



Morna International College

Newsletter, September 2006.

WELCOME, OR WELCOME BACK

I will open this newsletter by welcoming you all back from the summer break and giving a special welcome to all new pupils who have joined the school this year and to their parents.

We are also welcoming some new members of staff. In the Primary section we have been joined by Mary Colliver and Barbara Gow, both from the UK who are the new tutors for Years 2 and 5 respectively. The foreign languages section has seen the incorporation of Jorge Arguelles as Spanish teacher in the Secondary school, Karin Arkenberg teaching German as a foreign language and Salvador Egea teaching Catalan. As a result of having these new members of staff we have been able to split all Spanish and German classes into ability levels and extend the teaching of introductory Catalan into the Secondary timetable.

Holly Henderson has joined us both as Art teacher in the Secondary section and support teacher in Primary and finally I have personally joined the mathematics dept to enable the division of the examination groups into distinct levels.

ACADEMIC RESULTS

Pupils in Years 6 and 9 took the National Curriculum assessments (SATs) at the end of last year. These examinations serve as indicators of their progress in the core subjects

(English, Mathematics and Science) and allow us to compare them with the national results in the UK. The results give a level on a scale of 1 to 8 measuring the skills acquired in these subjects. The target for the end of Primary is level 4, with level 5 indicating a high standard for this age. At the end of Year 9 most pupils should be reaching levels 5 or 6 with 7 and 8 representing a high level of achievement.

These tables give a brief comparison of our results with the national results from the UK. The results are given as cumulative percentages. We are pleased with these scores and consider that they give us every reason to be optimistic about future IGCSE performance.

Key Stage 2 (Year 6)

English	Level 3+	Level 4+	Level 5
National Results (2005)	93%	79%	27%
MIC (2006)	100%	83%	50%

Mathematics	Level 3+	Level 4+	Level 5
National Results (2005)	93%	75%	31%
MIC (2006)	100%	83%	42%

Science	Level 3+	Level 4+	Level 5
National Results (2005)	97%	87%	47%
MIC (2006)	100%	92%	83%

Key Stage 3 (Year 9)

English	Level 5+	Level 6+	Level 7+
National Results (2005)	74%	35%	9%
MIC (2006)	95%	53%	5%

Mathematics	Level 5+	Level 6+	Level 7+
National Results (2005)	74%	53%	25%
MIC (2006)	85%	80%	30%

Science	Level 5+	Level 6+	Level 7+
National Results (2005)	70%	37%	12%
MIC (2006)	95%	50%	25%

In the IGCSE examinations, pleasing results were obtained by most candidates. The overall pass rate (grades A* to C) was 65%, a slight

improvement on last year. Of the six candidates who completed Year 11 four achieved at least five IGCSE passes at grades A to C with the most outstanding individual performance passing eight subjects, five of them at grade A or A*. The three candidates who completed their 'A' level courses gained sufficient qualifications to access university and we are waiting for confirmation of their placements.

YOUR VALUABLE OPINIONS

We received 51 replies from the survey form distributed at the end of last year. This was a little disappointing as it represents well under half of all parents. However the information and comments received have been extremely useful. The surveys contained a fair amount of praise and most of the criticism was constructive. We have been, and will continue to be, planning strategies for improving on the areas that seem to be of more general concern, such as information and communication and some specific areas of the curriculum. Form tutors should be congratulated as most parents felt they were effectively dealing with individual problems.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The school grounds saw further development this summer with the planting of twenty trees which should provide more shade in the future.

The library will be fully functional this year, each child will be issued with a library code number for borrowing books. The parents association will also be collaborating with library supervision at the end of each school day.

A booklet entitled "Essential information for parents" will be sent home via the children next Monday. In

this booklet we have compiled information about school organisation, rules and procedures in order to provide parents with a quick reference guide to school organisation.

This will be followed by curriculum content summaries outlining the main topics that are covered in each year and subject. These will be distributed in the first parents meetings.

EVENTS AND KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

The introductory parents meetings have been scheduled as follows:

Nursery, Reception: **Monday 25th September.**
Years 1 and 2: **Tuesday 26th September.**
Years 3, 4, 5 and 6: **Thursday 28th September**
Secondary: **Wednesday 27th September.**

IPAMIC, who are kindly taking full responsibility for organising the extra-curricular activities programme, have programmed an open afternoon where all activities tutors will be available for consultation and there will be a demonstration concert from the music tutors. This will take place on **Wednesday 13th September.**

The school inauguration ceremony will take place on **Friday 20th October.** Invitations and more information will be sent out in due course.

A musical theatre production is provisionally scheduled for **Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th of December.**

Reminders for all of these events will be sent in separate letters.

Finally, I wish all of you, and all of us, a successful academic year.

Adrian Massam, Headteacher.