



The Pulse



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

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to our bumper Christmas edition of "The Pulse". Encouragingly, we have had to increase the number of pages as we have so much to tell you following an extremely busy term. Once again, I would like to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of the staff team who work tirelessly to support students at the school to ensure that they are making strong progress across their subjects and who contribute so much beyond the classroom in terms of trips, extra-curricular clubs and societies by giving their time to students. We wouldn't be the type of school we are without their commitment.

Recently, I was delighted to attend our Performing Arts Christmas showcase; such a talented group of students who performed a range of pieces with poise and confidence. I spoke to many in the audience who enjoyed the show and the general consensus was that it was just the event to get people in the mood for Christmas! It was also very encouraging to meet so many parents and carers of our year 7 students at the recent progress meeting. This was a very useful

evening and I spoke with a number of parents who expressed how helpful they found the feedback. We know that the best support we can offer students is when the school is working in partnership with the support that is given at home and the progress evening was a good example of this.

The end of term means that we sadly, say farewell to a number of staff. This includes Mr Wallis, our Head of Science, who is moving to a school closer to his home. Richard Wallis is one of the original team who started the school in 2015 and he has built a strong and enthusiastic team and department. He is an excellent teacher and his entertaining lessons and big personality will be missed by students and staff alike. Thank you Mr W for all you have contributed.

On behalf of the staff and governors may I wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Mr A Johnson



CALENDAR 2018 - 2019

21 Dec – 4 Jan	Christmas Holidays
10 Jan	New Oxford Theatre: Macbeth
15 Jan	The National Theatre Backstage Tour and Woman in Black
16 Jan	Year 8 Options Evening
21 Jan	Year 8 Assessment Week
23 Jan	Staff Professional Development day (school closed for students)
24 Jan	People Like Me – STEM Enrichment
25 Jan	Year 8 Build My Future
28 Jan	Year 8 & 10 French Theatre Play

School Council!



This year we have re-elected our School Council members. Students from all year groups were asked to apply either in writing or verbally for their place on the School Council and explain why they thought they would be the best person to represent the views of their tutor group.

For Year 7 – 9 form tutors selected the best applicants. For Year 10 Miss Davies had the tough job of selecting the lead School Council members from a number of excellent applications!

This new batch of council members have had their first successful meeting as a group, looking at how the school could develop the house point system further, with many more to come over the year!

Breakfast Club

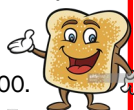


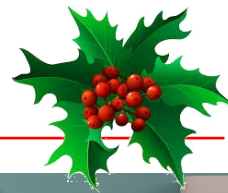
The Breakfast club will be one year old in January and is still growing. We have around 25 students attending regularly. Recently we have been trialling different options such as mini pastries, crumpets and pancakes. The students decided that they wanted the pancakes to become an addition to the regular choice of hash browns, toast, beans on toast, croissants, pain au chocolat, and cereals.

On Fridays we have a 'treat' day and serve bacon rolls and vegetarian sausage in a

roll. It is a relaxed start to the day listening to the radio, reading, playing one of our games or just chatting with other students.

We have sent an email advertising breakfast club to all parents and hope that we will continue to grow next term. If you would like to join breakfast club just access parent pay and select the Breakfast club option or alternatively ask Mrs Wills or Miss Langille for details, the price of Breakfast club, for a whole term, is £35.00.





Spelling Bee

During November, a thrilling Spelling Bee took place involving several Year 9 students. After some tantalisingly difficult words including “combattir”, “engordar” and “desafortunadamente”, Juna and Bea (both from Griffin) were determined to be joint winners. They were crowned the Maiden Erlegh School in Reading MFL Spanish champions.

The bar has been set extremely high for future students hoping to win glory in this event for their house.



National Pathology Week



This November, National Pathology Week was marked across the country with a variety of events including some guests

visiting our school. Dr Lizzie Burns, a science-based artist, held some special classes for some of our students. The students were taught about the structure of our cells and had lots of fun using modelling material to create all the features they learned about. We created some wonderful cells and I think you will agree they make a beautiful display.



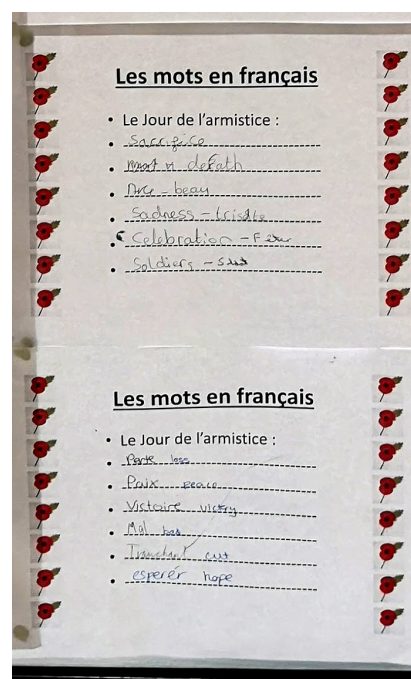
The students were also given the chance to ask real life pathologist Dr Bina Rawul some questions about science and working in a laboratory. If you've been inspired, look out for the pathology display in science for some career information!

We Will Never Forget



In memory of all of the fallen soldiers who participated in the First World War, students researched French words that they felt were important to them in showing their respect. These words were written on posters and displayed in the windows of the MFL office and classrooms.

On n'oubliera jamais.



Les mots en français

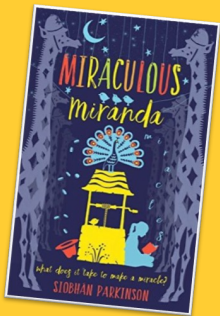
- Le Jour de l'armistice :
- *Sauvage* - *ferocious*
- *Mort* - *death*
- *Dieu* - *heaven*
- *Soldats* - *soldiers*
- *Célébration* - *celebration*
- *Soldats* - *soldiers*

Les mots en français

- Le Jour de l'armistice :
- *Paix* - *peace*
- *Victoire* - *victory*
- *Mort* - *death*
- *Insérer* - *insert*
- *Espérer* - *hope*



Recommended Reads



Miraculous Miranda
(Siobhan Parkinson,
Hachette,
£10.99)

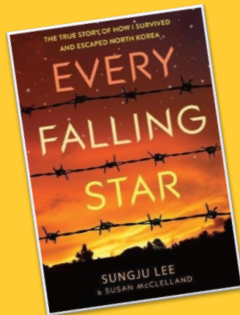
There's a heartbreaking reality at the centre of Miranda's story of her big sister, Gemma, who is sick. We don't know exactly what is wrong with her, but it's a 'condition' that means regular hospital stays, operations, and a good deal of fear and stress for the whole family.

The result is a captivating narrative, full of honesty as well as hope – in which it's ok to express that poorly people can be annoying; that feeling jealous of the attention given to an ill sibling isn't actually a sign of an evil character; and most of all, that miracles come in all shapes and sizes, even if the one you long for above all else never arrives.



Death or Ice Cream?
(Gareth P. Jones, Hot Key Books, £6.99)

This darkly funny and brilliantly strange novel takes readers on a journey through the buildings and families of Larkin Mills, where grim secrets lurk behind brightly smiling facades. Removal vans take away much more than mere furniture, death always seems to be just a little closer than should be expected – and no one ever asks exactly what goes into the exquisite and ominously named concoctions created by Mr Morricone at his marvellously mysterious ice cream parlour in the centre of town.



Every Falling Star
(Sungju Lee,
Amulet Books,
£7.99)

The reality of life in contemporary North Korea is something that is not often presented to young people outside the country, either through fiction or history. Sungju Lee was born and raised there, and in this intense memoir he shares the true story of his life from the age of six until his escape into South Korea at 16.

Ultimately, this is not so much a story about suffering, as one that underlines the importance of hope, love, friendship and family for all of us as human beings, regardless of our circumstances. It is what we have in common, rather than what separates us, that really matters.



The Island
(Olivia Levez,
Rock the Boat,
£7.99)

A touching, dramatic story about troubled youth, and the fight for survival. Fran Stanton is living a happy existence with her mother Cassie and her little brother Johnny. That is, until Cassie falls in with the wrong crowd, and family life hits rock bottom.

The book itself jumps back and forward throughout the story, which I think helps develop Fran's character, and makes her more believable as a person. If you're a fan of the Hunger Games trilogy, then The Island is a must!

GCSE English Literature - Years 9 and 10 Set texts

So that students can annotate their texts with notes in the classroom and then use these to revise from, we ask them to buy their set texts. For year 9 this is "An Inspector Calls",

and for year 10 this is "A Christmas Carol".

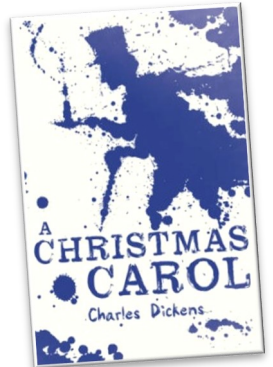
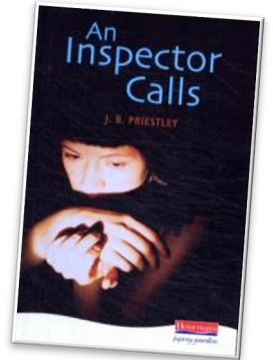
We also have study/ revision guides available if students want to buy them but it is not compulsory to do so – they are just useful to supplement classroom work.

You can pay for these texts though Parent Pay in the usual way. Letters about buying the texts are on the

school website. Students in receipt of a pupil premium grant can elect to use this to purchase the study guides if they wish to. If you want to purchase the books for your son/daughter please do so through Parent Pay.

Thank you for your support

Mrs Escott-New
Head of English



Examinations Invigilator vacancies

Are you, or is anyone you know, interested in ad-hoc, part-time work at this school during our exams periods ?

Please see the vacancies page on the school website for invigilator job descriptions and application deadlines.

For further information, please contact
recruitment@maidenrleghschool.co.uk



Young Carers!

At Maiden Erlegh School in Reading we are aware that some of our pupils are young carers. A young carer is someone under 18 who is caring unpaid for a family member or friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health or addiction problems. They often take on practical and/or emotional caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult. Research suggests there are at least 700,000 young carers in the UK, but many do not realise they are a young carer.

We know that young carers may need a little extra support to fully enjoy school and do well. We are committed to ensuring that all pupils who are young carers are identified, and supported effectively.

A letter has gone home, staff training and assemblies for all students have taken place. This is our first step in supporting the young carers.

If you know a young carer or you are a young carer please make sure you talk to Miss Hancock or Mrs Teale.

We are looking forward to the future and the support we will offer these students.

Miss Hancock & Mrs Teale

YOUNG CARERS

Are you aged under 18?

Do you live with someone who is ill or disabled or reliant on drugs or alcohol?

Do you take brothers and sisters to and from school?

Do you regularly cook, clean or shop for your family?

Do you collect prescriptions or help give medicines?

Do you help someone wash, dress and get them up in the mornings?

Answered **YES** to two or more of these questions?
Talk to **Miss N Hancock** (Head of Year 9) OR **Mrs J Teale** (Inclusion)

A Dancing Champion!

A massive congratulations to Samantha in Year 8 who won a trophy in a national dance competition. Samantha travelled to Blackpool to compete in a national competition with a mixture of other dancers aged from 5 to 16 years old. She wowed the judges with her Latin dance ability so much that she was awarded a trophy!!

I hope you will join me in congratulating her on this impressive achievement!



WANTED TRUSTEE (NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR)

OPENINGS ON THE MAIDEN ERLEGH TRUST BOARD

Maiden Erlegh Trust seeks two additional Trustees with particular interest and expertise in (a) education or school improvement and (b) finance.

Trustees are both charity trustees and company directors of the academy trust; the role is to hold to account the executive and senior leadership team. The Board of Trustees manages the business of the academy trust and may exercise all the powers of the trust. The Trustees ensure compliance with the trust's charitable objects and with company and charity law.

The Trust Board is responsible for maintaining stability during a period of rapid growth and the management of a dynamic structure. The role also includes contributing to financial planning for sustainability and growth, and holding the CEO/CFO to account. Applicants will serve as non-executive directors of the Trust Board with the opportunity to fulfil the role as Trust Strategic Lead and/or sit on an Interim Transition Board of a special measures school.

Interested parties do not need to be parents of children at any school within Maiden Erlegh Trust. Board meetings are held in Reading.

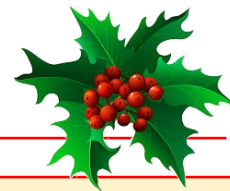
If you, or someone you know, are interested, please write to **Mrs V Boatman** (Clerk to the Local Advisory Board) at Maiden Erlegh School, Silverdale Road Earley, RG6 7HS or email trustees@maidenerleghtrust.org.

Closing date is **Sunday 6th January 2019**.



MAIDEN ERLEGH
TRUST





Year 9 we made it to Christmas!

Yay! We leave 2018 a stronger, better year group with very clear goals.

The next three years are very important. As a year group we continue to have high expectations and strive for the best behaviour for learning. We know that as a team we can work together to ensure that learning is our number one priority.

One of the most important things is for you to believe in yourself, you CAN succeed and you CAN do well. Every day we are proud to say we work with Year 9, you need to be proud of yourselves.

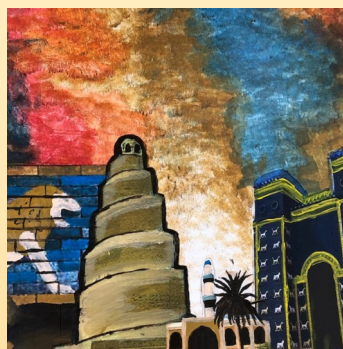
Our New Year resolution is to continue to improve behaviour and to encourage a mind-set of being more positive and encouraging.

We wish you all a very restful, fun filled and relaxing Christmas holidays and I am very excited to see what 2019 brings for us!

Miss Hancock

House ART Competition

2ND PLACE – 300 HP
Sehar – Y9 Phoenix!!!



WINNER Y9 - 50 HP
Yaheen – Y9 Triton!!!

Under 14 Rugby Conference WINNERS



Adam, Marian, Amaan, Tyron, Sathyam, John, Josj, Siyar, Billy, Ibby, Ayush, Wasim, Jessy, Minshok, Delsy, Anas, Kelvin O, Kelvin S, Shiv, TK, Jubair

Qualified for under 14s Berkshire County Football



Ibby and Delsy



Arts Night Walk Khyren, Anne-Marie, Nik, Abi, Ella, Kayden

NEWS

www.readingchronicle.co.uk

MAIDEN ERLEGH SCHOOL'S WALKING TOURS

Schoolchildren strengthen relations with series of nighttime adventures



A SERIES of nighttime walks have been organised by the University of Reading to help residents see the world through the eyes of a teenager. The evening walks, organised with help from Maiden Erlegh School pupils,

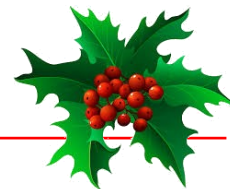
are designed to encourage conversations between adults and young people.

Professor Susanne Clausen, director of Reading International, said: "These unique tours offer an unusual social experience, allowing

adults to take the hand of a Reading teenager to take a walk on the wild side and explore their town at night."

A team from Mammalian Diving Reflex travelled over from Canada to work with the students.





Kendrick School
Ms Helen Stacey
0118 9015859



Reading Girls' School
Miss Kimika Gardner
0118 9861336

Support for Parents/Carers of Secondary Students in Reading

The Reading Young Peoples' Emotional Wellbeing Partnership is delighted to offer a series of opportunities for parents/carers to find out more about a range of difficulties that young people may be facing, and how they can best support their child. The team of Educational Psychologists and Primary Mental Health Workers who work closely with school staff to improve outcomes for young people across Reading, will deliver these sessions. We will be delighted to welcome parents/carers from students attending **any secondary school in Reading**.

The sessions will be delivered twice on the same day:

- **Reading Girls' School (RG2 7PY) at 9.30am**
- **Kendrick School (RG1 5BN) at 6.00pm**

Please use this link if you would like to reserve a place for the session on **Anxiety**:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DKTD2NN>

Date	Topic
Wednesday 12th December 2018	Anxiety
Wednesday 30 th January 2019	Depression/Low Mood
Wednesday 27 th February 2019	Self-Harm
Wednesday 27 th March 2019	Eating Disorders
Wednesday 24 th April 2019	Exam Anxiety
Wednesday 3 rd July 2019	Resilience

(Please note that parking onsite at Kendrick School is very limited and so public transport should be used where possible - we are a 5 minute walk from the Oracle. Parking at Queens Road car park is the nearest but we can accommodate parking for anyone with mobility issues (please contact Reception in advance to arrange this). Please arrive at Reception on East Street for the event.)

Please contact the host schools if you have any queries about these events.



Special FX Makeup Workshops

As a Drama teacher I often hear questions and remarks such as *'Drama is just about acting, ain't it miss? The actor is the most important person, ain't he miss?'* In a drive to expand students' knowledge of the varying facets of theatre and the theatre making process we arranged for students to have the opportunity to get 'their hands dirty' in some Special FX Makeup workshops.

7 Students embarked on 2 workshops with a professional makeup artist, one creating

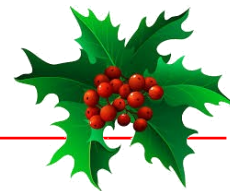
gruesome cuts, gory burns and ghastly bruises, that even passers-by believed were real! The other turning themselves into characters of their choice including Edward Scissorhands, Avatars and Tim Burton's Corpse Bride. Students had immense fun working on these areas but also learnt the science behind layering on specific products in order to get desired special effects. Equally, how stage lighting will affect the way makeup is presented. I think it is clear that we have a few budding Special FX Makeup Artists in our midst!



Drama Trip to see 'Thirsty' by The Paperbirds

On the 21st November, Year 10 GCSE Drama students made the walk to MES to watch a visiting theatre company's performance of 'Thirsty'. This show specifically examines the binge drinking culture of the UK using Paperbirds' renowned performance style, which uses a mixture of physical theatre, verbatim accounts and multimedia recordings. Students had the opportunity at the end to ask the performers questions including finding out about their devising process and the logistics of being a travelling theatre company. The Year 10's will be using this performance in order to answer the Live Theatre Review section of their upcoming PPE in January.





SIMS Parent/Parent App

Following the successful launch of the user-friendly tool, SIMS Parent/Parent App, which gives you instant access to what is happening at school for your child, we have received some positive feedback which suggests it is very popular with parents.

As we come to the end of this first period of use here is some guidance which you may find helpful about how the App is used in practice.

Assessment Panel

You may have noticed that the assessment panel was turned off at the end of last week. This will regularly happen during reporting periods as it will mean that you will not see unchecked and unmoderated results. Once the reports have been checked the half-termly report will be accessible and the assessment panel will be switched back on. This panel will then rotate through the core grades in the half-termly report for Years 7-11.

Assessment



Data Collection Panel

Please use this panel to update you and your child's contact details. Once you have made a submission the panel will be locked until the change has been actioned by the school.

Data Collection



For further information and how to set up the new SIMS Parent/Parent App please click in the link below:

[SIMS Parent/Parent App Letter](#)

Conduct Panel

The Achievements bar shows any recognition points on the green bar with the total points this week being indicated below. The detail for why these have been awarded will be known by your child and often, where appropriate, will be recorded in the student's work. This is intended to be a summary of all the positive achievements that have been acknowledged in school.

Conduct

Achievements



4

0 this week

Behaviour



1

▲ 1 this week

The Behaviour bar shows any detentions, appointments or incidents that your child has been recorded in. Not all items recorded here will be negative. For example supportive appointments will show on the red bar; however, these will be recorded as having no behaviour points associated with them. I am working with our provider to find a solution where only detentions or other non-zero pointed behaviours display in this panel. For now please be assured that all supportive interventions are acknowledged within our system to be positive!

Half Termly Reports

Half termly reports will go live on the SIMS Parent/Parent App on Friday of this week.

Reports



Latest Report
Y8
Tracking
Report

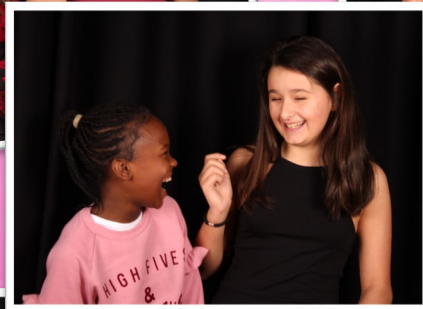


0 More reports



On November 22nd, Maiden Erlegh School in Reading successfully hosted its second school disco. The theme this year was anti-bullying and a portion of the proceeds are to be sent to the Diana Award which is a charity that works in the memory of the late Princess Diana. A group of year 10's

including our peer mediators worked tirelessly to organise a photo booth, which was a great hit with the students, and to put up the festive decorations. Many of our students said that we had outdone ourselves compared with last year and are already asking when the next disco will be.





Remembrance Assembly

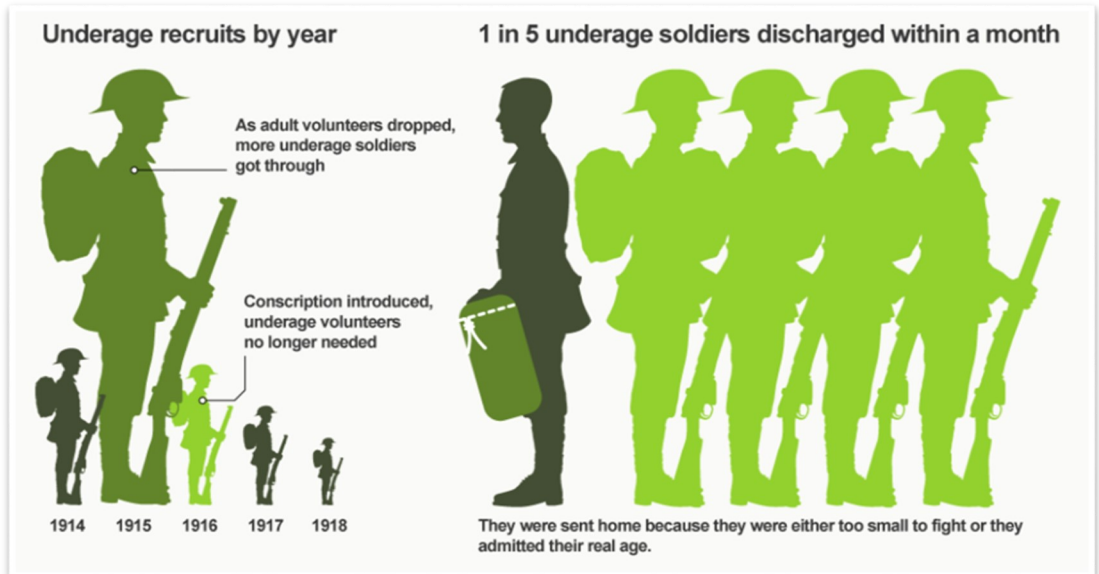
This year's assembly to Years 9 & 10 focused on the tragic tale of the 250,000 child soldiers who lied about their age to enlist in the British army during WW1. As the diagram illustrates the number of underage recruits peaked in 1915 and only 1 out of 5 were actually returned home when it was clear they were not the correct age.

To enable the students to empathise with these child soldiers and their families we heard the story of Aby Bevestin from east London, but originally from Russia, who joined up in September 1914 aged 15 without his parents knowledge and changed his name to Harris. He was soon posted to Northern France with the Middlesex Regiment and found himself in the trenches at a time when the British and Germans were using underground attacks to break through the lines of trenches. In one such attack the section of trench Aby was stationed in exploded and he suffered wounds that resulted in him being sent back to England to recover in hospital. By 1916 he was back at the front and had been declared fit for duty. However, he was suffering from shell shock, what we would call post-traumatic stress disorder. After being re-examined by an army doctor Aby was ordered to return to his position in the trenches where he had been previously been injured. He

ignored this order and was arrested where he had been billeted before his return to the trenches. Charged with desertion he faced a swift court martial that found him guilty and he was executed by firing squad.

What made matters worse for those connected to Aby it was his comrades in

who were shot at dawn during the First World War, at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. The families would have to wait until 2006 to receive an official pardon from the British Government. How could such a situation be allowed to happen in Britain?



the Middlesex Regiment who were ordered to carry out the execution. Aby was buried in an unmarked grave. His family would be given no explanation of the circumstances of his conviction, the trial and the verdict. However the story of the executed child soldiers does not end there. As they were executed they were classified as criminals and were therefore not recorded on war memorials in England after the war. In fact it was not until 2001 that a memorial was created for all those 306 British soldiers

Want to find out more?

Here is a link to a playlist on Youtube produced by the BBC about Teenage Tommies.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UZptGe0BTCc&index=1&list=PLcvEcrcF9zLoIKQFrODViPwEqE2dROAg>

Warhammer Club News

Ythamar has been granted the rank of Master Architect within the Warhammer Club in recognition of her commitment to supporting and encouraging other members of the club when building models. She has also been helping in the



built for the whole club to enjoy when playing games. The members for the club

important set up, maintenance and pack away of the club tools and equipment. Her latest project has been the design of some scenery that can be

MASTER ARCHITECT



- Teach new recruits how to build models
 - Help existing builders to improve
 - Set up, maintain and pack away club building supplies
 - Ensure school supplies are used responsibly
 - Manage supplies and ask for new ones before they run out
- Extension**
- Build scenery for club use

and myself would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work and commitment to the club in its first term.

Mr Jackson



Performing Arts Festival

On Wednesday 12th December, the Music and Drama departments presented the Performing Arts Festival. This was an opportunity to demonstrate the work that has occurred during the course of the term in both departments, both in class and in extra curricular activities. Art work from the recent art competition was on display as the audience entered.

The theme of the performance was *Human* – what it is to be human. The choir sang their arrangement of *Human* by Rag 'n' Bone Man and the Drama production was based around the lyrics of that song. The drama performance was extremely well received and was met with much laughter from the audience! The choir also sang an arrangement of *Livin' on a Prayer* by Bon Jovi.

There were a number of musical solo acts which demonstrated the excellent musicality from the school, including Abinaya (Year 10) singing *All of Me* and Leila (Year 8) performing the drum part for *Sweet Child of Mine*.

The second theme of the concert was Christmas, and this was reflected in a range of performances, including a brass duet of *Silent Night* by Bethan and Katy (Year 10), the choir singing *Last Christmas* and the band performing *Merry Christmas Everybody*.

There were many very positive comments from members of the audience, and it is particularly pleasing to see that there were over 55 performers participating, some members performing in multiple acts.

The Arts faculty is already planning next term's performance on 3rd April – save the date!





Train to Teach evening

Tuesday 5 February 2019 7.00 to 8.00 pm

Maiden Erlegh School, Silverdale Road RG6 7HS

Are you thinking about kick-starting an exciting new career in teaching? If so, our Train to Teach event is the perfect opportunity for you to learn all you need to know about teacher training and how to apply.

Come and talk to our schools and existing trainees about the School Direct route into teaching and hear about the many benefits of training through BTSA.

Berkshire Teaching School Alliance represent more than a dozen schools, both Primary and Secondary, in the Reading area. We work with the University of Reading and have an excellent track record for providing high quality training and support. Recruitment rates within our alliance are high and our schools often retain their trainees through to NQT and beyond!



Register for our event by emailing teachingschool@maidenerleghschool.co.uk or visiting www.berkshireteachingschoolalliance.co.uk

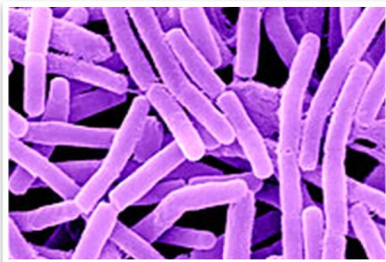


@berkshiretsa



What is this artefact?

In the last issue of the Pulse we showed you a microscopic photograph of the anthrax bacteria. This was correctly identified by Yassin in Year 10. What was significant about this image is anthrax bacteria was identified by Robert Koch, a German doctor who methodically studied anthrax, a disease that affects both humans and animals. What the photograph also shows is his method for identifying the bacteria by staining it, making it easier for him and other scientists to identify and observe it under the microscope. This pioneering



work led to the identification of the bacteria that causes cholera, tuberculosis and anthrax which killed thousands of people in Victorian Britain.

Find out more about infectious diseases – World Health Organisation website

Want to find out more about infectious diseases?

<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets>

This World Health Organisation website contains many useful resources such as these fact sheets on medical conditions and diseases.

What is this ARTEFACT?

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

What is the artefact series.



Any ideas?

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

CPD Day Thursday 15th December

Maiden Erlegh Reading staff enjoyed an interesting and productive training day where we considered how we can highlight

for students the academic, as opposed to vernacular, language they need to be successful in examinations and the metacognitive strategies we can use to help students learn more effectively. These skills will help children apply learning methods across subjects, and give teachers another tool for their teaching toolkit in order to help students tackle the very high demands the new GCSEs now place on them.

An outside speaker worked with various groups of staff for the day giving us a new perspective on these current educational concerns – vocabulary building and metacognitive strategies – which research suggests are areas of development schools can tap into to yield effective progress for students.

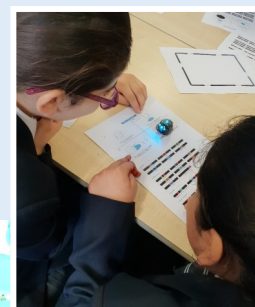
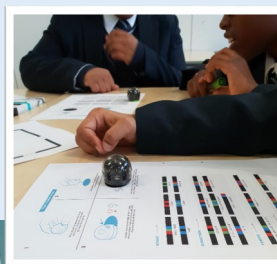
Staff will continue to build on this work though the remainder of the academic year.



Year 7 Ozobots Challenge

On Thursday 6 December and Thursday 13 December, 50 students from Year 7 participated in The Ozobot Challenge, delivered by Thales (one of our STEM partners). The challenge was designed to engage and enthuse students with a particular interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and Computer Science, as ozobots are little robots that are designed as an introduction to coding. Students used colour combinations to move the

ozobot on a path from one location to another. As students become familiar with coding, more advanced features such as sounds, interactions and a series of lights can be used to enhance play and education. Students thoroughly enjoyed taking part and engaging with engineers from Thales.





What's been going on in art ...

Art House Competition

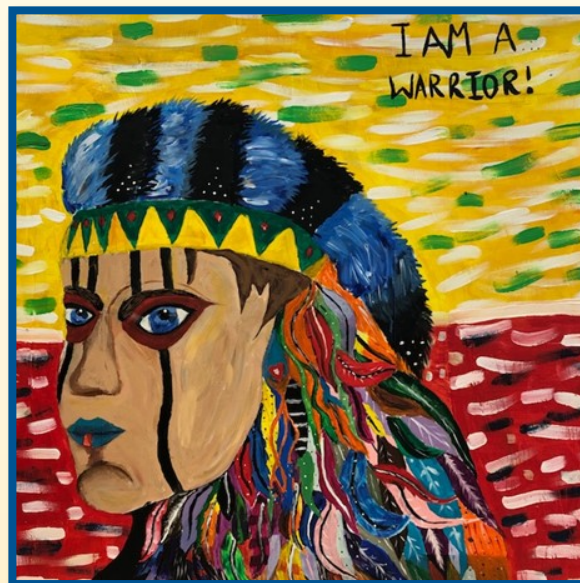
Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 participated in an art competition to win points for their houses. Talented students who enjoy art got together to create some stunning pieces of art. The theme of the competition was culture and every group interpreted this differently. Inspiration came from all cultures from American Indian to Islamic. All the students did really, really well, but there can only be one winner and the winning piece of art work was created by Reeha and Maxina in Year 7, with Sehar in Year 9 coming 2nd and Abinaya and Danah from Year 10 coming 3rd.

It was so exciting to be able to judge the beautiful pieces and each one was unique. It was very hard to choose just one winner. Now there are lots of very good quality paintings to be displayed around the school.

By Katy, Year 10



2ND PLACE - 300 HP Sehar



WINNER - 500 HP Reeha and Maxina



3RD PLACE - 100 HP Abinaya and Danah

Research Project to Reading Museum and the Museum of English Rural Life

We had a lovely day working with students from Reading University's ArtLab on a research project. We were trying to make creative connections between objects in two museums so we visited the Museum of English Rural Life and the Museum of Reading, studying and drawing objects. We then had to think about how we would connect the objects; a Huntley and Palmer's biscuit from Reading Museum for example, with a flour cart from the Museum of English Rural Life. We were asked to set aside the obvious links and come

up with ideas of how we could create a response that can be delivered to students, staff and visitors to the museums via their websites. Ideas such as, animations, videos, graphic printed posters!

We are looking forward to continuing the rest of the project at school next year where we get to build and create our ideas! This was an enjoyable research project for students across Year 7, 8 and 9!



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Rugby Cup Success

Congratulations to the Boys Under 14 Rugby team who managed to finish top of the Reading Schools Under 14 League.

Despite some difficult games and a number of injuries and absences, the boys won their league playing rugby of a high standard despite some good opposition.

The foundations of success were built on good training in their PE lessons and after school sessions. Billy was again captain of the team with Ibby stepping in with both always giving 100% effort for the team. It is said that rugby matches are won by the

forwards and it is the backs who decide the score. Our forwards were particularly good this season, creating a platform for the flare players to score. Adam K

was a solid performer in the pack as well as in open play and Tyron was always working hard for the team scoring some good tries at crucial times. Marian also made a real impact this year and showed the most improvement in terms of skills and effort. It was also good to see newer



players fitting into the team and taking the places of players who were absent.

In a closely fought league the stand out result was a 75-0 win against St Joseph's away. Our biggest rival in the league was Bohunt who we played twice. On the first occasion we travelled to Oakbank and were kept waiting for an hour in the rain. Whilst we played well, we were beaten by a better team on the day. A couple of weeks later we were in the play off final against Bohunt again. This was probably the first time we had a full strength team to pick from, with Delsy and Ayush finally making an appearance. John and Minshok also did really well with good skills and

commitment. In the fading light, the team pulled together to win a close fought and physical contest against a very good rugby team. This meant that we finished top of

the County U14 Schools League.

I would like to thank all of the players who played or trained for their positive outlook and effort and look forward to them continuing playing rugby in the future.

Mr Bradley

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	23 January 2019

Facilities Hire



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

Maiden Erlegh Trust Careers Fair – a date for your diary!

On Tuesday 5 February 2019 we will be hosting our annual Trust Careers Fair from 7pm – 9pm at Maiden Erlegh School (Earley). We are currently planning our biggest and best careers fair to date and already have over 70 confirmed representatives from apprenticeship providers, colleges and universities/ Further Education, employers and gap year organisations.

We have taken into consideration student views by visiting tutor groups to ensure that we have representatives that are of interest to as many students as possible.

We also want to ensure that every possible destination route is represented on the night. In addition, as part of our planning, we have engaged with the local labour market to ensure that specific industries are invited to highlight to students where there are current skills gaps or opportunities in Berkshire. More information will be sent out in due course.

We would like to invite you to attend this event with your children to explore the opportunities available to them so that they take control of their own career destinations.

Extra-curricular Activities

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



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