



# Maiden Erlegh School NEWSBLAST

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



OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY & SUCCESS FOR ALL

13 October 2017 - Issue 11

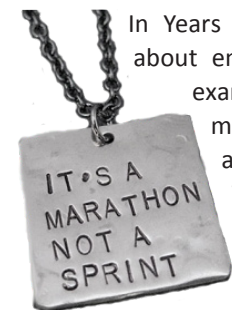
## From the Headteacher

Over the first few weeks I have been into assemblies to welcome the students back and also to talk to them about key themes.

It has been a pleasure to meet our new Year 7 students who have made an excellent first impression. Thank you to all the Year 7 students who participated in the Headteacher's Challenge and a special congratulations in advance to students who won prizes. These winners will be announced next week. In assembly I spoke to them about values and asked them to reflect on their personal values and where they came from.



With Year 8 I spoke about regret and how important it is to seize every opportunity so they do not miss out on chances in life and have to say "if only ...".



In Years 9, 10 and 11 the theme was very much about ensuring they prepare steadily for the new examinations and treating their studies as a marathon not a sprint as they will need to accumulate knowledge and skills over time. This is important so they do well academically, but also in order to reduce the pressure as the examinations approach, because they will feel better prepared. I talked to them about seeing their learning as interconnecting topics and themes, some of which cross over subjects (like English, mathematics, science). They will need to be able to cope with questions which probe their knowledge and understanding in more indirect ways and where their answers may involve a range of skills.

## CALENDAR

16 October	Year 13 - Oxbridge Prep Day
16 October	Year 10/11/12/13 - Splendid Theatre Visit
17 October	Y11M Progress Meetings
19 October	Y11E Progress Meetings
7 November	Year 12 Safe Drive Stay Alive Trip - Hexagon
8 November	GCSE Music Concert
10 November	'Last Orders' Theatre Performance to Year 9
10 November	Year 7 Tirabad Adventure
14-17 November	Year 10 Juniper Hall - Geography
15 November	Year Council Meeting

In the Sixth Form I spoke about how our best students work. With the new two year courses, they too need to work steadily and consistently over the two years. The students who do well keep on top of their work. They review their learning and consolidate their understanding

How do our students work?

1. Do what is asked of them – on time.
2. Review their notes/work each week.
3. Re-do work to bring it up to scratch.
4. Read/watch/listen around the subject.
5. Don't wait to be told to do something – they have "learning initiative".

and skills base every week. Invariably they also take the "learning initiative" and go beyond lessons, homework and supervised study tasks without being asked. It is these students who are then able to cope with the in depth questions and tasks they will be asked to complete as part of the new A Level examinations.

I must congratulate students in all years for getting involved in the wider life of the school. It gives me great pleasure to see so many students, of all years, involved in sport, drama, music, Young Magistrates, School Council, helping at Open Mornings etc., as well as participating in the trips that are on offer.

In short, the students have made a tremendous start and I am extremely proud of their application and attitude.

Mary Davies

## Student Ambassadors



At the end of last year we launched our Student Ambassadors. Student Ambassadors come from Years 8 to 11 and are those students who show high attendance (98%+), exceptional effort and an unblemished behaviour record. They are led by Sixth Form Ambassadors who are members of the Senior Team. In total, so far, we have 175 Ambassadors and this number will grow as students meet the criteria and as we add in the new Year 7s later on in the year.

It is a source of great pride to be an Ambassador as these are the students who represent the very best of what Maiden Erlegh stands for every day. Student Ambassadors are our "go-to" students to represent the school, take guests round, meet applicants for jobs and to work with new students. In addition, each Student Ambassador is linked to a School Improvement Group and works directly with their Sixth Form Leader and a member of the Senior Leadership Team on areas of the School Improvement Plan.

TEAM	LEAD STAFF	TOPICS
Learning	Miss S Young Miss E-L Roberts Mrs S Newton	Challenge Literacy and Numeracy across the curriculum review Parents' evenings
School Culture	Mrs A Morgan	Strengths and promoting strengths of the Maiden Erlegh School culture
Wellbeing	Miss A Walker	Student happiness – strengths of school and ways to improve further
Curriculum	Mrs S Elliss	Y10 and 11 review of KS5 curriculum Y8 and 9 review of the options process and KS4 curriculum offer Y7-11 reviewing SMSC across the curriculum
Work Related Learning	Mr R Hawthorne	Work related learning and employability skills across the curriculum.

## GCSE Music Concert



On Wednesday 8 November our GCSE music students will be putting on a concert in the drama studio to showcase their talents. This gives them an opportunity to perform some of our coursework in preparation for its final submission. There will be a range of music on show and students will be performing solos and in ensembles.

Tickets will be available after half term from the music department.

We look forward to seeing you there to support the students and their hard work.

## Science - Imagine - Invent - Inspire

The Science Museum always has interesting activities and exhibitions to promote interest in the world around us and how it works, and if you are going during half term, you might be interested in their gaming hands on sessions:

[www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/see-and-do/power-up](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/see-and-do/power-up). See if you can beat your parents at the games they grew up with!

Or their special exhibition about how India has contributed to Scientific understanding for 5000 years:

[www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/see-and-do/illuminating-india-5000-years-science-and-innovation](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/see-and-do/illuminating-india-5000-years-science-and-innovation)

Or even how Maths contributes to every aspect of our lives:

[www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/see-and-do/mathematics-winton-gallery](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/see-and-do/mathematics-winton-gallery)



## Y7 & Y8 English Drop-in Sessions



**Day: Wednesdays**  
**Time: 3PM**  
**Place: F11**

Want to make GREAT English progress?

Help from an expert with that English homework?

Need someone to explain some grammar or punctuation?

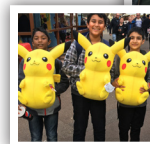
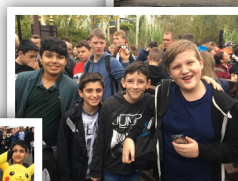
Then DROP IN on the English department!

## Year 11 Food Preparation and Nutrition Students

The Food Dept would like to congratulate all Year 11 Food students who have made such an excellent start to the task of investigating the functional and chemical properties of ingredients used to make meringues. Not an easy task and all are to be congratulated for their preparation and undertaking of the experimental work. We look forward to continued success with the analysis and write ups.

## Year 7 Thorpe Park Trip

On Saturday 7 October, 125 Year 7 students and 16 eager staff members embarked on a trip to Thorpe Park, Chertsey. The students had a great day getting to know each other outside of the school setting and the staff were surprisingly keen to enjoy the rollercoasters. Mrs Beckett and Mrs Davis even went on Stealth! The students behaved impeccably and were a pleasure to take out for the day.



**AOFAQ**  
**Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering**

A one day course for people in the voluntary sector and community groups.

This qualification will benefit anyone working in a situation where food is prepared, cooked and served; it is relevant to all catering operations.

**Successful completion of the training programme and assessment will enable candidates to understand:**

- The terminology used in food safety
- Legislation relating to food businesses and food handlers
- Food hazards and containing the risk of food poisoning
- Product and equipment temperatures
- Minimising bacterial multiplication
- The importance of high temperatures in the supply of safe food
- That food handlers can pose a risk to food safety
- Appropriate storage conditions for different foods
- The importance of cleaning in food premises
- The need for high standards for structure & equipment to promote good hygiene in food premises.

There is an examination at the end of the course and certificates will be issued to all who pass within 6 weeks of the course date.

\*PLEASE NOTE: Photo I.D. is required to sit the examination.

**Information and booking:**

The Earley Crescent Resource Centre - Wurbler Drive, Lower Earley, Reading RG6 4HB  
Bus route 21 from Reading - Beech Lane stop 0118 921 0555  
[www.earleycrescent.org](http://www.earleycrescent.org) [earleycrescent@btconnect.com](mailto:earleycrescent@btconnect.com) [/earleycrescent](https://www.facebook.com/earleycrescent)

Charity No 1092607 Company No 4383491

**FOOD SAFETY**

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018

**9:30 am – 5 pm**  
(9:15 Registration – Course starts promptly at 9:30 am)

**£50 Fee**  
\*Includes Certificate  
Lunch available to purchase on the day.

## Former Sports Personality Takes on the Toughest of Challenges

On Sunday 24 September, Katherine West, a former student and Sports Personality of the Year award recipient took on the ultimate in physical challenges and completed the Berlin Marathon.

It was her first marathon. She had only actually completed her first 10km, 10 mile and half marathons in the past 12 months, so it had been an incredible year of firsts already!

She completed the 26.2 miles for a very worthwhile cause. She ran for Great Ormond Street Hospital and has raised over £900 for this worthwhile charity.

Huge Congratulations to Katherine for completing this inspiring challenge and raising so much for a great cause.



## DRIVING ON SCHOOL PREMISES

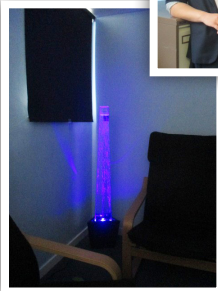
For the safety of our students please can we politely ask parents and guardians not to drive on school premises unless absolutely necessary. If it is necessary please adhere to the 5mph speed limit at all times.

*Thank you*



### Huge Thanks to Year 10 Fundraisers

Huge thanks to Estelle Beattie, Rebecca Chan, Amy Crabb and Nikolett Erdelyi in Year 10 (now year 11) for raising a fantastic £218 for the quiet room in Inclusion. Their work has been amazing and has funded two comfortable chairs, a bubble tube light and a 'juice' bar.



### Medical Welfare Officer



Mrs de Jong is the school's Medical Welfare Officer. Every day she sees students with any number of ailments and injuries which she treats according to current first aid training and advice. In September she had 307 visits from students with complaints ranging from cut fingers and sprains to panic attacks and dehydration.

Students sometimes refer to Mrs de Jong as the school nurse, but it is important to note that she is not a nurse. Her role is to help and assist in an emergency and to make a decision as to whether to call for expert medical assistance. She relies on her first aid training as well as information from the student to make a decision on next steps.

### Local Company Supporting Learning at Maiden Erlegh School

The design and technology department would like to thank Nathan Lambert of Congo Blue Design (part of the SFL group of companies) for the kind donation of softwood and other timber materials recently given. The softwood will be used in current Year 9 and Year 10 projects. We are also pleased to announce the extended partnership between Maiden Erlegh and CongoBlue with a site visit planned to view the set design workshops (including a full bed CNC router) and a visit from one of the set designers to school to assist in evaluating the students project work.

For further information on Congo Blue design visit:

[www.congobluedesign.co.uk](http://www.congobluedesign.co.uk)

**Congo  
Blue**

### How Science Got Women Wrong - Reading University Event

We hope that science is free from bias and prejudice, but its record of research on women proves that this isn't always true. In her new book, *Inferior*, Angela Saini interrogates what we think we know about women and why so much of it is wrong. She also explores new research that is attempting to paint a more accurate, and more empowering, portrait of women. Join us for this short lecture to hear Angela explore some of these issues.

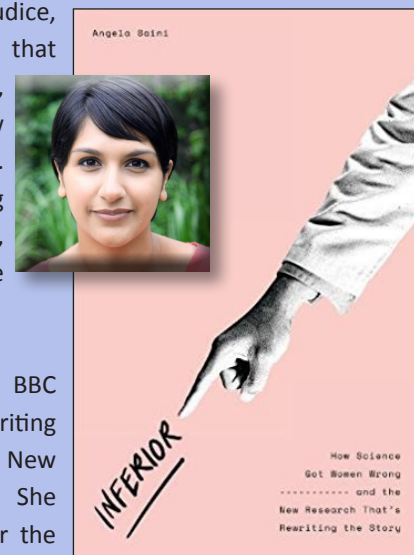
Angela Saini presents science programmes on BBC Radio 4 and the World Service, and her writing has appeared all over the world, including in *New Scientist*, the *Guardian*, *Science*, and *Wired*. She is the winner of the American Association for the Advancement of Science's Kavli Science Journalism (2015) and the Association of British Science Writers' award for best news story (2012). Her latest book is *Inferior: How Science Got Women Wrong and the New Research That's Rewriting the Story*. Follow her on Twitter @AngelaDSaini



**University of  
Reading**

If you are interested in attending this event, please click on the link below:

[Angela Saini lecture on How Science Got Women Wrong](#)



### Year 11 Revision Corridor

Next week we will be running a revision corridor in preparation for the Pre Public Examinations. All Year 11 students are welcome to all sessions that relate to them.

This will be every day for the week and up to 30 minutes after school.

Please encourage your son/daughter to come along.

[Click here for related letter and timetable.](#)

### Year 11 Special Recognition Award

It has been a successful start to the special recognition award with its 3rd week we have already had over 30 nominations and lots of students enjoying their teas and coffee's with the staff at break time!

Well done Year 11!

**Free Entry**

**Emergency Services Fun Day**

**Arborfield Garrison Community Centre**

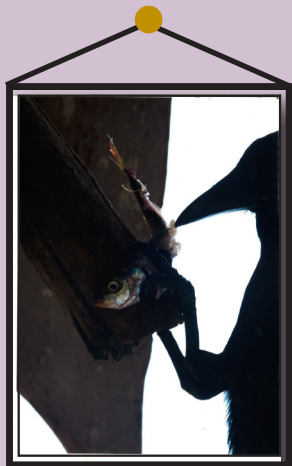
**Thursday 26th October 2017 10am-4pm**

**Fire Police Community Responders Search and Rescue RNLI Farms 2 ewe Army The Cycle Smart Foundation Food Stalls Mounted Police Bouncy Castle**

## Work of Art

### September Artists of the Month

Congratulations to Sam Worsley Yr7, Ria Mistry Yr11 and Sami Achouri Yr12 for being awarded 'Artist of the Month' for September.



Ria Mistry



Sam Worsley



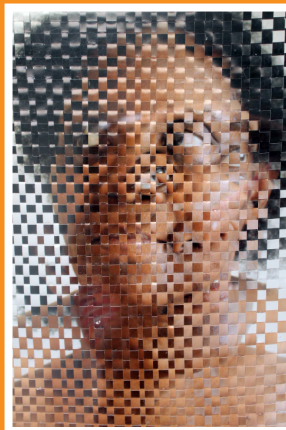
Sami Achouri

### Reading Schools Art Competition at the Sharad Utsav

Two of our sixth form students achieved 1st place and 2nd Place In the Reading Schools Art Competition last Thursday at the Sharad Utsav.

This is a huge event of Indian cultural celebrations which lasts for 5 days at Rivermead Leisure centre and is organised by the Bengali Cultural Society.

Sharon Muiruri in Year 12 gained 1st prize for her photography piece entitled "Woven Aunty" and Luke Hickling in Year 13 gained 2nd prize for his Painting of Kew Gardens.



Sharon Muiruri



Luke Hickling

Both students received money as prizes and a HUGE silver cup for the school to keep for the year.

Amrit Manku, Mollie Rowland and Wiktorina Sternik, in Year 13, entered work that was highly commended.

### Year 10 Artists' Workshops

On Friday 29 September our Year 10 Art and Design and Sculpture students worked alongside 6 different local artists for the day. The workshops ranged from printmaking, ceramics, mixed media and digital manipulation to wire sculpture.



It was an extremely productive day, students used their creative energy to make amazing outcomes!

Thank you to everyone who enabled the day to go ahead.





