



MALVERN  
COLLEGE SWITZERLAND

Transform Their World

1 APRIL 2022 | ISSUE 8

# NEWSLETTER



## From the Headmaster

Our first skiing term has passed off extremely well. The staff were steeling themselves for regular visits to the hospital but, bar one of two minor scrapes, the pupils at least(!) have made it through the season remarkably unscathed.

One of the great delights of being a teacher is watching pupils improve. On the slopes improvements are particularly visible and satisfying. I think back to our first day when many were only able to progress gingerly down the beginners' slope. There is no-one in that category now.

The fresh air we have all enjoyed this term has been a welcome contrast to the life most of us have spent for the last couple of years; cowering indoors glued to our computer screens. I have thought to myself many times this term as I've watched our little band of Malvern bibs careering down the slopes that this is what childhood is really all about. We are very lucky.

On these pages I hope you'll get a feel for what we've been up to in the second half of term. There's been a lot of skiing, obviously, but a huge amount else has happened too. If your child returns to you a little tired this holiday, it is with good reason.

Please have a close look at the key dates that lie ahead - not

least Speech Day at the end of June - an event that will mark the end of our inaugural year and to which you are all warmly invited. We also have some more Parent Workshops to look forward to and, of course, our trip to the UK in May.

On behalf of all the team at MCS it remains only for me to wish you a very happy Easter break.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 18th April from about 4.00pm.



**Dr Jefferis**  
Headmaster



## FROM THE PUPILS



### History trip to the UN

Today (23 March) we went to visit Geneva, more specifically to the United Nations (UN). They gave us a tour and explained their work and what they do; their commitment to maintaining international peace and security. We learnt about the better standards of living and human rights that they support. This fed into the work we had done in the classroom on the League of Nations.

After the tour Miss Bows and Dr Jefferis let us have some free time in the city. Our group went to eat sushi and browse the shops. Unfortunately, we had not listened when instructions were being given out about the return time and so arrived 30 minutes late. But luckily, we were able to catch a later train and get back to school in time for supper. We learnt a lot on this day!

#### Fernanda, Ines, Luciana and Maria



### Tennis Academy

I am now an official member of the Swiss Tennis Federation which is a great honor to me and to all in the Malvern family.

To keep it in shape, Mr Ellis organised a special room where I can do my exercises. My training schedule at Leysin Tennis Club has been intensified and I now train four times per week.

In my first competition, I won the Leysin Tournament. I am looking forward to improving my performance further in upcoming tournaments. I am proud to compete for Malvern College Switzerland.

#### Malak







### KS3 Science Fieldtrip

On a crisp Monday just after the morning assembly the Key Stage 3 pupils went off on an exploration into the woods above the school. They are undertaking a unit on Plants, Production and Sustainability and it was an opportunity to get out into nature and look for 'signs of spring'. Pupils gathered data from observations of anything from germinating wildflower to fallen pinecones. They used an app called Seek to help them identify species of plants. Clipboards were out, pencils were sharpened and a thirst for new understanding was at the heart of this experience. Pupils will be presenting their findings of the local habitat in the final lesson of term. The science teachers were very relieved not to run into any wolves, bears or Gruffalo's(!) on our adventure and only saw a big bad alpine shrew. Everyone got home safely and happy we were able to take our classroom outside for the morning.

**Mr Watts & Mr Smallwood**

### Hydroponic plant growing

Staff and pupils are getting involved in spring planting and growing their own crops. The seedlings are now big enough to be transferred to the hydroponic garden where, if we have got it right, should be ready to harvest and eat after the spring break. We should have lettuce and herbs a plenty in the coming weeks. Not only is it very satisfying watching your plants grow it is a wonderful learning experience for the students in germination and sustainable crop growing which will help them tackle some of the big challenges of our growing population.....feeding them!

**Mr Watts**







## Intermediate Maths Challenge

This term the Remove were given the opportunity to participate in the United Kingdom Maths Trust Intermediate Maths Challenge. This is a worldwide competition of mathematical problem-solving open to pupils in Years 9 and 10 in British schools across the globe. The best pupils are awarded either a bronze, silver, or gold certificate to recognise their achievements.

MCS is proud to announce that two of our talented mathematicians gained a certificate. Congratulations to Raimundo Arias for achieving a Bronze Award and to Ben for achieving a Silver Award and the accolade of 'best in school'. This is a great success for both of them!

After Easter, pupils in Years 7 and 8 will have the opportunity to participate in the Junior Maths Challenge.

If you want to test your skills, have a go at two of the questions from the intermediate challenge opposite - calculators are not allowed!

The answers can be found on the back page. Good luck!



An 'easy' one...

1) Workers digging a tunnel for an underground railway complete 5 metres of tunnel on a typical day. Working everyday, how long will it take them to dig a tunnel of length 2 kilometres?

- a) three months
- b) six months
- c) just under a year
- d) just over a year
- e) nearly two years

A harder one...

2) Pete's pies all cost an integer number of pounds. A cherry pie costs the same as two apple pies. A blueberry pie costs the same as two damson pies. A cherry pie and two damson pies cost the same as an apple pie and two blueberry pies. Paul buys one of each type of pie. Which of the following could be the amount he spends?

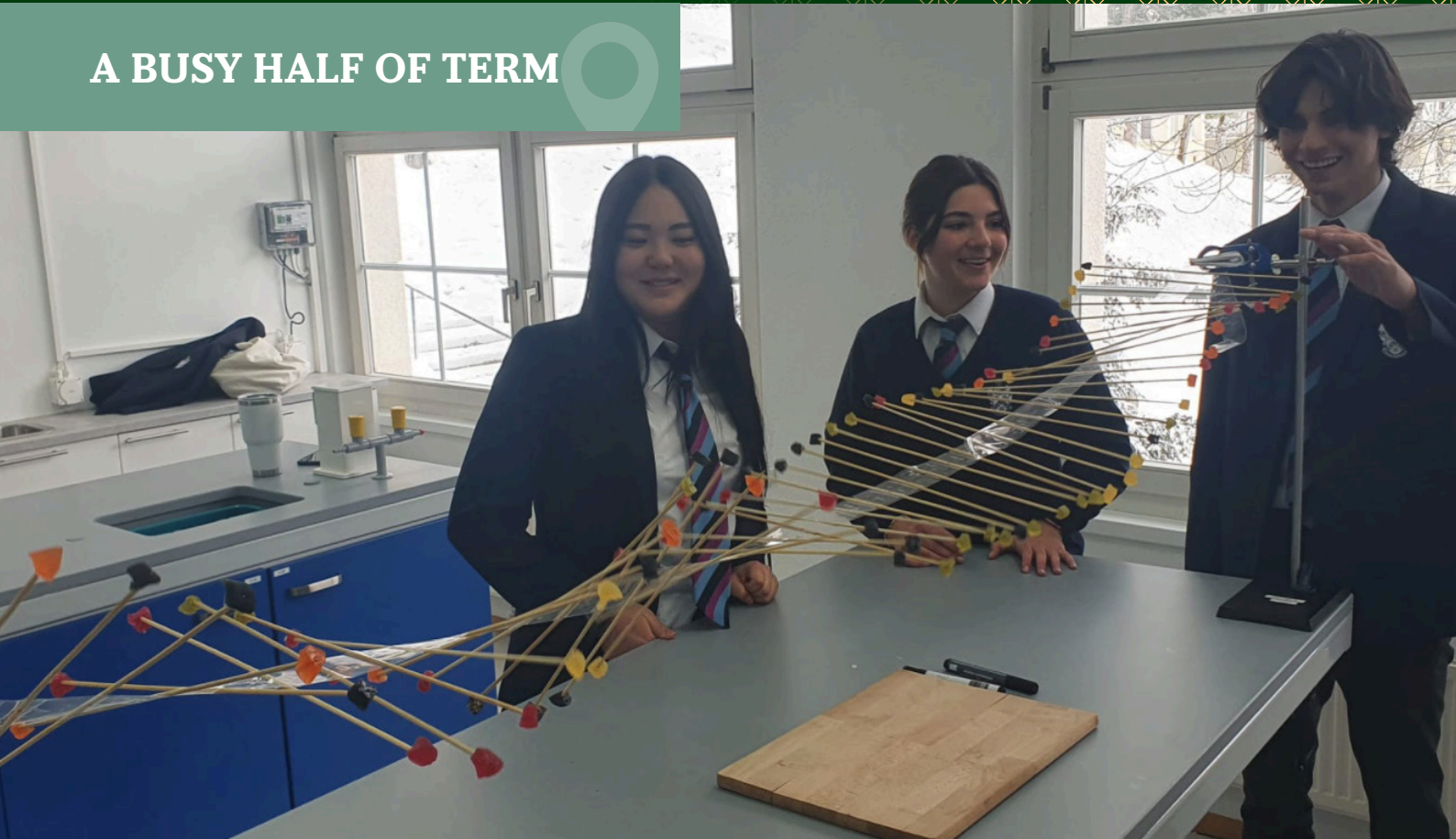
- a) £16
- b) £18
- c) £20
- d) £22
- e) £24

## Miss Cumberlidge





# A BUSY HALF OF TERM



Herewith some photos of some of the things we've been up to this half of term.







# A BUSY HALF OF TERM



Herewith some (more!) photos of some of the things we've been up to this half of term.







# MCS SKI RACE



On the penultimate ski day of term we laid on a ski race for the pupils.

Everyone assembled at the top of the Berneuse and were allowed a quick trial run before posting our times.

The winner of the pupil race was Stellaria (pictured opposite), whilst the teacher race was won by Mr Smallwood (pictured bottom right).

The results were announced on the following day at the End of Term Variety Performance.

Well done to all who took part - there were a lot of end-of-season tired legs on display!



## Miss Dunlop (a.k.a. Director of Fun)







## MCS VARIETY NIGHT



One of the last big events of the term was the MCS 'Variety Night'. The idea was that pupils would get to showcase their talents in front of an audience and have a bit of fun in the process.

The event was live-streamed on YouTube (parents can still see it by using the QR code opposite if they wish). There were songs, dancing, a telepathic performance, and a display of carpet-based 'ice-skating'.

The group song category was one by our delightful Sixth Form (pictured showing off their prize); whilst the award for best individual performance went to Luciana (pictured receiving her award from Mr Ivy).

It was a lovely evening. Thanks go to Mr Watts for pulling it all together (pictured in his ski gear!)



### Dr Jefferis







## FROM THE BOARDING HOUSE



We have recently been focusing on two Malvern Qualities in the boarding house - Kindness and Self-awareness. Pupils often have to share a bedroom with another person from a completely different background when they board with us. This can sometimes come with challenges, but we pride ourselves on placing boarders together with others whom they can learn from.

It is really nice to see when boarders spend time helping each other and being kind. Pelayo (from Spain) and Arman (from Kazakhstan), for example, share a room with each other and have worked well as team - becoming more aware of themselves and making a long-lasting friendship. They may not always keep their bedroom tidy(!) but they are learning to live alongside each other, are deepening their knowledge of other cultures, and have become better people as a result of having lived together.

So it is with many others in our community...

Mr Ellis  
Housemaster



## VALETE



We say goodbye to our three fantastic 'Gappies' at the end of this term. They have been a fantastic bunch - and we were very fortunate that in appointing Freya we got 'three for one'!

Anais, Ellie and Freya, thank you. Our first ski-season has gone remarkably smoothly in large part because of the 'extra hands' you provided in corralling 30 pupils out of the door three times a week. Lost gloves, mislaid Magic Passes and all that...

We are always looking for new gappies, so if you happen to know of someone who might be interested, and who has the right 'can do' spirit please do point them in our direction.

Dr Jefferis  
Headmaster

*"... if you happen to know of someone with the right 'can do' spirit, do please point them in our direction."*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### School Calendar

We're always keen to get parents involved as much as we can in school life.

Now that COVID restrictions have largely lifted there is no reason why parents can't pop in and see what we're up to.

Drop us a line and do pop in, please!

**Friday 1 April 2022**

#### End of winter term

Parents should aim to pick their children up by 5pm



**Monday 18 April 2022**

#### Start of summer term

Parents should aim to drop their children off at around 5pm



**Saturday 21 May 2022**

#### Open Day

We're planning to host our first IRL open day. Note that this date has changed from the one previously published.



**28 May - 5 June 2022 (inclusive)**

#### UK Half Term Trip

Optional trip to the UK during summer half term



**Friday 24 June**

#### Speech Day & End of Term



## Upcoming Virtual Events

**Monday 25 April 2022**

#### Parent workshop: Life beyond MCS

Mrs Thomas on university applications, careers guidance etc. (from 5pm)







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## The Malvern Qualities

- Resilience
- Self-awareness
- Open-mindedness
- Kindness
- Collaboration
- Risk-taking
- Curiosity
- Ambition
- Independence
- Integrity
- Humility



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[Maths Challenge Answers: D; B]