



MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL IN READING

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1 February 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

Celebration of the suffragette movement - Tuesday 6 February 2018

I am writing to inform you of an upcoming fundraising event, which will take place during the school day on Tuesday 6 February. On this date, 100 years ago in 1918, the UK parliament passed the 'Representation of the People Act'. This gave all men, above the age of 21, and women, above the age of 30, the right to vote.

Prior to this, men not owning property and all women were denied the right to choose their local MP. This therefore represents the first important step in granting women equality in terms of their access to democracy and is in no small part due to the efforts of the suffragette movement. Later in 1918, women were allowed to stand as MPs although it was not until 1928 that women were given the same voting rights as men.

To celebrate the role of the suffragette movement, on Tuesday 6 February, all students are invited to wear a t-shirt in either **purple, green or white, or ideally all three**, which were the colours of the suffragette movement in addition to their normal uniform.

If they are unable to wear a t-shirt of these colours, they are to wear their normal school shirt and tie. They must wear the rest of their school uniform as expected and no hooded sweatshirts are allowed.

Additionally, we would ask that students make a **minimum donation of 50p**, which will go towards *Camfed* (<https://camfed.org/>); a charity that aims to tackle poverty and inequality, particularly by supporting marginalised girls' access to education.

The tutor session on this day will be devoted to the suffrage movement.

Yours sincerely

Miss C Burns
Assistant Headteacher