





MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P. Gibson

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Dear Parent/Guardian

Another term has flown by in the blink of an eye - I do not know where the time goes! I would like to take a moment to recognise how incredible all our students have been. These past few months have been a whirlwind, and I am blown away by how much they have achieved. Their hard work and resilience have not gone unnoticed, and I have thoroughly enjoyed coming into school each and every day to such conscientious students and dedicated staff.

In recognition of our students' fantastic achievements, we have awarded over 58042 house points this term and students are achieving bronze, silver, and gold awards for their hard work. Amazing! This is over 5 times more positive points than negative points so well done #TeamMaidenErlegh!

A big shout out to our outstanding Year 11 and 13 students for their inspirational efforts in their recent PPEs (Pre-Public Examinations) and Prelims. I am so incredibly proud of their hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am certain that each of them will strive to do the absolute best they can in their examinations next year and they have a bright future ahead of them.

Our impressive progress 8 score of 1.09 is a testament to our school community and the effort our students have invested. This score means that, on average, students at this school will achieve over a grade higher than a student with the same Key Stage 2 scores at an average school. I am immensely proud that this phenomenal score propels our school into the top 50 schools in England for progress including selective schools!

The annual Winter Showcase really does highlight more of our students' talents. I was privileged enough to have front row seats at this year's performance, and I was not disappointed. A huge well done to all the students who took part in this extremely successful event. Speaking of winter celebrations, the brilliant Christmas decoration competition winner is displayed at the end of this letter. Congratulations to Yonili in Year 7 for creating this lovely decoration, which currently holds pride of place on our Christmas tree in the reception area.

The PE department are buzzing with a number of sporting successes under their belts this term. Notably, our U13 girls football team, taking the title at the Berkshire 5-a-side Football Festival, while the U12 girls team secured an impressive 3rd place in the Reading Schools 5-a-side competition. The Year 7 boys football team clinched the Reading Schools 5-a-side plate, adding to the success of the Year 7 boys rugby team as Reading Schools league finalists. The U14 boys basketball team are District League champions and the Year 8 girls netball team performed amazingly, gaining 4th place at the Southeast Berkshire Netball Tournament. Congratulations to all the students who took part in these events, I am truly impressed at their sporting prowess #TeamMaidenErlegh.

Maiden Erlegh School Parent Association (MESPA) is nothing short of extraordinary - the unsung heroes behind the scenes! Their tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to our community have played an enormous role in enhancing our school environment. Through fundraising and events, MESPA has successfully raised significant funds, contributing to the improvement of facilities and resources. A huge thank you to all our unsung heroes that are MESPA.

We are pleased to have launched our home/school partnership working group this half term, the main aim being to forge even closer productive working relationships between our school and local community. A big thank you to parents who attended the launch meeting this December; some great feedback and constructive ideas were shared and discussed. Early indications suggest that this partnership will go from strength to strength, and we are already looking to: re-visit our communications policy to ensure that it remains fit for purpose; continue to improve our transparency in how rewards and sanctions are communicated; establish a SEN-specific home/school group and more! We will keep you fully updated on our progress.

We have brushed up the curriculum section of our website with the latest updates to keep you informed about what your child is learning at school. This can be found [here](#) and half way down the page has our curriculum booklets which will allow you to see what your child studies and is assessed on each term. In January, we will be sharing more information on how to support your child in education. In addition, I am pleased to announce that our 2024/25 term dates are now available on our website and can be found [here](#).

Please can I also remind you that our popular homework club is back, open to all students across all year groups, where your child has the opportunity to complete their homework with support from staff and sixth form students. This takes place every day in G1 from 3pm to 4pm.

Our Inclusion staffing structure has recently been updated, which can be seen below.

Inclusion Staffing Structure

Mrs Tanner Assistant Headteacher DSL		Mrs Bendall Deputy Headteacher SENCo and Pastoral		Mrs Nimmo Assistant Headteacher SENCo	
Inclusion and Wellbeing Manager Mrs Beckett Inclusion – Supporting the Inclusion, Wellbeing and DSL across the school		Exam concessions Tester Mrs King Completes Exam concession testing		SEND Managers Mrs Macro and Mrs Stacey SEND – Supporting the SENCo and SEND Team Mgt	
Inclusion Admin Mrs M Stacey Mrs Skitt- Including Exam Concessions Admin					
HLTA's and Mentors					
Mrs Wicks SALT, ELSA Lead, Social Skills and Personal Development Support	Ms Barton English Lead	Mrs Malik HI/VI Lead, HW Club Lead, Social Skills, Personal Development Support	Mr Batten OT Lead, Social Skills, Personal Development Support, ASDAN/Princes Trust Support	Mrs Goodwin Dyslexia and Dyscalculia Support	
Mrs Gonzalez - Lead for Wellbeing Inclusion Room Ms Sales - Leads Alternative Provision and Reflection Room			Mrs Mills - English HLTA Mrs Padhi - Maths HLTA Mrs Fill - Maths HLTA		
TA's and Mentors					
Mrs Kumar	Mr Lam	Mrs Chan	Mrs Ikram	Mrs Nadeem	
Ms Hyman-Davis	Mrs Kytkova	Mrs Dube	Ms Perrett	Mrs Humayan	
Mrs Chan	Ms Mashonganyika	Mr Carey	Mr Holmes	Mrs Mistry	
Mrs Lam	Ms Rennis			Mrs Buriss	
Mrs Ha	Miss Breadmore			Mrs Abery	
Mrs Pringle					

Thames Valley Police are stamping down on violence against women and with that in mind would like to bring your attention to Strut Safe: <https://strutsafe.org>. They have a free line 0333 335 0026, open Friday and Saturdays 19:00 - 03:00 and Sundays 19:00 - 01:00 for anyone who is walking alone, perhaps in the dark, or is feeling afraid they can call, and stay on the line, with someone until they feel safe.

As we enter a new term on Tuesday 2 January, I would like to focus on a few reminders on our return.

- **School Uniform**

All students are required to wear full school uniform every day; this includes the school tie for their year group. Full school uniform should be accompanied by black polishable shoes, with no logos, unless the student has a formal medical condition, with evidence written supplied, in advance, to their Head of Year. Tracksuit tops and hoodies as coats are not acceptable and will be confiscated for pick up at the end of the day, if worn on the school site. If an additional item to the school uniform is required, please ensure this is a normal coat. Shirts should be tucked in at all times. Wearing the correct school uniform is not just a dress code – it fosters a professional atmosphere and creates a sense of pride in our students. Your support in ensuring your child wears the correct school uniform is greatly appreciated and reinforces an inclusive culture. A full list of our school uniform can be found on our website [here](#).

- **Equipment for Learning**

Another very important ingredient in the recipe for success is having a well-equipped pencil case. Having the correct equipment for lessons ensures that students are ready to participate in lessons immediately, which means lesson time can be for teaching and learning. The equipment, listed below, should be kept in a transparent pencil case. This pencil case allows tutors to regularly check that students have the correct equipment for learning each morning. We appreciate that students may not be able to fit a scientific calculator and maths set in their transparent pencil cases and so we are happy for these to be carried separately in their school bags.

- Pens – black/blue, green and red
- Writing pencils
- Coloured pencils
- Rubber
- Pencil sharpener
- Glue stick
- 30cm ruler
- Maths set (containing protractor, compass, set square)
- Scientific calculator – we recommend a Casio calculator - FX-83GTX or FX-85GTX, however most scientific calculators are fine
- At least 2 highlighters
- Transparent pencil case

We recognise that some families may at this time be experiencing financial hardship. If this is the case or you are in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, then please contact the relevant Head of Year, if you require additional support.

Goodbye to

Mr Chow - Teaching Assistant
Mrs Davies - First Aid and Pastoral Support Worker
Mrs Haughan - Administration Support Assistant
Mrs Murphy - Science Teacher


Welcome

Welcome back to Mrs Bhadye, returning from maternity leave, who resumes her role of Assistant Headteacher. We also welcome back Mrs Ghatahora to our Science department. We also have a few other new faces, welcome to:

Mrs Stacey – SEND Manager
Mrs Hayes - Receptionist
Mrs Thurston - Administration Support Assistant

As we wrap up this term, both figuratively and literally, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your ongoing support. Your partnership in your child's education is invaluable, and together, we have witnessed remarkable growth and accomplishments. Wishing you all a fantastic festive season, filled with joy and relaxation. Here is to an even more amazing journey ahead in the next term. Thank you for being an essential part of our school community.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Gibson
Headteacher

