THE MOUNTBATTEN SCHOOL

DCR/MLC

15 April 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 trip to Shakespeare's Birthplace – Wednesday 17 June 2026

Throughout their time at school, students study a range of Shakespeare's plays including *Macbeth* in Year 9 *and Romeo and Juliet* for GCSE. To support their studies, the English Faculty is running a trip to Stratford-Upon-Avon to visit Shakespeare's Birthplace. Though not a statutory requirement of the GCSE English curriculum, this visit offers invaluable learning experiences that will enrich your child's understanding and appreciation of English.

Students will have the opportunity to visit Shakespeare's childhood home in the heart of Stratford-upon-Avon, hear tales of Shakespeare's family life and discover how the playwright continues to shape our lives today. Students will then have a 60-minute live session with an expert from the Shakespeare Centre where they will: discover facts about Shakespeare's life and times; explore Shakespeare's schooldays and discuss the nature of play-going in Shakespeare's London. The day finishes with a visit to Shakespeare's New Place – William Shakespeare's family home.

Students will travel by coach and will leave school at 7.00am and return at approximately 5.30pm. Students will need to bring a substantial packed lunch and also enough drink to last throughout the day. If your child is entitled to free school meals, this will be provided for them. Students will be required to wear full school uniform on this occasion, as well as a suitable warm waterproof coat and smart school shoes.

As this trip occurs in school time (50% or more during school hours), it is funded by voluntary contributions from parents/carers. We would welcome a contribution of £38.00 per student to help cover the costs of admission and transport.

The school is committed to ensuring all students can participate in enrichment activities. Pupil Premium funding is used to support students currently in receipt of Free School Meals with the costs of trips.

If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium **but is not currently on Free School Meals**, or if your family is experiencing temporary financial hardship, please contact the Pupil Premium team via Pupilpremium@mountbatten.school to discuss support options in confidence.

Please be aware that contributions are entirely voluntary, and no student will be excluded or treated differently based on whether their family contributes. However, **if we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions to cover costs, we may unfortunately need to reconsider whether the trip can proceed.**

A limited number of places are available to students for this trip due to the limited size of the houses we will visit.

To request a place for your child on this trip, please complete the Shakespeare's Birthplace Google Form and make payment via Scopay by the end of the day on **Friday 1 May 2026.**

Should there be insufficient interest, the trip will not run. If the trip is oversubscribed, the school will apply the oversubscription criteria which can be found in our trip policy on our website.

Teachers accompanying visits carry an enormous responsibility for the students in their care. We therefore reserve the right to refuse a place to any student whose behaviour in school has been or becomes a problem.

If you have any difficulty paying online, please contact our Finance department at finance@mountbatten.school and they will be able to help you.

If you have any queries about this trip, please contact me via info@mountbatten.school.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Cheater
Deputy Head of English



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