertson** stayed a year with us in the Maths department, but could not turn down an opportunity to teach in New Zealand

**Mrs Elizabeth Watrus** started in January 2003 and taught part time in the Food and Textiles department.

Our thanks go to **Mr Tim Hainsworth** for covering music teaching in Mr Thorp's prolonged absence. Mr Thorp continues to be absent this term: we have secured two musicians to cover his timetable, and of course our thanks go to **Mrs Smith** for her additional efforts in guiding the music department through this difficult time.

We welcome three new members of staff – **Mr Edwards** takes up his position as Head of Mathematics, having previously taught at Woldgate School in Pocklington. **Mr Langley** arrives to work with newly appointed Head of PE, Mrs Hopkin, in the sports department, and **Mr Coates** arrives to take over as site manager.

He has already been very busy supervising all the building improvements that have taken place over the summer holiday (see later).

## Talent Show – final day of term

For the last eight years the final day of term has been the date set for a talent contest. It started in the music room on a lunchtime, but it became too popular with everyone who wanted to watch to fit in, so in 2002 we moved to the East Wing gym, still on a lunchtime. With the continued interest and ever-increasing quality of performance, this year we elevated the show to the final event of the year, holding it after final assembly in West Wing Hall. We were not disappointed with the move.

**Heather Ponton-Brown** (Year 12) and **Jon Bentley** (Year 9) presented the show. Eight acts took part: “Unapproved” started off with some heavy music and rap (**Sam Meegan, Joe Seed, Steve Spaven**); **Amanda Wilson** performed a dance routine, **Rachel McCulloch** sang Madonna’s *Papa Don’t Preach*; “Fragile” (**Sam Gilderdale, Christian Brown and Peter Bowring**) followed next, then **Chelsey Beresford** and **Danielle Wood** with *Complicated* (by Avril Lavine). But the final winner was **Sally Fothergill** singing Mr Richmond’s favourite, *How Do I Live*.

2<sup>nd</sup> place was a tie between Rachel McCulloch and Fragile, and Chelsey came third. The staff group’s version of *We’re All Going on A Summer Holiday*, with **Mrs Lovegrove** taking the lead, was comfortably last!

## House Trophy

In our final assembly, the individual House Trophy was awarded to the person with the most house points in the year. This year it went to **Amy Batty** of 7 Air, with 128 points. Two platinum plus awards were made (120 points)– one to Amy Batty, the other to **Rebecca Simpson** 8 Air. Well done girls.

The House Shield – awarded to the top house - is awarded at the end of the calendar year.

## **Trips and Activities**

The History department made their annual visit to Beamish museum with Year 8 students, and to the Royal Armouries in Leeds with Year 7.

Our annual activities day on the penultimate day of term took place as usual, with Flamingoland, Doncaster Dome, Dalby Forest, Brawby Pond, The Deep at Hull, North York Moors, and Old Trafford all featuring. In the competitive activities, **Sam Boler** won the fishing competition, with **Steven Wright** runner up. In the Archery competition held on the school field (our thanks to Mrs Kiddle as always), **Martin Mills** finished the day in first place.

Year 10 spent two weeks on Work experience in June. In a new initiative, they spent a full day on return from their work placements writing up their experience as part of their coursework for the new Citizenship exam. Out thanks to all local businesses and employers who provided places for our students.

Eight students spent the final week of term rehearsing for a production of an opera, organised by Ryedale Community Opera as part of the Ryedale festival. The play – *The Voyage of the Maris Piper* - also involved students from other local primary and secondary schools, and was performed in Malton School Hall at the end of term. Our thanks to Em Whitfield, the organiser, for giving students this opportunity.

As part of the Ryedale Festival of Youth, 16 Year 8 students took part in a workshop with local textile designer Sally Beausang, producing items for a display and fashion show in Pickering during August.

Well done to 7 Water, who collected small change through the year and raised £105 for WaterAid.

Sixth Form students – current and would-be – visited university campuses at Teesside,

Newcastle and Northumbria to get a taste of university life.

## **Summer Improvements**

A number of changes to the school have taken place over summer – some are still ongoing.

- A pedestrian access path has been routed through the former caretaker's garden at West Wing, improving safety for students who can now avoid buses and other traffic when arriving or departing from school.
- New showers and toilets have been installed at East Wing, together with disabled access toilets at both wings.
- The school computer network is being upgraded to Windows XP, causing some temporary inconvenience, but hopefully much improved service in future. Twenty additional workstations have been purchased, and upgrades to memory and hard drives have been installed in older machines.

## **Science Status – update**

We will be re-submitting our bid to become a Science College under the Specialist Schools programme at the end of this month. We hope that modifications to the bid, together with our excellent exam results this summer, will convince the judges of our suitability.

Building work on the new laboratories should have started this term, but is now scheduled for start early in the new year. Unfortunately as the building is a County project such matters are out of our hands. We hope that there will be no further delays.

## **Sponsored Walk**

Last year's Sponsored Walk raised a record £7000 towards supporting our bid for Specialist Science Status. With Phase 1 of the building now due to start early in 2004, this year's walk will aim to raise money for fittings and equipment in the new science laboratories. Please support this year's fund-raising and help to ensure that our new laboratories have all the latest equipment they need.

## Uniform

We continue to look for students in Year 7 to 11 to adhere to our uniform regulations. Certainly the new Year 7 recruits made a very good impression on their first day, looking very smart in their new uniforms. As always we ask for parents' support on this issue – remember please, we require students to wear shoes, not trainers, if a jumper is worn it should be a school jumper, and ties are expected to be worn at all times. Students will be put on a one-day report if they are found not in uniform, and parents will be informed.

## Attendance

The School has a responsibility for the safety of students whilst at school. It is very important, therefore, that we check absences thoroughly.

Please:

1. On the first day of absence telephone 01653 692828 from 8.30am.  
Alternatively, a 24-hour answerphone is available on 01653 605303.
2. Upon return to school it is a legal requirement that we receive a note from parent or guardian explaining absence.
3. If a student is late for registration, they **MUST** report to the School Office.

If a student is absent and we have not been notified of a reason, we aim to contact parents by phone at home or work.

## Homework Club

Just a reminder to all parents that we do operate a homework club on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings after school between 3.35pm and 4.35pm in the School Library. The Club is run by Mr Claydon, our School Learning Mentor and is open to all year groups.

You can come along to do coursework on the computers, research using the library or to get just a bit of extra help with that difficult piece of work.

You are welcome on any night – no need to book!

## Arrangements for Election of Parent Governors

There are two vacancies for parent governors to serve for four years. The vacancies exist following the end of the term of office on 31<sup>st</sup> August of Mr L Chapman and Mr I Hughes, both Parent Governors for many years.

All parents of pupils at Malton School are eligible to stand. Even if children leave the school a parent governor can serve out his or her four-year term. Nomination forms will be available from Mrs J M Capstick, Clerk to the Governors, at the School from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September. Completed nomination forms should be returned to reach Mrs. Capstick by Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September. If more nominations are received than there are vacancies a ballot of parents will be held. If a ballot is held, ballot forms will be issued to students on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October for return to School by post or “pupil post” by Monday 13 October. In the event of a tie the parent with the younger student in School will be elected.



## Competition Success

Three Year 7 students were selected to take part as one of five finalists in a national competition organised by the RAC – “Investigating Safer Journeys”. Daniel Cohen, Emily Moffat and Daniel Pratt impressed the judges, and were presented with some super prizes – each received a mountain bike and safety helmet, and the school received a laptop computer and mapping software for the Geography department.

The trio now go forward to the National final in London, where they will present their ideas to the Department of Transport.

## Sports News

### Tennis Tournament

The annual competition saw well contested matches played in good spirit by a large number of entrants. Final winners were:

Boys Singles: **James Stone** (9A), who beat **Lee Milburn** (10F) in the final.

Girls Singles: **Fay Chapman** (8E), who beat **Megan McColgan** (9W) in the final.

Mixed Doubles: **James Stone** and **Becky Hartley** (9A), who beat **Michael Brown** (10F) and **Jenny Chapman** (10E) in the final.

### Service To Sport

The Dave Pay Sports Trophies are awarded annually for contribution to the sporting life of the school.

The Girls' award went to **Rachel McCulloch** (10F) and **Jenny Chapman** (10E)

The Boys' award went to **Peter Clarke** (10F)

Mr Richmond felt that the Juniors should have their own award for service to sport, so two new trophies– the Bruce Rolls Trophies for Sport – have been purchased. These are named in memory of a former student (1920's) of high sporting ability, who returned to the school and eventually became Deputy Head and Sports Master over many years.

First winner of the girls' trophy is **Claire Szuman** (9E).

The Boys Trophy was awarded jointly to **Ross Harrison** (9W) and **Ben Webster** (9A).

## Sports Day July 2003

Slightly different with field events held the day before the track events, allowing more events to be completed (93 in all), particular for younger students.

There were 17 new records established this year – 14 were in new events, 3 past records were broken:

Y9 Boys 100m	Sam Gilderdale 12.00s
Y9 High Jump	Ben Webster 1.60m
Y9 Triple Jump	Ross Harrison 11.68m

Ben Webster qualified to take part in the Triple Jump at the English Schools Finals at Don Valley earlier in the month.

Individual winners were:

Year 7 Girls	<b>Natasha Pearce,</b> <b>Laura Cook</b>
Year 7 Boys:	<b>George Moore,</b> <b>Matthew Stubbings</b>
Year 8 Girls	<b>Chantelle Burdett</b>
Year 8 Boys	<b>David Brown,</b> <b>Ashley Clarke</b>
Year 9 Girls	<b>Roseanne Batty</b>
Year 9 Boys	<b>Ross Harrison</b>
Year 10 Girls	<b>Nichola Hill</b>
Year 10 Boys	<b>Simon Pearson</b>

The final points scores were very close, showing just how important every performance is in the events that are held:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Fire	998
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Air	988
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Earth	946
4 <sup>th</sup>	Water	777

## Calendar

### AUTUMN TERM 2003

#### September

- Th 04 Autumn Term commences (Week 1)  
Y12 Registration from 11.00 (West Wing)  
Y7 and Y13 start school  
F 05 Y8,9,10 & 11 start school  
M 08 Y12 Residential course (3 days)  
Th 11 Y12 timetable begins  
F 26 Sponsored Walk

#### October

- W 01 PTA Annual General Meeting  
M 06 PTA Bingo, Railway Club, Norton  
T 14 Y11 Parents: Meeting with Subject Teachers  
W 15 Y10 Residential course (3 days)  
M 20 Y8 French visit (all week)  
W 22 Y12 Geography Residential course (3 days)  
F 24 Last day of Half-Term

#### November

- M 03 School re-opens (Week 1)  
Th 13 Celebration Evening  
F 14 Y13 Assessments to Parents  
Y11 visit to Poetry Day in Hull  
F 21 School closed to pupils (Staff Training)  
T 26 Post-16 Information Evening  
W 27 Y12 Assessments to Parents  
Th 27 Y10 GCSE Science Module  
Y13 Parents' Meeting with Subject Teachers  
F 28 Y11 Careers performance/workshop

#### December

- M 01 Governors' Annual Meeting with Parents  
Th 04 Y11 (02-03) Certificates Evening/Reunion  
M 08 Y12 Parents' Meeting with Subject Teachers  
W 17 Y7 Assessments to parent  
Christmas Concert  
Th 18 Senior Citizens' party  
F 19 Term ends

## Sponsored Walk

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2003

**Please encourage students to support this fund-raising effort by the School to ensure our new science laboratories have all the latest equipment they need**

## PTA Bingo

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2003

Railway Club, Norton

7.30pm

**Please donate prizes for Bingo and Raffle**

*Both school offices will be pleased to accept contributions as soon as possible*