



MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P. Gibson

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Dear Parent/Guardian

End of Half Term Update

As the end of the half term approaches, I would like to express my gratitude for your continued support throughout this extremely busy term; as always, we greatly appreciate it. It is unbelievable to think we are halfway through the school year! I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my incredible team of staff who have, once again, risen to the many challenges this half term has presented.

I am writing to you, as I normally would, to celebrate the successes of this half term and share with you how proud we are of each and every student. Every day, I am bowled over by their perseverance, resilience, creativity, and sense of community. In particular, our Year 11 and 13 students, who are working incredibly hard in preparation for their fast approaching exams this summer.

Last week, I had the absolute pleasure of attending the Performing Arts production of Shrek! The talent of the students took my breath away, and I came away thinking what an excellent future lays ahead of them. Thank you, thank you, thank you, to Miss Pitman and the team who have excelled themselves with this production. Both the students and staff have put in a huge amount of effort to making their performance great, and they certainly succeeded!

We are incredibly pleased that we have been awarded the Gold RE Quality Mark, the highest accolade in this accreditation. The RE Quality Mark (REQM) has been developed by the Religious Education Council of England and Wales to celebrate high quality Religious education. It is an accreditation system designed to promote good RE in all sectors and phases of education in England, Northern Ireland and Wales. The school's assessor for this award said the Maiden Erlegh RP Department was, "One of the best RE departments I've ever seen".

Key stage 4 options are underway for Year 8 students. This week saw the distribution of our options booklet, option pathways, subject PowerPoints, and in addition, we hosted our well-attended options evening. After half term, there will be options surgeries available to book, should you need further guidance, and a dedicated email address has been set up for any questions you may have KS4Options@maidenerleghtrust.org. Please note the deadline to submit your child's options form is Friday 3 March 2023.

This week, we have been celebrating National Apprenticeship Week 2023 by undertaking activities during school. So far, we have had an exceptional response to this, particularly from our Year 11 and 13 cohorts. We also look forward to holding a trust-wide virtual Apprenticeships Information Evening on Tuesday 21 March from 6pm to 7pm via Zoom. For further information on this event, please [click here](#).

Please can I remind you that we recommend that you do not park in the Tesco car park or drop students off/pick them up outside of Tesco. This is a busy area already, and we need to ensure the safety of our students on their journey to school. We encourage students to walk or cycle to school where feasible to do so. I would appreciate your assistance with this, not only for the sake of being considerate of our neighbours and the surrounding community, but also to ensure the safety of our students.

As you may be aware, there are further industrial action days planned on 2, 15 and 16 March and I will update you of plans nearer the time once I re-risk assess the school's position.

I hope you all have a relaxing half term break, and I am looking forward to Monday 20 February, when the students return.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Gibson', with a small flourish at the end.

Mr P Gibson
Headteacher