



Maiden Erlegh School NEWSBLAST



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OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY & SUCCESS FOR ALL

10 February 2017 - Issue 3

From the Headteacher

We are already nearly at the end of a half term – it comes around very quickly! We have achieved a great deal this half term as you can see from the two Newsblasts and the website. There have been some great trips: the geography field trips and the Year 12 Physics trip to CERN to name but two and the Careers Seminars are, once again, a huge success. We have also had two sets of Parents' Evenings with over 90% turn out. Thank you for your support, it makes such a difference.



Two year groups are in the throes of making big decisions. Year 8 and Year 11 students are making their choices for their GCSE options and their future from September respectively. My senior colleagues and I will meet all the Year 11s between now and Easter, to discuss their plans. We are very lucky that the majority choose to stay with us, and numbers look to be up by about 5% this year. I have to say I have very much enjoyed chatting with the young people allocated to me – what ambition and focus they have! I know my senior colleagues feel the same sense of privilege.

It is annual survey time again. Every year we ask students and parents to participate in the survey. The feedback is extremely important and feeds into our School Improvement planning but also into specific tasks featured in our "You said ... We did ..." feature on the website: <http://www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/parent-information-3/you-saidwe-did>.

Every year, we are lucky that so many of you take the time to complete the survey and I hope we can rely on your support again, to fill in the parent ones and to encourage your child/children to fill in the student ones. If you have a child in more than one year group, you may wish to fill in the separate surveys.

Enrichment Activities

Kidzania Trip

On 26 January, 37 Year 7 and 8 students visited Kidzania. An amazing day was had by all. The students learnt a lot about the different career options they have whilst also learning the harsh realities of money management. They were a credit to the school, were enthusiastic, engaged and impeccably behaved. Full details of the visit can be found here [Kidzania Trip 2017](#).



CALENDAR

13 Feb	Y12/13 Business Studies Trip – New York
13-17 Feb	Half Term
20 Feb	Students Return to School
23 Feb	Y8 Options Evening
28 Feb	Y11/12 Maths Inspiration Trip – Hexagon
28 Feb	Y8M Progress Meetings
1 Mar	Y12/13 Business Studies Conference
1 Mar	World Maths day
2 Mar	Y8E Progress Meetings
2 Mar	World Book day
6 & 7 Mar	Y8 Options Surgeries – Mrs Bendall & Mr Thomas
7 Mar	Y13 Art Trip – Roche Court
7 Mar	Gold Programme – Oxbridge Workshop and Info.
10 Mar	Y7 Tirabad

Survey Links

Students

- Year 7 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y7S2017>
- Year 8 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y8S2017>
- Year 9 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y9S2017>
- Year 10 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y10S2017>
- Year 11 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y11S2017>
- Year 12 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y12S2017>
- Year 13 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y13S2017>

Parents

- Year 7 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y7P2017>
- Year 8 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y8P2017>
- Year 9 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y9P2017>
- Year 10 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y10P2017>
- Year 11 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y11P2017>
- Year 12 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y12P2017>
- Year 13 <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y13P2017>

Please could you complete them by Tuesday 28 February. Thank you in advance and please have a wonderful half term.

Please use the links below to read about some of our other exciting trips this half term:

Juniper Hall, Geography Trip - [Juniper Hall 2017](#)

CERN, Physics Trip - [CERN 2017](#)

Thank you for all your support with our enrichment programme.

Year 10 Congratulations

The boy's football team played Mary Hare and Wargrave Piggott and won both games convincingly. The following Year 10 girls took part in raising money for charity and raised £208 so far for the achievement centre's chill out room:

Rebecca Chan	Estelle Beattie
Amy Crabb	Hannah Screene
Nikolett Erdeyli	Lauren Warburton

And finally,

Good luck to Megan Splain who is off to represent the GB (artistic) Gymnastic Squad in America!

Critical Incident Planning

The safety of students, and indeed all those on site, is of paramount importance to us. We regularly review our procedures for dealing with events which may put people at risk – including fire, flood, intruders on site, gas leaks. We refer to these events as 'critical incidents'.

Part of our review process is to carry out evacuation drills and also drills where we feel the best course of action is to keep students and staff inside a building either until the danger has passed or prior to evacuating away from the school. We will be carrying out one of these 'lockdown drills' after half term.

If a real critical incident were to occur, we would update parents via text, email and/or social media or the website as frequently as possible as events progress and subject to advice from the emergency services. In these circumstances, it will be important to keep lines of communication open and we would ask parents not to ring in or come to the school at that time.

During the drill we will **NOT** be contacting all parents. Below is a copy of the information we will go through with students explaining the drill. It would be very helpful if you could go through this with them so they are prepared for the drill but also understand its purpose.

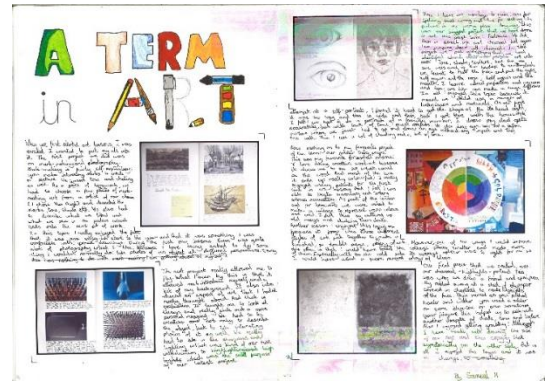
*In the event of a fire alarm you all know exactly what to do - you go to the tennis courts calmly and without a fuss and wait in the tutor groups in silence. We also need to practise what we would do if we ever needed to keep you safe **inside** the school. This might be because of a gas leak, a dog on the loose or a dangerous intruder. This situation is called "lock down". In the event of a lock down we will send a message to all staff by email and text and a notice will pop up on computers and whiteboards. We will ask teachers to close doors and windows but otherwise lessons should carry on as normal until further instructions are sent or there is an all clear message. Staff may also ask that you put your mobile phones on the desk as it is important that we keep lines of communication clear, or we may ask you to switch them off. We will be having a practice drill one day this week. This should not affect your lesson but you will be aware that something is going on.*

Should you wish to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact the school.

January - Artist of the Month

Congratulations to the following students for being awarded Artist of the Month in each key stage for January:

Sam Hayward Year 7



Ria Mistry Year 10



Sam Benford Year 13



January - Artist of the Month

Those invited to the Oxbridge Application Presentation, please remember to return your attendance slip by Wednesday 22 February.

We would also like to invite Year 11 Gold Programme students that may be interested. Please contact the school office.



OXBRIDGE
APPLICATIONS

Growth Mindset or Fixed Mindset?

FIXED MINDSET		GROWTH MINDSET
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SOMETHING YOU'RE BORN WITH FIXED 	SKILLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COME FROM HARD WORK. CAN ALWAYS IMPROVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SOMETHING TO AVOID COULD REVEAL LACK OF SKILL TEND TO GIVE UP EASILY 	CHALLENGES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SHOULD BE EMBRACED AN OPPORTUNITY TO GROW. MORE PERSISTANT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNNECESSARY SOMETHING YOU DO WHEN YOU ARE NOT GOOD ENOUGH 	EFFORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESSENTIAL A PATH TO MASTERY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GET DEFENSIVE TAKE IT PERSONAL 	FEEDBACK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USEFUL SOMETHING TO LEARN FROM IDENTIFY AREAS TO IMPROVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BLAME OTHERS GET DISCOURAGED 	SETBACKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USE AS A WAKE-UP CALL TO WORK HARDER NEXT TIME.

At Maiden Erlegh we are working hard to promote how important it is to have a Growth Mindset by encouraging students to look at their successes in relation to their effort, and to think about skills which they haven't learnt YET! At home, you can support this simply by thinking about the language you use in everyday discussions.

https://www.ted.com/talks/carol_dweck_the_power_of_believing_that_you_can_improve?language=en

Instead of "You solved that problem really quickly, you are so smart", use **"You solved that problem really quickly, you must have worked really hard at that"**.

Instead of "Don't worry that you didn't get it this time, you're good at other subjects", use **"Don't worry that you didn't get it this time, if you keep trying, you'll get there soon"**.

Year 11 English

Each fortnight students will complete a timed piece of work for one of the examination elements in Language or Literature. Please talk to your son or daughter about what the focus is in each fortnight for their class. Timed pieces of work are a good opportunity for students to gain feedback and experience the timings for the final examination.

This could be:

- English Language Paper 1
- English Language Paper 2
- 19th Century Novel (Great Expectations OR Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde OR A Christmas Carol)
- Shakespeare (Romeo and Juliet)
- Journey's End or An Inspector Calls
- Poetry Anthology
- Unseen Poetry

How are schools being measured?

From September 2016 schools are being measured by Progress 8 and Attainment 8 at Key Stage 4. They are designed to encourage schools to offer a broad and balanced curriculum at KS4. When these changes were announced, we produced a summary document which can be found on the school website:

<http://www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/curriculum-and-learning/curriculum-updates/>.

In January 2017, the DfE released a video explaining Progress 8 in 3 minutes:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IAEgFMSGDY>

The DfE also published the Revised 2015-16 Secondary School performance tables in January 2017 <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/136637>

Literacy Focus

Homophones

A **homophone** is a word which sounds like another word but it is spelt differently and has a different meaning.

For example: pear/pair, see/sea or won/one.

Circle the correct **homophone** in each sentence.

- I'm not aloud/allowed to go to the cinema.
- I can't hear/here what you're saying.
- "Don't stair/stare!" she said, tapping my leg.
- Jack found a bean/been in his pocket.
- Write/right your name at the top of your page.
- "I would never steel/steal from you," she sobbed.
- He put the whole/hole cake in his mouth.
- She's got for/four brothers.
- He had been ill for a while so he was very week/weak.
- She threw/through her bag across the room.



CHALLENGE: Circle the correct **homophones** in each sentence.

- Don't break/brake it or yew/you will be sorry.
- From hour/our room we could see/sea the fairground.
- Write/right it in your book if you no/know the answer.
- I can't wait to meat/meet her. She sounds great/grate.
- I went to/too the park with her on Saturday to/too.

Rainbow Day



This February we will be raising awareness for LGBT+ issues in light of it being LGBT+ History Month. We will be having a non-uniform day on the Friday 24 February. The donations will go towards the local charity SupportU who provide support and resources for anybody affected by LGBT+ issues. Some representatives from the charity will also be coming in to give assemblies throughout the weeks following half-term for every year group.



We suggest a donation of £2 and students are encouraged to wear bright colours to show their support of LGBT+ issues. The money is going to a great cause so please donate what you can, donations will be collected during tutor period.

Catering Examinations

The week 6-10th February saw the year 11 Catering practical examinations in the Food Department.

These were the culmination of 3 years hard work where students show cased their skills in food production.

Their task was to prepare cook and serve a 2 course meal for a "Young Chef of the Year" competition. The meal had to be for 2 people with a specific dietary need. Diets chosen were; Lactose Free, Halal, Vegan and Lacto-Vegetarian.

As usual, the standard was extremely high. The students had prepared and planned carefully and the results were excellent.

Congratulations to all who took part.

PE Department
Link to our Sports Bulletin can be found **HERE**

School Funding

As I am sure you are aware, the Government is undertaking a consultation on the funding of schools and the move to a National Funding Formula. The consultation is not yet closed and so the final outcome, and its impact on Maiden Erlegh Trust is not confirmed, however, the information provided in the consultation suggests a further decrease in budget available to the school. We were fortunate to receive additional funding when we first became an academy and this was used to support various capital investments across the school, including the refurbishment of the Humanities block. Since then we have seen a gradual reduction in our real term funding, along with other schools, and this is something we have been managing for the last few years and will continue to manage going forward.

We remain very concerned about education funding generally, especially its failure to keep pace with inflation and the additional cost pressures being put upon schools.

We are also very concerned about how any further reductions may compromise some of what Maiden Erlegh School has traditionally been able to offer. Please let me reassure you, however, that the governors and I will continue to strive to protect the quality education which *is so valued* by parents, students and staff.

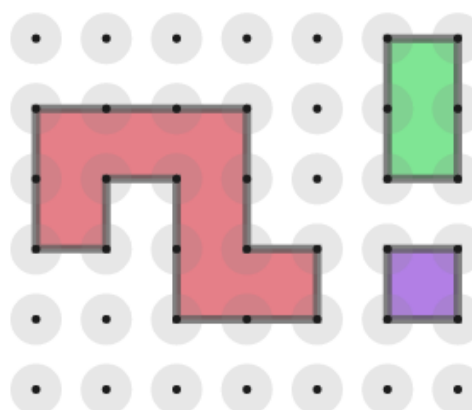
Details of the consultation can be found on this link. <https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/>

As a school, we have contacted John Redwood to share our concerns and it may be that you feel you would also like to lend your support to this lobby. If so please write to Rt Hon John Redwood MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Miss M Davies
Headteacher

Numeracy Focus

The three pieces below can be fitted together to make shapes with at least one line of symmetry.



The vertices of each piece must lie on grid points, and you must not overlap two pieces.

Look out for the solution in the next issue!

Letters for Parents
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.