



ThePulse

Opportunity, Diversity & Success For All

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

FROM THE HEADTEACHER



As we draw to the close of another successful year in the life of Maiden Erleigh School in Reading, we can all be very proud of what our students have achieved and the young people they are growing up to become. For me, the development of character is as important as academic success and time and time again our students have shown how they have developed resilience, positivity, compassion, a sense of responsibility and leadership. Through our curriculum and wider enrichment activities we strive for our students to develop a strong sense of values that will serve them well throughout their life and well beyond the five years they spend at our school.

To support our work in helping to develop student character, this year we have introduced our DREAM acronym to help us all consider and develop **Determination** in all we do, **Respect** for others, **Excellence** in our work, **Attitude** for success and **Maturity** in our choices. It has been hugely encouraging to see so many of our students embrace this **DREAM** and to be recognised for doing so by staff.

Across the wide range of subjects that we teach at Maiden Erleigh School in Reading, repeatedly we see students succeed. We believe that publicly acknowledging success has a powerful impact and I was privileged to attend our end of year reward assemblies and to see a huge number of different students collect certificates recognising effort or achievement in their work, attendance to school, or their wider contribution to their tutor group, year group and the school. Well done everyone!

The end of the academic year sees a number of staffing changes. We say a farewell and huge thank you to: Mr Harrison, Mr Tsumparis, Ms Duncan, Ms Dignan, Mrs Langille and Mrs James who all move on to pastures new. I also want to thank Miss Borthwick, Miss Bateman, Mr Mitchell, Mr Raso, Mr Newton, Mr Mackie, Mr Bardis and Miss Brooke who move to different teaching responsibilities within Maiden Erleigh Trust. Special mention must go to Mrs James who was part of the original staff team and our first pastoral leader. Whilst she has ensured that she leaves her year group in safe hands with Mr Bandy, I know our current year 10 will miss the care and down to earth advice that Mrs James has always offered them.

Whilst we say goodbye to a small number of colleagues, we also look forward to welcoming 23 new teachers and support staff to the team! We are very excited about our new recruits and look forward to introducing them to you in the next edition of the Pulse. They will bring so much to our fantastic team who work so tirelessly to support our students and help them to know more and grow more.

I hope you enjoy this "bumper" edition of The Pulse (There has been so much going on that we want to tell you about!). May I also take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support for the school and wish you a peaceful and relaxing summer break.



CALENDAR

5 Sept	Start of Term
9 & 13 Sept	School Photos
12 & 19 Sept & 3 Oct	Year 6 Open Mornings
18 Sept	Year 7 Parents' Information & Tirabad
25 Sept	Open Evening
2 Oct	Year 11 Information Evening
3 Oct	Year 9 Information Evening
4 Oct	Year 11 6 th Form Visit to MES
8 Oct	Year 10 Information Evening
14 – 18 Oct	Careers Week
17 Oct	Year 11 Progress Meeting
28 Oct – 1 Nov	HALF TERM

HOUSE POINT TOTALS

Griffin	Triton	Phoenix
47,793	49,842	46,837

Locker Package

Following the successful introduction of our locker packages last year, we have upgraded the 'book bag' so that students have a more comfortable and substantial rucksack suitable for using to and from, as well as around school.

Payment can be made via [ParentPay](#).



Appointment of Head Girl, Head Boy and Senior Student Ambassador team



Fahouaz - Head Boy, Damini - Head Girl and Mr Johnson - Headteacher.

We are delighted to announce the appointment of our very first Head Boy, Head Girl and senior student ambassador team. These are prestigious and significant appointments for our oldest year group and their term of office will run until May 2020.

Fahouaz and Damini take up their post, representing the student body and, along with their deputies, will organise and facilitate student leadership and student "voice" opportunities. They will also have a significant role to play as ambassadors of the school at major events. The senior student team will assist staff in ensuring that the school continues to run effectively and will assist younger students in a variety of ways.

The selection and appointment process for these posts was rigorous and testing. However, Mr Johnson and Mrs Escott-New were both astounded by the quality of the written applications and the poise and confidence of students in interview.

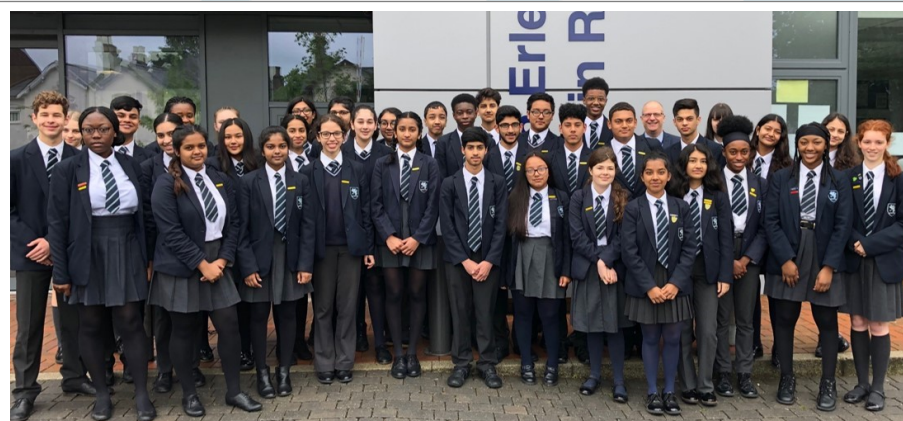
Damini, Head Girl commented "I was overwhelmed when I found out that I had been appointed Head Girl. I am delighted to be representing the voice of students in the school and I am determined to fulfil this role to the best of my ability"

Fahouaz, Head Boy added, "I am honoured to be chosen for this role. I look forward to communicating the views of students to staff and I hope to be an inspiration for younger year groups".

We wish them well in their new roles and look forward to their work on behalf of the student body.



Head Boy, Head Girl, Headteacher and Deputies.



Full senior student ambassador team.

Don't forget to register for Parent App

- School reports
- Attendance
- Behaviour and achievements
- Receive notifications
- School terms and inset days and much more

Click link below for information:

<http://www.maidenerleghschoolreading.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1407&type=pdf>

Year 9 and 10 Boxing

This year we have been lucky enough to start boxing alongside Leroy from Sweet Science Boxing and the Thames Valley Police. The students taking part have been learning discipline, commitment and focus. At the beginning, skipping was funny to watch, and giving up for a rest was common. Now students have developed to levels 6+ in skipping and do not stop. We are very proud of the determination and dedication this group of students have shown us. This will continue in September and we look forward to continuing working with Leroy.



Miss Hancock & Mr Bandy

Spare Uniform

Over the summer holidays lots of you will be replacing uniform that has been outgrown. If you have uniform that is in good condition, but is surplus to requirements, we would be very pleased to receive it to use as spares at school. **Please hand any clean unwanted uniform to reception.**





MindEd is a free educational, safe and reliable advice service about children's and young people's mental health, created by experts and parents together.

It covers common problems; easy read documents; advice & information on issues like bullying; refusal to go to school; talking to my child; building confidence and resilience, to mention a few.

It is easy to navigate. Give it a try!
Follow the link below:

<https://mindedforfamilies.org.uk/young-people>

From your Trust School Counsellor

Thorpe Park Trip

Yr 9 & Yr 10 Asdan students went to Thorpe Park for the day as a reward for all their hard work. The weather was lovely and not too many queues. A fantastic time was had by all.

Mrs Batts



What is this image?



Members of the Liverpool Port Sanitary Authority dipping rats into buckets of petrol to kill the fleas that spread the plague in the years 1900-20. The plague was a frequent visitor to Britain throughout history. Although there was no wide spread outbreak in Britain at the turn of the twentieth century, deaths were recorded in Cardiff, Glasgow, Suffolk and Liverpool.



This photograph represents the progress made by government in combating the spread of the plague compared to medieval beliefs that saw the plague as being a punishment sent by God for human sin.



Reading Youth Cabinet

Reading Youth Cabinet are a group of elected representatives for the young people of Reading, who campaign on issues that have been highlighted both locally and nationally. We also make a difference by voicing the opinions of young people to the decision makers.

Some of the things we do, include:

- Taking part in planning, delivering and evaluating services for young people
- Consulting, meeting and influencing decision makers
- Consulting with young people
- Promoting positive images of young people
- Campaigning for the important issues for young people in Reading

The Youth Cabinet also works with the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), the UK Youth Parliament (UKYP), the Young Inspectors and Children-in-Care Council, senior managers and Councillors and voluntary groups and the community.

The Reading Youth Cabinet meets up every other Tuesday at the Civic Offices, starting at 4.30pm and finishing at 6.30pm. This is the group that develops and works on local campaigns and also supports the work of the UK Youth Parliament's national campaigns.

The meetings are run by the young people on the Youth Cabinet. We decide what we are going to talk about; this could be about our campaign work or issues affecting young people. The cabinet decide who to invite to our meetings and who we would like to meet. This could be people like Councillors and MPs, and people who work with young people.

Currently, we are working on three campaigns which have

been voted as the most important problems within our community. The campaigns are: knife crime, homelessness and mental health. We will be working on these campaigns until march of 2020, where we will deliver our campaigns to schools, MPs, social workers, and many more. The Reading Youth Cabinet maintain

an important role within our community, as it provides the youth of Reading a say on important issues. Within our youth council, I represent both Maiden Erlegh School in Reading, and represent the youth of Reading.

Sanatheny Kajamuhan 10G1.

The best thing you'll do this week (and that's a promise.)

Want to try something new, learn new skills and meet a whole new group of friends? Explore and achieve with the Scouts and the Duke of Edinburgh award.

Each week we help young people enjoy fun and adventure while developing skills for life.

Explorer Scouts welcome, boys and girls, age 14-18.

Why not come along to find out more...
Join us on the Wednesday 11th September, 7pm - 9pm at Aldrynton School, Silverdale Road, Earley, RG6 7HR. Any questions please contact Kim Williams - kim.williams@berkshirescouts.org.uk
Register: <http://bit.ly/Explorersevent>

scouts.org.uk/join
#SkillsForLife

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Scouts
Berkshire

DigiGirlz conference at Microsoft Offices



On 11 June 2019, eight of our year eight girls were given the exciting opportunity to attend the DigiGirlz event at Microsoft headquarters in Reading. Students interested in attending had to write a letter explaining why they wanted to attend and then, as it was quite popular, names were drawn from a hat for a space.

The girls were able to listen to several Microsoft employees discuss how technology has helped to make the world more accessible to everyone and then broke into small groups for a group challenge. Our two teams represented us very well. One of our groups came up with and programmed a MicroBit mini computer to remind people to take their medicine at a certain time. They presented this very well to Microsoft employees and had very positive feedback. Our other group was so creative they even got an honorable mention for the best overall presentation. Their idea was a braille timetable accompanied by a voice which would announce upcoming buses to aid the visually impaired.

Overall the girls and myself learned lots and came out with a really great experience.

Miss Langille





health apps library

Did you know that the NHS has a directory of approved apps on their website covering all aspects of health?

There are apps to support people which relate to all manner of conditions from cancer, diabetes and dental care to healthy eating, mental health and mindfulness. Each app is assessed against strict criteria and those published have been approved as safe and secure by the NHS.

These apps might be useful to you, someone you know or in support of your child if they are struggling to manage feelings of anxiety or low mood.

<https://www.nhs.uk/apps-library/>

Welcome to Year 9!

As a year group we have started to develop with great enthusiasm, spirit and positivity. I am bursting with pride because of how far we have come this year.

The next 3 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 1 priority.

Year 10 brings us new challenges and new aspirations. I am excited to continue to work with you next year.

Enjoy your Summer! Relax, chill out, enjoy the sunshine and spend time with those you love! STAY SAFE! I would like you all back in one piece in September.

I am looking forward to what Year 10 brings us.

Miss Hancock

Maiden Erlegh School in Reading wins award for Young Carer support

Maiden Erlegh School in Reading has been given an award for their work to make sure students don't miss out on an education because they are young carers.

The Young Carers in Schools programme helps primary and secondary schools improve outcomes for young carers and celebrates good practice through the Young Carers in Schools Award. They commented:



"To achieve their Bronze Award Maiden Erlegh School in Reading has demonstrated that it supports young carers in many ways, including homework clubs and drop-in sessions with a member of staff who is responsible for this vulnerable group of pupils. Vital information about how to identify young carers is made available to all school staff, and noticeboards and the school webpage let students and their families know where to go for help".

Mr Johnson, Headteacher, said in response to receiving the award,

"As an inclusive school we strive to know and support all our students and understanding the lives they live in and outside of school. Young carers in our school face particular challenges and I am very proud of the way that our school acknowledges and supports them. This award is well deserved and is an acknowledgement of the tireless work of many of our staff in ensuring our school is a positive and supportive environment".

Young carers are responsible for emotional, practical or physical care for a

parent, sibling or other family member who has a physical disability, mental health issue or substance misuse issue.

The 2011 Census statistics revealed that there are just over 166,000 young carers in England, but research reveals that this is just the tip of the iceberg. The true figure could be closer to 700,000 young carers in England, equivalent to one in 12 school children many of whom are unrecognised and unsupported.

Research carried out by Carers Trust and The Children's Society shows that, on average, young carers miss or cut short 48 school days a year and often have lower levels of self-confidence, mental wellbeing and significantly lower educational attainment at GCSE level, because of their caring role. Ofsted's Common Inspection Framework states that inspectors will look at how well schools support young carers. While some schools are doing this really well, others struggle and this causes real problems for young carers.

To help schools support young carers, the www.youngcarersinschools.com programme offers a step-by-step guide for leaders, teachers and non-teaching staff, with practical tools designed to make it as easy as possible for schools. Staff can also receive training through webinars and events and the programme also features a newsletter each term highlighting relevant policy developments, spotlighting good practice and giving updates on the programme's successes.

Keeping our children safe from drowning

Each year children in the UK die or sustain life changing injuries in and around water that could have been prevented. Every year a teenager in Berkshire dies from drowning.

If you are aware that children are

accessing a piece of water that is not safe please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact school and we will pass submit an intelligence report to the police on your behalf.



Courses available to families who live within Reading Local Authority.

Group Triple P

Brighter Futures for Children

Group Triple P Positive Parenting Programme is for parents with Preschool and Primary school aged children. The group is suitable for parents with children displaying potentially challenging behaviour.

Next programme: 18th September 2019 - 20th November 2019 from 9:30am - 11:30am at Southcote Children's Centre, Coronation Square, Southcote, Reading. RG30 3QP

This group aims to strengthen parent - child relationships, help parents to promote their child's development and develop strategies that encourage appropriate behaviour.

The programme is delivered in 7 x 2 hour weekly group sessions.

Topics include:

- What is Positive Parenting?
- Causes of Child Behaviour Problems
- Promoting Children's Development
- Managing Misbehaviour

To enquire, please contact:

Children's Single Point of Access
Call: 0118 937 3641

Email: ChildrensSinglePointofAccess@reading.gcsx.gov.uk

"Thank you so much for giving me such a positive experience."
Reading parent

www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org



Teen Triple P

Brighter Futures for Children

Teen Triple P Positive Parenting Programme is for parents with Secondary school aged children. The group is suitable for parents with teenagers displaying, or at risk of developing behaviour problems.

Next programme: Thursday 19th September 2019 - Thursday 21st November 2019 from 7pm - 9pm at the YOS Building, 16 North Street, Reading RG1 7DA

This group aims to strengthen parent - teen relationships, help parents to promote their teenager's development and develop strategies that encourage appropriate behaviour.

Topics include:

- What is Positive Parenting?
- Encouraging Appropriate Behaviour
- Managing Problem Behaviour
- Dealing with Risky Behaviour

To enquire or book your place, please contact:
Children's Single Point of Access

Call: 0118 937 3641

Email: ChildrensSinglePointofAccess@reading.gcsx.gov.uk



www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org

The Incredible Years

Parents, teachers, and children training series

Brighter Futures for Children

Incredible Years Parenting Programme

Next course: 10th September 2019 - 17th December from 9:30am until 11:30am at Whitley Health Building, 268 Northumberland Avenue, Reading. RG2 7PJ

This 14 week programme supports parents with children aged 4 to 11 years.

Course content:

- Promoting positive behaviours in children aged 4 to 11 years
- Reducing inappropriate behaviours in children aged 4 to 11 years
- Supporting your child's education

For further information, please contact:
Children's Single Point of Access

Email: ChildrensSinglePointofAccess@reading.gcsx.gov.uk
Call: 0118 937 3641



www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org

Brighter Futures for Children

Courses available to families who live within Reading Local Authority (continued)

Living with Autism

A 5 week programme for parents and carers whose children have received a diagnosis of Autism. The course helps improve understanding of Autism and offers effective strategies for you to try out at home.

Next Course: Starting Wednesday 18th September 2019 from 9.30am -12:30pm The Weller Centre, 110 Amersham Road, Caversham, Reading. Berks. RG4 5NA.

Topics Covered

- What is Autism?
- Social Interaction
- Communication
- Behaviour
- Sensory Needs



For further information, please contact:

Children's Single Point of Access
Email:

ChildrensSinglePointofAccess@reading.gcsx.gov.uk

Call:

0118 937 3641

Brighter
Futures for
Children

www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org



Parenting Programme "Who's in Charge?"

Brighter
Futures for
Children

This group aims to support parents by giving positive strategies to reduce stress. As a result parents should see a reduction in their children's difficult and challenging behaviour, and lead to an improvement in relationships between parents and family.

Next programme: 11th September - 6th November 2019 plus a follow up session on 11th December 2019 from 9:30am -11.30am at YOS Building, 16 North Street, Reading. Berks. RG1 7DA.

The programme is delivered in 9 x 2 hour weekly group sessions and supports parents with children aged 8-16.

Aim of the course:

- Reduce parents' feelings of isolation
- Create a belief in the possibility of change
- Clarify boundaries of what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour
- Explore anger, both children's and parents'
- Encourage assertiveness
- Reduce the amount of challenging behaviour



To enquire, please contact:
Children's Single Point of Access

Call: 0118 937 3641

Email: ChildrensSinglePointofAccess@reading.gcsx.gov.uk

www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org



Starpack Schools Awards 2019

The Starpack Packaging Design Competition is a national competition for schools and colleges from all over the country to work to a design brief set by industry professionals. The Schools Starpack Packaging Awards are designed to encourage students to take up a career in the exciting world of consumer packaging design. The competition fits well into our KS4 curriculum and gives students a chance to use the iterative design process and work to real deadlines.

All of my Year 9 Technology students took part in the competition and had to research, design, develop and make a product from a set brief set by industry. The project was run as a mini GCSE and the best submissions were entered for the competition. The range and quality of the projects was very high and I entered thirteen students for their work to be judged.

After a nervous wait, we were delighted to hear the news that we had been successful. All thirteen students received a certificate of entry. However, some students won additional awards.

The overall theme was about sustainability and responsible packaging, which is a very topical subject. Christina and Nouman won Silver for their re-usable water bottle. Helene won a 'Highly Commended Award and best portfolio also in this category. Eliza won a Silver and 'Best Portfolio' in the 'Save the ocean' category. Pallavi won a Bronze award in the same category. The awards winners all received a tasteful Starpack award.

I was especially pleased with the best portfolio awards as this is so important to explain how the product was planned, designed, and developed. It also

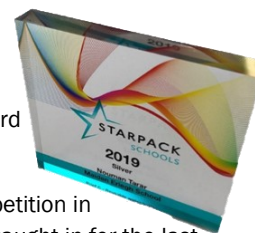
has a financial reward attached to it!

I have run this competition in schools that I have taught in for the last 8 years and this is the best set of outcomes so far. Organisers said there were nearly 200 entries this year and the standard was very high. Our students were up against GCSE and A Level students from all over the country, so this is a great achievement.

If you want to look at the winner's brochure, go to the Starpack 2019 website and if you want to see any of the student projects, they will be on display in Technology.

Well done to all of the students this year. Hopefully we can build on our success this year and go for Gold.

Mr Bradley



Year 6 Transition Day

On Thursday 27th June, we welcomed 180 Year 6 students who will be joining us next year. They spent the whole day with us and were able to meet the other students in their tutor groups and complete various taster lessons. The whole day ran very smoothly and I am particularly grateful to the Year 7 ambassadors, Year 9 peer mediators, as well as all the staff involved in the day for their help and support. Year 6 were even treated to a performance of Bastille's "Pompeii" from one of the Year 7 bands in the final assembly, which was a lovely way to end a fantastic day. Special thanks to Mr Butchers for organising this.

It was lovely to see Year 6 enjoying their time here and I am sure they will make a positive start in September.

Mrs N Benham
Head of Year 7 (September 2019)

LaserQuest Trip!

Forty-nine students from across Year 7 and Year 8 were invited on a reward trip to LaserQuest and Bowling in Wokingham on Thursday 11th July. The students invited had worked incredibly hard over the year to meet the criteria for the trip – they had to have more than 275 conduct points and fewer than 5 detentions up to May half term. These were the students that had really shown they were willing to put in the effort and they also represented the school brilliantly on the day too! The students got to play two games of LaserQuest and one of bowling during the afternoon trip. It was great to see the students enjoying themselves, and showcasing a bit of healthy competition during the games, particularly during LaserQuest! It was an excellent trip for the teachers to accompany as well. Miss Wildman, Mrs Langille, Mr Baylis and myself (Miss Davies) had a great time and even got to take part in the activities as well. We are hoping to run further reward trips next year and would love to see even more students involved!

Miss Davies



Mental Health

We are all aware that the numbers of children presenting with mental health issues has increased enormously in recent years. The reasons for this are complex and varied and there is no simple explanation or fix. In response to this we are in the process of rolling out [MHFA](#) (Mental Health First Aid) training to staff in all Maiden Erlegh Schools. We hope that this will empower staff and provide them with some basic skills by providing them with a framework within which to listen, support, provide information and encourage children and young people.

If you are concerned about your own child [Young Minds](#) is a very useful resource for children, parents and carers.

Here are some sensible basic parenting principles, taken from the website:

- Make sure they know you love them

and are proud of them. Even when things are busy or stressful, and it feels like you are in survival mode, a word or a hug can reassure them a huge amount. Praise them for what they do well, and encourage them to try new things.

- Be honest about your feelings - you don't have to be perfect. We all get things wrong and shout or say unkind things from time to time. If this happens, say sorry to your child afterwards and explain why it happened, they will learn from you that it's OK to make mistakes and that it doesn't make you a bad person.
- Be clear about what is and isn't acceptable - and tell them why. Children need to know what is OK and what isn't, and what will happen if they cross the line. Follow through on what you say as otherwise they may get confused or stop respecting the boundaries.
- Own your own role - you are the parent, so don't be afraid to take tough decisions. If your child sees you are scared of their reaction and always give in to them, it can make them feel very powerful, which can be frightening. Children need to know that you are there to keep them safe.

Stop the drop shun the gum

We have a great modern building in which to learn and grow. But we know we have to look after it! As a result we have launched a new campaign to eradicate litter and chewing gum from the school and this is something we are looking for all students to support as we go into another school year.





Igniting Writing Summer Teen Writing Workshops Wokingham Library

Ever wanted to try writing and coming up with your own stories?

Or share your ideas with other aspiring writers? If so, you're in luck - Igniting Writing, Wokingham Library's creative writing club, are running a series of action-packed writing workshops for anyone between 11-18 years old to take part in!

Fanfiction Addiction

Everyone has a series they love getting sucked into, whether it's a book, a TV show, a movie, or something else entirely. If you've ever wanted to explore Hogwarts, or write about Sherlock Holmes in a whole new series of adventures, this workshop is your chance to give it a go and discover an amazing range of stories you can tell with characters and settings you know and love.

Saturday July 27, 10.30am to 3pm

Once Upon a Fairy Tale

Classic fairy tales, like Jack and the Beanstalk and Cinderella, have been retold countless times. But what is it about those stories that make fairy tales so timeless? And how can they be reimagined and written in the modern day? This workshop will focus on the core elements of fairy tale stories, from characters to settings, and give you the chance to create your own fictional fables.

Saturday August 3, 10.30am to 3pm

Both of the workshop sessions will include fun writing exercises, group discussions and some useful tips and tricks to sharpen your writing skills.

There will be a lunch break, so make sure you bring something with you.

£5 charge, per session.

Places must be booked by calling Wokingham Library on 0118 978 1368.

What's on:

More than
just books



Teen Sci-Fi Creative Writing Month



Saturday 10th August - Building Sci-Fi Settings

Saturday 17th August - Exploring Sci-Fi Worlds

Saturday 24th August - Creating Sci-Fi Protagonists

Saturday 31st August - Plotting Sci-Fi Stories



Bracknell Library 11am-12pm

Bring sci-fi to life with fun writing activities, group discussions and useful tips to sharpen your writing skills. Anyone 11-18 years old is welcome.

Attendance is completely free. Book via Bracknell Library on 01344 423149.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/IgnitingWriting>

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



bracknell-forest.gov.uk/
libraries

We've come a long way since Shhhhh!



Summer Music Celebration



On 10th July, the Music department held their Summer Music Celebration. The event saw students from each year group performing on ukulele, piano, guitar, drum kit and voice, and demonstrated music that has occurred both in lessons and outside lessons.

Music that was performed ranged in style from modern pop to classic musicals to students' own compositions.

The standard of the entire event was extremely high and demonstrated the



dedication of many students, who often rehearse or have lessons after school in the music department.

This was an exceptional event; thanks go to the dedicated staff and students who have prepared performances for this event.



Students who wish to learn an instrument should apply on Berkshire Maestro's Website,

www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk.

Instruments that are currently offered include:

Piano	Trumpet
Keyboard	Trombone
Guitar (both classical and electric)	Flute
Voice	Saxophone
Violin	Drum kit

Students who receive the Pupil Premium Grant may apply for "paid for" 20 minute group lessons.



Careers, Work Experience, Work Related Learning and STEAM:

As we approach the end of another very busy term, we want to share with you the wide variety of opportunities students have had available to them as part of our careers, work experience, work-related and STEAM learning programme at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading:

Year 8 DigiGirlz Trip to Microsoft

On Tuesday 11 June 8 girls from Year 8 were fortunate to attend the DigiGirlz event at the Microsoft Campus in Thames Valley Business Park.

The girls learnt about technology, heard presentations from inspirational female speakers, connected with Microsoft employees, and participated in hands-on computer and technology workshops. The aim of the event was to empower young girls to consider STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Design and Mathematics) careers and to inspire them. Our girls had an excellent time and created some very impressive designs using technology.



subjects and potential career pathways. Kier offered students the opportunity to take part in a spaghetti bridges challenge. Thames Water delivered a session called 'bin it don't block it' and RSSL delivered a session entitled 'rubbish science'. Students were also encouraged to discover the diverse career possibilities in these fields by speaking directly with the representatives from these organisations.

Year 9 People Like Me (boys)

On Thursday 11 July boys from Year 9 participated in the People Like Me event, delivered by Thales (one of our STEAM partners). This session uses boys' natural tendency to create and articulate their self-identity with adjectives to help them see themselves working happily and successfully in Science, Technology, Art and Design, Engineering or Mathematics (STEAM) and forms part of the Maiden Erlegh Trust STEAM enrichment programme. Boys were able to engage with male engineers from a variety of different backgrounds and ask careers-related questions so they feel empowered to make decisions about their future destinations.



Year 7 STEAM Day

On Friday 12 July, students in Year 7 were given an insight into the world of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Design and Mathematics (STEAM). Kier, Thames Water and Reading Scientific Services Limited (RSSL) kindly agreed to host the day collaboratively where students participated in a number of different STEAM-related activities. A range of innovative and interactive activities allowed students to learn about STEAM

TEENTECH®

TeenTech 2019 Finals – IET, London

For the second year running Maiden Erlegh School in Reading had a team in the finals of the TeenTech Awards 2019.

TeenTech runs lively initiatives with a supporting award scheme to help young teenagers see the wide range of career possibilities in Science, Engineering and Technology. They work collaboratively with companies, universities, business organisations and education business partnerships to build sustainable and imaginative programmes focussing on regions of greater social need in the UK and Europe.

This prestigious event features strongly in our STEAM provision and we had three teams of students who started on their projects in September, often working after school every week to develop their projects. The teams went to great lengths to prepare their presentation and prototypes. All of the projects were submitted and one team was selected for the finals, V.I.E.W.S.

The V.I.E.W.S. team comprised three year 9 students, Samuel, Jasmina and Jubair and they won a Gold TeenTech Certificate. Their project was centred around the identification of unwanted drone activity around airfields which caused so much disruption recently. They carefully researched, planned and developed a series of prototypes to solve this topical issue. Originally their drone detection device was entered for the safety and security category but the organisers felt



that their project was of a high enough standard that it was judged in the 16-19 age group, Data Science category.

On the day, the students had the daunting task of presenting to the judges in a lecture theatre at the IET and respond to some tough questions from experts in the field.

The feedback from the judges was very positive ahead of the event where Accenture showed an interest.

Judge's comments: 'Overall, this is a clearly thought out and well executed project. The team clearly have a passion for technology and have chosen a topic that is both relevant and interesting to them. They articulated their problem statement well, and throughout the presentation clearly described each step in the process including detailed descriptions and diagrams on how the solution would be implemented'.

At the awards ceremony itself there was a chance to see a vast range of projects from schools all over the country and as far away as Hungary. The V.I.E.W.S. team was well received on the day by the many visitors to their stand as well as follow up enquiries from Cranfield University and Blue Bear Systems Research Limited.

The TeenTech event brings together the top STEAM projects in the country and is hosted by Maggie Philbin OBE. To reach the finals is a tremendous achievement and the students did themselves and the school proud.

We look forward to running the programme again next year and hopefully get more students involved in this event.

On behalf of all the students and myself, I would like to thank Mr Tsoumparis for his contribution to the projects and supporting all of the students.

Mr Bradley



Lexia Success

We are delighted that Oscar 7P1 and Ruwayda 7T1 have completed all five levels of Lexia, a literacy intervention programme. This is impressive progress, and shows dedication both at home and in lessons. Thank you to Mrs Hameed for being a driving force behind Lexia again this year, and to Mrs Matheson and Mrs Riaz for their tireless effort in lessons supporting this invaluable intervention.

Mrs Clarke



Year 7 and 8 science reward trip

In June, Science teachers were asked to nominate the 4 students in each of their year 7 and 8 classes that had put in the most effort, and always showed excellent behaviour for learning. These students were invited on a reward trip to Winchester Science Centre. The day included a planetarium show about our solar system, time to explore the exhibits in the centre, and a

workshop on the Matter Topic where the students made different types of slime to investigate solids, liquids and gases. It was a great day out and the students behaviour was exemplary. Miss Gogate particularly enjoyed the pulleys (see photo).

Dr E Davies



A huge THANK YOU to the Inclusion Mentors, the Teaching Assistants and all the other support staff who have worked tirelessly this year to support our pupils. Your contribution has been invaluable. Thank you.

Becky Clarke
SENCO and Inclusion Manager

Sports Day

Put your books down, get your sports kit on, it's SPORTS DAY! With a sea of blue, yellow and green radiating out from the stands on a glorious summers' morning, all students were set ready to do their house proud. From the off, javelins were soaring high, shot putts hurtling far, legs being sprung into action on the high jump and long jump. Not to mention continuous laps of the track with tired legs trying to cross the finishing line first to get maximum points for their house.

This was the final year for the current year 10's to become sports day record holders an exciting time for them, but keeping their record is another thing. Many talented Year 7, 8's and 9's competed to take the records with some achieving just that.



Here are those that made sports day history this year by smashing previous sports day records.

Year 8 Girls

75 METRES	2019	Biola	10.69s
LONG JUMP	2019	Alexis	3.91m
HIGH JUMP	2019	Biola	1.29m

Year 8 Boys

LONG JUMP	2019	Joshua	4.65m
HIGH JUMP	2019	Victor	1.43m
JAVELIN	2019	James	28.78m

Year 9 Girls

JAVELIN	2019	Anne-Marie	20.89m
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Year 9 Boys

100 METRES	2019	Tyron	12.27s
200 METRES	2019	Tyron	25.55s
4 X 100 METRES RELAY	2019	TRITON	53.93s
LONG JUMP	2019	Tyron	4.90m
HIGH JUMP	2019	Daniel	1.53m
SHOT	2019	Siyar	10.35m



1367



1323



1155

Work Experience


Our Year 10s had their first outing into the working world in June, when they all went on a week's work experience at various companies. The students had a wonderful week finding out the tiring nature of a full time job, whilst learning loads of new skills along the way. Mr Bandy and Mrs James had the pleasure of visiting some of the

students at their placements where all the students were doing a fantastic job and even being asked back in the future! The feedback from all the companies was very positive. All in all a very useful and positive week for the students to get a taste of the working world.

Mr Bandy

SIMS Parent App

Easy access to important school information




SIMS Parent app replaces Learning Gateway as the means by which we deliver key information to you.

Access via
SMARTPHONE,
TABLET
or PC


What you will find in the SIMS Parent app:

- Important information such as attendance, behaviour and achievements
- School term, inset dates and contact details available at the click of a button
- Access your child's school report
- Receive notifications to remind you about important information such as key dates for your diary
- Access to update your contact details, so we always have the most up-to-date information in case of emergency
- If you have more than one child at school, you'll have access to information for all your children, from the same app.



The information that you receive through the app will help you to stay up-to-date with your child's school life as well as support your child's development and progress.

To access the SIMS Parent App [please click](#)



The Big Read - The Big Read - The Big Read

Announcing an exciting new competition.

Take a photograph of yourself reading in the most unusual place possible over the holidays. Save the photo until September – or e –mail it to yourself at school if you don't want to clog up your phone's memory. There will be a prize – and house points – for the student and the member of staff who enter the best photograph. The cover of the book needs to be clearly visible.

Please ensure you do not put yourself into a dangerous situation to take your photograph – ask for your parents' permission and tell them what you are doing.

In September we will tell you the folder where you can save your pics and the winner will be announced before the end of September. You can enter more than one picture if you wish.

Mrs Escott-New
English Department



Extra-curricular Activities

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



TERM DATES

Autumn

5 September -
25 October 2019

4 November -
20 December 2019

CPD Days

3 September 2019
4 September 2019
18 November 2019



Facilities Hire

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

Click on envelope
to view recent
communications



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



Parent App -
Please contact us at
parentapp@maidenerleghschool.co.uk
for support.