



04 February 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

### Mid Year Update

We are now over half way through the academic year and know that the second half of the year promises to be filled with many opportunities for your children.

I know that the children who are going on the second trip to our Outdoor Pursuits Centre in Wales, Tirabad shortly are very excited about the prospect of this residential experience.

We prize the many academic achievements of our pupils but we are also concerned with the broader development of the whole person be that at Tirabad, in clubs, in the arts or in sport.

Maiden Erlegh School in Reading, like our other Maiden Erlegh School, guides and helps pupils to grow and develop in the widest sense. A good example recently of this was our pupils' book of condolence which they sent to the Mayor of Paris, as an expression of support for the families of the victims of the awful events in November. The Mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, (the first woman mayor) wrote back promptly to thank them for their expression of solidarity and kindness. We were touched that this busy public figure should take the time and trouble to write back to our children on top of her many other commitments. We read the Mayor of Paris' reply to your children at one our weekly assemblies.

Over the next few weeks there will be our Arts Rio Carnival Day which will be a cross-curricular arts day to celebrate carnival. This promises to be a very colourful and lively event! In addition to the lessons in the taught curriculum this term there will also be a full programme of enrichment activities for the pupils together with a number of competitions. We are delighted to see so many of your children getting involved in the enrichment programme.

I am pleased to report that the structure for the permanent school is starting to look like a school building. Much of the steel work is in place, several of the concrete floors and stairs and as I write I can see the builders putting sections of the roof in place. As rain lashes my window it is good to see the intrepid building contractors still craning huge girders into place despite the poor weather.

I would like to put on record my sincere thanks to you, our parents for your support of the work of the school especially in terms to attendance, timekeeping in the mornings, uniform, behaviour, homework and safety.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely

Peter Thomas  
Headteacher and Chief Executive of the Maiden Erlegh Trust