



## THE MOUNTBATTEN SCHOOL

RDT/CLE

21 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware, our school has a strong tradition of rewarding positive behaviour and good attendance, it is likely that your child will have been on at least one 'reward activity' during their time at Mountbatten. This strong tradition of reward culminates this year in our Year 11 'Prom'. We will give details of timings and venue much closer to the date, but the reason we are writing to you today is to give you details of how students will gain their invitation.

**Students will be required to earn 250 prom points by Friday 24 May** – that is the day before the summer half-term holiday. Prom Points are won through excellent work, monitoring and attitude and are lost through demerits and detentions. It is likely that you may have a few questions about this process, so we have set out the remainder of the letter in a 'FAQ' format.

### How will prom points be awarded?

- epraise points: each epraise point your child receives becomes a prom point. We think homework is especially important, *so every point your child receives for completing homework will be doubled!*
- Monitoring: students receive a grade for their attitude to learning and their homework for each subject. Every 3 (good) they receive will gain them points; every 4 (outstanding) will gain them even more. A student taking 10 subjects has the potential to earn 60 – 80 prom points from a single round of monitoring, provided their attitude to learning and homework is at least 'good' in each subject!

### How will prom points be lost?

- epraise demerits: each demerit received loses a prom point. We think homework is especially important, *so every demerit your child receives for not completing homework will be doubled.*
- Detentions: the more serious the detention, the more points lost. If a student gets a small number of detentions, that should not affect their chances, but it is important to attend them and get them out of the way, before it escalates to more serious detentions which lose more and more points.
- Suspensions - obviously

### 250 is a large number, isn't the target too high?

- Not at all, it is not supposed to be a barrier; last year, over 90% of the students achieved this target.

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### How will my child and I know how they are progressing towards their target?

- Prom points will be updated each week and shared with students by their tutor. In addition, we will use epraise to display and communicate this information so that that you and your child can be easily and fully up-to-date with how they are progressing towards their target. This information is confidential to you and your child.
- Your child can access this information by going to their *homepage > me > assessment > Prom Points 23-24*.
- You can access your child's current total by logging in to epraise > 'my children' > 'assessment > Prom Points 23-24'.

### My child is quiet and is not in top sets. They are never in trouble, but I am worried they will not get the points.

- The number of points students earn has nothing to do with the set that they are in. Some students may worry, but we do not want them to and most do not need to. To give students a measure of their current approach, we have calculated what their Prom Points would have been based on their work, behaviour and attitude in Year 10 and published this on their epraise page. (assessment > HOY > Guess what this is)  
For the massive majority of students, those points will easily be 250 points or more, which simply means that students need to continue how they were in Year 10.  
If the score is less than 250, the student will clearly need to change their approach in Year 11 if they wish to be invited to the Prom.

### What if my child is struggling to get points?

- We want as many deserving students to go to the prom as possible. If your child is struggling to gain points, this could be because they are not earning many, or they are losing them through poor choices. If your child wants support in gaining more points, they should talk to their tutor in the first instance, but after, their Head of Year, Mr Stonehill, Head of Upper School, Mr Fenton or myself.

### What if my child has not made the best start to Year 11?

- Nothing your child has done so far should affect their invitation provided they adopt a positive attitude for the rest of the year. Last year, several students started the year badly, but with a determined attitude to change their approach and support from staff, they gained the points they needed, much to everyone's delight.

### Why don't all students get invited automatically?

- Because the Prom is a reward not a right.
- We want students to see the connection between their approach and attitude and the reward they get. All of the students we mentioned above who changed their approach and ended up getting the points they needed were also rewarded with great GCSE grades that they did not expect. Why? **Because the things that they needed to do to get Prom Points were also the things they needed to do to be successful in their GCSE's** – that is why we chose those things to reward!

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**When is the deadline?**

- Friday 24 May – that is the day before the summer half-term holiday.

I hope you find this information helpful, but please contact your child's tutor in the first instance if you have any queries. We look forward to supporting you and your child with their GCSE success throughout the year and inviting them to the Prom.

Yours sincerely

Rob Davenport  
Assistant Headteacher

Harry Stonehill  
Head of Year 11

Mark Fenton  
Head of Upper School

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