



MALVERN
COLLEGE HONG KONG
香港墨爾文國際學校

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

MALVERN COLLEGE HONG KONG MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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Happy New Year!

Each New Year provides the perfect opportunity to begin something new, and to take a step closer to the attainment of one's hopes and aspirations. For the team at Malvern College Hong Kong (MCHK), this New Year definitely brings us to fulfilling our aspiration as we will open our doors and welcome our first pupils in the Autumn. We are busy counting down the days until they arrive in our brand-new campus. This is, without doubt, a year of breakthrough and adventure, one where our aspiration will become reality. We hope 2018 will prove to be the same for each of you and we wish you all a very 'Happy New Year'!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDING HEADMASTER DR. ROBIN LISTER

Dear Parents,

I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas break and enjoyed the many festivities that were going on in and around Hong Kong over the last few weeks. Perhaps some of you managed a trip abroad to see family and friends? If so, I hope it went well and that you have returned to Hong Kong suitably refreshed!

As I write this first newsletter of 2018, I am sitting in my house in the Scottish Highlands where it is snowing heavily. I am hoping that the roads to the airport will be clear for me to return to Hong Kong in a few days! Whilst I have been away over the Christmas period, we have continued our teacher recruitment. I am pleased to say that we are well on the way to building an excellent group of highly qualified and experienced teachers to guide the school through its first, exciting year. I am really looking forward to having the whole team together so that we can begin to plan the curriculum and to finalise the timetable. As some of you will know from driving past the site, the construction is moving rapidly ahead. It now looks very much like a school and work on the inside is also progressing well. We are keeping our fingers crossed for the building to be completed and ready for its formal signing off in April. It is then our intention to run some informal tours of the school for parents during the early part of the Summer.

We have spent the last couple of months working on the school uniform and this is now in its final stages. We are bringing in the very best of traditions from Malvern UK (MCUK); and the children's uniform will reflect this. The MCHK uniform will look very similar to that worn by the children in MCUK




(with some subtle differences to reflect the fact that Hong Kong is a little warmer than the UK!). I know some parents are asking about bus routes and I am pleased to say that, now we have a clear idea as to where our pupils are coming from, we are busy working out the school's bus routes. Once these are finalised we shall publish them on our website, but the routes will certainly take in: Central, Admiralty, Repulse Bay, Happy Valley, Kowloon Tong and West Kowloon. Of course, there will also be the option of using the MTR service to University from where we will run a shuttle bus service to cover the very short distance to the school.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year, and to say how much I and all the team here are looking forward to welcoming you and your children to MCHK this year.

With sincerest best wishes,

Dr. Robin A. Lister
Founding Headmaster



Our Malvern College Pre-School Hong Kong pupils recently supported the "Box of Hope" charity, which helps to provide educational and fun Christmas gifts to underprivileged children in Hong Kong. The Charity aims to teach children how, through their kindness in the giving of gifts, they can make a real difference.

MALVERN QUALITY OF THE MONTH

KINDNESS

Kindness is one of those qualities one might simply take for granted, something that schools should encourage in their children, yet few people spend much time thinking about just how important a quality it is. Our view at MCHK is that kindness is something that should never be taken for granted rather, it is something that underpins a civilised society and therefore must form the very foundation of any good school. As a graduate student, Dr. Lister says that he came to admire the life and work of Albert Schweitzer whose impact on ethics, theology and music made him one of the major figures of the early twentieth century. Schweitzer recognised the importance of kindness in all interpersonal relationships; as appropriate in a school as much as in an office, in politics, or in any other environment. He noted:

'Constant kindness can accomplish much. As the sun makes ice melt, kindness causes misunderstanding, mistrust, and hostility to evaporate.'

In a school environment, acting with compassion gives a child the confidence and resilience to cope with much in life. In addition, it develops a sense of empathy for others which in turn encourages more kindness. It is, in a sense, what keeps a community together, and this is why we value it as an important Malvern quality.



CAMPUS PROGRESS UPDATE

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3



1. External Elevation
2. Aerial Photo
3. Auditorium
4. Indoor Sports Hall
5. Library



FOREST SCHOOL EXPERIENCE DAY

Thank you to all participants who joined our Forest School Experience Day on Saturday 2nd December 2017. It was a great success with full attendance in all sessions. Children and parents had the opportunity to experience all aspects of the programme. They were encouraged to 'get their hands dirty' by making crowns from leaves, playing on wooden swings, 'hunting' animals and bugs, and decorating calico with natural resources. Whilst we had four activity stations for the children to experience, it was wonderful to see that many used individual creativity to initiate their own activities. Some built their own huts with branches, some climbed the wooden bridge built earlier, and others tried to start a bonfire with wood and stones.

The Forest School programme at MCHK has a philosophy of child-led learning, with a focus on engaging all of the senses. Within this one session, whether they were looking for the lizard under the branches, moving tree branches together, or helping each other on the swing, the children were interacting, making friends and collaborating with a freedom that is not often possible indoors.

Forest School allows children to learn beyond the curriculum framework. They have the opportunity to explore the natural elements of wood, sand, water and soil, to craft with leaves, sticks and natural materials, to catch (and release) bugs, to collect water, to build swings or hammocks and to generally explore the great outdoors. In doing so, they build a deeper understanding of scientific concepts such as size, shape, colour and measurement. We at MCHK, believe access to such an outdoor environment contributes significantly to a child's emotional wellbeing, and builds their confidence and self-esteem; laying the foundations for academic success.

The Forest School Programme at MCHK empowers children to become more resilient, kind and happy individuals, and to grow into confident teenagers and adults.



INTERNATIONAL CHESS WORKSHOP

The International Chess Workshop held on the 9th December 2017 was another successful and well attended event. We are grateful to Cassia Hong Kong Chess Club for their support of this event, especially for giving our prospective parents an insight into the benefits of chess and for allowing the children to experience playing the game themselves.

Dr. Robin Lister, our Founding Headmaster and Mr. David Garceran Nieuwenburg, the Managing Director of Cassia Hong Kong Chess Club, each talked to parents about the benefits of chess and its value in education. Dr. Lister explained how chess helps to improve concentration, patience and perseverance, qualities that Malvern College Hong Kong hopes to instil in all its pupils. These valuable skills are widely transferable to many aspects of school life including sport, music and academics, and also to the wider world. Dr. Lister sees the trained chess player as an embodiment of the Malvern ethos and this is why MCHK will incorporate chess into school life via its rich co-curricular programme. To support this, one of the play areas on campus will include a giant chess board and chess pieces, which we believe will promote the game and will certainly foster some ingenious creative play from our pupils.

Mr. Nieuwenburg reinforced the values of playing chess, explaining how it affects multiple intelligences. In addition to having a positive impact on a child's cognitive development, it also builds their character. Children learn foresight, circumspection, and cautiousness, developing a habit of not being discouraged by difficult circumstances and of persevering in their search for solutions.

In another room, Alberto, the instructor from Cassia Hong Kong Chess Club, gave the children a lively and very enjoyable introduction to playing chess. Those with more experience were encouraged to play their own games, with Alberto offering guidance when needed. The session ended with Alberto playing a fascinating and highly entertaining chess game whilst blindfolded. He showed the audience of both parents and children, his skill in not only remembering every move made but also the location of each piece on the board. Before heading home all participants were given a certificate and a polaroid, taken with Dr.

Lister and Mr. Nieuwenburg as a memento of the day. Everyone left knowing a little more about chess and agreeing that it had been a very enjoyable and informative session.

We're glad everyone enjoyed the workshop as much as we did, and we look forward to seeing you at our future events! If you would like to learn more about our school, please visit:

<http://www.malverncollege.org.hk/>



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

In the United Kingdom, New Years' Eve is a time of celebration, a time to see out the old year and to welcome in the new, with many different traditions being followed. In England festivities often centre on raising a glass, sharing a kiss at midnight or watching fireworks. In Scotland, the celebration is called "Hogmanay", and it traditionally lasts until 2nd of January (and is why this day is a Scottish Bank Holiday).

There are many national and regional customs, one of the most widespread national customs being the practice of "first-footing". People visit each other's homes immediately after midnight bearing gifts of whisky, bread, coal, salt or a black bun (a rich fruit cake). Traditionally, each of these gifts symbolised a different kind of luck for the householder and it was believed that a tall dark-haired man was the "first footer" who would bring the most luck. Today, the practice continues well into the early hours with guests spending time together sharing the gifts.

In other areas, such as Northumberland, a county in North-East England, the celebrations take a more audacious fashion. The Tar Barl Festival has been the way of welcoming the New Year for at least 160 years. Its focus is a lively procession which takes place at midnight in the town of Allendale. Forty-five barrel carriers in fancy dress known as "guisers" carry on their heads whisky barrels filled with burning hot tar through the streets to the town centre. There, the barrels are used to ignite a ceremonial bonfire, known as the Barl Fire. As the ceremonial fire is ignited everyone shouts, "Be damned to he who throws last". Fire was traditionally believed to signify the power of the sun to ward off evil spirits and fire (or more likely today, fireworks) still feature in many New Years' Eve celebrations all over the UK.

No matter how or where the New Year is celebrated, the general focus is on bringing good fortune to the year ahead and on leaving negativity in the past. For this reason, many see it as a time of rebirth or of starting afresh, a time to set "resolutions" and to make positive changes to achieve new goals.

We hope that your New Year was a time of celebration and we wish you all a very happy and prosperous year ahead.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Malvern Meets

We invite prospective parents to find out more about our school and our admissions process by joining one of our 'Malvern Meets'. Parents will have the opportunity to speak with our senior management team and with our Founding Headmaster, Dr Robin Lister. Space is limited and places are allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Please follow the link below to register. We will send you an email if your request is confirmed.

Pre - School Malvern Meet

Date: Tuesday, 16th January 2018

Time: 5:30 - 7:00p.m.

Venue: G9-12, Coronation Circle, 1 Yau Cheung Road, Southwest Kowloon, Hong Kong

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP.

College Malvern Meet

Date: Tuesday, 30th January 2018

Time: 6:30 - 8:00p.m.

Venue: 14/F, Club Lusitano, 16 Ice House Street, Central, Hong Kong

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP.



Experience Malvern Creative Arts Workshop

When: Saturday, 10th March 2018
Session 1: 10:30a.m. – 12noon
Session 2: 1:00 – 2:30p.m.
Session 3: 3:00 – 4:30p.m.

Where: Hong Kong Science Park

Please sign up [HERE](#) and we will send you an email if your reservation is confirmed.

Rugby Experience Day

Around March and April each year, it's a big time for Rugby because of the Hong Kong Rugby Sevens! Before the big event, we have set a date for Malvern College Hong Kong Rugby Experience day. A great event where you can learn the basics, and get a taste of the exciting world of rugby.

Indeed, Rugby is fantastic fun. It not only provides children with equal opportunities to run with the ball, pass the ball and play defence, but it's a game of real teamwork. Everyone needs to participate, no one is left out. The skills, knowledge, and experience gained from playing rugby are transferable to the classroom and more importantly, to life. Bring along your sportswear, trainers (without spikes), water bottles, sweat, energy, and the spirit to tackle every obstacle along the way, and join us for this fun and exciting day!

When: Saturday, 24th March 2018
Session 1: 1:30 – 2:30p.m.
Session 2: 2:30 – 3:30p.m.

Where: The Education University of Hong Kong
Pak Shek Kok Sports Centre

Please sign up [HERE](#) and we will send you an email if your request is confirmed.





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UPCOMING EVENTS

Pre-School Open House

Visit our Reggio Emilia-inspired Pre-School located in Southwest Kowloon! We invite prospective parents to find out more about our school and to meet our teachers and Founding Principal, Mrs. Jacqueline McNalty, at our Open House. Space is limited and places are allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Please follow the link below to make a reservation.

Please sign up [HERE](http://www.malvernpreschool.hk/open-house/) and we will send you an email if your reservation is confirmed.

Open House
Malvern College Pre-School Hong Kong

Come and Experience Different
New Year Celebrations!

Saturday, 3rd February 2018 | 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
RSVP: <http://www.malvernpreschool.hk/open-house/>
G9-12, Coronation Circle, 1 Yau Cheung Road, Southwest Kowloon

MALVERN
COLLEGE PRE-SCHOOL
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The Malvern College Family | UK ■ Hong Kong ■ Chengdu ■ Qingdao ■ Egypt



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CONTACT US



Malvern College Hong Kong School Site (Opening September 2018)

Conveniently located for road and rail transportation and yet fabulously close to the waterfront with its cycle routes, the school will be easily accessible to all its students. An extensive, compulsory school bus service will be implemented. Further details of this will follow.

School Site Address

Fo Chun Road (Intersection with Chong San Road)
Providence Bay, New Territories,
Hong Kong

Admissions Office Address

14/F, Club Lusitano, 16 Ice House Street,
Central, Hong Kong

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