



30 March 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

As the end of term is upon us, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the achievements of our school community over the past few months. It has been a challenging year for us all, there have been strikes, wind closures, COVID recovery and many educational changes which have made the year tricky but I am proud of the resilience and determination shown by our students and staff throughout.

Firstly, we are proud to have been a part of the Maiden Erlegh Trust Careers Fair, which took place earlier this month. The fair provided our students with the opportunity to explore different career paths and meet with representatives from a range of industries. We hope that this experience has inspired our students to think about their futures and pursue their dreams.

In addition to this, our students have been busy raising money for Red Nose Day. Through students completing push-up videos, challenging themselves, and uploading them onto their house google classroom, we have managed to raise a significant amount of money for this important charity. I am incredibly proud of our students for their enthusiasm and dedication in supporting such a worthy cause. I would like to thank Mr Raso for organising this.

Our Eco Club have been working hard to make our school more sustainable by planting fruit trees and attending a climate change workshop at the University of Reading. We believe that it is important to instil a sense of responsibility and care for the environment in our students, and these initiatives have been a great way to do so.

I would like to celebrate our students' sporting achievements this term. We have had some outstanding performances across a range of sports, including football, netball, and swimming galas. Our students have shown great determination and teamwork, and they should all be proud of their achievements.



Our science fair was a great success with a variety of creative and engaging projects presented by our students. The fair was an opportunity for students to showcase their scientific abilities and explore new areas of science. We are so proud of our students and extremely grateful for the support of our teachers and parents. A special thank you to Miss Biddle for arranging this fantastic fair.

Next term is the start of examination season and we want to wish our students the very best for this important part of their lives. We are busily preparing them for these exams and we are confident that Year 11 and Year 13 will 'smash it out of the park!' We also wish Year 10 the very best of luck with their GCSE RP examinations.



Parental feedback is always important, and we are bringing back an old favourite from the pre-Covid era – **Slick or Slack!** We are keen to hear informally what we do well (slick) and what we could improve on (slack). Please use the links below to complete the MS Form. We will check these regularly and respond where we can.

Slick - [Click here](#) to submit a response on what we are doing well.

Slack - [Click here](#) to submit a response on what we could improve on.

On the note of feedback, this week I received the results of the parents and students survey. This benchmarks us against nearly 2000 schools nationally and compares our outcomes with theirs. A staggering 946 students filled in their survey and some of the snippets are below:

Our students believe we are better than the National Average in the following areas:

Happiness – +6% against benchmark. *Student comments - 'I'm lucky to be here' and 'it's where my friends and favourite teachers are'.*

Safeguarding – *How safe do you feel during lessons?* +5% against benchmark.

Behaviour – *How clear are the expectations for behaviour in your school?* +3% against benchmark. *Student comments - 'Got to love the Maiden Erlegh way'.*

Relationships – *How easy is it for you to make friends at school?* +5% against benchmark.

Assessment – *How much feedback do you get from teachers about your work?* +9% against benchmark.

Curriculum – *How well do the subjects that you study in this school match your interests?* +6% against benchmark. *Student comments - 'I enjoy steam subjects like maths and science and computer science'.*

We are looking at the areas of development and we will be producing our 'You Said, We Did' in the new term.

There was also a great response from parents with 420 parents filling in the survey. The areas to highlight here are as follows:

Attendance – *How informed do you feel with regard to your child's attendance?* +10% against benchmark. *Parent response – 'The Bromcom app is brilliant'.*

School Communication – *How satisfied are you with the school's communication with you?* +17% against benchmark. *Parent response – 'The reception staff are good at their job. They are welcoming and are always pleasant to engage with'.*

School recommendations – *How likely are you to recommend this school to other parents?* + 10% against benchmark. *Parent response – 'I would highly recommend this school, the teachers and staff are exceptional, and my child loves attending'.*

There are a few areas identified for improvement and you will be pleased to know we are already working our way through these and have some plans ready. I will communicate further in the parent version of 'You Said, We Did'.

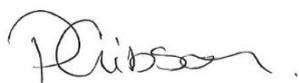
As we return to the final weeks of this academic year, I would like to remind all students and parents of our school uniform policy. It is important that all students adhere to the policy and come to school in the correct attire. Our school uniform helps to create a sense of pride and belonging within our school community, and it is important that we all play our part in upholding this. We will be monitoring this after Easter. If any Year 11 parents have reservations about purchasing new uniform, please get in touch with us, as we have a supply of uniforms available for students at no cost.

I would also like to remind students that defiance will not be tolerated at Maiden Erlegh School. It is important that students understand the importance of following school rules and respecting staff instructions. If your child has concerns about any staff requests, they should speak with their tutor or Head of Year whilst following the staff members request in the first instance.

Finally, I would also like to remind students of the importance of having the right tools for learning. We expect all students to come to school with a clear pencil case containing pens, pencils, a ruler, a calculator, and any other necessary equipment for their lessons - [a full list can be found here](#). This ensures that students are prepared for their lessons and can fully engage in their learning without any distractions.

So, to end this letter as I started it, let us celebrate the hard work, determination, and resilience that has brought us this far. Remember, every challenge we face is an opportunity to grow and learn, and every success we achieve is a testament to our perseverance and dedication. So let us look forward to the future with hope and optimism, knowing that with hard work and a positive attitude, anything is possible. #TeamMaidenErlegh

Yours sincerely

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

Mr P Gibson
Headteacher