



****OVER THE SUMMER BREAK PLEASE REPORT POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES TO
MESCOVIDALERT@MAIDENERLEGHTRUST.ORG****

21 July 2021 - Issue 39

From the Headteacher

What an academic year this has been...!

Despite all of the setbacks, our students and staff have come together to have an amazing end of term.

This year has been full of some incredible highlights. We have managed to hold virtual open evenings, virtual careers days and STEAM days. Our Foundation students took part in the ultimate school trip where they were able to experience the sites and cultures of Japan, Italy and Iceland, and our Year 10 students took part in an online Shakespeare's Globe workshop. Across the school many of our students took part in a huge number of house challenges and our onsite Sports Day. Students signed up to the Maiden Erlegh Independent Project and are now working hard to produce their project on areas such as fast fashion, political systems and mythical dragons. Many incredible things have been going on behind the scenes for the whole academic year, despite all the challenges schools have faced, and I couldn't be any prouder and hope students enjoy a well-deserved break.



Move over COVID... on Friday we were greeted with 20,000 bees in one of our trees outside reception. I am pleased to report that they have been safely transported to their new home. A huge thank you to Matt from Earley Garden Bees for coming to the rescue!

There were lots of incredible performances for our Sports Day. This year we were unable to hold at Palmer Park. Instead, our students took to the school field, sporting their house colours, to cheer on their teams. The atmosphere was



incredible and students were on the edge of their seats to see which house would come out on top. I am pleased to announce the following winners:

*Year 7: Wilde
Year 8: Wilde
Year 9: Attenborough*

I want to reiterate just how proud I am of our students and our school community. I hope that everyone takes the time to enjoy a well deserved break over the summer, you all truly deserve it. I look forward to seeing the students back on Friday 3 September for what will hopefully be a more normal academic year! Well done everyone in #TeamMaidenErlegh, have a fantastic break!

*Mr P Gibson
Headteacher*

WILDE

CURIE

BOLT

ATTENBOROUGH

YOUSAFZAI

RODDICK

House News

It's come round to our final House News of the year! What a year it has been! All the students should be extremely proud of themselves and their achievements this year. The number of house events that students have participated in have been outstanding and without a doubt, we are an amazing team!! #TeamMaidenErlegh

House Shout Outs



Each House Ambassador has selected three students to be nominated for a house shout out. These students have gone above and beyond this academic year – a huge congratulations to them all!

WILDE	CURIE	BOLT	ATTENBOROUGH	YOUSAFZAI	RODDICK
Nolan C for his contribution and creativity to house drama. Lily M for her academic contribution to school. Natalia H for her contribution to house events.	Ana M most house points in Team Curie overall. Tanusha S most house points in Team Curie last term. Jonas L most house events entered in Team Curie.	Isabel N most house events entered and most house points in Team Bolt. Alistair C for his academic contribution to school. Nancy B exceptional contribution to extra-curricular.	Duvie G outstanding commitment to Team Attenborough. Nivetha M contribution and creativity in house art. Harihar S consistency and achievement in Junior Maths Challenge.	Amaan B most house points in Team Yousafzai overall. Abi G most house points in Team Yousafzai last term. Thomas G most house events entered in Team Yousafzai.	Mya I outstanding commitment to Team Roddick. Ananya A most house events entered in Team Roddick. Jacob A outstanding commitment to Team Roddick.

Tokyo Olympics 2021

Well done everyone who took part in the PE Tokyo Olympics Poster Competition. There was a huge number of brilliant entries and lots of creativity! It was a tough call but the winning entries are...

3rd place – Farheen K – Team Curie
3 house points



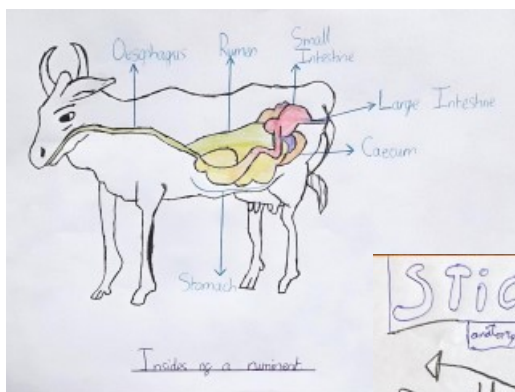
2nd place – Emily S – Team Yousafzai
5 house points



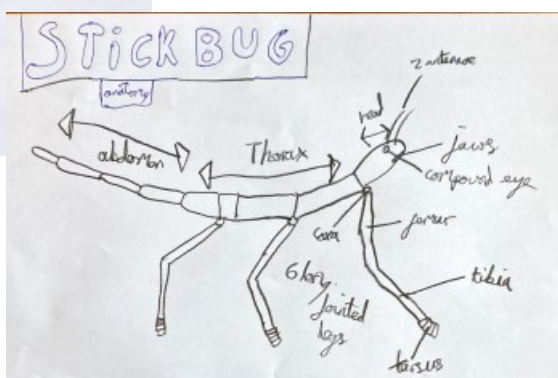
1st place – Jonas L – Team Curie
10 house points



Science Specimen Drawing Competition



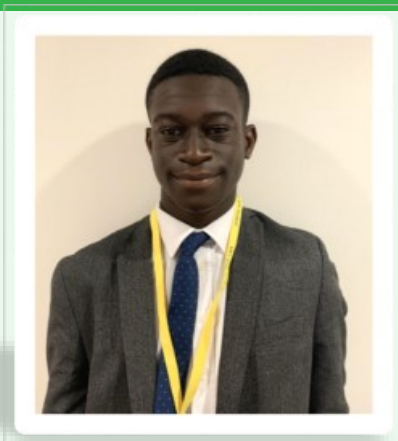
Well done to Jonas L (7M4) in Team Curie and Daniel Y (7E2) in Team Bolt who submitted excellent entries into the Science Specimen Competition. Both been awarded 5 house points and the entries can be seen here.



Sixth Form House Captain Introductions



My name is Karina and I'll be your deputy student leader and house captain this year alongside Ben. I can't wait for the upcoming year, where Ben and I hope to organise a multitude of events, not only for the younger years but also sixth form. One of the best ways to make friends, have fun and embody the Maiden Erlegh school spirit is through house competitions, so I hope to coordinate many, be it sports competitions, liberal arts or even debate and literature competitions, among many others. I'm looking forward to the busy but fun year ahead!



My name is Ben and I am the current deputy student leader and house captain for the 2021/2022 academic year. I will be running alongside Karina this year and we hope to achieve great things in the year to come! I will be focusing on helping to create many house events and extracurricular activities. This may include participating in cooking or sports, I'm sure it will be a very exciting year for everyone involved with the chance to learn new extra skills and I cannot wait to get started!

House Drama Competition

Lights...Camera...Action!

Well done to everyone that took part in the House Drama Competition. The standard was incredibly high and it is great to see so many young filmmakers take on this challenge! A huge thank you to everyone that took part, everyone who has taken part has been awarded 2 House Points.

The top three for the House Drama competition this year is as follows:

3rd Place – Duvie G – Attenborough for his amazing 'Angry Birds' adaption! 3 House Points!

2nd Place – Isabel N and Jayden D – Bolt and Wilde for their magical retelling of 'Harry Potter'! 5 points each!

1st Place – Nolan C – Wilde for his incredibly professional take on 'Forest Gump' including a behind the scenes video of the soundtrack! 10 House points! Some screenshots from Nolan's entry can be seen here and the video is on the @meshouses twitter channel.



Art Royal Mail Competition

Congratulations to all students who entered the Royal Mail stamp competition, we had some amazing entries!

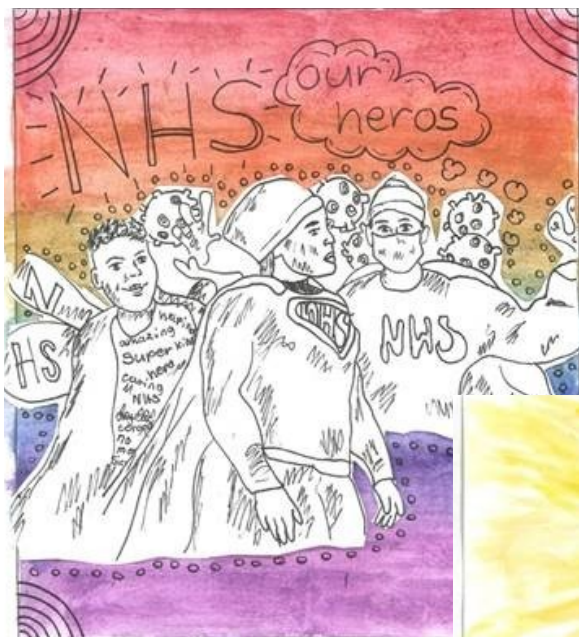


Runners up (5 house points)

Lois T
Antonia P
Mavis W
Nivetha M
Neha K
Jake P

Year group winners (10 house points)

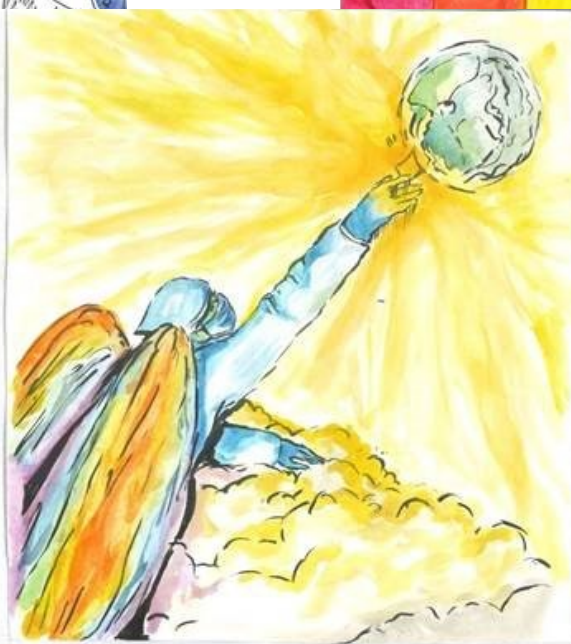
Year 7 - Lucy F
Year 8 - Evie M
Year 9 - Aqela T



Lucy F



Evie M



Aqela T

SCORES ON THE DOORS

Final scores at the end of this term are..

1st Team Bolt– 12540

2nd Team Wilde– 11857

3rd Team Roddick– 11355

4th Team Curie – 11330

5th Team Yousafzai– 10895

6th Team Attenborough – 10575

More competitions coming your way in September, including a bake-off competition, a spelling bee, an interfaith week challenge, Maths problem of the week, house football and many more...

If you have any good ideas about what events you'd like to participate in next year, don't forget to let Miss Jones or your House Ambassador know!



Careers, Work Experience, Work Related Learning and STEAM Provision

As we move towards the end of the summer term, we would like to share with you some of the activities that have been going on as part of our careers, work experience, work-related and STEAM learning programme at Maiden Erlegh School:

Trust Careers Newsletter – Spotlight

We are extremely proud of Spotlight, our careers newsletter which is shared across our different Trust schools and published on a half termly basis. This is designed to provide students with careers related information, resources, and opportunities, as well as offering tips to parents and carers about how they can best support their child in planning for their next steps. Our previous editions can be found using the link below. Watch out for our next edition, to be published week commencing Monday 12 July.

Click here to
view the latest
edition of
SPOTLIGHT

Trust Start u-explore Careers Software

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>

Your child will have been set specific careers modules to complete from this careers software, relevant to their age and transition point.



Year 9 Virtual Careers Inspiration Day

On Wednesday 9 July students in Year 9 took part in a Virtual Careers Inspiration Day at school. The day was designed to provide students with a valuable insight into a range of careers within 6 different sectors and industries and to support them in considering and planning for their next steps, in particular the Year 10 Work Shadow Day, the Year 11 Mock Employer-led Interview Day, and beyond. Year 9 students produced some fantastic work and I know they found the activities extremely useful when considering possible future career destinations.



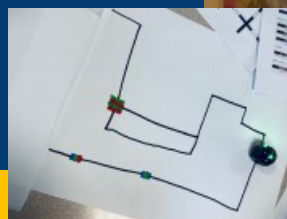
#Careers Week 6 – Formulating A Careers Action Plan and Considering ‘Next Steps’

During the week commencing 12-16 July, we celebrated #Careers Week 6. The aim of this week was to give students an opportunity to explore their own career aspirations by creating a personalised Careers Action Plan which considered:

- The careers students were most interested in.
- What students can do now to help them to achieve their career aspirations in the future.
- Pertinent discussion points dependent on the specific year group e.g. options process in Year 8, work experience in Year 12. These were relevant to specific transition points.

Year 7 STEAM Day

On Friday 2 July students in Year 7 participated in a carousel-style schedule of 4 STEAM-related activities. A range of innovative and interactive activities were designed to allow students to learn about STEAM subjects and potential career pathways. Students engaged with an Escape Room, an Ozobots Challenge, a virtual Forensic ‘Bin it, don’t block it’ activity and a Horizon Scanning activity to encourage young people to consider the future needs of society in terms of technological change and how this could shape what will happen in the future. We thank Thames Water, Thales and Covea Insurance for hosting a hugely successful day. The feedback received from students has been overwhelmingly positive.



Year 12 Future Pathways Day

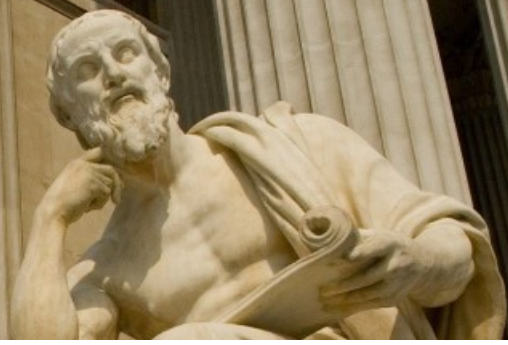
On Friday 25 June students in Year 12 took part in a Future Pathways Day. The day involved a carousel of talks and presentations from Covea Insurance, Thales, Reading University, the Apprenticeship route and tutors on

formulating a stand out personal statement. During the day students were given the opportunity to participate in a wide range of different activities in order to give them an opportunity to start thinking through

their options post-18. Year 12 took the day very seriously and we thank our business representatives who kindly delivered the sessions.

RE Inspired – Philosophy and Ethics

‘The Problem of Evil’



On Thursday 17th of June, our Year 12 Philosophy and Ethics class was visited by RE Inspired, to give us a more detailed explanation surrounding the problem of evil from a Christian perspective. With risk assessments, masks and social distancing all in place, we were pleased to welcome RE Inspired back to Maiden Erlegh. The session was led by Carrie King (RE Inspired leader), Revd Dr Philip Hobday (St Peter's Church) and Revd Stephen Ansa-Addo (Park United Reformed Church) who gave their unique perspectives on how to tackle the issue of God existing alongside the evil we see every day. Is there a way for the Abrahamic God and evil to coexist? Simply put, the dilemma is that if God is benevolent, why would He have created a world where evil can exist? As evil does exist, it also questions God's omnipotence. Is creating a world without evil out of His power? Can He not control the evil we see in our world today? Can Christians keep their faith without these characteristics about God? These were the questions the group attempted to tackle in the one hour session.

We investigated Christian, Muslim, and Jewish scriptures to explore their arguments about God, which all presented the view that God was omnipotent, omnibenevolent, and omniscient. We then explored why God might have allowed evil and whether God could hold these qualities if evil existed. Each of us gave various arguments, some refuting the possibility of the existence of God as a result of the existence of evil, whilst others suggested that God could exist but may not be holding these virtues.

The next part of the session, which was delivered by Revd Dr Philip Hobday, a graduate of Theology from the University of Cambridge, was based on Irenaean and Augustinian theodicies. Revd Dr Hobday explained how both these ancient theologians justified a belief in God alongside the existence of evil. The Augustinian theodicy classed evil as simply a lack of or 'privation' of good, evil actions were simply actions which didn't fulfil God's expectations. Whereas, Irenaean theodicy suggested that God is responsible for evil but it is justified because it forces humans to develop, meaning God can still be truly benevolent. We discussed this as a class and the session finished with a Q&A session where we asked each of the leaders questions about the problem of evil and how they justified their faith.



The session was insightful and provided us all with a new understanding of the Christian way of thinking in relation to the problem of evil. The leaders were thoughtful and were willing to accept our challenges to their arguments. Personally, it allowed me to gain a new perspective and ideas for the problem of evil.

By Rhys K-W (Yr12) and Joseph H (Yr12)

Work of Art - Artist of the Month - May

Artist of the Month - May

Congratulations to Bilal A (Y7), Lucy F (Y7), Lucy T (Y8), Alexia T (Y9), Angela E (Y10), Cissy L (Y10), Evie M (Y10), Izzi P (Y10), Jana L (Y10), Lexi H (Y10) and Rosa E (Y10) for being awarded Artist of the Month for May.



Bilal A



Lucy F



Lucy T



Alexia T



Angela E



Evie M



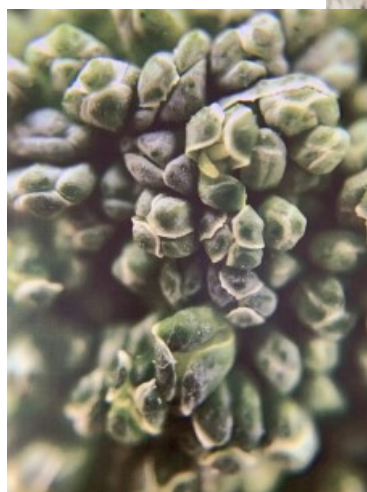
Cissy L



Lexi H



Izzi P



Rosa E



Jana L

Work of Art Artist of the Month - June

Artist of the Month - June

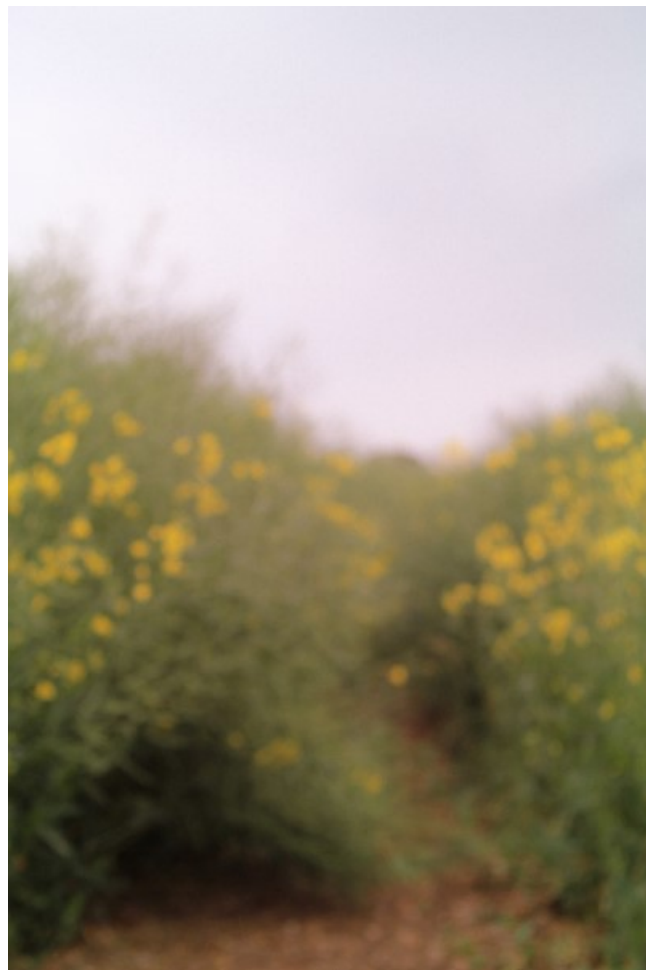
Congratulations to Sam K (Y7), Anushri (Y12), Laura (Y12), Polly (Y12), Robert (Y12), Simeon (Y12) and Zsombor (Y12) for being awarded Artist of the Month for June.



Sam K



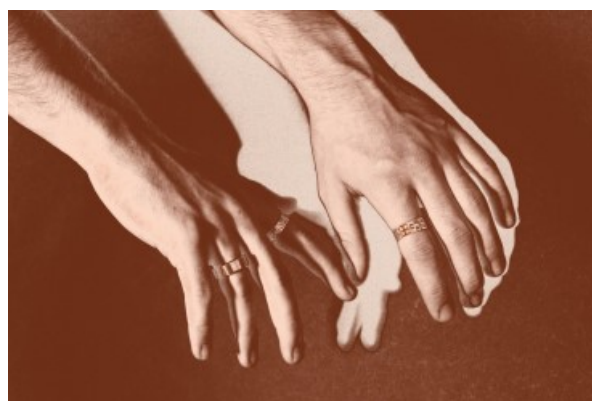
Robert



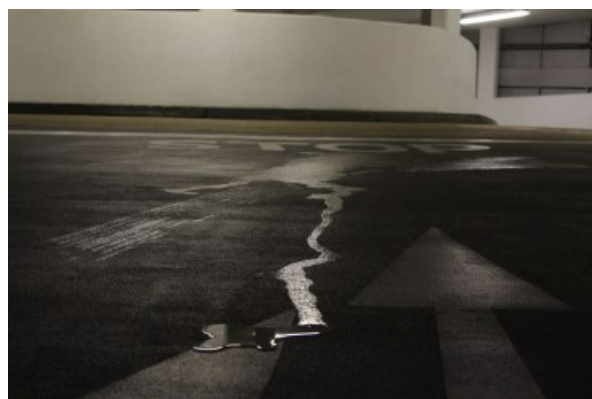
Polly



Zsombor



Anushri



Laura

The Wonderful World of Art

NEW!! Art Department Website



Visit the all new Art Department website created by Mrs Dudman!! Click above to view.

The Art Department are excited to present to you the A' Level Art and Photography Exhibition. Our Year 13 students have worked incredibly hard to produce amazing work over the last two years and due to current restrictions we are not able to invite you into the department to see the show; so we invite you to watch the video of the exhibition celebrating their achievements.

ARTiculation a National Art Public Speaking Competition

This year, Year 13 Artists participated in the National Art public speaking competition ARTiculation. There were so many interesting themes and diverse artists that they spoke about. The standard of presentations was exceptional from those that entered. Several of our students participated in an on-line workshop with Roche Court Sculpture Park.

Sofia in Year 13 was selected to go through to the Southern Regional Final of this competition. Sofia delivered an amazing and dynamic presentation about the Artist and Dancer, Loie Fuller. Fuller was indeed a revolutionary and controversial artist who created and danced "The Serpentine Dance" in the late 1800's. Sofia's presentation was highly informative and compared Fuller's work to the singer Taylor Swift and designer Alexander McQueen.

The Southern Final included presentations about artists from 7 other schools and was adjudicated by Alice Workman, Senior Director, Cultural Centres Europe Hauser and Wirth.

Sofia received an Art Fund National Art Pass and was welcomed to the ARTiculation Alumni Network.



Congratulations to the following Yr8 students - Lucia H, Lois J, Ana M & Agatha M – who entered the Art for Research Reading competition this year which was on the theme of 'The Environment'. We would like to congratulate Lois J who was awarded 1st prize in her age category and she received a bag of Art materials and books – well done Lois! We were extremely proud of all the students who submitted work for this great competition, which has raised funds for Cancer Research UK for children and young people.



Lois J



Work of Art Continued

The Wokingham Arts Society generously donate a £750.00 Grant to school in order to promote Arts Education in Art, Music and Drama.



The Art, Music and Drama departments were delighted to receive a generous £750.00 grant from **The Wokingham Arts Society** in order to promote Arts Education in school.

Together with the Arts Society, Maiden Erlegh School discussed the need to prioritise and promote Diversity and Ethnic Heritage across the Arts Curriculum and find new ways in working with inter-connected curricular themes.

The **Music department** purchased some more world music instruments, which replaced some older well-worn ones and added some new additions to their collection. This will enable students to experience the sounds from diverse ethnic cultures.

The **Drama department** purchased some culturally diverse plays for the students to study. This will

enable students to experience play scripts from other cultures and work in groups on a collaborative piece to experience this together. Drama also purchased more LED lighting to update their old rig.

The Art department bought some more cultural artefacts that students can draw, photograph and explore the ethnic heritage of these objects. These objects from other cultures, provide the stimulus to share discussion and understanding of other cultures. These objects provide the content for projects in all year groups but they are especially significant in providing a stimulus for GCSE work.

The school also aims to also create some more inter-connected cross curricular links with some of these new purchases and have already made links with Religious Studies when students study Buddhism.

Maiden Erlegh School would like to take this opportunity in thanking Wokingham Arts Society for their kind and generous donation. It has made a significant impact in developing students' awareness and understanding of diversity and ethnic heritage across the Arts and beyond.

THE MEIP KICKS OFF!



A group of 40 Year 7 and 8 students have enthusiastically begun the Maiden Erlegh Independent Project (MEIP) qualification this summer. The MEIP is a unique opportunity for dedicated students to engage in a structured programme of research into a topic they are passionate about, whilst developing their communication, presentation, and organisation skills. Students have already attended a series of four virtual Skills Workshops to provide them with everything they need to manage and realise their projects and met with their MEIP Supervisors to discuss their questions, sub-questions, and planning. Students have chosen an incredible range of topics for their projects, with questions on everything from Black British History to dragons in mythology, the environmental impact of clothing manufacturing to vlogging, and the Chinese political system to the use of drones in surveillance. We look forward to the project hand-in date of Friday 1 October and the MEIP Celebration and Awards Evening in the next academic year!

Geographer of the Half Term

Congratulations to our Geographers of the Half Term for Summer Term 2. Well done to all our students is half term! Have a great summer!!

Year 7	Ruby G Yusuf D
Year 8	Logan M Marcos S Nathan K
Year 9	Daniel T Mayes O Zahra K
Year 10	Akarsh P Evelyn M
Year 12	Cameron C Farrell P Shravya V

Environment Week

In the week beginning 14 June, the school marked "Environment week". This involved a series of extended tutor sessions where students explored three themes related to the UN sponsored *World Environment Day* that was held on the earlier in the month with the hashtag *#generationrestoration*. First up students explored the concepts of re-wilding nature, where Mrs Tunley-Jones gave tips on how we can all encourage nature through small scale projects in our gardens or local community. After this, we looked at how our diet can have an impact on the environment, through land use and carbon footprint. Finally, we explored how plastic pollution is becoming an ever-increasing problem and discussed what we can do to reduce our impact.



Environment week was embraced by the violet college, who had very a "bee" themed week, which included baking, crafts and dance. Mrs Tunley-Jones and Mr Simon also held the first meeting of the "horticulture club", with an impressive turnout.



Violet College Art Show

At the end of May the students of Violet College had the opportunity to host an exhibition of some of the artwork they have produced in their lessons over the past 2 years. Putting the show together and experiencing the open event in the Peacock Gallery space was a great opportunity for these students. If you would like to see the work [click here](#) for a virtual tour of the Gallery.



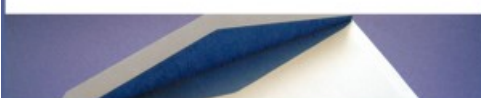
PE Department

Click here to view our latest Sports Bulletin



Letters for Parents

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



Term Dates 2021-2022

Autumn Term

Friday 3 Sept - Friday 22 Oct

****Half Term****

Monday 1 Nov - Wednesday 17 Dec

Professional Development Day
(school closed to students) -
Wednesday 1 September
Thursday 2 September
Thursday 18 November

Spring Term

Monday 4 Jan - Friday 18 Feb

****Half Term****

Monday 28 Feb - Friday 8 Apr

Professional Development Day
(school closed to students) -
Friday 11 February

Summer Term

Monday 25 Apr - Friday 27 May

****Half Term****

Monday 6 June-Wednesday 20 July

Professional Development Day
(school closed to students) -
Thursday 21 July

EARLEY CRESCENT Resource Centre

Courses

From IT to cookery, we offer a wide range of courses and workshops for our community. We also run a comprehensive programme of free employability workshops for job seekers.

Family learning workshops run during the school holidays. We also offer tailored learning for vulnerable groups.

Please be advised that booking is essential.

Emergency First Aid - Thursday 16 September
Introduction to English - 5 October - 16 November
Mental Health in the Workplace - Thursday 7 October
Mental Health Awareness - Thursday 21 October
More much more!



Click here to view further information

ParentPay

Click on the ParentPay logo to login and register your account.
Any queries please click here to email us.



OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY & SUCCESS FOR ALL



Community Arts Workshops & Courses

Autumn 2021

Evening Classes

Adult Silver Jewellery Classes

Mondays 18:45-21:15

Tues 18:45-21:15

Weds (advanced)

18:45-21:15

Stained Glass

Mondays 19:00-21:00

Due to Covid restrictions classes
may be postponed

Saturday classes

10:00 - 16:00 Adults

4 Sept - Fabulous Flowers

18 Sept - Cyanotype

9 Oct - Intro to Screen Printing

23 Oct - Building Decay -

Acrylics & Mixed Media

20 Nov - Linoprinting for Xmas

11 Dec - Gel Plate Printing

Open Access Printmaking.

11 Sept, 2 Oct, 6 Nov, 4 Dec

13:15 - 17:15

Young People

Art Attack

Saturdays

School years 4-6

9:30-11:00

School years 7-9

11:30-13:00

www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk

CLICK ON Community Arts

THE
PEACOCK
GALLERY



Place Recall - Michael Garaway

6 - 25 Nov

Maiden Erlegh School

Silverdale Road, Reading, RG6 7HS

0118 9262467

mescommunityarts@maidenerleghttrust.org