



Maiden Erlegh School NEWSBLAST

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OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY & SUCCESS FOR ALL

21 July 2017 - Issue 9

From the Headteacher

Over the last few weeks I have had the tremendous pleasure of attending the Year 13 Art Exhibition, Sports Day, the music concert, Bussy Malone and Sports Personality Evening. These events showcase the work and confidence of so many students and in so many different areas. I never cease to be flabbergasted at how talented they are, but also how dedicated they are to maintaining the quality of their work in school and in other areas of their lives. I want to thank all the staff, teaching and support staff, who ensure that students have these opportunities to shine.



We have recently named our new Student Ambassadors, all of whom embody what it is to be a Maiden Erlegh student: in their presentation, attendance, contribution to school life and attitudes to learning. This week I have also seen students receiving certificates for achievement and effort in different subject areas. Our motto is "opportunity, diversity and success for all" and surely such celebrations, and the many more that I have not mentioned, show that Maiden Erlegh School staff and students are living up to that ethos. Our vision statement says "we will not be complacent – we will compare our work with that of the best schools in the country and continue to improve". The awards we have earned this year are testament to our ongoing commitment to develop our work with the whole Maiden Erlegh community.



Just as some students move on each year, we see a number of colleagues leave us at the end of term, moving on to different positions, promotion or well-deserved retirement. We wish all those who are leaving us this year all the very best for the future.

Notwithstanding floods, we have had a fabulous year and I would like to congratulate and thank everyone involved. Enjoy your summer and come back refreshed ready to do it all again.

Sports Personality of the Year Evening

In the summer of 2008 the Maiden Erlegh PE Department held their very first ever Sports Personality of the Year event.

Fast forward 10 years you come to Thursday night's celebration! Everyone was dressed up in their smart clothes when they entered into the hall. With all the seats full three time Olympic gold medallist, Andrew Triggs Hodge, took to the stage where he delivered an inspirational speech.



As the night went on students began to pick up their rewards for effort, achievement and contributions to the PE department. The team of the year went to the three time nominated U14 boys football team for their very impressive display throughout the season.

Interlinked with this was some amazing entertainment: dancing and a Maiden Erlegh special edition of Carpool Karaoke!!



It was now down to the final few awards. The runner ups for Sports Personality went to the hard working Sam Martin and Chloe Robertson. Finally the big one, Sports Personality itself, was awarded to Becky Cooke for her continuous effort and achievement across a range of sports.

With all the awards handed out the only thing left was some more photos! Overall an outstanding night full of great sporting achievements! Bring on the next 10 years!!!

Written by Heather Maxwell, Year 9

Maiden Erlegh School's Work Recognised



On 17 April we were awarded the Young Carers bronze award which recognises our work with young carers in school. To achieve this award we demonstrated that we supports these young people in many ways and have a member of staff who is responsible for their wellbeing. We are now working towards the silver award. We would like to thank Claire Nimmo for her work on this as well as Sarah Beckett and the JAC team.

Over the last three weeks, the work of Maiden Erlegh School has been acknowledged by **four** separate awarding bodies.



On 27 June the school was awarded the Leading Parent Partnership Award for its work with parents. The school's work in terms of transition, participation, communication, guidance, induction and home-school links was assessed by an external verifier who identified considerable strengths in our work. One example from the final report is: "the school's pastoral care is a considerable strength ... in conversation with staff it is clear that there is a whole school commitment to a strong partnership with parents".

On 29 June, Miss Davies (Executive Headteacher), Mrs Walker (Deputy Headteacher in charge of Inclusion) and Ms Bowden (Trustee and Local Advisory Board Member) travelled to the Houses of Parliament to the Pupil Premium Awards. For the second year running we were awarded the Secondary Regional Champion Award for our work with disadvantaged students. To receive this once is excellent, but to receive it twice is exceptional.

Pupil Premium Awards 2017

Secondary

Regional Champion

tes

Department for Education

On 4 July we were also awarded the Basic Skills Award for our work on literacy and numeracy across the curriculum. This work is vital for every student to be successful, not only in English and maths, but in all curriculum areas especially considering the challenging new examination questions at GCSE and A level. The external assessor listed many strengths within our school, particularly the positive attitude towards learning and the appropriate curriculum offer. This award was led by Mrs Elliss.



On the 10 July we were reaccredited for the NACE Challenge Award and are one of only 14 schools nationally (7 secondary schools) to have been granted the award three times, hence the Decade of Excellence. The assessors spent the day looking at books, observing lessons, talking to students and found the school to be "highly aspirational" and said that "success is achieved through a diligent and consistent drive for excellence for all students, but particularly the most able". This award was also led by Mrs Elliss.

Working towards such awards ensures that we are benchmarking our work against that of other schools across the country. We are extremely proud that our work is so strong in such a range of areas. This means that we are true to our aspirational and successful comprehensive ideal.

Thank you to all the students, parents and staff who have helped secure these awards, not just on the assessment days, but through their commitment to the school and the students every day.

Year 11 Prom

On Monday 3 July, Year 11 donned their glad-rags and celebrated the end of their GCSE years in style! Students arrived at Warbrooke House in limos, and even a white Lamborghini, to find staff- also dressed to impress- waiting to welcome them to a night of dancing, good food, and a “selfie mirror” complete with props and costumes.

The night saw students awarded with prizes (as voted for by their peers):

Zoe Farwell	Best Actress
Bradley Burnet	Best Laugh
Charlotte West	Best Sportsperson
Bilal Kharkowa	Funniest Person
Karthik Nooli	Most Likely to become a Millionaire
Arya Babollah	Most Likely to become Prime Minister
Leah Kennedy	Most Creative
Manraj Bains	Prom King
Max Springgay	Prom Queen

A big thank you to all the staff who attended the evening, especially those whose moves lit up the dance floor and a big thank you also to Year 11, who behaved in an exemplary manner and thoroughly deserved their night of celebration for all the hard work they've put in. We wish them every success in the future.




Year 9 and 10 GCSE Geography Fieldwork

In the middle of July, the Y9 and Y10 Geography students took part in half a day's fieldwork in their local area. They were tasked with the objective of comparing three different residential areas in order to see whether they could identify differences – perhaps in line with those described in Hoyt's famous urban land use model. Over eight half days, 430 students walked to Ramsbury Drive, Melrose Avenue and Amherst Road to assess variables such as traffic flow, pedestrian volume, housing styles and the immediate environment.

Armed with clip boards and rain coats, the students' behaviour was exemplary as they trudged to the sites to collect their fieldwork data.

In Y11, the students will be examined on their fieldwork experiences and so this day will be invaluable to help them with this. The students were able to brush up on their field sketch skills, with some fine examples shown here.



Are you looking after someone else's child or do you know someone who is?

Are you a private foster carer?

What is private fostering?

Private fostering is the term used when a parent or guardian places a child or young person aged 16 or under (or 18 if they are disabled) in the care of someone else who is not a close relative or an officially approved foster carer for a period of more than 28 days.

You might be a private foster carer without realising it.

A private foster carer may be:

- A friend of the family
- The parent of your child's friend
- Someone who is previously unknown to the child's family who is willing to privately foster a child

If someone else is looking after your child, or if you are looking after someone else's child, you could be privately fostering. You must tell Wokingham Borough Council.

For more information or to tell us about a private fostering arrangement please contact:


Wokingham Borough Council (0188) 908 8002 triage@wokingham.gov.uk

What will happen when I tell the Council?

We will be able to offer any advice or support that you or the child might need while they are in your care. We will ask for details such as who will be the caring for the child and where they will be living, details about their history, health and school. This is to ensure the child or young person is safe and well cared for and someone may come to visit you to talk about this.

More information at: www.wokingham.gov.uk/private-fostering

www.wokingham.gov.uk



New Grading System for GCSEs

This summer sees the start of the new grading system for GCSEs. Please click to view the [Parent Factsheet](#) or for further information visit:

<https://newgcse.campaign.gov.uk/>

Courses at The Crescent Centre

The Crescent Learning Centre have the following courses coming up which may be of some interest, click on the workshop title for further information.

[Primary to Secondary - a two week course for parents on how they can help make the transition easier](#)

[Living with Teenagers - a three week course to support parents through their childrens adolescence](#)

CatalyseChange
Catalyst Bootcamp

Empowering Young Women
for Sustainable Futures

[Click here for further information](#)

Work of Art

A-level Art Exhibition

Once again the Art Department has had its furniture removed and been turned into an Art Gallery. Walls and floor spaces have been adorned with the A level Art and Photography work of our Year 12 and Year 13 Students.

This year's show has been a wonderful success with exhibits ranging from Abstract Sculptures of broken buildings and suspended forms made out of tights to detailed paintings of Kew gardens, portraits and fruit. Students have enjoyed exploring scale with ambitious pieces that have taken over walls and created issue based work which present challenges to the viewer.

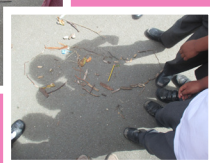
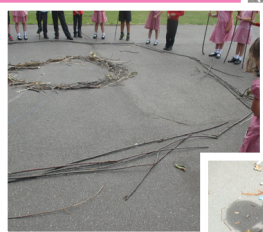
Students from Year 7 and 8 and the GCSE groups have enjoyed discussing the ideas behind how the Art was created and debating some of the topical current issues such as Brexit, Immigration and War that several of the pieces of work have addressed.

We thank everyone that has made this exhibition possible. It has been a fabulous celebration of success and achievement as well as a valuable and creative learning platform for all.



Year 12 Art Students Working with Aldryngton Students

A group of Year 12 Art & Design students led an Art workshop with 90 lower school students at Aldryngton Primary school in July. This was inspired by the land artist Andy Goldsworthy and the students produced a series of art pieces on the field and playground using twigs, stones, sand, leaves and other found or natural materials. They had a great time and the pupils enjoyed working with our students, enhancing their learning about land art. Our students developed their own teaching skills, learning about organisation, use of language and motivating others. They did a brilliant job and the staff were extremely complimentary.



Year 8 Rivers of the World Art Project

The students began with researching how the river Thames and the Kennet & Avon canals have serviced Reading in the past to the present day. They decided that using the theme of Huntley & Palmers biscuit company, which was established in 1822, was to be their inspiration, something Reading has been world famous for producing.

On the workshop day the students drew up the Reading rivers map onto fabric and created a textural batik as a background for their work. They then completed biscuits and biscuit tins using a foil embossing technique, along with paper cut buildings and poly printed buildings, biscuits and statues of George Palmer himself. They then worked on the composition as a group and completed the final Huntley & Palmers Reading river artwork.

Well done to all the Year 8 students who took part and created such an amazing piece of art. Their final composition will be printed out and displayed along the river Thames as part of the 'Totally Thames' Festival in August and September, along with work from our partner school, Creative Academy, Nepal.

Many thanks for all the support.



World Transplant Games Success

Congratulations to Luke Alexander on his success at the World Transplant games.

Luke did us and team GB really proud and won 2 Gold medals, one for cycling and one for shot put.

Look out for Luke on this Sundays Songs of Praise at 17:10, BBC 1 made a short documentary about Luke's journey to Malaga!



Interact Rotary Club Fundraising

This year's Interact Rotary club have managed to raise another £350 pounds to donate to Alexander Devine. That takes their total donations to £750. Alexander Devine is a brand new children's hospice in Maidenhead that specialises in the care of terminally ill children.



Our older members have certainly set a high bar for the younger, newer members to reach! Julia Weversham visited to say thank you to the club on behalf of Alexander Devine Hospice.



Our next charity will be the Ollie Young Foundation, a UK registered charity which funds targeted paediatric brain tumour research and support.

So look out for new fundraisers!



Bugsy Malone - They Gave A Little Love!

On Tuesday 11 and Wednesday 12 July 2017 Maiden Erlegh Performing Arts put on a whole school production of 'Bugsy'. Set in 1920s New York, 'Bugsy' is a musical comedy about rival gangs, romance, hope and 'splurge guns'!

The production was a storming success. Mrs Brown directed, Miss Pitman and Mrs Burbage led the band and Year 12 students Ollie Burns and Mollie Irvin stage managed. It was a tremendous feat of organisation, dedication and team work. The cast was cheerful and creative, bringing vitality and zing to D1 in abundance!

Special mentions must be made for Matthew Costello, who played the leading role of Bugsy Malone with conviction and warmth, Iris Neochoriti-Varvargiou playing an alluring Tallulah, Tarik Derickaran a punchy Fat Sam, Jared Hodder the powerful Dandy Dan, delightful Chiana Mooten-Reeves as Fizzy and Ella Hanson-Mayne, the enchanting and long suffering Blousy Brown.



Thank you to all those who helped on the lighting, sound, front of house and weekend rehearsals. We were especially privileged to have set, costume and make-up design by Lisa Burton; little candles glowing in the dark created an intimate atmosphere, which drew the audience in from the moment they entered the theatre.

The finale was joyous, ending on the final night with Miss Davies being splurged by two unruly gangsters (naming no names Matthew and Tarik). The audience left with a big smile on their faces.

Thank you to all cast and crew for making such a wonderful show.



Guru Purnima (Teachers Day festival)

On Friday 14 July 2017 Miss Davies attended the Guru Purnima (Teachers Day festival) along with teachers, pupils and students from other secondary and primary schools in the area, including Maiden Erlegh in Reading. The festival is traditionally celebrated by Hindus, Jains and Buddhists to pay their respects and gratitude to their spiritual and academic teachers.

Miss Davies said "It was a real honour to attend this event and I was humbled to receive the students' recognition in this way".



PE Department

Click here to view our latest Sports Bulletin



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www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/letters-for-parents/
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Any queries please email us at ParentPay@maidenerleghschool.co.uk

