

# Maiden Erlegh School MEWSBLAST



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

### **OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY & SUCCESS FOR ALL**

**CALENDAR** 

11 March

12 March

13 March

13 March

25 March

14 February 2020 - Issue 32

# From the Headteacher

It has been a busy start to the year. This week we have had Ofsted inspectors visiting the school. I would like to commend our students for their exemplary behaviour, and for their maturity and enthusiasm in showing just how great this school is. Thank you to all of the parents who supported the school by completing the parental questionnaire. We will inform you of the outcome as soon as we found out.

The start of February saw the return of our annual Careers Fair. I was delighted to see so many students from across all year groups attending this event. It proved to be a highly informative evening that will aid students in choosing GCSE options, whether they want to go to college, university or complete an apprenticeship, as well as highlighting a vast range of career options for the future. We even had famous ex-student Sangeeta Bhabra from ITV! I was so pleased to see all the positive feedback from this event.

The school production of Hairspray was a phenomenal success. Congratulations to the talented students who took part. It is clear we have some future stars among us. I would also like to say a huge thank you to the Performing Arts Department for all of their hard work on this. I can't wait to see what the school production will be next year!

Well done to the U14 girls' football team who have been crowned East Berkshire League Champions! The girls finish the league with 5 wins out of 5, scoring 17 and conceding just 2 goals. Waingels College also hosted the District New Age Kurling and Boccia Event, and I am delighted to say that our Boccia team won the event and our New Age Kurling teams finished 2nd and 3rd. Well done to all involved. Our Year 9 boys' football team also continue to be unbeaten in the East Berkshire Schools League. Keep up the good work!

We have also been informed that we are an NCS Champion School for our work on supporting students to find challenges/projects that have a positive impact on the community. This is an excellent achievement. See https://wearencs.com/ for further information on the work that NCS do.

29 January saw the first Trust Conference Day. All staff from the Trust schools took part in a day of professional development tailored to their role and interests. A special thanks must go to Kevin Green, our keynote speaker, who delivered a fantastic

14 February	School finishes at 2.20pm for Half Term
17-21 February	Half Term
24 February	Students return to school
25 February	Year Council Meeting
25 February	Year 8 M Progress Meetings
27 February	Year 8 E Progress Meetings
27 February	Year 12/13 GoPerform Trip
27 February	Under 13 In2 Hockey Tournament
4 March	World Maths Day
5 March	World Book Day
10 March	Year 11 English Walkthrough

Year 9 Art Trip to Kew Gardens

Year 10 Young Shakespeare Day

Year 7 Tirabad Adventure

Performing Arts Showcase

Science Fair (P3&4)

speech to our staff on 'preparing young people for a world of disruption'. The feedback from this event has been very positive and I am pleased that staff found this so useful.

Since I took on the role of Headteacher I have established a Parent Focus Group. I have been meeting with this group regularly to take on board parental feedback and also to hear what we are doing right. I would like to thank the members for giving up their time to contribute to this group. It has been invaluable. If parents have any additional feedback that they would like to submit please do continue to use the links below for Slick and Slack:

Slick: https://goo.gl/forms/CbNhOD0MH9K1xV112 Slack: https://goo.gl/forms/rUKt5Kc6WMvrwpjg2



After a long week with Ofsted I have asked staff to have a well-deserved break and come back fresh. Whilst we have a policy that staff do not check emails in holidays, I have specifically instructed them to do so this half term so they are able to fully recharge so please bear this in mind if you need to contact the school.

It has been a great start back and I am so proud of the hard work I have seen around the school from all of our students. I hope that you all have a restful half term break.

#TeamMaidenErlegh











# House News

# House Assemblies

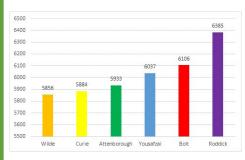
On Friday 13 December, students enjoyed their second House Assembly, led by the House Ambassadors. The message this time was one of celebration and encouraging generosity. Students were reminded of the range of House Events that took place during the Autumn Term. Winners, as well as participators, were praised for their achievements. Students congratulated each other for their entries for the European Day of Languages competition, photographs of the Maiden Erlegh Bake Off winners' bakes were admired, the House Debate teams were praised, the House netball and rugby competition results were read out and of course, the Christmas card competition winning entries were displayed.



# **House Point Scores**

The scores on the doors for the Autumn Term....

Team Roddick storming ahead of Team Yousafzai (who had been leading for many weeks of the first term) to take the lead. At the last minute Team Bolt nipped ahead of Yousafzai to come second. Over 35,000 house points have been awarded in the Autumn Term and every student who has received a point should be very proud. Each House Ambassador awarded certificates to the top two performers in each year group and students were applauded for their hard work!



Let's see who can take the lead after the Spring Term.

Well done #TEAM MAIDEN ERLEGH!

# House Day Fundraising

Also, during the House Assemblies day it was also National Festive Jumper Day so as a school, we decided to raise money for our local charity, Daisy's Dream. Daisy's Dream support children and their families when someone they love has died or is dying. For every £50 that we raised, the charity will be able to provide a one to one therapeutic support session to a child who needs help to understand and express their grief. Their Therapeutic Practitioners deliver around 35 of these personalised and tailored sessions every week to families across Berkshire and every session is provided completely free of charge; it is easy to see what a difference our school's support will make. We managed to raise £820.05 for this amazing cause and the charity immediately sent an e-mail to the school to thank us!













# Violet College Update

Our students in the Violet College had a busy December. Not only did they become political leaders, create a polling station and run their own election, they also went on a trip to watch the pantomime Aladdin!

Our reporter on the ground was Ryan, he gave us all the highlights from Bracknell.

The genie had an Australian accent, the evil baddy was based in a castle in China, but most importantly Aladdin fell in love with Princess Jasmine and he wanted to marry her. Aladdin found the magic lamp, he rubbed the lamp and he was allowed 3 wishes. The first wish was to get out of the cave. Then, he wished to become a prince so he could marry Jasmine.

Then before he could make wish number 3, the evil baddy stole the lamp. Luckily Jasmine invented a huge hoover that they used to catch the baddy and the genie made him good again. Aladdin could then make his last wish to set the genie free!

Hopefully Aladdin then also won the heart of Princess Jasmine! A fun time was had by all.



# **Annual Geographical Association**

On Thursday 16 January, Maiden Erlegh School took part in the Annual Geographical Association hosted by Reading School. Six lucky students who came out on top after our very own try out rounds at school went head to head with local schools including; The Abbey, Queen Anne's School and Langtree in a bid to win the coveted trophy. After some difficult rounds on topics including geography in the news, landmarks of the UK and Iceland students placed very impressively on the leader board, with the boys finishing in 11th place and the girls in 17th. Although we didn't win the trophy we left with something even better, our very own 'geographer' badges – I hope you wear them with pride! A massive congratulations to all of those involved and a special thank you to Mr Jones for accompanying us!

If you are interested in taking part next year come and speak to a member of the Geography Department



# **Geography Escape Room**

On Monday 13 January, 57 students from Years 7 to 11 attended the 'Geography Escape Room'. The aim was to answer a series of questions, related to geography and requiring map reading skills, to decode a clue to the code needed to unlock the padlock.

The event was a huge success with 219 house points awarded – well done to those students who took part!

1st place: Wilde - 58 house points 2nd place: Yousafzai - 57 house points 3rd place: Bolt - 56 house points 4th place: Curie - 18 house points 5th place: Roddick - 16 house points 6th place: Attenborough - 14 house points

Winners cracking the code....



# **Mock Trial Rehearsal**

On Tuesday 28 January a group of Year 8 students went to Reading Magistrates Court to learn about the roles of Magistrates, Lawyers and Legal advisors and even had time to practice a real case in real courtroom. This was a great opportunity to role playour characters and weigh up evidence ahead of our final competition. The team have worked incredibly hard to reach this standard already in such a short space of time, they are even starting to get into character as well.

If you are in Year 8 and would like to take part please talk to Miss Kelly or alternatively, you are very welcome to watch us compete in the local heat at Reading Magistrates Court on Saturday 21 March at 9am.



# **Philosophy Club**

Last term, a group of Year 7 students took part in Philosophy Club for six weeks. Miss Borthwick was overwhelmed by the commitment, enthusiasm and expert critical thinking that was shown every week in what was always a positive and lively environment!

Philosophy Club 2019/20 started off with a lively debate about the classical thought experiment of the Trolley Problem, introducing students to Utilitarianism, which excitingly led to an exploration of what 'good' means and what makes life valuable. Over the subsequent weeks, there was a lack of consensus about whether the Teleological Argument can prove the existence of God or if it is possible to prove that life after death exists, and students grappled with the classical philosophical issue of whether or not we are truly free. Philosophy Club finished the year with students creating their own philosophical question to debate. This resulted in a dynamic enquiry about whether it is morally permissible to destroy another planet if it would save our own. An animated discussion followed about issues such as environmental ethics and our moral duty to protect human beings which made wonderful links back to Utilitarianism from the first session of the year.

It was a pleasure to see students refine their philosophical thinking skills and learn how to express their arguments and counter arguments more clearly as the weeks progressed.

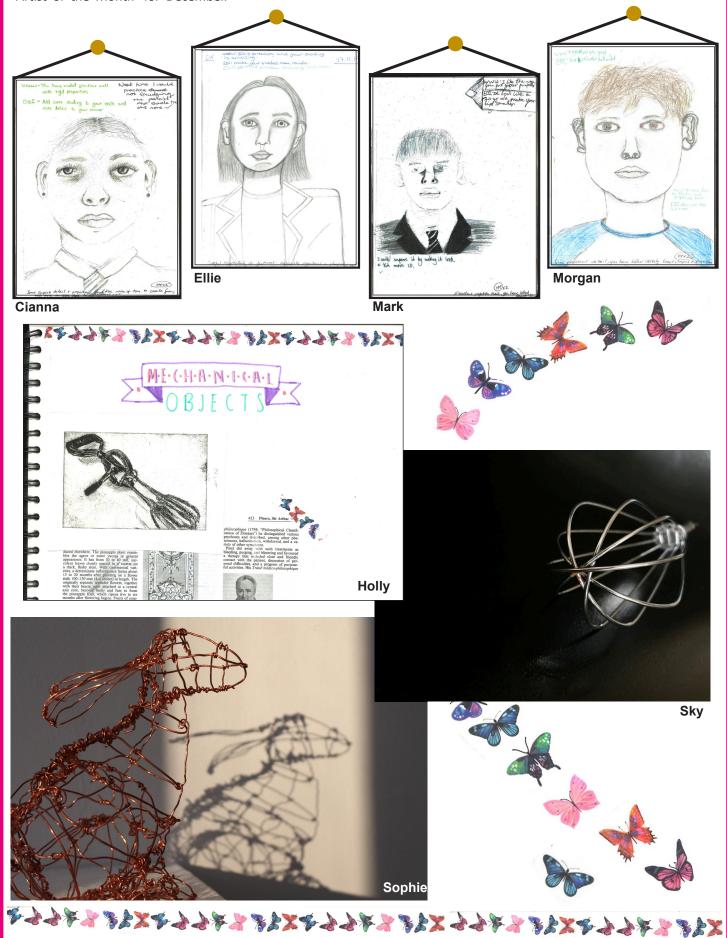
Thank you to all the students involved!



# Work of Art

# Artists of the Month

Congratulations to Mark (Y7), Cianna (Y7), Ellie (Y7), Morgan (Y7), Holly (Y9), Sky (Y9) and Sophie (Y10) for being awarded 'Artist of the Month' for December.



# Careers, Work Experience, Work Related Learning and STEAM:

As we approach February half term, we want to share with you the wide variety of opportunities students have had available to them as part of our careers, work experience, work-related and STEAM learning programme at Maiden Erlegh School:

# #Careers Week 3 and National Apprenticeship Week 2020

Between 3-7 February we celebrated #Careers Week 3 and National Apprenticeship Week 2020. The theme of this year's National Apprenticeship Week is Look Beyond, with a focus on encouraging everyone to look beyond outdated stereotypes surrounding apprenticeships and celebrate the diversity of opportunity and value they bring to the country today. During lessons, our #Careers Week 3 presentations provided students with the information they need to make informed decisions about whether the apprenticeship or university route is best suited to them. In tutor time, students watched a video from Maiden Erlegh School alumni and current PricewaterhouseCoopers apprentice, Ben Cook, who gave an invaluable insight into the experience of completing an apprenticeship at a major company.

# **Trust Apprenticeship Information Evening**

On Wednesday 12 February, we held a very successful and well-attended apprenticeship information evening specifically aimed at parents of students in Years 10 to 13.

During the evening, attendees were provided with information regarding the ideas behind apprenticeships, where they can take you and how much young people are likely to earn. Sumera Iftekhar from the Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge Company (ASK) also delivered information regarding the advantages and disadvantages of this route, the apprenticeships that are available in the local area and how to access further information to help make informed destination decisions.

# **Year 10 Work Shadowing Day**

In October we launched the Year 10 Work Shadowing day which will be held on Friday 26 June 2020. This will provide students with an opportunity to observe, listen, ask questions and experience a working environment. Please can completed forms be returned to reception no later than Friday 3 April 2020. For more information please visit the following link:

https://www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/attachments/download asp?file=1238&type=pdf

### Year 12 and 13 Work Experience - Reminder

As part of the 16-19 study programme, all students are expected to complete a 30 hour work experience placement which is directly linked to their chosen career aspiration. Students are to actively seek their own work experience placement by researching and contacting potential companies, going through the recruitment process e.g. completing application forms, CVs, interviews, and completing a suitable placement. Please contact Mr Buck, Assistant Headteacher, for further information or support regarding work experience placements.

### Careers Seminar – Management Consultancy

On Friday 17 January, Year 8-13 students attended a Management Consultancy Careers Seminar during tutor time. Andy Butler, a consultant at PA Consulting, shared his experiences of supporting organisations including the Ministry of Defence to improve their efficiency and solve problems. Andy's discussion of his own career path highlighted to our students that Management Consultancy really is a career open to students from any subject background, since the varied roles and opportunities within the industry allow consultants to specialise according to their own skill sets. As a recent graduate, Andy also provided our students with invaluable advice about job applications and CV writing, as well as how to stand out at assessment days and during interviews. Our students were thoroughly engaged and asked thoughtful questions throughout.



# Start u-explore Careers Software - Reminder

This software package is a fantastic opportunity to explore the many different options available to young people including:

- Up-to-date information from a variety of trusted sources
- Careers guidance for students in Years 7 to 13
- Support and guidance through key moments of choice and transition from education to employment
- Comprehensive information on careers and employability skills
- Local labour market information
- Support with writing job applications, CVs, assessment centres and the recruitment process

The website can be accessed via:

https://login.startprofile.com/Login.aspx

# Don't Miss Our Forthcoming Events:

Year 13 Apprenticeship Clinic - Friday 13 March

#Careers Week 4 - Monday 23 - Friday 27 March

Year 8 Vision My Future Day - Friday 27 March

#Careers Week 5 - Monday 11 - Friday 15 May

Year 9 Careers Inspiration Day - Friday 19 June

Year 10 Work Shadow Day - Friday 26 June

Year 7 STEAM Day - Monday 6 July

#Careers Week 6 - Monday 13- Friday 17 July

Year 12 Careers Interviews - Summer Term

# Reading Well Booklist for Children

Charity, The Reading Agency, has launched a Reading Well for children booklist to support children's mental health and wellbeing. The list covers areas such as anxiety, bereavement and bullying with books by Michael Rosen, Tom Percival, Zanib Mian and Joseph Coelho, selected by leading mental health experts to support the mental health and wellbeing of children.



# The UK Law and Social Media – Guidance for Parents

Apps such as Instagram, TikTok and Snapchat often refer to age ratings for their users, these apps are usually not made in the UK and do not comply to UK law. Year 7 students have been studying this in computer science this year.

it is an important that as parents you have an awareness about UK law overruling any age rating in apps is important. What UK law says is that:

- Children under 13 are not allowed in participating in any kind of social media;
- Children between 13 and 16 are allowed in social media but they need to be always supervised by a responsible adult that will permit posts – it means that these responsible adults should either have access to their account details to supervise or post in their name in their own account.
- Only children 16 and over are allowed to go to social media unsupervised – meaning only at end of GCSE level can they do it.



# The Threat from Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

Child sexual abuse and exploitation continues to grow. This is particularly true of online abuse where ever-more-sophisticated digital tools protect anonymity and where apps encourage children to engage in risky behaviour.

Online abuse is frequently carried out by lone offenders who access children, and evade detection, using the dark web and the mainstream internet. Criminals will groom children both in person and online, and may travel to carry out their abuse in countries where the law is more lax.

Children are often too frightened or embarrassed to report their abuse, and they may themselves become enmeshed in drawing other children into exploitation. They are often tricked into believing they are sharing images with another child with whom they are developing an online relationship. They are vulnerable to blackmail as their abuser threatens to release the explicit photos or videos they have made in order to extort further sexual activity or money.

The CEOP online reporting button, can be found on the Maiden Erlegh School website.

If you are worried about something that has happened to your child online, report it to CEOP.

CEOP.police.uk





# MAIDEN ERLEGH

TRUST

# TRUSTEE (NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR) OPENINGS ON THE MAIDEN ERLEGH TRUST BOARD

Maiden Erlegh Trust seeks three Trustees to join the Board with particular interest and expertise in (a) Primary education or school improvement, (b) Special/Alternative Provision (c) Human Resources.

Trustees are both charity trustees and company directors of the academy trust; the role is to hold to account the executive and senior leadership team. The Board of Trustees manages the business of the academy trust and may exercise all the powers of the trust. The Trustees ensure compliance with the trust's charitable objects and with company and charity law.

The Trust Board are responsible for maintaining stability during a period of rapid growth and the management of a dynamic structure. The role also includes contributing to financial planning for sustainability and growth, and holding the CEO/CFO to account. Applicants will serve as non-executive directors of the Trust Board with the opportunity to fulfil the role as Trust Strategic Lead and/or sit on an Interim Transition Board of a special measures school.

Interested parties do not need to be parents of children at any school within Maiden Erlegh Trust. Board meetings are held in Reading.

If you, or someone you know, are interested, please write to Mrs V Boatman (Clerk to the Board of Trustees) at Maiden Erlegh School, Silverdale Road Earley, RG6 7HS or email <a href="mailtrustees@maidenerleghtrust.org">trustees@maidenerleghtrust.org</a>. Closing date is Monday 24th February 2020.

# YOUNG CARERS

# Who is a Young Carer?

A young carer is someone under 18 who helps look after someone in their family, or a friend, who is ill, disabled or misuses drugs or alcohol.

# What did Young Carers achieve last term?

Last term was busy for Young Carers, we have been learning about our mental wellbeing, looking after others and raising money for the charities that support us and our families. Thank you for your generosity at Parents' Evening, we managed to raise approximately £100. The Young Carers would like to donate this money to Daisy's Dream who support young people coping with bereavement.

# What are Young Carers working towards next term?

Looking ahead to the next half term, we will be focussing on how we can let off some steam and look after our mental wellbeing. We will be dropping in with the JAC team and looking at techniques to look after our mental health and wellbeing.

If you are interested in joining us at these sessions please come and speak with Miss Kelly.

# What to do next?

If you think you or someone you know is or could be a Young Carer, please contact Miss Kelly via the School Office.





**Tuesday 25 February 2020** 4:00pm - 7:00pm

Maiden Erlegh School in Reading Presentation by Mary Davies (Trust CEO) at 4:30pm

If you're an experienced teacher, NQT or someone considering a move into teaching, come and talk to us at our Recruitment Event.

We are also looking for support staff to join our Schools.

For further information or to register your interest please email:

recruitment@maidenerleahtrust.ora











# MAIDEN ERLEGH









# Meet our expert



# **WORRIED ABOUT DRUGS AND ALCOHOL?**

READING'S YOUNG PEOPLE'S DRUG AND ALCOHOL SERVICE CAN HELP

IF YOU ARE 18 YEARS OLD OR UNDER AND WANT CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT AND ADVICE. GET IN TOUCH.

### HERE'S HOW:

- Call us or email us directly (the details are at the bottom of the page)
- Ask any professional you're working (youth worker, GP, social worker, teacher etc) to contact us.
- Your parent or carer can call us on your behalf.

### **WE OFFER:**

- Information on the effect of drugs and alcohol
- One-to-one sessions with a worker
- Support to reduce your drug and alcohol use or help to stop using
- Ways to reduce the risks from the drugs you are taking
- Assessment for treatment
- Referral to other services e.g. housing, employment, services and benefits information.

### PROFESSIONALS:

Call 0118 937 6545 and ask to speak to someone from SOURCE or you can use the Children's Single Point of Access (CSPoA) referral form on our website (www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org)

Email source@brighterfuturesforchildren.org

CALL SOURCE ON: 0118 937 6545

EMAIL: SOURCE@BRIGHTERFUTURESFORCHILDREN.ORG



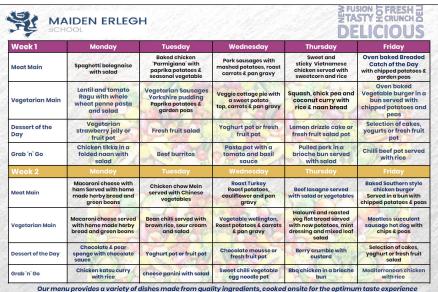


# **Year 11 Revision Corridor**

We were excited to launch the Year 11 revision corridor during the week commencing Monday 3 February 2020. Each department is offering a bespoke programme of revision support and guidance. Subject departments have put together a programme of sessions for between 8-10 weeks lasting between 30 and 60 minutes to support students. The sessions have been designed to provide students with support with key topics and concepts, development of examination skills and/or securing specific grades. So far we have had large numbers of students attending which is great to see. For the full schedule of provision, please see the following link:

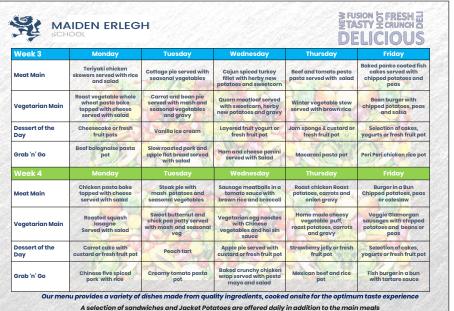
https://www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1368&type=pdf

# Spring Menu



A selection of sandwiches, baguettes and Jacket Potatoes are offered daily in addition to the main meals

Freshly baked bread, fruit pots, yoghurts and salad boxes available daily



PE Department
Click here to view our latest
Sports Bulletin

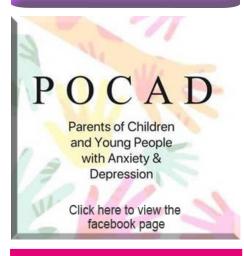
# **Letters for Parents**

www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/ letters-for-parents/ Click here to view recent communications





Click here to view further information



### Term Dates 2019-2020

### **Spring Term 2020**

6 January -14 February 2020

\*\*HALF TERM\*\*

### 24 February - 3 April 2020

Professional Development Days -(school closed to students) Wednesday 29 January 2020

# **Summer Term 2020**

20 April – 22 May 2020 (Bank Holiday 8 May 2020)

\*\*HALF TERM\*\*

# 1 June - 21 July 2020

Professional Development Days -(school closed to students) Thursday 2 July 2020



### **ParentPay**

Click on the ParentPay logo to login and register your account.
Any queries please email us at ParentPay@maidenerleghschool.co.uk

ParentPay