

**Special points of
interest:**

**Welcome
back to
Mangotsfield
School**

New uniform is available to buy from the school every Wednesday from 3.15 to 4.15 pm, from now until half-term

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Mangotsfield Newsletter



Issue 1

Newsletter Date: 11 Sept 2009

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am very pleased to be writing to you at the start of a new academic year. For the second year running, over 60% of Year 11 students achieved great GCSE results. 61.51% obtained at least 5 A*-C passes and 48% obtained 5 A*-C including English and Maths. These results are a great credit to them, the support of their families and the work of Mangotsfield staff.

Post 16 students achieved well in a number of subjects. 77% of Year 12 students achieved A-E grades, with 21% obtaining A*-B grades. Year 13 students also achieved well, obtaining an 87% pass rate, with 29% at the higher grades (A*-B). Over 20 students have taken places on Higher Education courses.

I wrote to you earlier this week concerning early closure on Monday 14th September to allow staff and students to prepare for the Annual Open Evening. If you are planning to attend or know that others are, please let them know that unfortunately we cannot offer parking on the school site. Mangotsfield Football Club and Cleve Rugby Club have kindly agreed to allow use of their car parks, and there is a walk way to the rear gate of the school by the Sports Hall. Visitors will then be directed to Reception to pick up a guide.

The site team have overseen continuing improvements to the school facilities over the summer. The refurbishment of PE changing rooms, installation of Solar Panels—part funded by EDF, and further expansion of ICT including enhanced broadband supported by the Local Authority, are of particular note.

Year 7 students are already settling in well and a number of new staff have joined the school this year, as you see from the list below.

Teaching Staff

Science	Mrs R Bailey, Mr J Crouch, Mr P Eadie, Ms J Setter
RS/PDC	Miss C Bates
Art	Mrs R Ben Youssef
Psychology	Mr G Clayton
History	Mr J Gilpin
Maths	Mr J Haigh
Law/PDC	Mr G John
Design & Technology	Miss R Smith

Support Staff

Teaching Assistants	Mrs W Bostock, Miss N Jones, Ms T Moxon-Riedlin, Miss K Williams, Mrs C Rogers
Science Technician	Mr J Carter
Cover Supervisor	Miss C Clifton
Voc Ed Co-ordinator	Miss C Phillips
Behaviour Manager	Miss N Purnell

RICHARD BADLEY
HEADTEACHER

Balloon Race

Due to problems with the post both here and in Europe, the School Council has extended the deadline for returns until Thursday 10 September. So far we have received 19 replies including one which suggests that the balloon had wings! This balloon has been disqualified as it did not follow the prevailing wind on the day.



The furthest distances so far are all from the south coast, including a number from the Isle of Wight. Results will be announced on Monday 14 September on the plasma screens. Currently, the three winning tickets are held by Mangotsfield students.

Mangotsfield School Open Evening Mon 14 Sept, 5.30-8.30 pm



Help ease congestion by parking at Cleve Rugby Club

Open Morning
Wed 16 Sept
9.30-12 noon



Lots of our students will be helping out on the night

This is an evening for prospective parents of primary age pupils to look around Mangotsfield School and decide whether it is the right school for their children.

School is open from 5.30 until 8.30 pm for viewing
Head's address at 5.30 and 7.00 pm

Shoe Shoes



In the student planner on page 9 it clearly states “**Students must wear black shoes with black soles**”. A number of students are wearing flimsy canvas shoes which I call plimsolls or daps. Although this footwear is black, these shoes are not waterproof and are not suitable for school. They also do not offer enough protection in practical lessons like D&T and Science and your child may be withdrawn from some aspects of these subjects.

When buying new shoes, the school recommends that you buy black leather shoes as these are by far the most appropriate.

The Personal Development Curriculum.



PDC has now been embedded into the Mangotsfield School curriculum for one year, enhancing the education of all students and providing them with a wealth of opportunities to explore how they learn. The thinking is that when students are equipped with a range of skills, they are able to learn and adapt to new circumstances and define their own priorities for learning. PDC over the forthcoming academic year will include the following QCA PLTS themes, partnered with the statutory PSHE framework:

Term 1 - Self Managers	Term 2 - Team Workers
Term 3 - Reflective Learners	Term 4 - Independent Enquirers
Term 5 - Creative Thinkers	Term 6 - Effective Participators

Term 1 focuses on the skills of Self Management. Self Managers are people who organise themselves, showing personal responsibility, initiative, creativity and enterprise. They show a commitment to learning and self improvement. Self Managers actively embrace change, responding positively to new priorities. Self managers also:-

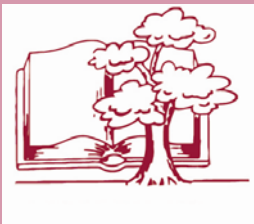
- seek out challenges or new responsibilities and show flexibility when priorities change
- work towards goals, showing initiative, commitment and perseverance
- organise time and resources, prioritising actions
- anticipate, take and manage risks
- deal with competing pressures, including personal and work-related demands
- respond positively to change, seeking advice and support when needed

All students will be developing their self-management skills through active and engaging lessons, based on a range of learning styles within their PDC lessons.

Mangotsfield School produces its own electricity!

8 facts about our new Solar Panels:

1. We have been given £25,000 from the Government's Low Carbon Buildings Programme and £20,000 from the EDF Energy Green Fund. Together with another £5,000 from the school's own funds, we have invested a total of £50,000 to install a solar photo-voltaic electricity generating system on the D&T roof.
2. The energy mostly comes from the visible spectrum, so clouds will cut output, but won't stop output. Solar power doesn't mean the sun has to be shining!
3. The panels are guaranteed for 20 years, but will probably still be producing, usefully for 40 years.
4. The panels are self-cleaning (assuming it rains!).
5. The panels are "standard" panels, with a conversion efficiency of 13%. Some (more expensive) commercial panels can reach 23%.
6. The roof of D&T faces due South and is very suitable for fixing panels, but the pitch is rather flatter than optimum.
7. The main system should produce around 7500 kWh per year, about the same as 1.5- 2 homes, and will be worth up to £1,500 off the annual bill.
8. The main system will be set up so that energy production data can be monitored and used in D&T and Science lessons and as part of the personal development curriculum. The data from the main system will be widely and easily available via a website.



**MANGOTSFIELD
SCHOOL
AN ENGINEERING AND
SCIENCE COLLEGE**

Please give any feedback or
articles for later editions to Ms
Terri Chard

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We're on the Web

www.mangotsfieldschool.org.uk

Remember Yr 7
Parents' Evening
is on 22 Sept

Parents and students are
our best adverts for the
school.

If you think the school is
providing a good quality of
education for your child
please tell people.

If you have any issues
please contact the school.

Your views are important
to us and we often use
your thoughts/comments
to make events better each
year.

Mangotsfield Reunion - Class of 1984

Hello, my name is Nicholas John Punter. I left Mangotsfield School in the 5th year in 1984 and then went on and completed one year in the Sixth Form.

I would like to try and set up a reunion for all those pupils who left the main school at the same time as me, 1984. I would like to set up something for May 2010 which would be the 25th Anniversary of that last year group. I appreciate it is 25 years ago but I would love to see something happen with this idea.

My address when at school would have been 53 The Reddings, Kingswood Bristol BS15 4SB, so if you remember me or if you are interested with helping me organise a reunion or just want to get in touch because you were in that year, then please e-mail me on njp2511@btinternet.com

Thank you, Nicholas Punter

'Partnership Through Action' - Mangotsfield School PTA

Our PTA is an active and vibrant group of parents, carers and teachers who work together in support of the school. Whilst many PTAs exist largely as fund-raising organisations, we pride ourselves on having a wider remit and play an integral role in school life.

- We help to improve communication between parents and staff by providing opportunities for discussion, offering feedback and distributing information.
- We are often the first point of call for parents to ask questions and teachers regularly consult with us on new ideas and policies.
- We facilitate school events by providing refreshments and manpower.
- We operate a school uniform service.
- We organise fund-raising activities including car-boot sales, quiz nights and run "Casa Mango" which produces Mexican style food at local festivals.

Our funds are used to help purchase equipment that cannot be provided for within the school's official budget. Sometimes we concentrate our efforts on a large item such as the new screen and digital projectors in the school hall but recently we have supported a number of smaller projects. Over the last year we have funded the following items:

- Two good-quality school team rugby kits with logo
- Art materials to support the delivery of a KS3 art club
- Expedition Items in support of the introduction of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award
- Concorde Book Award texts for a student reading group (Years 7 and 8)
- Kit Cars Sponsorship
- Netball team jackets
- School Awards/Prizes

We appreciate that coming to meetings is not everyone's cup of tea but we do urge all parents to support the work of the PTA by helping out wherever possible by attending our events or offering a particular skill/contact. New members and new ideas are always welcome, so please come and join us!

Gail Boyle
PTA Chair

If you wish to join our very successful and active PTA, please contact the School office on 01454 862700.

