

 Silverdale Road, Earley, Reading, RG6 7HS
0118 926 2467
MESoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org
www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk
@MaidenErleghSch

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Dear Parent/Guardian

We continue to be extremely impressed by the Year 12 students and their commitment to their studies and the varied and rich community service they are undertaking. We hope that you will find the below information useful and look forward to continuing to work with you to best support your child. As always, if there is anything at all you feel that your child needs support with, please do not hesitate to email us at <a href="mailto:mesuper12@maidenerleghtrust.org">mesuper12@maidenerleghtrust.org</a>.

# UCAS Update

The summer term sees the start of the UCAS process for all the students. They have been encouraged to register on the UCAS Hub during the Easter break and to consider booking into open days for later in the term. University open days should be booked for visits that happen at the weekend, as far as is possible. Please note that students are only allowed two open day visits during term time.

There will be a UCAS session before the May half term break with Mr Gomm. This will be a full assembly explaining the whole application process. We will also be hosting a session for potential medical students to meet a junior doctor and also pointing students to other sources of support. All the assemblies are recorded and then made available to the students afterwards. Information is posted regularly on the appropriate Google Classroom page, so please encourage your young person to regularly check for updates. There will be a virtual parents information evening regarding the UCAS process on Wednesday 14 June at 7.00pm. Further information about this event will be sent nearer the time. If you have any questions before this meeting concerning the UCAS application process, please contact Mr Gomm m.gomm@maidenerleghtrust.org.

# Predicted Grades and UCAS grades

Since the most recent Data Collection Point 2 report and ILP (Independent Learning Plan) fortnight, students have started to think about their UCAS predicted grades in earnest. We have reassured students that their UCAS grades will not be based on the most recent Data Collection Point 2, nor solely on the outcome of their upcoming prelim examinations. Subject teachers do not decide on UCAS grades until September 2023. This means that students have the opportunity to raise both their current attainment and predicted grades between now and then. Subject teachers support aspirations but are realistic when using their professional judgement to decide predicted UCAS grades. Teachers base their judgements on a wide range of factors including, but not exclusively: continual assessment, quality of classwork and homework, and prelim exam results.

# Personal Development

This term has seen our Year 12 students continue to explore career themes during Personal Development. During Term 3, we logged into UNIFROG and briefly explored the global marketplace and investigated the four main post Year 13 pathways – university, apprenticeship, gap year and employment. This term, we have explored preparing yourself for the future and employability skills, personal branding, career planning and management, and finally an enterprise challenge.

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# **Careers**

It was fantastic to see a number of Year 12 students at the Maiden Erlegh Trust Careers Fair on Thursday 9 March. We had very positive feedback from our representatives who were very impressed with our students and the quality of questions that were asked.

We hope some of you were able to join the Maiden Erlegh Trust Virtual Apprenticeships Evening on Tuesday 21 March. If you were unable to join this, and would like to view the presentation, this can be found <u>here</u>.

Next term, we will start offering slots for careers meetings – especially for those who would like some time and space to discuss ideas, options and for help and guidance if they are feeling stuck. Please do continue to encourage your young person to use UNIFROG, attend career events, and keep an eye on opportunities posted on Google Classroom, as well as to continue thinking about and preparing for after Year 13. We know advance preparation and reflection enables students to make more informed decisions, feel less panic, and feel much more confident. The main thing is for students not to worry about making a so-called 'wrong decision' – indeed – there are many roads to happy and successful careers and most opportunities allow valued learning and experience.

# Student Voice

The Tutor Ambassadors have been sharing the views of their peers on a variety of topics including closing the gender gap between girls and boys, and reflecting on the most recent ILP fortnight. They are also looking forward to holding some cake sales to raise money for a range of charities.

### Reading in Year 12

In Year 12 we try hard to promote reading independently linked to subject learning - 'Read to Achieve' - but also reading for pleasure - 'Love to Read'. A few reminders in this regard:

- Staff and Sixth Form Book Club runs every half term and next half term we will be meeting to discuss 'The Binding' by Bridget Collins. Previous reads have included 'Klara and the Sun', 'Where the Crawdads Sing, 'The Beekeeper of Aleppo' and 'The Secret History'. Details are shared on the Year 12 Google Classroom page and Mr Gibson also provides us with some free copies for students to borrow.
- Students have access to the following resources to support them in their independent reading: Financial Times for Students (sign up/log on details on Google Classroom) and The Week Daily briefing: <u>Daily briefing | The Week</u> which provides a summary of the day's news stories.
- 3. We have also improved the provision of reading for pleasure material in the sixth form common room. Students can help to books from the 'Honesty Library' trolleys near Mr Bell and Mr Garner's offices and borrow texts to read at their own pace.

#### Year 12 Prelim Examinations and Parents Evening

These examinations will take place on Friday 28 April and Wednesday 3 May. Subject teachers will share with students what they will need to revise for the prelims, prior to the Easter holiday. We and other teachers look forward to meeting with you at parent's evening on Tuesday 18 April.

We wish you and your families an enjoyable Easter break.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Garner Co-Head of Year 12

Mrs C Hill Co-Head of Year 12