



ThePulse

Opportunity, Diversity & Success For All

Maiden Erlegh School | 81 Crescent Road | Reading RG31 5SL | T. 0118 966 8065 | www.maidenerleghschoolreading.co.uk | @MESReading

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to the first edition of **The Pulse** for this year. Although the term is only a few weeks old so much has already happened in our vibrant school, we hope that **The Pulse** will bring you up to date.

We are now into the fourth year of growth as a school and I was delighted to welcome 180 new Year 7s to our school community. They all looked very smart on the first day of term and their pride in their appearance has been matched with a serious and conscientious attitude to their school work. I was also pleased to welcome back Years 8-10 and they have shown a similar commitment to their work this year. We have grown from 540 to 720 students and with the increase in student numbers comes an increase in staff. I was delighted to welcome to the school around 20 new teaching and support staff, who will make a huge contribution to ensuring our school is a safe, happy place where students have the opportunity to learn and grow.

We are the first to recognise that a child's success at school depends on a partnership between the school and parents/carers. We are committed to improving our engagement and communications with our parents/carers and also encourage them to contact the school if they need help, assistance or want to raise a concern. If you do contact the school please remember that staff may not be available immediately but will always

endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible. If you could leave a brief reason why you are calling with our excellent reception team, we will be able to direct your query, question or concern to the correct member of staff. Please do have a look at our website as this contains a lot of information to support parents/carers and often provides answers to many questions asked. For example, the letters section contains all the letters sent out by the school for the whole school or for a specific year group. The website also contains a wealth of information about the school curriculum and how parents/carers can support their children.

The first data collection point of the year is upon us and teachers will be assessing the progress that students are making and communicating with you important information about their learning behaviour. We would urge all parents/carers to use the report as the subject of discussion so that students are clear that we are working together to support them. The report will be distributed to you via our new SIMS Parent App. We expect this to provide a much improved way to get important and "live" information to parents and carers. More information about SIMS Parent app can be found on our website.

Finally, may I take the opportunity to wish you all a relaxing break over the half term holiday.



CALENDAR

22 Oct – 26 Oct	Half Term
31 October	Year 8 Road Ahead Meeting for Parents
7 November	Year 7 & 8 Trip: Warner Brothers (Harry Potter) Studios
8 November	Year 7 Ozobots Challenge
15 November	Staff Professional Development Day (school closed for students)

Lockers

Following the successful installation of additional lockers over the summer, and thanks to your support, 98% of students are now benefiting from this improved facility. If needed, replacement bags and padlocks can now be paid for via ParentPay, then collected from the Student Services desk at the designated times. Please **do not** pay for these additional items unless your child needs a replacement. The lockers and new bags are making a really positive difference in the school, providing a secure place for student belongings and resulting in less congested corridors.



Welcome to Year 9!

I am very excited to join the Year 9 team. I am looking forward to getting to know and work with all the students, parents and carers. The next 3 years are very important. It is a new start with new subjects and new challenges lie ahead. As a year group we aim to have high expectations and strive for the best behaviour for learning, I know some of us are working on improving this but I know we can work together to achieve this. Homework is important and we need to ensure this is being completed; every learning moment counts towards your GCSEs.

For students the hard work starts now so please ensure you are talking to your teachers, finding out about your subjects and asking for help when you need it. The most important thing is for you to believe in yourself: you CAN succeed and you CAN do well.

As parents, please support your son/daughter by providing them with revision materials, ordering them the revision books or simply asking them how their day has been. It is important you believe in them and give them the boost they need.

As a school we are here to teach, help and guide you through these three years and help you to achieve the best results you can get. We believe in you!

YOU, THEM, US- that is my key message. I look forward to the year ahead and know that working together will mean that we will progress and succeed.

Miss Hancock
Head of Year 9



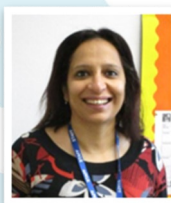
An Introduction to the Inclusion Team for 2018-2019

The Inclusion Team at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading has grown again this academic year, with new members adding new expertise to our wide range of experience. We look forward to supporting SEN and vulnerable pupils, both in lessons and around school. The Inclusion Mentors offer a range of pastoral support for social, emotional,

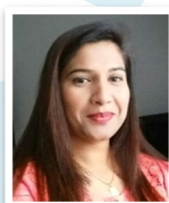
behavioural and curriculum issues for our pupils. They lead Intervention programmes for small groups, and for individuals, helping them to learn specific new skills or coping strategies, as well as supporting pupils in other ways. The Teaching Assistant team work in a variety of lessons, supporting pupils individually or in small groups.



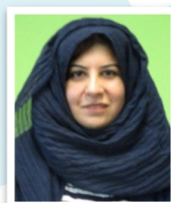
Mrs Becky Clarke
SENCO & Inclusion
Manager



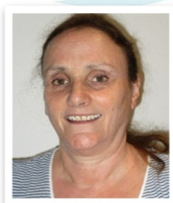
Mrs Chandra Nair
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Asha Rajput
Teaching Assistant



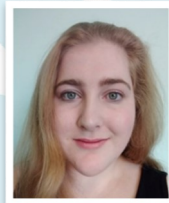
Mrs Sejal Hameed
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Jess Read
Teaching Assistant



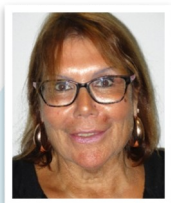
Ms Hannah Howard
Teaching Assistant



Miss Helena Matheson
Teaching Assistant



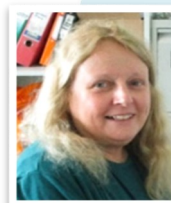
Mrs Pratichi Desai
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Marina Brain
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Azraa Sajad
Higher Level
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Jane Batts
Student Support Officer



Mrs Dawn Wills
Behaviour &
Inclusion



Mrs Jenni Teale
Access &
Achievement Mentor

European Day of Languages



On Wednesday 26th September, students and staff celebrated the European Day of Languages by sharing some resources in their lessons that highlighted the interesting, quirky and sometimes hilarious nature of living in such a diverse continent.

A particular highlight was the reaction to the version

of Frozen's "Let it go" that had been translated from English into a number of different languages and then back into English through Google Translate. This is a video I would recommend everyone to watch to understand the perils of using Google Translate!

Merci/Gracias! Mr Winstanley



Year 7 and 8 Reward Trip to Longleat

A group of students were invited to go on our Reward Trip to Longleat Safari Park this July as recognition for their achievements this year. Students were invited for gaining 100% Attendance, working on the School Council or receiving a 'Tutee of the Term' nomination from staff.

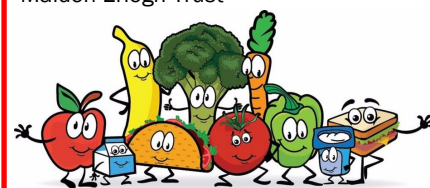


The day itself was full of fun, sun, animals and adventure. Students had a brilliant time exploring the adventure park and enjoyed a trip on the Jungle River cruise. We then journeyed through the park, keeping an eye out for big cats, elephants and giraffes, to name but a few!

School Meals

Following a review at the end of last term we discussed with the catering team the desire to provide the students with a nutritional value and fresh food offer for their school meals. In order to ensure we offer school cooked food that provides every student with a nutritionally balanced menu using the best ingredients cooked on site we have agreed to increase the cost modestly. The £3.00 charge for a main meal will include a dessert of choice and will further enhance our opportunity to demonstrate some of the schools values. I trust that you understand the welfare of all of our students is our priority and the school meal is a big part of their wellbeing.

Kerry Clark, Catering Manager
Maiden Erlegh Trust



Warhammer Club



Wednesday 3rd of October saw the launch of Maiden Erlegh School's new Warhammer Club. Warhammer is a hobby that engages young people with fun games and collectable models. In our first session, twelve students from across our four Year groups started building their first miniature, a Space Marine Intercessor. Over the next month, the group will be painting these figures and learning to play strategic tabletop games. We look forward to keeping you all updated with the group's progress, in the next issue of the Pulse. I would also like



to take this opportunity to thank both Games Workshop and the staff at the Games Workshop store in Reading for their help and support in setting up this club.

If you are interested in finding out more or joining Warhammer Club please see Mr Jackson in room **205** for a letter or visit www.games-workshop.com



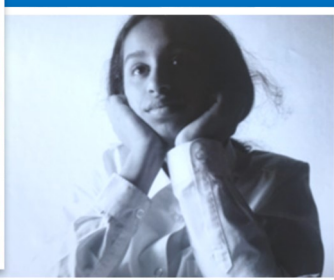
What's Been Going on in Art?

Arts Award Exhibition Event

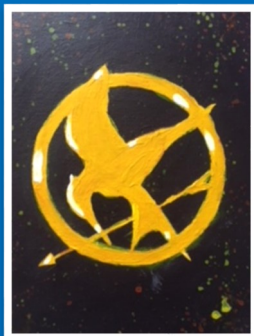
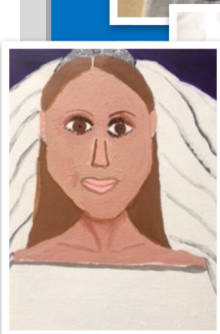
On Tuesday 26th June, we held an Arts Award exhibition showcasing the work of Year 9 students who had completed the Arts Award in collaboration with the Museum of English Rural Life. Year 9 students confidently presented their work and research. We were lucky enough to have a performance by musician Jackie Oates, who has used the collections at MERL to inspire her own music.



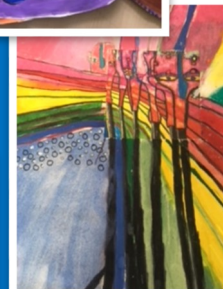
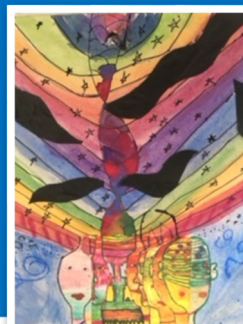
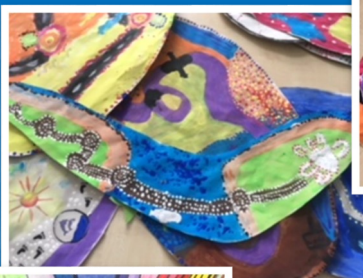
Year 9 Photography



Year 8 Pop Art

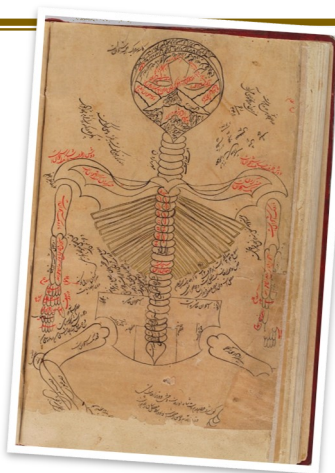


Year 7



What is this artefact?

In the last issue of the Pulse we showed you part of a drawing of a human skeleton from Ibn Sina's al-Qanun fi al-Tibb (The canon of medicine) that was published in 1025. Historians consider this medieval Islamic medical text to be one of the most significant books in the history of medicine. For example, it was widely sought after in Western Europe during the sixteenth century by trainee surgeons. These surgeons were able to get access to this Islamic text thanks to the invention of the printing press enabling this important medical text to be reprinted at least 60 times between 1516 and 1574. Further evidence of its significance comes from the fact it continued to be the major authority for medical students in both the Islamic



world and Europe well into the 1700s, over 700 years after its publication in 1025. Ibn Sina's al-Qanun fi al-Tibb is clearly a great example of the contribution that Islamic scholars have made to the history and knowledge of the people of Britain.

Want to find out more about the ideas of Ibn Sina and Islamic medicine?

<http://www.muslimheritage.com/article/ibn-sinas-canon-medicine>

A British based website about the scientific and culture contribution of Islamic scholars.

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/science/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/significance-ibn-sinas-canon-medicine-arab-and-western-worlds>

An article by Evelyn B. Kelly about the significance of the work of Ibn Sina's al-Qanun fi al-Tibb on both the Islamic and Western worlds.

Lexia Success!

Congratulations to Sasha 8P1, Gedeon 8T2, and Rahaf 8G2 on completing all five levels of Lexia, an online literacy support programme introduced by the Achievement Centre and English department in spring 2018.



Sasha 8P1



Gedeon 8T2



Rahaf 8G2

What is this ARTEFACT?

Now it's time to introduce our second mystery artefact in our

What is the artefact series.



Any ideas?

All will be revealed in our Winter issue of the Pulse.

Homework CLUB

2018-2019

Homework club will be running on
**Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays
and Thursdays,**
in the LRC from 3-4pm.

It will be a drop-in session each time, supervised by Teaching Assistants. Pupils need to let their parents know in advance that they will be staying to Homework club.

A register will be kept for pupils to sign in and out. Pupils should bring with them exercise books and equipment needed for them to do their homework independently, with adult support available.

We look forward to seeing you!



Open Evening

On Wednesday 26th September we welcomed nearly 200 prospective families to our school for our Open Evening event. Year 6 students were able to get involved in lots of activities as they went around the school. We were lucky to have so many of our own students willing to give up their time to help the subjects in the classrooms, and to give our visitors such professional tours around the building. From the feedback we have received from many of our visitors it was a successful showcase of our inclusive community.



Cycling to school

Please could we ask all parents/carers to emphasise with students the vital importance of road safety when walking or riding to school. We receive regular reports of students riding their bikes in a dangerous fashion or stepping into busy roads without using the crossing.



We

need

YOU!

Are you a successful business who would like to give back to the community?

We need you!

We are committed to providing our students with enrichment activities and experiences to help them learn new employability skills and reduce barriers to entering the world of work.

We can help you to engage young people, improve future recruitment and introduce you to tomorrow's leaders. Share your knowledge and expertise and improve young people's employability and work ready skills, while promoting what you have to offer.

You can help our students in a variety of ways, including:

- Work experience and Apprenticeship opportunities
- Presenting your industry at our careers fairs
- STEAM (Science Technology, Engineering, Art and Design and Mathematics) Events
- Workplace visits
- Enterprise activities
- Support with CV writing, application forms and mock interviews
- Participating in employer events
- Delivering assemblies and workshops

If you think you can help us, please contact
Rob Buck BH@maidenrleghschool.co.uk
0118 926 2467

Silverdale Road, Earley, Berkshire, RG6 7HS

MAIDEN ERLEGH TRUST

BLACKHISTORY

Celebrating Great Black British Achievers

365

Black History Month

To recognise Black History Month the students at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading have been learning in their assembly this week about the contribution of the Jamaican nurse Mary Seacole who in 1854 left Kingston for England to volunteer as a nurse with Florence Nightingale in the Crimea, where Britain and its ally France were fighting Russia. Unfortunately, on her arrival in London her request to join the nurses of Florence Nightingale in their assignment to the Crimea was declined. This did not stop Mary, who was an experienced nurse who had treated those with cholera and yellow fever in Jamaica and Panama. At her own expense, she journeyed to the Crimea alone and set up a boarding house for British soldiers called the British Hotel. This establishment provided an officers' club and a canteen for the troops. As early as June 1855 she could be found tending to the wounded and dying on the battlefield most notably after the British assault on the Redan, a heavily fortified Russian position defending the city of Sevastopol, where a quarter of the British attacking force were killed or wounded.

William Howard Russell war correspondent for *The Times* reported of Mary Seacole

'[She is] a warm and successful physician, who doctors and cures all manner of men with extraordinary success. She is always in attendance near the battlefield to aid the wounded, and has earned many a poor fellow's blessings.'

Mary continued to treat the wounded and give comfort to the dying until July 1856 when an armistice was signed, by which point, finding herself in financial difficulties, she returned to England and opened a canteen in Aldershot, which failed due to lack of funds and she was declared bankrupt.


We hope that Mary's example will inspire our students to similar selfless acts. Mary did not have to answer the call for help in the Crimea, she chose to. She knew she could help and left her home in Kingston to make a forty day voyage to England. Despite being initially prevented from assisting in the treatment of the sick and injured of the Crimea she got herself out to the war by her own efforts and at her own expense. Mary, whilst in the Crimea, would regularly risk her life to bring comfort to the wounded and dying soldiers. She therefore, thanks in no small part to William Howard Russell and other war correspondents, became the first black woman to make her mark on British public life. What she was able to achieve was done through her own efforts and



determination. She had to overcome many different barriers and obstacles in the pursuit of her goal to make a difference to the sick and the wounded on the battlefields of the Crimea. It would have been easy for her to give up at many different points but she did not. I think that is one of the lessons that we can draw from the *Wonderful Adventures of Mrs Seacole in many Lands* 1857.

To find out more, please visit the Black History Month website for more stories like Mary's but also information about events that are being organised to mark Black History Month.

<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>



Igniting Writing

Creative writing group for ages 11 to 18 years old




Igniting Writing is a group that brings together young writers in and around Wokingham to develop their writing in a fun, relaxed group setting.

Our writing sessions cover everything from building settings and creating characters to exploring different worlds and beyond, so there's something for everyone, whatever your interests.

Wokingham Library
Every Saturday (Term time only)
10.30am to 12noon

Places must be booked, call (0118) 978 1368

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ignitingwriting>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/829509490414536/>



Maiden Erlegh in Reading's first House Captains

Maiden Erlegh in Reading has launched its new house system this year and have appointed some very important people to help their house win this year's trophy. A

big well done to all pupils who applied and congratulations to those who were chosen. Only one question remains, *who will win this year's house trophy?*



Griffin	Triton	Phoenix
Year 7	Yr 7	Year 7
Vinay		Rua
	Jayden/Barona	Xav
Year 8	Yr 8	Year 8
Yasmin		Ameera
Hunny	Josh/Sameeha	Kaiden
Year 9	Yr 9	Year 9
Bea		Maddie
Minshock	Anne-Marie/Deeraj	Mikhile
Year 10	Yr 10	Year 10
Devmi		Miriam
Alannah	Alfie/Kajae	AJ
Leslie	Joanna/Rodeasha	Samyak Dhital
		Denzel

TERM DATES

Autumn	5 September - 19 October 2018
	29 October - 20 December 2018
Spring	7 January - 15 February 2019
	25 February - 5 April 2019
CPD Days	15 November 2018 23 January 2019

Facilities Hire




Our fantastic school facilities are available for hire to the general public. Please click on photo above for details

Extra-curricular Activities

[Click here to find a list of after school clubs](#)



Maiden Erlegh Extra-Curricular Activities

Day	Activity	Time	Teacher	Area
Monday	GCSE Drama Drop in - Rehearsals/Written Help	3-4pm	Mrs Tolman	Drama Studio
	Year 9 and 10 Rugby Boys	3-4:15	Mr Bandy/Mr Bradley	Field
	Year 9 GCSE Music	3-4pm	Mr Butchers	044
	GCSE Open Access: Art	3-4:30pm	Miss Jordan/Mr Bish	207/206
	Homework Club	3-4pm	Mrs Clarke & Inclusion Team	21B
Tuesday	Year 7 Girls Football	3-4pm	Mrs Roberts	Field
	Y7&8 Art Club	3-3:45pm	Miss Jordan	207
	Homework Club	3-4pm	Mrs Clarke & Inclusion Team	21B
Wednesday	Year 7 and 8 Boys Rugby	3:00-4:15	Mr Bandy	Field
	Year 7 Science Club	3:00-3:45	Dr. Davies/TBC	Science 202
	Warhammer Wednesday	3:00-4:00	Mr Jackson	205
	GCSE Drama Drop in - Rehearsals/Written Help	3-4pm	Mrs Tolman	Drama Studio
	Year 10 Girls Football	3-4pm	Mr Winstanley	Field
	School Band	3-3:45pm	Mr Butchers	044
	Homework Club	3-4pm	Mrs Clarke & Inclusion Team	21B
	GCSE Open Access: Art	3-4:30pm	Miss Jordan/Mr Bish	207/206
	Year 8&9 Girls Football	3-4pm	Miss Wildman	Field
	Choir	8:40am	Mr Butchers	Music
Thursday	Drama Club	3-4pm	Mrs Tolman/Mr Sparks	Drama Studio
	STEP (Science and Technology club)	3-4pm	Mr Tsoumparis/Mr Bradley	235
	GCSE Open Access: Art	3-4:30pm	Miss Jordan/Mr Bish	207/206
	Mathematics Drop In	3:00-3:30pm	Miss Williams	116
	Homework Club	3-4pm	Mrs Clarke & Inclusion Team	21B
Friday	GCSE Music Drop in	2:20-3pm	Mr Butchers	044



Click on envelope to view recent communications



Click on the ParentPay logo to login and register your account.

Email queries to: parentpay@maidenersleghschool.co.uk



Click on the logo to log on to the Learning Gateway

