



Morna International College.

Newsletter, September 2008.

WELCOME TO NEW STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

This year we have been joined by five new members of staff, four teaching and one non-teaching. I would like to welcome the following:

Annie Ritchie (Primary), Kirsty Purvis (Primary), Martin Bailey (Information Technology), Paul Politiak (Sports) and Kitty Bakker (in charge of maintenance).

Martin and Paul have been appointed as coordinators of Information Technology and Sports respectively, these being two priority areas for development this year.

Also the newly created post of Foreign Languages Coordinator has been assigned to **Conny Rathgeb**.

I would also like to welcome the approximately 60 new pupils who have joined the school this year.

A STATEMENT FROM THE SCHOOL MANAGER ABOUT INVESTMENT AND FEES:

Dear Parents,

I am remiss in not having written to you regarding the fee increases that have been implemented with effect from the start of the new school year in September. When the present owners purchased Morna, they acquired a school that had been through a major change (the move from San Carlos to Santa Gertrudis) but which still needed significant investment in equipment, facilities and teaching staff, in order to realise its potential.

The list of changes and improvements is enormous, and we continue to invest in the facilities and staff, but I thought that you might like to see a very brief overview of the amount of money spent, over and

above the normal school budget, from the date of acquisition in February 2007 up until the end of last term.

First of all equipment and facilities:

IT equipment inc whiteboards, computers, software, installation etc.	82,760.51€
Classroom furniture, all school	24,718.90€
Building work – Science lab, study room, skylights	122,055.73€
Electrical works - computer room & category 6 cable	6,409.32€
Nursery Garden – Woodchips, equipment, slide, platform	24,274.72€
New air conditioning units	5,825.94€
Library – books, TV, DVD, computers	10,000.00€
Sub-total	276,045.12€

Second, teaching staff

Redundancies	37,082.77 €
Additions to staff (annual cost)	136,293.36 €
Salary revisions (annual cost)	103,248.24 €
Sub-total	276,624.37 €

Total	552,669.49 €
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I hope that this summary, which I think is something of an eye-opener, helps you to understand the huge expenditures on the school. You will see that the fee increases do not even cover the increases in salary. Additionally, since the end of last term, the teaching staff has been increased by 2.3 people and a further 50,000€ to 60,000€ has been spent on capital projects.

Graham Wilkinson.

ACADEMIC RESULTS FROM LAST YEAR

SATs As an established part of our assessment and monitoring procedures, pupils in Years 6 and 9 take the National Curriculum assessments (SATs) each June. 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. Very encouraging scores were achieved by both groups.

These tables give a brief comparison of our results with national results from the UK. The results are given as cumulative percentages.

Key Stage 2 (Year 6)

English	Level 3+	Level 4+	Level 5
National Results	93%	80%	29%
MIC	88%	88%	31%
Mathematics	Level 3+	Level 4+	Level 5
National Results	93%	78%	31%
MIC	94%	88%	25%
Science	Level 3+	Level 4+	Level 5
National Results	96%	88%	44%
MIC	100%	88%	44%

Key Stage 3 (Year 9)

English	Level 5+	Level 6+	Level 7+
National Results	73%	33%	8%
MIC	100%	67%	11%
Mathematics	Level 5+	Level 6+	Level 7+
National Results	77%	58%	31%
MIC	100%	89%	55%
Science	Level 5+	Level 6+	Level 7+
National Results	72%	42%	14%
MIC	90%	50%	20%

IGCSE's and 'A' levels.

Pleasing results were also obtained by many of the candidates who entered for the IGCSE examinations. Twelve pupils completed Year 11 and sat their main examination session. They achieved an overall 68% pass rate (grades A* to C), a figure which confirms an improving trend when compared to the last two years as can be seen here:

Year	2006	2007	2008
A* to C	54%	60%	68%
A* or A	19%	26%	28%

The most outstanding individual performance was ten (A* to C) passes with five at A*.

The two pupils who completed the full 'A' level programme last year studied the equivalent of 5 and 3 'A' levels respectively, reaching grades A, B or C in all of their subjects (for 'A' levels the minimum pass grade is E). *Their grade equivalences in the Spanish system were 8.6 and 6.6.*

Pupils in Year 12 taking the first half of the 'A' level qualification (AS) achieved an overall 75% pass rate.

A number of pupils from Year 9 took individual language examinations (Spanish and German), achieving mostly A* grades.

PARENT-TUTOR MEETINGS

The introductory meetings for parents are scheduled next week as follows:

Monday 22nd September:

Parents from Years 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Tuesday 23rd September:

Parents from Nursery and Reception.

Wednesday 24th September:

Parents from Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Thursday 25th September:

Parents from Years 7, 8 and 9.

The meetings start at 15:45. We hope that you can all attend.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME.

A range of activities including sports, music and art as well as the option of supervised homework are available. The football and tennis activities will both give pupils the opportunity to take part in outside competitions. The school choir and rock band will also have some performing opportunities this year.

Enrolment forms for the activities programme are being distributed this week. They can also be downloaded from the school website.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

We continue to enjoy the valuable support and collaboration of IPAMIC, particularly with our yearbook, extra-curricular activities, special events and parent contributions to our academic programme such as talks/presentations or helping find contacts for work experience placements. IPAMIC would like to invite more parents to join the association. Enrolment forms are available at the school office or via the IPAMIC website.