

July 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

This academic year has brought about many new initiatives and strategies all designed to improve the life chances of our students. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all our students, parents and staff for their continued support of Manor Croft Academy and wish you all a restful and safe summer holiday.

This year has seen many of our children and young people succeed not only in their classwork, but also in a wide range of other activities. Many of these successes have been publicised on our website. Please see below just some of the highlights from the summer term.

Bushcraft

This month over 50 students took part in our third Bushcraft camping experience. Yet again students threw themselves wholeheartedly into the activities which included: fire lighting; archery; building a shelter (and sleeping in it); boning a salmon and, for those with strong stomachs, eating raw fish eyes! Despite the lack of modern-day amenities our students seem to love this trip and I am sure we will run this again next year.

Prom

As part of their final celebrations the Year 11 Prom was held at Cedar Court Hotel in Wakefield. As always students arrived in a variety of interesting vehicles. All of our students looked amazing in their Prom outfits.

MCA Sports Personality of the Year 2017

The first annual MCA Sport Personality of the Year Awards were a huge success. Over 230 students, staff, parents and carers attended the evening event to celebrate the hard work, commitments and sporting success over the 2016-17 sporting season. We had fantastic musical performances from many of the students. The winners on the night were Y7 Zak Yardley and Cody-Lou Marsh, Y8 Lucy-Mae Curtin and Taylor Bowman, Y9 Ellie Williams and Stan Kilburn, Y10 Emily Waring and Jack Bates. The overall winners were Ben Kaye in Y9 and Courtney Marsh in Y8. Thank you to everyone who attended and a big well done to all of our performers and award winners.

Careers Day

Year 10 students were involved in our new look careers day. Visitors from KPMG, Yorkshire Building Society, Yorkshire Water and ITV worked with the students in teambuilding activities designed in the style of an assessment centre. The idea was for students to showcase their teamwork, communication and problem solving skills. Students also took part in mock interviews and the day culminated with a Dragon's Den presentation judged by the visitors. It was a hugely successful day and some of our students even ended up with prospective job offers! Well done year 10!

Sports Day



The sun was shining on another successful Manor Croft Academy Sports Day. Forms in Year 7, 8 and 9 competed in Football, Netball, Benchball, Badminton and Rounders in the morning and athletic events and tug of war in the afternoon. The theme this year was countries and the staff and students did not disappoint! The winners on the day were 7MHA, 8TRE and 9JYO. Congratulations to everyone who took part in a fantastic day!

Year 10 and 11 Exams

External examinations have finished for years 10 and 11 and student and teacher feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. I am confident that they will receive a very pleasing set of examination results in the summer, which is a reflection of all the hard work of both students and staff.

Farewells

This is always the time of year when we say goodbye to some of our staff who are moving on to new opportunities, promoted posts or who are retiring. We wish all colleagues moving on the very best for the future and hope they take with them many fond memories from Manor Croft Academy. You will see that Miss Lyons (32 years) and Mr Ryder (22 years) are leaving the Academy after a very long time. I know that many of our parents will have been taught by these colleagues over a number of years and will wish them well. Also leaving our senior team are Ms Dodds and Mr Audsley who are both moving on to promoted posts in Huddersfield. I personally would like to thank them for their support and service to the Academy and the community over a number of years.

Colleagues who are leaving us this year are: Mrs Allenby, Mr Audsley, Ms Dodds, Mr Durnion, Miss Giblin, Mr Lockwood, Miss Lyons, Mr Ryder, Mr Smithies and Mr Young.

There are a number of key staff joining the Academy in September who I am sure you will give a warm welcome.

Mrs Ali	Deputy Subject Leader of Science
Miss Davis	Teacher English
Miss Day	Cover Supervisor
Mr Harper	Technician D & T
Mr Hodgson	Assistant Principal Behaviour and Attendance
Miss Hussain	Teacher of Maths
Mrs Laverick	Subject Leader of D & T
Miss Rai	Teacher English
Mr Rowe	Teacher of Science (Biology)
Mr Ward	Teacher of ART/Photography

Key Dates:

Friday, 21 July 2017	Academy closes at 12:45 for the Summer holidays
Thursday, 24 August 2017	GCSE Results Day 9am
Monday, 4 September 2017	Staff training day; academy closed to students
Tuesday, 5 September 2017	Year 7 8:25am & Years 8 - 11 in at 11am
Wednesday, 6 September 2017	All year groups in school as normal at 8:25am
Friday, 24 November 2017	Staff training day; academy closed to students

Yours faithfully



Andy Barnett
Principal