



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



This last term has once again seen a number of "firsts" for our school.

We were absolutely delighted to achieve our first national benchmark award - The EQualities award. This is given to schools who show support for promoting equality in all areas of school life. In a culture and world which demonstrates so many inequalities and so much unfairness it is vital that schools can help students to understand the importance of equal opportunity and treatment for all. The award, which examined over 50 areas of school life, commends not just what we do but the community that we are and, while we expect to attract many other awards in the months and years to come, is a tremendous first award as it so reflective of our core values.

We took the opportunity in the recent Year 9 assessment week to use the sports hall for the first time as an examinations venue. Year 9 students sat most of their assessment week papers in the sports hall as they will have to do when they start to sit GCSE examinations over the next two years. We chose to run the assessment week in this way so that our students get used to the process of sitting exams, the important rules to follow and the seriousness of attitude that is required. Whilst an intense period for the students, the week has helped many students recognise the importance of revision, the need to devote the time to this and the different ways revision can be done. Unsurprisingly, many rose to the challenge and their hard work has been rewarded with an excellent set of results.

Following these in-house assessments, another "first" for us was that the school arranged its first public examination. Over 60 Year 9 business students sat an examination for the Certificate in

Preparation for working life. In order for this to happen we had to prepare. We had to ensure that the school was formally accredited as an examination centre, as part of this process we were inspected by the QCA (Qualification and Curriculum Authority) to ensure that we met their very exacting standards. I am delighted that they gave us a good report and we are ready for the future when our students sit their GCSEs - and these will start to come thick and fast!

Following the assessment theme, Year 7 are completing their very first assessment week and I have been extremely impressed by hard working students determined to show their very best and demonstrate the significant progress that they have made this year. We were able to meet many parents of year 7 students earlier this month and it proved to be a very useful opportunity to discuss how students have settled in to school, how their learning is progressing and to explore together how we can work to address any issues arising.

In year 8 we have been working very closely with students on their very important option choices and are delighted that we have been able to accommodate so many across the broad range of subjects we are offering.

As our school grows and develops, it is very encouraging to see the spirit and determination of our students translated into success on the sports field, in local STEM competitions, junior maths challenge etc. We love to encourage students to have a go...to try new things and push themselves to achieve.

I hope you all have a refreshing half term break.

CALENDAR

28 May	Half Term
05 June	Year 9 Progress Meeting
07 June	Year 9 Progress Meeting
11, 14, 18 June	Amersham Field Studies Centre
25 June	Summer Concert
28 June	Year 6 Induction Day & New Parents Evening
05 July	Inset Day
20 July	Sports Day
24 July	End of term

News from the MESiR Journalism Club

The Maiden Erleigh Marvel

Click the logo to view the news reports produced by our students



Perfect Pi Day!



Following on from the success of the mathematical starters and pie for lunch that was offered on Pi Day, a number of students entered our competition to design a poster all about Pi!

We had a number of brilliant posters to choose from and our winning posters were from Alysha Gehlot and Aysha Riaz. Both of these students created excellent posters as you can see in the picture. I would also like to give a special shout out to Ffion Tomy for her excellent poster as well; she even included some Pi themed jokes!

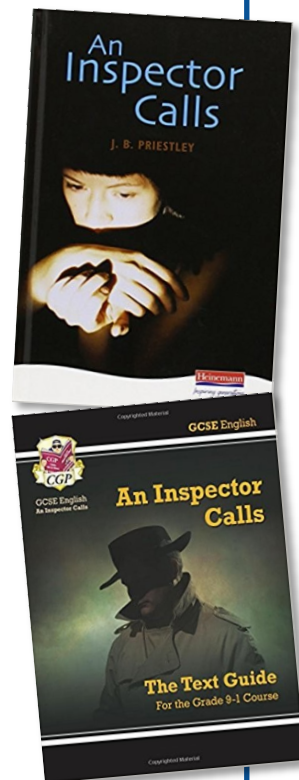
Thank you to all of the students that participated in this competition and I look forward to seeing the entries to the next one!



For all parents of year 9 students

This term we are asking you to purchase the 2nd set literature text, *An Inspector Calls*, by J B Priestley, which we will be studying after half term. The edition is a hardback one so it should last well and there are good notes and comments about the play in this edition. We can also offer students a study guide on the play as we did with *Macbeth*. Use Parent Pay to pay for these items. The texts will be distributed to those students who have bought them in the 1st week back after half term.

Mrs Escott-New
English Department



A literacy catch-up on-line intervention

LEXIA STRATEGIES™

We have recently launched Lexia, a literacy catch-up online intervention, which helps pupils with phonics, spelling and reading skills. Lexia is an innovative reading software programme which is transforming reading education. It applies carefully researched, proven techniques to enable students to learn in a way which automatically adapts to their individual needs. Students work independently as voice prompts lead them through a wide range of varied activities.

We are launching Lexia in school with one English lesson per week for each Purple Pathway English group, booked in a computer room, for pupils to access the programme at the level appropriate to them. Lexia can also be accessed at home, and the expectation is that pupils will complete 20-30 minutes per week, as homework at home or in Homework Club, in order to make the appropriate progress and to take full advantage of this important intervention. Mrs Hameed, one

of our Teaching Assistants, will monitor usage weekly and provide termly reports to parents and English teachers. She will also ensure that pupils are working at the appropriate level to maximise engagement and progress. Lexia also provides lesson plans and skills sheets to support specific grammar or literacy issues.

Mrs Clarke
SENCO

Art News

Y7 Art Project

Year 7's have been out and about in the community, researching about their local neighbourhood. They will be putting together a mural for the school that explores the local community, in and around school. Keep an eye out for the finished article in the next edition of The Pulse!

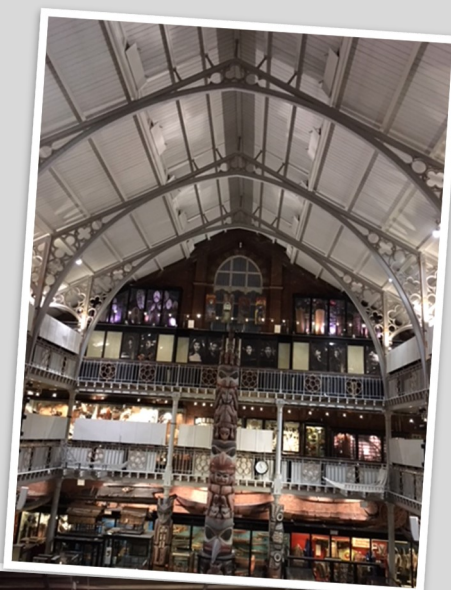
Year 9 Photography Trip

Meanwhile Year 9 Photographers visited the National Portrait Gallery in Trafalgar Square, researching Portraiture for their current project. They were able to see a range of images and photographs that could inspire and influence their current project!



Year 9 Art Trip

This term Year 9 Artists spent a lovely day exploring artefacts at the Pitt Rivers Museum Oxford. All the research for this trip will go towards their GCSE portfolios.



Coming up next term, a visit to Reading University to continue our collaboration on the Stellar Space Project!

Maiden Erlegh School in Reading receives the EQualities Award

We are delighted to announce that Maiden Erlegh School in Reading has been given the "EQualities Award".

This is the school's first big national benchmark award and we are delighted that we have achieved this as it is reflective of our core values, our inclusive ethos and our comprehensive education offer to our community.

This fantastic news follows a rigorous process of audit, developing our practice and gathering around 130 pieces of evidence against 52 standards. The award process enabled us to examine every aspect of our school life, curriculum, policies, practices and governance, showing how we support the aims and outcomes of the 2010 Equality Act, our commitment to close gaps in



attainment and progress and to make appropriate provision for all.

More information about the award can be found at www.equalitiesaward.co.uk. Being able to achieve this prestigious award in less than three years shows what a very inclusive and supportive school we are developing.

Mr A Johnson

Technology and STEM success!

3M – Young Innovators Challenge

Year 9 Technology students have been involved with a project this term following a brief set by 3M and assessed as a mini GCSE. The students were asked to design a product to improve the life of young people with visual impairment using sustainable materials. The project was open to all schools in the local area.

Students worked in groups to research, design and make a range of products to answer the design brief in conjunction with Berkshire Vision.

Three groups made it through to the finals

where they had to visit 3M in Bracknell to present their work to the Head of Berkshire Vision as well as the Senior Product Designer and Head of Communications for 3M. All three groups really impressed the judges with the quality of their work and presentations. One group made it through to the Final presentation evening at 3M on the 24th of May which is a fantastic outcome.

I would like to congratulate all of the teams for their hard work and for representing the school so well. The students involved are *Trishna, Rafiya, Zainab* for their 'Playa' 2 in



'Spin Away' – Hexagonal design.
Naeema and Devmi.



'Playa - 2 in 1' – Trishna, Rafiya and Zainab.



Abinaya (left) and Arvani, with their 'Fidget Pillow' product.

1 floatation device. Naeema and Devmi for their 'Spin away' product. Abinaya and Arvani made it through to the finals with their 'Fidget Pillow'. All students received commendations from 3M and a Crest Award.

We look forward to the finals and entering again next year. I have been really impressed with the quality of work and effort put into the project by all of our students.

Mr Bradley

BREAKING NEWS! - TeenTech Awards 2018

Green Energy Technology Club (GET)

Since November last year, Mr Tsoumparis and Mr Bradley have been running the Green Energy Technology (GET) Club. Our focus has been to invite students in Year 8 and 9, Silver and Gold programme, but also other students who were keen to get involved. The students worked individually or in groups to identify a 'real world' energy problem and find a 'greener' solution.

The students showed real dedication, attending every weekly session after school and working in their own time to find innovative outcomes. They demonstrated high levels of the application of Science, Technology and Maths to be able to present workable solutions. The projects were sent off to

TeenTech before Easter and all the teams were invited to present their projects to external visitors and to senior teachers in our school. All of the projects had great qualities, depth and originality. Students undertook experiments in the lab, used 3d printing and laser cutting to realise their proposals.

We have been informed that *Jasmina's* 'Insul8' project has been selected as a finalist in the 'Best Innovation – Concept' category. This is a great achievement as Jasmina worked independently and was determined to build on her work from last year. Her product is a panel to reduce the negative impact of WiFi, Electro Magnetic Fields (EMF's) in a domestic setting. The final is taking place in central London in June.



Jasmina's 'Insul8' product model and logo



Other members of the GET club who took part were, in Year 9, *Jakub, Anerudh, Karan* and *Surendra* for their kinetic energy device, in Year 8 *Phoebe, Yaqeen* for their solar project and *Jan, Samuel, Helene, Ryan* and *Varun*, for their iCair carbon emission reducing product.

We are really proud of all of the students and we look forward to going for Gold next year.

Mr Tsoumparis and Mr Bradley

Gold Programme University of Reading



On Thursday 10th May, Mr Harrison & Mrs Williams accompanied the 30 Gold Programme Year 9 students to the University of Reading. The aim of the day was to familiarise students with all aspects of university life from the application process to budgeting as a student. The first part of the day was spent in a large lecture room where students learned how to use university prospectuses to glean information about courses, A Level tariffs and university life. Students tackled an exercise trying to match the correct course with different students A Level results, interests and hobbies. There was then a talk on how students should budget for accommodation, food and other living expenses whilst at university.

The favourite part of the day was the tour around the campus. We were escorted by student ambassadors who

are students currently taking courses at the university. They were obviously very knowledgeable and were able to answer the probing question from our students. Our students were quite amazed by how much the campus resembled a self-sufficient town. They visited the students' union, (which houses the largest night club in Reading), as well as lecture theatres and student refectories. Lunch was taken with university students in one of the main canteens, a cavernous place!

The students said that they really enjoyed the visit and it truly opened their eyes to what university would be like. Even students familiar with the university were surprised by the 'pulse' and 'busyness' of a typical day on campus. Debbie Linton, the university liaison officer who led the day was very impressed by the enthusiasm and behaviour of our students. Well done!

National packaging competition

Year 9 Visual Communication students have also had success with four students being selected as finalists for the Starpack – National Packaging Awards.

Schools from all over the UK enter work to be judged by members of the packaging industry. The students in Year 9 undertook a packaging design and make project with design briefs set by leading players in the packaging industry. We are

currently waiting for notification as to whether we have been successful, but all of the students worked really hard to produce high quality research and design folders and make a quality practical outcome. Finalists from our school are, *Damini, Nikita, Meerab and Safia.*

Mr Bradley



Damini



Nikita

Army Air Corps

Captain Rebecca Hannah, (Helicopter Pilot), and Lance Corporal Davidson, (Ground Crew), attended the school on Friday 18



May to deliver an assembly to all students regarding The Army, with a particular focus on the Air Corps. Captain Hannah inspired and enthused students who are interested in military careers. The assembly was very informative, showing students different types of helicopter and their role in the Army Air Corps. Students then had the opportunity to stay behind for a question and answer session, which was not only interesting and allowed students to find out more about the career, but was motivating and demonstrated to students that anything is possible if they put their mind to it.

Miss Ceri Burns

Assistant Headteacher – Personal Development, Behaviour and Wellbeing

Farewell to Ian May, Founding Chair of the local governors

This week we wrote to parents to let them know that Ian May has decided to step down from his position as chair of the Local Advisory Body (the local governors) from September 2018. Ian has been a great cheerleader for this school and was involved from the initial bid to open the school, through the opening in 2015 and then establishing the school in the new building. As a local boy he understood the need for a new school for East Reading, a local school for local families and under his chairmanship has seen this school become exactly that. The school has benefitted hugely from Ian's experience as a governor, (over 16 years as a secondary governor within the Maiden Erlegh family, alongside a number of years as a primary governor), and his professional expertise as head of building maintenance at the University of

Reading. He has worked very hard to establish and grow our excellent Local Advisory Body who play such a crucial role in supporting the leadership of the school, scrutinising our plans and offering constructive comment and ideas. Fortunately, Ian won't be a stranger as he will continue to serve as vice-chair of the growing Maiden Erlegh Trust. Two years ago we basked in reflected glory as Ian was awarded the British Empire Medal for his voluntary work, and he certainly deserves a medal from us all!

Finally, we are very pleased that Mr Phil Simmons has agreed to take over as chair of the LAB. We look forward to introducing Phil to you in the next edition of The Pulse.

Mr A Johnson, Headteacher



Year 7 Tirabad Trip

On Friday 27th April, a group of 29 Year 7 students left for Tirabad accompanied by Mr Davis and Miss O'Sullivan. Everyone was relieved to see that the weather was much warmer than when the trip was originally scheduled in March. That week Tirabad was cut off by three metre snowdrifts.

Once safely at Tirabad, students spent the rest of Friday getting settled in their rooms and used to their activity groups and duty rota. All students are expected to take part in duties including washing up, serving at meal times and cleaning up litter throughout the week. This was a new experience for some of the students.

Activities throughout the week included a forest walk, where everyone got very muddy and some had to be extracted by their rucksacks. Other activities were gully scrambling, caving, canoeing, archery, problem-solving and a final day survival skills experience. This included making fire, setting clues to help other teams find their lunch in the forest, building a shelter and cooking marshmallows over the fire.


Evening activities were a lot of fun and included a talent show, team games and various forms of hide and seek.

All the students returned home very tired but grateful for the chance to test themselves in challenging situations. Many new friendships were formed during those shared experiences that should last for a long time.

Adie Davis, Mathematics
Head of KS4



School of Psychology and
Clinical Language Sciences


 University of
Reading

ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

An information evening for parents,
carers, teachers and other school staff

Monday 25 June 2018, 17:30–19:30
Palmer building, Whiteknights Campus

A free event provided by the Anxiety and
Depression in Young People (AnDY) clinical
research group and their partners from
Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
(BHFT), the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust
(CWMT) and the Centre for Autism (CfA).



**Attend the sessions that
are most relevant to you:**

For parents

Overcoming your child's fears and worries – An
introduction for parents (Brynjar Halldorsson &
Frankie Glover (AnDY))

Child anxiety when parent(s) feel anxious too (Pete
Lawrence & Helen Dodd (AnDY))

Helping your teenager manage anxiety at school
(Polly Waite & Lucinda Powell (AnDY))

Supporting children and young people with autism and
anxiety (Fiona Knott (CfA) and Kate Gordon (BHFT))

Helping young people with depression (Caroline
Howe & Amy Beesley (BHFT))

Helping children and young people with Obsessive
Compulsive Disorder (Alice Farrington & Sasha
Waters (BHFT))

For primary school staff

Supporting Children with Anxiety Problems in school
(Cathy Creswell, AnDY)

For secondary school staff

Whole School Approaches to Mental Health (Teresa
Day (CWMT) & Laura Pass (AnDY))

Book your place at
bit.ly/AnxietyandDepressionInformationEvening

andyresearchclinic.com @AnDY_Res_Clin

CLICK HERE
FOR LINK TO
WEBSITE

Spring Concert

On 22nd May, the Music and Drama Departments performed the Spring Concert, *Somewhere Over The Rainbow*. Both school bands, the choir, three drama presentations and a range of outstanding solos were very well received by the audience, with over 50 students taking part. Parents commented that this was the “best, most professional and impressive concert given by the school.

The concert was organised by a group of year 8 students who also promoted *Together for Mental Wellbeing* as their charity and were able to raise over £70 for this



Reading schools Rugby 7's Tournament Champions



The U14 Boys Rugby Team took part in the Reading schools Rugby 7's Tournament last week at Wallingford Rugby Club. The boys played numerous teams from around Reading, both state and private schools. The team blew the rest of the competition away finishing the tournament unbeaten and champions!! All done with little training and having never played this version of the game. An unbelievable achievement, well done to all the boys who took part.



The U13 Boys Football team win the Reading League Football Championships

The team won the final 2-1 against a very strong Prospect team, having been down 1-0 at half time! The boys have been fantastic all season and have been unbeaten throughout.

1 Season = Unbeaten + 2 Trophies

Athletics

Year 9 Girls Athletics Final Results

NAME	EVENT	MATCH 1	MATCH 2	FINALS	BEST PERFORMANCE
Jessica Onwuneme	100m	13.3	13.4	13.5	13.3
Miriam Boasiako	150m	21.3	20.9	20.9	20.9
Anjelina Manase	300m	46.2	47.1	46.9	46.2
Subo Rotimi	600m	2.19.3	2.19.6		2.19.3
Debbie Dawodu	600m			3.00.8	3.00.8
Esther Rukotana	1200m	6.46.0			6.46.0
Tianna Thorpe	High Jump	1.12m	1.30m	1.27m	1.30m
Rodeasda Hodge	Long Jump	4.04m	4.28m	4.19m	4.28m
Veena Vijayakumar	Javelin	14.75m	13.03m	12.69m	14.75m
Tayla Grosvenor	Shot Putt	6.62m	6.38m	6.46m	6.62m
1. Miriam 2. Rodeasda 3. Anjelina 4. Jessica	RELAY	55.0	53.9	53.7	53.7



Final Placing
8th out of 24

TERM DATES

Term 2	3 January – 9 February 2018
	19 February – 29 March 2018
Term 3	16 April - 25 May 2018 (Bank Holiday 7 May 2018)
	4 June – 24 July 2018 (Open Evening 4 July 2018)
CPD Days	5 July 2018

Facilities Hire



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

Year 9 Boys Athletics Final Results

NAME	EVENT	MATCH 1	MATCH 2	FINALS	BEST PERFORMANCE
Nat Deshong	100m	13.5	13.7	13.8	13.5
Kenaz Grant	200m	28.9			28.9
Samyak Dhital	200m		27.6	28.0	27.6
Denzel Awuku	300m	44.1	43.9	42.8	42.8
Fahouaz Kanon	800m		2.37.9		2.37.9
Aryan Bhusal	1500m	6.37.9	5.51.2	5.45.4	6.37.9
Isaac Toussaint	High Jump	1.32m	1.33m	1.36m	1.36m
Sanskar Gurung	Long Jump	4.15m	4.44m	4.43m	4.44m
Zain Shakil	Javelin	18.45m			18.45m
Aiden Cameron	Javelin		17.42m		17.42
Bilal Taraki	Shot Putt	7.70m	8.19m	7.95m	8.19m
1. 2. 3. 4.	RELAY	54.6	53.0	52.8	52.8m



Final Placing
12th out of 24

Extra-curricular Activities

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



Click on envelope to view recent communications



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

Email queries to:
parentpay@maidenrleghschool.co.uk



Click on the logo to log on to the Learning Gateway

