



MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL IN READING

Headteacher: Mr A. Johnson
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Dear Parent/Guardian

New School Year - September 2018

Welcome to the start of a new school year. Our school continues to grow and our student numbers have increased to 720 with over 100 full and part time members of staff serving the school community. It is always a special moment to see the new Year 7 students arrive at school for the first time looking so smart and enthusiastic. We are confident that they will soon settle into school life under the care of their Head of Year, Miss Wildman and her team of expert tutors

New Lockers

We have been delighted with the early success of our new locker/bags programme. The vast majority of students have embraced the scheme and are very happy with their locker and day-bags. This is already having a very positive impact in the corridors and in classrooms and the scheme, in addition to the introduction of our new one way system, has meant that the addition of a new year group has been smooth and movement in the corridors has been less congested. We would encourage any remaining parents and carers who have not yet paid for the locker package, to do so as soon as possible and certainly before Friday 14 September. If required, replacement bags and padlocks will be available to purchase through Parent Pay.

Travel and Access to School

Crescent Road continues to be an extremely busy road which gets very congested in the morning as students arrive and in the afternoon when they leave. We therefore encourage students to either walk, ride their bike or use the regular bus services to travel to school. If, however, you feel that you do need to bring your child to school by car, we would ask you to drop your child a little way from school so that they can walk for the final five minutes of their journey.

If cycling to school, students are strongly advised to wear a cycle helmet – doing so has proven to reduce the risk of fatal head injury by 88% in the event of a serious accident. We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child's bike is in a roadworthy condition and that they are aware of basic road safety as the roads around the school can be very busy. Students riding a bike should park their bikes in the designated bike racks (including one at the back of the school building). Bikes should be locked with a sturdy padlock (we recommend the "D" type locks) and students should dismount when they are on the school site.

In order to maintain the safety of the many students moving in and out of school at key times, cars will not be permitted to drive into the area at the front of the school building (unless the driver has a valid "blue badge" parking permit or parking has been arranged by prior agreement with the school).

Timekeeping and Attendance

Punctuality is very important and students need to be in school and in their lessons on time every day. Students have access to the building from 8.30am and students should ensure that they arrive in plenty of time to use their locker and then get to their tutor room for 8.40am.

We expect all students to be in school everyday, unless they are poorly. All absences must be supported by contact with the school to explain the absence. Unexplained absences are taken very seriously by the school as a safeguarding matter.

Homework

Your child will be meeting their new teachers and commencing their programmes of study. We are a school that values the importance of homework and homework will be set in every subject every week. Please could you consider how you might support your child in completing their homework and providing a suitable place for them to do this. We will shortly be publishing a homework timetable to assist you in supporting your child.

Contacting Staff

Staff in the school are keen to make themselves available to you to answer questions or address any concerns that you may have. If you wish to speak to a member of staff, please phone or email reception and they will forward any message. Please note that it is very unlikely that a member of staff will be immediately available as they may be teaching or otherwise occupied. Similarly, please do not arrive at reception expecting to be able to see a teacher without a prior appointment.

Breakfast Club

Our highly successful Breakfast Club operates every day from 8.00-8.30am where our cheerful Breakfast Club Team are keen to make you welcome. A selection of tasty food and drink is on offer, along with activities to start the day well. The cost of Breakfast Club is a bargain £30 for the term. Payment can be made for through Parent Pay. Breakfast Club starts on Monday 10 September.

Open Evening – Wednesday 26 September

Finally, please could I ask you to spread the word about our Open Evening which is coming up very soon on Wednesday 26 September from 6.00pm-8.00pm. The evening is primarily aimed at parents and children considering their secondary school options for 2019 but is open to all. It promises to be an exciting evening where the school shows itself at its best with activities and demonstrations from subject teams alongside further information about studying at the school for prospective parents and students. More details about the evening can be found here.

[Maiden Erlegh School in Reading Open Evening/Open Mornings](#)

I look forward to sharing with you further information and good news as the school year progresses. You can follow news about school life on our website (<http://www.maidenerleghschoolreading.co.uk>), via our half termly newsletter "The Pulse" or on our twitter feed. For your information I have listed the key dates for the year – but please do check the school website for up to date information as dates do sometimes change.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Johnson
Headteacher

MESiR CALENDAR 2018/19

Key Dates

Autumn Term

11 Sept	School Photos	
13 Sept	Year 6 Open Morning	9.30am & 10.00am
19 Sept	Year 7 Parents' Information & Tirabad Presentation Evening	6.00pm – 7.00pm
20 Sept	Year 6 Open Morning	9.30am & 10.00am
26 Sept	Open Evening	5.30pm – 7.30pm
27 Sept	10.00 am late start for all students	
1 Oct	Launch of Silver & Gold Programmes	
3 Oct	E-Safety Day	
4 Oct	Year 6 Open Morning	9.30am & 10.00am
4 Oct	Year 9 Information Evening	
17 Oct	Wellbeing Day	

22 – 26 Oct

HALF TERM

31 Oct	Year 8 Road Ahead Meeting for Parents	
8 Nov	Year 7 Ozobots Challenge	
15 Nov	Staff Professional Development Day (school closed for students)	
6 Dec	Year 7 Progress Meeting	3.30pm- 8.00pm
10 - 14 Dec	Year 7 Tirabad	
12 Dec	Performing Arts Festival	
20 Dec	Last day of term	

21 Dec – 4 Jan

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Spring Term

7 Jan	Start of Term	8.30am
16 Jan	Year 8 Options Evening	6.30pm
16 Jan	Think Ahead Day	
21 Jan	Year 8 Assessment Week	
23 Jan	Staff Professional Development Day (school closed for students)	
25 Jan	Year 8 Build My Future	
4 Feb	Careers Fair with MES	
4 Feb – 15 Feb	KS4 Options Surgery	
7 Feb	UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge	
13 Feb	Apprenticeship Information Evening	
15 Feb	Ski Trip	

18 Feb – 22 Feb

HALF TERM

28 Feb	Year 8 Progress Meeting	3.30pm – 8.00pm
28 Feb	World Book Day	
4 - 8 Mar	Year 7 Tirabad	
6 Mar	World Maths Day	
15 Mar	British Science Week – Science Fair	
19 -26 Mar	Scholastic Book Fair	
21 Mar	Year 10 Progress Meeting	3.30pm – 8.00pm
3 Apr	Music Concert	
5 Apr	Last day of term	

8 Apr – 22 Apr

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Summer Term

23 Apr	Start of term	
26 Apr	Year 8 Lego Challenge	
30 Apr	UKMT Junior Maths Challenge	
6 May	BANK HOLIDAY	
7 May	Year 9 Assessment Week	
13 May	Public Exams Start	
20 May	Year 7 Assessment Week	
24 May	Year 9 Assessment Week Results	

27 May – 31 May

HALF TERM

3 June	Start of term	
6 Jun	Year 9 Progress Meeting	3.30pm – 8.00pm
7 Jun	Year 9 HPV Vaccinations – Female Students	
14 Jun	Year 7 Assessment Week Results	
27 Jun	Year 10 Future Pathways	
27 Jun	Year 6 Induction Day & New Parents' Evening	
28 Jun	Reading Town Athletics Championships	
4 Jul	Staff Professional Development Day (school closed for students)	
9 Jul	Culture Day	
10 Jul	Music Concert	
15 Jul	Year 7 STEAM Day (provisional)	
22 Jul	Sports Day	

24 Jul

LAST DAY OF TERM