



# Maiden Erlegh School NEWSBLAST



0118 926 2467 • office@maidenerleghschool.co.uk • www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk

**OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY & SUCCESS FOR ALL**

31 March 2017 - Issue 5

### From the Headteacher

We have had a very busy and very successful term and it has been a pleasure over the last few weeks to go to our Science Fair, to attend our Oxbridge session for Year 10 students and to watch our team in the Mock Trials at Reading Crown Court.



In addition, our students have performed exceptionally well in the European Youth Parliament, held at the Oxford Students' Union, and on the sports field also. There has also been a trip to see "Wicked" in London and a Shakespeare performance in school. Behind the scenes our drama enthusiasts are practising for Bugsy Malone in the summer, the musicians for their performing arts showcase and the artists for their exhibitions.



On top of that, of course, our skiers are getting piste-ready! This merely scratches the surface of all the extra-curricular opportunities that are on offer to the students in addition to the taught curriculum. I cannot thank staff enough for all the time and energy they put into providing excellent lessons and examination preparation as well as all the time they give up after school to support students in all years. Any trips, visits and enrichment opportunities are organised on top of the day job and we are extremely lucky to be able to maintain these opportunities in the current climate. I must also acknowledge the work of our support staff, without whom we would not be able to do all that we do for the students.

May I wish all the Maiden Erlegh community a wonderful Easter and a well-deserved break.



### Codecademy



Four Year 9 Computer Science students have accomplished great progress on Codecademy programming in Python in their own time and outside of school. The Computer Science Department would like to congratulate Nikhil Parimi (9A), Ben Soones (9A), Euon Mallett (9B) and Oliver Sheppard (9B) for their effort and hard work on Codecademy improving their Python coding skills.

### CALENDAR

21-28 April	Y7 Tirabad
25 April	Y9 M Progress Meetings
27 April	Y9 E Progress Meetings
27 April	Junior Maths Challenge
27 April	Houses of Parliament Trip
4 May	Gieldud Theatre Trip – Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

### Educational Outcomes Award



Maiden Erlegh School has been nationally recognised for its exceptional 2016 performance by the Schools, Students and Teachers network (SSAT) who have placed them in the top 10% of non-selective schools nationally for attainment and the top 20% for progress.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT said: *"It's my great pleasure to commend Maiden Erlegh School on their excellent 2016 performance, and to have the opportunity to highlight and share their great work. We know how hard teachers work to ensure the success of every child. SSAT's Educational Outcomes Award recognises the professionalism, commitment and hard work of the leaders, teachers and students at Maiden Erlegh School."*

### Maiden Erlegh Historians

The History Department is pleased to announce the following Historians of the Half Term for their effort and attainment in history.

- |                                                |                                                    |                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Year 7</b><br>Mimi Budde<br>Sam Hayward     | <b>Year 8</b><br>Amreeta Kahlon<br>Ben Ganpatsingh | <b>Year 9</b><br>Heather Maxwell<br>Sam Atkinson |
| <b>Year 10</b><br>Kaya Uppal<br>Kiran Williams | <b>Year 11</b><br>Peter Holt<br>Alice Lawrence     |                                                  |
| <b>Year 12</b><br>Rachel Finn<br>Ben Hudson    | <b>Year 13</b><br>Annabel Carter<br>Nathan Ilett   |                                                  |



## Rowing News

On Friday 17 March our Leander Academy rowers took part in the National Indoor Championships.



In the Year 9 category there were 211 competitors and the winning distance was 1,181m in 4 minutes.

Our Year 9 Boys:

Ben Barnes – 10<sup>th</sup> – 1,121m

Samuel Hill – 28<sup>th</sup> – 1,087m

Daniel Wise – 39<sup>th</sup> – 1,077m

In the Year 10 category there were 149 competitors and the winning distance was 1,533m in 5 minutes.

Our Year 10 Boys:

Charlie Harrington – 6<sup>th</sup> – 1,439m

Alex McDonald – 20<sup>th</sup> – 1,380m

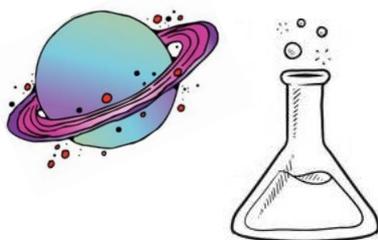
Taylor Lockhart – 29<sup>th</sup> – 1,368m

Congratulations to all the boys, some truly incredible results!

## Year 10 - Congratulations

Congratulations to the following Year 10's who took part in the science fair - you were fantastic!

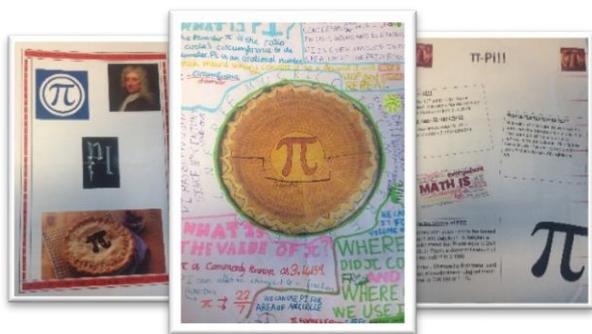
Naomi Basaraba  
Khushi Arora  
Ibrahem Al-Obaidi  
Anna Newell  
Holly Davies  
Gavin Aren  
Teba Al-Obaidi



## Maths Corner

### Pi Day

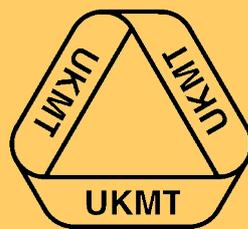
We celebrated Pi day on Tuesday 14 March. Year 8s did a fantastic job creating posters to help us highlight this special day. Here are some examples that were displayed in our dining rooms. To recognise this special day our kitchen created a special menu serving  $\pi$  + Square Potato + a Multitude of Veg.



### Maths Meets Medicine

On Monday 13 March, fourteen Year 10 students took part in a "Maths Meets Medicine" workshop at Guildford College. They looked at how maths can be applied in the pharmaceutical industry. Students had to decide, based on the data provided, which drug out of 3 given they should invest in. They also had to simulate the effect of an asthma drug and a placebo drug on asthmatic patients, collect the data and analyse it.

## Success in Intermediate Maths Challenge



Over 60 students took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge in February, mostly from Years 9, 10 and 11.

From this group, 16 Bronze certificates were awarded, 15 Silver and 6 gold.

Xuhe Ma, Kirsty Ward, Alex Breen, John Li, Rishit Bhatt, Marcel Yidjeu and Euon Mallet all made it through to the Kangaroo Challenge. Adil Omar-Mufti qualified for the prestigious Cayley Maths Olympiad.

## Living with Teenagers



## Living with Teenagers

There are a number of courses available to parents and guardians which may be of interest, please click on the course title for further information.

- [Living with Teenagers](#) - A 4-week course to support parents through their children's adolescence – this course runs on Thursday evenings (7-9pm) from 18 March – 15 June (excluding 1 June).
- [Self Esteem](#) – Thursday 11 May (7-9pm)
- [Internet Safety](#) – Thursday 29 June (7-9pm)
- Talking to your children about emotional resilience and self-harm - an [online course](#) which gives information, guidance and advice to anyone dealing with this very sensitive issue.

## Celebration of Effort in Year 7&8

At the start of this half term the Top 100 Year 7 and Year 8 students in terms of effort were invited to a Celebration Film Party. The students all gathered in the Main Hall, watched a film, ate sweets and were able to socialise with their peers. The fact we had so many students, who continue to make such a wonderful effort in lessons is a fantastic achievement. Watch out for the Celebration Breakfast next half term.



Click to follow  
Maiden Erlegh at Tirabad  
21 - 28 April

twitter.com/TirabadRET



## ARTiculation Regional Heat at Roche Court

On Tuesday 7 March, I participated in a competition called ARTiculation at Roche Court, in which I presented my ideas about a piece of art of my choice and discuss the piece. From this, I learned much more than I thought I would, expanding my ideas on this piece further than I had in my artist research for my A-Level Art project. It took me out of my comfort zone, making me present these quite personal ideas to a large number of people, rather than simply write them in my sketchbook.

We were also taken on a tour around Roche Court and were able to see the work of artists such as Peter Frie, whose paintings of landscapes were absolutely breath-taking. We also went on a tour inside the artist's house, which, to a future architecture student, was a great experience, too.

By Aisha Al-Obaidi



*Aisha should feel very proud of her achievements at presenting her research in such a prestigious competition and we hope her experience will inspire future Year 12 Art students to do the same.*

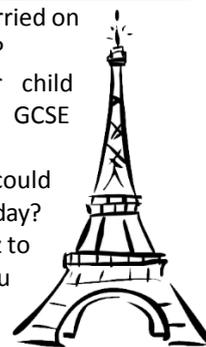
What I enjoyed the most, however, was watching the other presenters. They were all very different, discussing different piece of art, from classics such as Picasso to more contemporary work such as Lois Greenfield's photography of dancing figures. This huge variation in artworks allowed me to expand my knowledge on the world of art much more than I would have if I hadn't attended.



# ARTiculation

*It's never too late to learn a language! Allons-y!*

Ever wish you had carried on a language at school? Wonder what your child is studying in a GCSE French course? Do you think you could pass a French GCSE today? Try the following quiz to see how well you would do.



<https://www.theguardian.com/news/datablog/2015/aug/20/gcse-french-exam-would-you-pass-quiz>

Enjoy!

A good online dictionary to check anything (afterwards) is [www.wordreference.com](http://www.wordreference.com) or ask your child! For any language, Quizlet is also a great (free) app for practising vocabulary and some also like Duolingo. Please encourage your



children to download and use these.

## Literacy Focus



This month's literacy focus is:  
**Apostrophes**

Always use an apostrophe when:  
CONTRACTING (shortening words) or  
to show POSSESSION (belonging to).

[Click here](#) to have a go yourself!

## Science Fair

On Tuesday 14 March, we held our annual science fair. Students worked incredibly hard researching different scientific concepts. They presented their work to members of staff, our school judge Mr Hawthorne and our guest judge Dr Nutt from University of Reading. The quality of students work was superb, the judges found it very difficult to choose a winner. Projects included research into antibiotics and the aging population, how electromagnets work, the ideal aeroplane, does colour affect the taste of food and the structure of the brain.



The winner of the foundation prize was Rachel Major from Year 7 who produced an excellent study into if music affects memory.



The key stage 4 prize was won by Khushi Arora from Year 10, she produced an extensive study into inattentional blindness.

**A huge well done to all of those who have taken part!!**

## Notes by the Music Department

### Wicked The Musical

On Thursday 16 March the Music department took 47 GCSE music students and members of the extra-curricular clubs to see the hit musical Wicked at the Apollo Victoria Theatre. 'Defying Gravity', which closes the 1<sup>st</sup> act, is one of the pieces of music that the students have to study for their GCSE. The students represented the school impeccably and all had a wonderful time with the wizard!



Here's what one of our students thought of the trip:  
*'The wicked trip was "wicked"! We had an excellent time, and the show was fantastic. All the songs in the show were unique and reflected the characters and situations very well. 'Defying Gravity' and 'The Wizard and I' were especially well written and performed to be empowering and that made those songs stand out from the rest. Sometimes the volume of some parts were louder than others so the balance was a little off but, overall, it was a great show with an awesome story'.*

Tom (Year 9)

### Exam News

Congratulations to following students for passing their music exams:

Isaac Farnworth grade 8 drums

Arjan Channa grade 6 drums

Nathan May grade 6 drums

Raphael Thorn grade 2 drums

Kori Lazar grade 1 drums

Sukh Dhillon grade 4 piano

### Maiden Erlegh BBC Schools Report

Last week the Maiden Erlegh BBC School Report team created a report 'The Real Impact of Fake News' to explore the impact fake news is having on young people and steps to recognise when reading fake news. This report was used as part of the BBC School Report News Day on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March, a nationwide event where students' reports go live to the world via BBC News platforms.

Click here to view [the real impact of fake news report](#).

The students regularly create reports for a real audience and are available via our [BBC School Report page](#).



Please keep checking up on us, here at Maiden Erlegh to see what we have been reporting on!

### PE Department

Link to our Sports Bulletin can be found [HERE](#)



### European Youth Parliament

On Friday 17 March, eight students from Years 11/12 journeyed to Oxford Student Union to take part in the Thames Valley Regional Forum of the European Youth Parliament.

Throughout the course of the day they were invited to add comment to debates on a host of topics from the Arms Trade to the sugar tax.

Acting as the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, the team proposed a motion to improve health care for mental health patients. Following a lively debate and an impassioned summation speech the motion was passed, the only one that day to be approved.

Students rose to the challenge of public speaking, political discourse and formed coherent arguments. Sadly the team narrowly missed out on progressing to the national forum but they were gracious in defeat and a credit to the school.



### Letters for Parents

[www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/letters-for-parents/](http://www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/letters-for-parents/)



### ParentPay

Click on the ParentPay logo to login and register your account.

Any queries please [click here to email us](#).

