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# MALTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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# ISSUE 1 SEPTEMBER 1998

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## Success in exams this year

We are once again delighted with some excellent performances by students, in GCSE, GNVQ and A-level exams.

- **At A-level**, every student passed in at least one of their subjects - this has become the norm at Malton School in recent years. 82% passed in three or more subjects.
- The overall pass rate was 90% - above the national average as in previous years.
- The best individual performance came from Chris Jefferson, with three grade A's and 2 B's, as well as passes at Special level in Maths and Physics, and passes on his STEP papers (Oxford and Cambridge entry exams). Chris will be going on to study Maths at Cambridge.
- We have been analysing student performance at A-level over the last 5 years in comparison to their previous GCSE results - a "value-added" approach - and students at all ability levels perform better at Malton School when compared with figures for All Secondary Schools nationally.

**At Advanced Level GNVQ Health & Social Care** two students gained Distinction, two Merit and one is on course to complete this term. The five students have spent two days in School, two at York College of Further & Higher Education and one on placement.

**At GCSE level**, we saw a return to the higher standards to which we have become

accustomed, after a dip in overall performance last year.

- 99% of entries resulted in a pass, 57% of these at grade A\* to C.
- 51% of pupils gained five or more passes at grade A\* to C.
- 95% of pupils gained five or more passes at GCSE level - this is a significant improvement, and the best return we have ever had, our previous best being 89% in 1994. The national press has tended to concentrate on A\* to C passes - but pupils' success at all levels of ability is important to us, and we are delighted with the hard work put in by pupils, whatever their ability.
- There were more A\* passes than ever before this year (despite this being a smaller year group), with 44 entries gaining this exceptional performance grade. (Our previous best was 35 in 1994).
- Best individual performances came from Tim Lawes, with 7 A\* and 3 A grades, Matthew Hayward with 6 A\* and 3 A grades, and Rachel Pullan with 7 A\* and 2 B's.

Fuller details of all our students' exam performances will follow in the Annual Report, published later this month.

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## Newsletters

Parents can expect a newsletter on the first Friday of each half term. Occasionally an additional edition will be published if we have urgent news to communicate between these dates.

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## Staff Changes

Four staff left us at the end of the Summer Term:

**Ms Richardson**, who taught Games, Maths, Geography and Skills for Living, left us after one year.

**Mr Carr**, who taught Design Technology, Information Technology and some Sixth Form Games, has left us after two years to take up a teaching post in Durham.

**Mr Bark**, who was Head of Modern Languages, has left us after two years to become Head of Modern Languages at Thirsk School.

Finally **Mr Thomas**, Head of Physical Education and Head of Upper School, retired after 28 years of service to Malton School. Not a man for publicity, Mr Thomas would not want any major tribute published here, and perhaps it is wise not to attempt any such article - it is unlikely that any words phrased here could do justice to the contribution Mr Thomas has made to the lives of the young people in his charge over the years. We wish him well in his retirement.

We welcome to the school five new members of staff:

**Mr Sibley** - from Boroughbridge High School, has joined the Senior Management Team, as Head of Upper School and Careers Co-ordinator.

**Ms Smith** - from King James' School, Knaresborough, is our new Head of Modern Languages.

**Mr Harvey** - from St Peter and St Paul's School, Widnes, is our new Head of Physical Education.

**Ms Robinson** will be teaching Design Technology and Girls' Games.

**Mrs Allsopp** will be teaching French.

## Malton School on the Internet

The School now has its own web site on the Internet - if you have Internet access you can find us at

<http://members.aol.com/maltons/>

Our site has a school prospectus, general information about the school and the surrounding area, and the latest news about school events and school life. Newsletters such as this will appear, with many photographs to enhance our reports. The site will be "live", with regular updates, and will grow as we develop different pages. Students will be able to access the site across the school network using our own Intranet, and this proved the most popular package on the network at the end of last term, with pictorial records of Year 6 visits and Sports Day proving to be of great interest. Other web sites are also available on our Intranet, downloaded from the Internet, after careful vetting for suitability. Thanks are due to our IT technician, Mr Graham Magee, for his work on setting up this exciting venture.

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## Uniform

It is pleasing to see pupils return to school so neatly dressed. Our insistence on one single type of jumper - with school badge - seems to have met with general approval, and is helping keep appearances neat and tidy. A reminder please to parents that if unusual circumstances prevent your son or daughter wearing normal uniform, they should bring a note from you explaining the temporary problem. Two particular reminders - trainers are not acceptable as normal footwear, and ties must be worn every day. Thank you for your continued support in upholding our pupils' high standard of dress.

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## Premises

As part of the Government programme to place a computer in every classroom the School is currently being "wired-up". The cabling runs the length of both buildings with points in each teaching area. The two buildings are linked through a duct under the School field.

Plans are in hand for County to replace all three West Wing central heating boilers during the Autumn. The West Wing is currently being painted externally. Improvements to the West Wing corridor and cloakrooms have been carried out over the Summer.

The Music Suite is nearing completion with additional practice rooms about to be carpeted. We also hope that this term will see County begin the now overdue process of replacing the metal framed windows in West Wing with double-glazed, tinted units.

### School Photographs

Year 7 photographs will be taken on Wednesday, 14 October. If any parent/guardian wishes to make a special request for family groups please inform Mrs Green in writing before 7 October.

## Norton College Inspection

We wish our colleagues at Norton well - the start of term is always a busy time, without having Ofsted inspectors in to add to the pressure!

## Sports Day Success

It seems a long time ago, but this is the first newsletter since our Sports Day back on Wednesday, 8 July.

The event was narrowly won by the pupils of Rye house, by the closest of margins - showing that every contribution by every competitor really does count. The final results were:

**Rye - 1006 points**  
**Seven - 1002 points**  
**Derwent - 865 points**

### Individual Winners

		<i>points</i>
Y7 Girls	<b>Laura Bone &amp; Sophie Marks</b>	<b>20</b>
Y7 Boys	<b>Richard Etherington &amp; Philip Richardson</b>	<b>28</b>
Y8 Girls	<b>Natalie Miller &amp; Claire White</b>	<b>28</b>
Y8 Boys	<b>Bob Horsman</b>	<b>30</b>
Y9 Girls	<b>Claire Shipley</b>	<b>21</b>
Y9 Boys	<b>George Cooper</b>	<b>33</b>
Y10 Girls	<b>Kim Hoggard</b>	<b>38</b>
Y10 Boys	<b>Andrew Mitchell</b>	<b>30</b>

*Full results and photographs from track and field can be found on our Internet site - look in the Latest News pages.*

Apart from the winners, Sports Day was a success in many ways: for all the competitors who took part and gave of their best for their houses; for the staff and Sixth Formers who helped organise, record and run events; and for the spectators who enjoyed the excitement of the competition, which rose as always to a climax in the final relay races. Thanks are due particularly to Mrs Dowson Boyes and Mr Ewing for the overall organisation.

## Challenge for former student

A former student of the school is raising money towards the £3000 needed for her ten-week expedition to Chile in October, 1999. Ruth Woodall, who took A-levels at Malton three years ago, has just graduated with a 2.1 in Geography at Durham University, and is about to return to do an MSc in geomorphology. Ruth has already completed a rugged sponsored walk in the Welsh mountains as part of her campaign. Anyone who feels they could help with further sponsorship should contact her through G Woodall and Sons Ltd in Malton.

We are always pleased to hear of former students, their successes and their exploits. Many do keep in touch, and ring or write to let us know how their lives are developing.

## New prospectus

Our new school prospectus will be printed next month. Thank you to the local firms and businesses who responded to our offer of advertising space. We will be contacting you shortly to agree details and layout. Should anyone else wish to be included, please contact Mr Horsman or Mr Fearnley in the next two weeks.

## And finally ...

It is good to welcome back pupils and students after the long "summer" holiday (what summer?). May we extend a particularly warm welcome to new students starting at Malton for the first time, whether they be in Year 7 moving up from primary schools, Year 12 moving into A-levels or GNVQ courses, or in other years having transferred from other schools. We will work as always to ensure your stay at Malton is enjoyable, productive and successful.

## Forthcoming events

### AUTUMN TERM 1998

#### September

- T 01 Registration for Year 12 students
- W 02 Y12 Residential course (3 days)
- Th 03 Autumn Term commences (Week 1)
- F 25 Sponsored Walk (afternoon)

#### October

- M 05 PTA Annual General Meeting
- W 14 Governors' Annual Meeting with Parents
- M 19 Y7-9 French visit (all week)  
Y12 Geography course (to Th 22)  
Y10 Residential course (T 20 to F 23)  
Y10 Geography course (W 21 to F 23)
- F 23 Last day of Half-Term

#### November

- M 02 School re-opens (Week 1)
- M 09 Open Evening
- W 11 PTA Sports Clothing Sale
- W 18 GCSE Certificates Evening
- M 23 Post-16 Evening, Malton
- Th 26 Y13 Assessments to Parents

#### December

- Th 03 GCSE Science Module  
Y13 Parents' Meeting with Subject Teachers
- W 09 Senior House Matches
- Th 10 Y7 Assessments to Parents
- F 11 Senior Citizens' party
- M 14 Junior House Matches
- W 16 Carol Service at St Michael's
- F 20 Term ends
- M 21 A-level Certificates Evening