



Maiden Erlegh School NEWSBLAST

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OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY & SUCCESS FOR ALL

23 June 2017 - Issue 8

From the Headteacher

We have a very busy few weeks before the end of term and while the students will continue to be working hard in lessons, there are some changes to the normal routine which we hope will be both interesting and fun.



On Wednesday we welcomed our new Year 7s and next week our new Year 12s.

Last week we had the GCSE Art Exhibition which was, yet again, of such a high standard. The A Level Exhibition starts on 30 June.

On 12 July the whole school will be off timetable to do a variety of pastoral themed sessions:

Year 7 – E-Safety

Year 8 – Drugs, alcohol and sex and relationships

Year 9 – Sex and relationships

Year 10 – Mental health and resilience

Year 12 – Community and culture

Please remember that school will close for the summer at lunch time on Friday 21 July.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the school and the work of students and staff. At this time, the importance of community and working together has been made very clear in the most tragic of circumstances. I am very proud of the Maiden Erlegh community who work together to support the youngsters so well.

Reminder

WE'RE CLOSED

Wednesday 5 July is a staff training day.

Students will be dismissed at 1.55pm on Tuesday 4 July and are not expected back in school until Thursday 6 July.

CYCLISTS – Care for Others and Safety

We have many students who cycle to and from school and they are clearly very safe, respectful and careful cyclists.

We must remind all those on bikes that they should only cycle on designated paths and not pedestrian areas or footpaths without cycle lanes. They should also take great care cycling through car parks, as vehicles could pull out at any time.



CALENDAR

28/29 June	Y12 Induction
30 June	A-Level Art Exhibition 5-7pm
30 June	Sports Day and Y12 Future Pathways
30 June - 3 July	Y8 St. Malo Trip - French
3 July	Y7 STEM Day
4 July	Open Evening Year 5
5 July	School Closed - Staff Training Day
6 July	Summer Concert
6 July	Y7 Report Home
11/12 July	School Production
12 July	Y7/8 /12/13 Cotswold Wildlife Trip - Geography
13 July	Sports Personality Evening 7pm
14 July	Y12 Dale Fort Trip - Biology
18 July	Y10 Learn to Earn Day
19 July	The Guardian Headquarters Trip - English
22 July	Y11/12/13 World Challenge - Costa Rica



QUI VEUT PEUT

Open Evening

6pm to 8pm on

Tuesday 4 July 2017

for parents and primary school students (current Year 5) joining us in September 2018


The evening will be an opportunity to visit the school and meet and talk to staff and students. There will be lots to do and see including:

- Subject displays
- Hands-on activities
- Drama and music performances
- Tirabad information
- Presentation by the Headteacher and students
- Tours of the school led by students

**Presentations in the Main School Hall at
6.45pm and 7.30pm**

2017 Art, Design & Photography A-Level

THE PEACOCK GALLERY



You are invited to the private view of work by Years 12 & 13 Maiden Erlegh Students on Friday 30 June 5 - 7pm

www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/community
Follow our blog - peacockgallery.wordpress.com
We welcome text relay telephone calls www.textrelay.org

1 - 6 July 2017
Open to the public: Weekdays 2.30-4.30pm Saturday 1 July 10-1pm

Year 11 English Revision Guides

If your son or daughter is in Year 11 and does not have brothers and sisters who can benefit from the use of their English revision guides, the English Department would gratefully receive them to allocate to students who are struggling to pay for them. If you would like to help please hand these revision guides into Mrs Smullen in the downstairs English office or at Reception. Many thanks in advance, your help is very much appreciated.

Moving On Up

Is your child moving from Primary to Secondary School in September?

Come along to the 2 session transition course being run by Wokingham Borough Council and hosted by Maiden Erlegh School. This course is open to **all parents, and it isn't primary or secondary school dependant.**

Thursday 29 June 6-9pm &
Thursday 6 July 6-8pm

If you or anyone you know may be interested in his course [click here for further information and FAQs.](#)

Follow our Spanish Faculty on Twitter at @MaidenErleghEsp or click to be transferred now!



A Poet Within



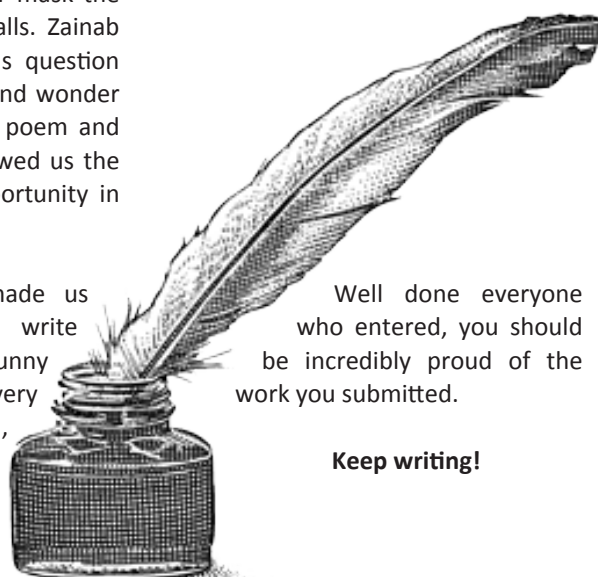
The Maiden Erlegh Young Poets competition closed on Thursday 8 June and we had some fantastic entries making picking our top three winners very difficult indeed. We thoroughly enjoyed Ali Hill and Rebecca Chan's poems communicating the angst and emotion of love and coming of age, as well as Ester Ferreira's (Year 7) moving poem about the bond between sisters.

Alisha Bartlett and Aziz Mendy (both Year 7) made us smile with their whimsical and light-hearted poems, whilst Luke Worsley (Year 8) showcased his creative talents through his poem "Dark" exploring the sinister mask the world adopts when night falls. Zainab Malik from Year 9 made us question our bond with technology and wonder if we're all addicted in her poem and Carrie Whalley (Year 7) showed us the need to jump at every opportunity in "Life is Like a Locked Door".

Harvey Fraser (Year 8) made us wonder what we could write about "In the garden on a sunny afternoon" appealing very much to our love of the sun, whereas Ratul Vaish (Year8) took us on a doomed adventure where we were chased by a mystery monster in "The Claw Marks".

Ana Newell's "[Stained Glass Churches](#)" received third place for its haunting questioning of religion through sonnet form. Second place went to "[Time](#)" by Chris Starnes in Year 10 whose abstract poem about the relentless marching of time seemed to contain wisdom far beyond a fifteen year old. We also gave a special commendation to Amrit Manku from Year 12 for her amazing poem "[Inspiration](#)" about the key to freedom, displayed beautifully on a working clock face.

In first place, however, was a stark and somewhat dystopian poem about the dependence of today's society on technology. "[Notification](#)" by Atiya Chowdhury in Year 12 captured the growing need for constant social interaction through mobile phones and questioned whether we are really controlling the phones any more, or are they controlling us?



Well done everyone who entered, you should be incredibly proud of the work you submitted.

Keep writing!

Year 7 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Day



We are excited to be able to provide Year 7 with an insight into the world of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Thales have kindly agreed to host the day on Monday 3 July where students will be exposed to a number of different STEM-related activities. Activities include Helicopter simulators, Oculus Rift and HTC Vive (computer science and virtual reality activities), Mars Rover (coding and problem solving activities), Lego Minestorms and Ozbots, opportunities to meet current engineers to discuss career possibilities and entry requirements into STEM related professions, and two team work building challenges; 'geometric spaghetti towers' and a 'make it move' task. We hope that students have a really enjoyable day.

Foundation Food Workshop

We are keen to recognise and encourage the talents of all of our students. As a result, this term the Foundation Team organised a Gifted and Talented Workshop in Food. Twenty students were selected from Year 7 and 8 and we were lucky enough to secure the support of Christine Bailey, an award winning Nutritional Therapist, Chef, Author and Broadcaster with over 18 years of experience.

Christine talked to the students, demonstrated new skills and they cooked a healthy cupcake recipe. This was an excellent opportunity to work with someone who has had great success in their field of work. Students transformed a traditional recipe into a healthy alternative and had the opportunity to cook with ingredients that they may not normally use.



Slam Dunk!!

This year has been a great one for the Under 14 Girls Basketball side. The team has worked hard in training since September, showing great effort and camaraderie and this has been rewarded in the results on court.

Impressive wins over Little Heath, JMA and last year's champions Langley Grammar saw the girls reach the Berkshire finals ranked 2nd in the county – a terrific achievement. Unfortunately, due to difficulties in League administration the final will not be taking place but the girls have shown tremendous commitment and skill this season.



With several new players joining the squad and many memorable performances from both Year 8 and 9 students along the way it bodes well for next year and beyond. Heather Maxwell and Becky Cooke have successfully trialled with the regional South of England side which is an excellent achievement but all players should be congratulated on their performances.



Here's what some of the students thought:

"Everyone had their strengths, everyone had their weaknesses but together we

helped each other improve. We had our downs but had many more ups! We may have had 5 people on the court but we were one united team" - Heather Maxwell Year 9

"Our team spirit was as strong as our offense" - Zöe Green Year 8

One very proud coach Mr Bishop

Important Performing Arts Dates

The students in Performing Arts are busy working hard preparing for two main events. On Thursday 6 July the music department will be holding their annual summer concert. The concert will feature performances by all of the school music groups and solo performances.



The winner's of the Musician of the Year award will also be announced.



Students are also busy putting together a production of Bugsy Malone. This production is based on the 1976 film which starred Jodie Foster. It is set in 1920's New York and tells the story of rival gangs and their use of splurge guns!!! It is a lively and fun musical and will be a showcase of our student's talents and hard work.



[Click here](#) for information on how to purchase your tickets.

The Earley Charity
Learning Centre

Living with Teenagers

INTERNET SAFETY

A workshop to support parents through their children's adolescence.

- Know about Internet safety and recognise how personal information can be misused and false friendships set up through social networking.
- Know about popular apps such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat and online gaming such as Club Penguin, Minecraft and Xbox Live.
- Explore strategies to encourage children and young people to talk about internet safety and respond effectively.

Thursday
29th June 2017

7:00pm – 9:00pm

Fee £10

Bus route 21 from Reading – Beech Lane stop

Information and booking:

0118 921 0555 • Email: earleycrescent@btconnect.com • www.earleycrescent.org
The Earley CResCent Resource Centre - Warbler Drive, Lower Earley, Reading RG6 4HB
Charity No 1085907 Company No 4383481

Work of Art - GCSE Art Exhibition

Year 11 have worked really hard over the last three years to create diverse, individual and interesting pieces of work. The whole art department was transformed by an array of colourful and inspiring pieces of art that reflected the skill and talent that this year's Year 11 have.

On Friday 9 June the Exhibition's Private View was well attended by parents, friends and families all commenting on the fabulous quality and diversity of materials displayed in the show.

It is a real celebration of the quality of work created by Year 11 who work with individual ideas using many different materials like; ceramics, printmaking, textiles, painting, drawing, photography and mixed media.

Students from all years studying Art have enjoyed looking around the rooms and using the show as a fantastic learning resource. Students from Radstock Primary school also visited to gain inspiration and ideas.

Well done Year 11!

"This year's GCSE's art show is amazing!" KS3 student. The pictures below are just some of the amazing Art showcased.



School Ambassadors

Congratulations to all the students that have been awarded Maiden Erlegh School Ambassador Status. To achieve this status students must have had 98% attendance or higher over the course of the year, have had effort grades of 1 or 2 only and have had no detentions, exclusions or isolations.

These students' contribution to Maiden Erlegh School is excellent and we would like to thank them for all their hard work and positive energy.



Year 8 Rivers of the World Project

Twenty four Year 8 students took part in an Art workshop before half term. They produced artwork for the Rivers of the World Project which is in conjunction with the British Council and the Rivers of the World festival. You can read more in the next Newsblast and see their completed design which is due to be displayed in London, Reading and Nepal!



Year 10 Cambridge Trip

On Wednesday 7 June, 40 Year 10s went to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. We arrived at around 10am and were promptly greeted with the grandeur of the 16th century grounds.

Within an hour we were acting as countries responding to a zombies pandemic. The USA and China put apart their differences to fight a combined response but both the UK and North Korea decided to brave the epidemic alone. This showed us the abstract thinking needed in a Cambridge subject and was led by a geography fellow.

We were shown around two colleges, greatly jeopardising each other. Sidney Sussex stood in a quite intimidating manner with many old buildings and apparently containing Oliver Cromwell's head. Robinsons, the other college, was possibly as imposing but was built from red brick and, having been constructed in the 1970s, was the newest built college. In Sidney Sussex there was a chapel built in the 1500s but Robinsons had a multi-faith room with modern stained glass, which they believed was more suited to today's society.



They showed the wide ranging culture in Cambridge and made this often clichéd place seem far more accessible to a group of state educated teenagers.

Written by Anna Newell Year 10



PE Department

[Click here to view our latest Sports Bulletin](#)



Letters for Parents

www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/letters-for-parents/

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