



# Manor Community College

a DCSF designated Specialist Creative and Performing Arts College  
Principal Ben Slade BA (Hons) Ed, NPQH

Arbury Road, Cambridge, CB4 2JF  
Tel: 01223 508742, Fax: 01223 508747  
Email: [office@manorcc.org.uk](mailto:office@manorcc.org.uk)

Dear Students and Parents/Carers,

## **Principal's update – July 2009**

**It has been great to interact with students and parents/carers at various points over the last year. Thanks to all of you for your support and feedback. We value this immensely.**

This has been a very successful year for the Manor and its students and staff. When I drop into lessons and activities, students always seem to be 'on task' and enjoying their learning. They are a credit to you and the college. Many visitors each week make extremely positive comments about our students, their positive behaviour and attitudes as well as the improvements in the college in recent years.

There are, of course, some inevitable hiccups but we try very hard to resolve issues as soon as they arise.

*Unfortunately, I have been in a great number of meetings recently trying to secure further funding, staff and resources to improve the college further. Therefore I thought I should write to you all with an update... and to prove that I still exist!*

### **1. Our new college aims and values:**

Our new 'motto' is "students first". This doesn't mean everything students say is necessarily right all of the time, **but it does mean that students are the most important people in the college. You are why we are here! Therefore it is very important for us to put your needs first above everything else.**

Always remember that this is **your college** (students, parents, community) and you only have once chance at a first class education.

If you have any ideas for how things could be changed for the better, please let us know. You can either:

- Tell your student voice representative in your form group (students)
- Join the Student Voice Council – see Mr McCann (students)
- Email me directly at [ben.slade@manorcc.org.uk](mailto:ben.slade@manorcc.org.uk) – I will always listen to your views (students and parents/carers)

Deputy Principal: Jane Davies  
Chair of Governors: Phillip Ward  
PA to the Principal: Lucy Crebo  
Bursar: John Moloney

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## 2. Awards

*We have recently been given a number of awards:*

- **Arts Mark Gold** – this shows how committed we are to the arts and making further improvements in Art, Drama, Music and Dance. The staff in these subject areas want Manor to be the best college in Cambridge for the Arts and we are hopeful we can be very soon.
- We have also been asked to join the **Prince of Wales** (Prince Charles') **Teaching Institute** as a result of some of the work Mrs Davies, Miss Heath and Mr Langley have done in the English department!
- We were also awarded the **Cambridgeshire Culture Award** this year
- Congratulations are also due to **Alex Marsh** who has been representing the college and Sin Cru (Junior Sinstars) in a National Competition at the Royal Opera House in London
- Further congratulations too to those students who took part in the **Schools Olympics** the day before yesterday and to all of the sports teams who have done well this year. It is fantastic!
- ...Let's hope this year's Year 11 also get a fantastic set of results...they have all worked very hard – as well as the teachers!

## 3. Making the college look better

I am hoping, having secured nearly half a million pounds from the County Council, that we will be able to do the following works to further improve the college over the summer holidays.

*Some of the things will be more exciting than others but **all** will benefit the students:*

1. NEW heaters in all classrooms and NEW boilers to control the heating so it isn't cold anymore in the winter!
2. NEW fire alarm and emergency lighting around the college to make it safer and look better
3. NEW showers in the gym changing rooms – these are awful at the moment and cannot be used
4. NEW tarmac between the main building, the Science block and the staffroom
5. MORE painting of walls and doors around the college to tidy the place up and make it look fresh and clean
6. NEW computers and furniture in the library (hopefully\* - the aim is to turn this into a proper library/study zone for all students)



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7. NEW computers in Scantek (hopefully\*)
8. NEW computers in IT 1 (hopefully\*)
9. Some NEW projectors in classrooms (hopefully\*)
10. IMPROVEMENTS to the bike sheds
11. IMPROVEMENTS to the canteen

*(hopefully\* means I am still waiting for some more money to come through for these things so cannot confirm 100% at the moment!)*

#### 4. New college day

The new college day starts in September. You will be finishing earlier 3 days a week than you do now and finishing slightly later on 2 days. This allows you to see your form tutor/learning mentor during one of these sessions per week and do some exciting enrichment activities in the other session. I am sure this will become very popular

There will also be short assemblies 3 mornings per week – Monday, Wednesday and Friday which will be a good opportunity for us to get together and speak to all of you on a regular basis.

#### 5. Sad goodbyes!

We wish Mr Barlow (PE) and Mr Frost (RE and Citizenship) all the very best in their new posts from September. Both teachers have given a great deal to the students and to the college during their time here. They are off to new challenges in new schools and we hope they are very happy.

We will also be losing a number of TAs who were with us on short term contracts: Ms Bracciali (who has also been teaching some History), Miss Barling, Miss Laing and Miss Kurc (who has also been teaching some English) are all off to new pastures which include new posts, promotions and university.

We also extend our good wishes to Mr Woods who has recently resigned to pursue new challenges. Mr Woods has been teaching MFL and ICT at the college since 2001 and has contributed to all manner of events, activities and trips in addition to being in charge of languages.

All of these staff have worked tirelessly to make lessons at Manor more enjoyable and beneficial for the students. They will be sadly missed.

#### 6. A big Lionel Richie “Hello” to several ‘new’ staff from September 2009 *(some have already started in July)*

Mr. Joshua Harris – PE and Year 7 form tutor  
Mr. Michael Bigg – Religious Studies (Ethics)

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Ms. Adeline Riviere – English  
Ms. Claudine LeMoal – MFL

Two existing colleagues have been redeployed to two new roles: 1) Attendance and Truancy Support (Ms. Therese Ashjdan) and 2) Behaviour Support Assistant (Mrs Rachel White)

There will also be a new Attendance Outreach Worker for students and families and a new Cover Supervisor from September.

## **Do your parents/carers want to become governors of the college or do they wish to join 'Friends of Manor'?**

For governor enquiries, please ask them to call me or Lucy Crebo at the college on 01223 508742 or email ([lcrebo@manorcc.org.uk](mailto:lcrebo@manorcc.org.uk)) . **We need 7 parent governors and we only have about 4 at the moment!**

For 'Friends of Manor' enquiries, please contact Jan Collings, Assistant Principal at [jcollings@manorcc.org.uk](mailto:jcollings@manorcc.org.uk)

There is a lot more to say but I don't want you to fall asleep listening to me.

I hope to see you all again shortly,

Best wishes,

**Ben Slade**  
**Principal**

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