



Executive Headteacher: Miss M Davies, MA (Cantab), MA (International Business), DESS, NPQH, PQSI
Head of School (Acting): Mr A Johnson, BA, MSc

81 Crescent Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5SL

Tel: 0118 9668065 Fax: 0118 926 6111
Email: MERoffice@maidenerleghschool.co.uk
Web: www.maidenerleghschoolreading.co.uk
Twitter: twitter.com/MESReading

March 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

End of Term - Spring

The Spring term is often thought to be the shortest but busiest in school life and this term has certainly lived up to that reputation at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading. Year 7 have settled into their stride and are making great progress across their subjects. A large group of Year 7s went to Tirabad and had a great time, despite the somewhat inclement weather. A number of Year 7 students also went on the "Gangsta Granny" Theatre trip and the new Year 7 sports squads have had great success across various tournaments and are building a formidable reputation in the local area for our sporting prowess.

Year 8 have been very focussed on the options process. Following extensive discussions, advice and thought, all have now submitted their preferences for Key Stage 4 courses for next year. A great deal of work now has to be done to ensure that we maximise students' preferences, balancing these with our staffing availability and we will be in touch next term to confirm students' allocated courses. In the meantime we know, from our latest analysis, that Year 8 students continue to make robust progress across their subjects, building strong foundations for the suite of qualifications and results which they will begin to prepare for next year.

Our school will continue to grow in numbers and we were delighted to find out that the school is oversubscribed for our next intake in September. We have been busy recruiting teaching and support staff and delighted with the quality and professionalism of those we have appointed. It speaks volumes about the reputation of our school that we have been able to recruit so many staff in a national climate of teacher shortage and recruitment difficulties.

This term we have also run staff, student and parent surveys to find out what we are doing well and what we need to improve. If you completed our survey, then I would like to thank you. Your views and ideas are hugely valuable and feed directly into our planning for the future. Where areas for improvement have been identified, we will endeavour to address these and we will let you know our plans via the school website.

There is much more to tell you about, but rather than hear it from me, you may want to read our interesting, informative and engaging student newspaper, The Maiden Erlegh Marvel, (written, edited and published by our school journalist group). The latest edition can be found [here](#).

Requests for your assistance

Parents are aware that the school uses the Parentpay system to remove the need for students to be carrying money. There are obvious risks in students bringing money into school and we would request that you ensure that your child does not bring money into school other than that which is absolutely necessary (for bus fare etc.). We have also told students that they must only use parent pay to buy their own food and drink at lunchtime. It is not appropriate for them to be buying items for friends and then asking for money in return.

Punctuality

The school day begins at 8.40am and we open the school gate at 8.30am. Parents are asked to ensure that their child sets out on their journey to school to arrive at 8.30am. Parents are also asked to provide their child with an adequate breakfast in the morning to avoid the need for students to visit any of the fast food outlets on the way to school, a cause of some punctuality issues. In fact, we would rather students did not use fast food shops on the way to school as this can also be the cause of littering.

After the Easter break, we will be introducing a new punctuality programme. Consistent punctual attendance will be rewarded and lateness to school will attract a clear and escalating scale of consequence including community service and detention.

Mrs Dennis

Finally, we were sorry to say farewell to Mrs Julie Dennis who retires from her role as the business manager for the Maiden Erlegh Trust after Easter. Mrs Dennis has been instrumental in the establishing and development of our new school and was the Maiden Erlegh Trust project manager for the new building project. She has spent countless hours liaising with architects, contractors, officials and staff to ensure that the school has fantastic facilities and a great building. Mrs Dennis can be rightly proud of her huge contribution and of the legacy she leaves behind for our students and our community. We wish her well for the future.

May I wish you a restful break during the Easter holiday period.

Please remember that, following the bank holiday, the summer term starts on Tuesday 18 April at 8.40am. We look forward to welcoming our students back in the correct uniform and ready for the new term.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Johnson
Head of School (Acting)