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

#### FROM THE HEADTEACHER

As the summer weather heats up, we finally reach the end of another school year; what a year it has been! In this (bumper) edition of The Pulse, you will read about our inspired and inspiring school community and find out about some of the wonderful learning opportunities and other experiences that make life at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading such a rich experience for students and staff alike.

One of the words that visitors to the school use about our community is that it is vibrant. I like that because vibrancy is about life, enthusiasm and positivity. That's the type of community we are and aspire to be. This year our vibrant students have enjoyed a full academic and extracurricular programme and, certainly for me; it has been a huge relief to focus on all of the positive aspects of learning and school life and just a little less on pandemics and all of the challenges that we have faced in previous years.

Behind every lesson, trip, extracurricular club or other opportunity are our fantastic staff who facilitate and make them happen. I would like to extend to them all my thanks and gratitude for their professionalism and their service and I wish them a restful summer break.

This term saw the final year 11 exams and we have now said farewell to that year group. Staff have been very proud of the way



that the year group prepared and approached their examinations and we look forward to the results day in August to celebrate their success with them. We are delighted that every member of year 11 has a place at a school sixth form, college, apprenticeship or other training opportunity. We wish them every happiness and success as they start a new chapter in their young lives.

Finally, it is also farewell from me. After seven years leading the school, as deputy and then headteacher, I will be leaving to take up the post of Director of Education for the Maiden Erlegh Trust. While I am sorry to leave, I am also excited that the school will be in safe hands with the school's talented and committed leadership team, led by the school's new Headteacher, Mr Will Graham. Mr Graham will bring new ideas and energy to the school and is a man of strong moral purpose and values. My new role means that I will be a regular visitor to the school and I am looking forward to seeing how this new chapter for the school is written.

Thank you for your partnership, care and support over the last seven years. Have a great summer.

#### CALENDAR

5th September	START OF TERM	
14 September	Year 7 Parents Information Evening	
16 September	School Photos	
22 September	Year 11 Information Evening	
26 September	School Photos	
27 September	Open Evening	
29 September	Open Morning	
3 October	Year 8 Information Evening	
4 October	Year 10 Information Evening	
6 October	Open Morning	
12 October	Year 9 Information Evening	
13 & 20 October	Open Morning	
24–28 October	Half Term	

DETERMINATION IN ALL WE DO
RESPECT FOR OTHERS
EXCELLENCE IN OUR WORK
ATTITUDE FOR SUCCESS
MATURITY IN OUR CHOICES

#### **STAFF VACANCIES**

All our vacancies can be found on the Maiden Erlegh Trust website **HERE** or on the TES website **HERE.** 



## Year 10 Geography fieldtrip to Lyndhurst and Milford on Sea

On the 13th, 14th and 15th June our year 10 GCSE Geography pupils spent a day carrying out two fieldwork investigations at Lyndhurst and Milford on Sea as a part of the course. The pupils arrived at Lyndhurst in The New Forest for the morning to collect data on the impact of tourism. Pupils carried out a land use survey by recording the shops/businesses along the high street as well as judging the environmental quality of two sites along the way. Finally, pupils carried out an emoji questionnaire by having some very positive and engaging conversations with residents/visitors about their opinions on tourism.

The pupils then travelled on to Milford on Sea to carry out a physical Geography

study into the effectiveness of the coastal defences. To judge this the pupils drew a field sketch of the beach and judged the effectiveness of the defences at three individual locations along the coast. The pupils also conducted a study of the groynes to measure how effective they were at stopping long shore drift. This was also an opportunity for the pupils to enjoy the glorious weather and the experience of being at the coast.

The pupils found the trip a very rewarding experience and they can now solidify their knowledge by completing write up work in their Geography lessons ahead of their GCSE Paper 3 exam next year.

Miss Harrison-Smith



Stonewall



## Pride Day Cake Sale

I would like to say a massive thanks to all who took part and also mention our chosen charity Stonewall, who are thrilled with our efforts. We raised just over £100 and the rainbow laces will be sent out in September. It was a tremendous effort by students and staff and bridged another gap for equality and acceptance within our diverse community. *Mrs Lawson-Smith* 



#### Year 10 Trip to Zebra Technologies

On Monday 20 June, 39 Year 10 students and 5 teachers/support staff headed off on the bus to Bourne End. We arrived safely for a day at the plush offices of Zebra Technologies.

Not many (or any?) of us could say what Zebra Tech did as a company before the day started – however, by the end of the day the students were able to actively tell us and the Zebra Tech team all they had learned.

The day started with students being warmly greeted by EBP and the Zebra Tech Team and getting their unique ID card for the day (printed by Zebra Tech – small hint here about part of what they do) and being split into 4 teams – Blue, Green, Red and Yellow.

The wonderful team from Zebra Tech staff then introduced themselves and shared about the jobs they do - students discovered that there can be many different types of jobs within one company - even if that company is involved in creating technology. Staff from Sales, Marketing, Human Resources (HR), and engineering - who work in the UK and overseas shared about their role within the company and then led students in small groups. Students showed great interest as they intently listened to the staff team talk about technologies Zebra Tech created and ones which we may experience in our own lives without even

knowing – ranging from Scanners used in shops for personal shopping, to robots, to scanners with RFID (Radio Frequency Identification/ID) – ask students who attended what this means!, to labels – both regular labels and those with RFID – used in manufacturing, warehouses and even for patients in hospitals. We discovered that many Zebra Tech



products are even used by big company names that we all know and love. We also discovered that Zebra Technology is an inclusive employer – actively seeking to ensure their workforce reflects as many represented in society as possible.

It was great fun when students (and staff!) had the opportunity to take part in a competition – who could scan some factory boxes the fastest using Zebra Tech scanners? We discovered that Year 10 student, Reeha, was definitely the fastest with a score of around 8 seconds! Well done, Reeha – we love the photo of you collecting your prize. The teams asked

# ्रींग**.** ZEBRA

fantastic questions during the sessions and were like sponges – soaking in all the Zebra Tech team were telling them. This information was useful not only to remember about the company but because the day ended with a Team Kahoot Challenge. It was closely fought contest with the Blue Team coming out as the victors – well done Blue Team. Blue

> Team members proudly collected a Zebra Tech goody bag each as their prize for remembering the most. Well done to everyone as every team was enthusiastic which we love to see. As we left and thanked the amazing Zebra Tech Team, every student was presented a goody bag to remember the day.

We are very proud of how our students represented MER at

Zebra Tech. We hope the students will continue to remember all they learned – and mostly that there are many types of jobs 'out there' in the world of work – it's just about finding the one/s that are right for you! Keeping exploring and researching Year 10.

Finally, we would like to say a big 'Thank You' to EBP and the Zebra Tech team, and Miss Hancock, Mr Gaddu, Miss Hinds and everyone who helped arrange and participate in a fantastic day – it was very much appreciated.

Mrs Anna Finlason, Careers Adviser

TASK

Clear statements of your proposed economic policy including Fiscal, Monetary, targets for inflation and unemployment

MPLOYME

Task: Write a leadership manifesto for your political party.

Long term infrastructure investment plans and enablers (tax revenue) for these.

and reasons why. Please research and remind yourself of these terms to clarify your understanding.

### Government Policy Project

Our year 10 Economists have been writing their own economic policy for a leadership manifesto. They have used their economic theory and wider research of current affairs/economic policy to create their pitches which they have delivered in class to

an amazingly professional standard. Well done year 10!



Mrs Nave



**FISCAL** 

POLICY

FOR

MONETARY

POLICY

This task must include the following:

VS







The end of the school year always mean we

say farewell to colleagues who are moving on to pastures new, including many who have been appointed to promotions. This summer, we say farewell to:

Ms Barret, Ms McElhinney, Mr Rabin, Ms Sarkozy, Ms Howard and Mrs Matheson from the English team

Mr Galvin from the PE team

Mr Hussain from the RE team

Mr Bradley and Ms Frost from the technology team

Mr Davis from the Mathematics team

Ms Perry and Ms Fuller from the inclusion team and Mrs Siddigui from the administration team

Ms Burns will be temporarily moving to our sister school, Cranbury college as

acting Head of school and joining her will be Mrs Swart who is becoming the school business manager - huge congratulations to them both for these promotions.

Finally, we have two members of our school leadership team who are moving on. We wish a happy retirement to Mrs Escott-New who has served the school ever since we opened following a long and successful career as an English teacher and Head of English. Finally, we say goodbye to our Headteacher, Mr Johnson, who is moving to become the Executive Director of Education in the Maiden Erlegh Trust.

Best wishes and our sincere thanks to these colleagues for their commitment and their service.



Can you believe we are at the end of the year already!

> Level Year 7 – DONE 4 Years to go

You have done an amazing job this year - settling into a new school, new teachers, new subjects and new friends. Together as a team, we have held our standards high and celebrated how amazing we are.

SO Level Year 8.....

- Fresh Uniform and fresh equipment please make sure you have these READY for the first day back
- Options it is your chance to pick what subjects you want to study for GCSEs
- New timetables, new groups, new teachers

We have a very special year group, and I am very proud to be your head of year. I am excited to see what the future holds for us. We know we are the best and we are showing this day to day. Now we can continue that into Year 8.

Have a fantastic summer - behave, stay safe and relax! Miss Hancock

## The Best of Books July 2022

We were very excited to have our second Best of Books Week last week, including a book fair, a treasure hunt for popular authors and a 'drop everything & read' session. We also have a photo competition – winner still to be announced.

On Wednesday & Thursday, we ran a popup bookshop which students visited during their English lessons in order to buy fiction and non-fiction books. The book fair is very popular with students and raises a great deal of commission for us in books, to increase the stock on our library trollies.

We also had a treasure hunt of book titles – selected staff had book titles on their lanyards and students collected 20 authors to take part in a prize draw. Year 7

#### RANI SUKH Bali Rai

#### Rani and Sukh, by Bali Rai – RRP £9.99 ISBN: 978-0-19-832994-7

Rani and Sukh fall in love, unaware of a dark and sinister mystery binding their families which dates back to 1960s Punjab.

The Boy
in the
Striped
Pyjamas
JOHN BOYNE
JOHN BOYNE

#### The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas, by John Boyne – RRP £9.99 ISBN: 978-0-19-832676-2 What is 'Outwith' and who is Bruno? Soon he

will meet the boy in the striped pyjamas and befriend him. But why must the boy stay behind the wire?



#### When the Sky Falls, by Phil EarLe -

ISBN: 9781783449651 1941. War is raging. And one angry boy has been sent to the city, where bombers rule the skies & 8 students get very excited about collecting the full set of names.

All these activities help us to promote the culture of reading for pleasure – and academic achievement - in the school – and we hope you can help with this too, by encouraging your child to read, read, read in the Summer holidays. Recent research suggests that reading for pleasure is a huge factor in promoting progress in academic attainment in all subjects, not just English.

We have included some book recommendations for our students to check out over the long vacation. *Mrs Escott-New* 



My Swordhand is Singing, by Marcus Sedgwick -RRP £7.99 ISBN: 9781842555583

An original interpretation of the timelessly fascinating vampire myth, and a story of father and son, by award-winning author Marcus Sedgwick.

#### Floodland, by Marcus Sedgwick – RRP £6.99

Imagine that a few years from now England is covered by water, and Norwich is an island. Zoe, left behind in the confusion when her parents escaped, survives there as best she can.

The Middle of Nowhere, by Geraldine McCaughrean – RRP £7.99 ISBN: 978140957516 When her mother dies from a snake bit, Comity's life in the Australian outback changes for ever.

#### **Congratulations to Mr Johnson**

On, 26 May, Mr Andy Johnson, MER outgoing Headteacher, was honoured with a **Silver Award** in the **Award for Headteacher of the Year in a Secondary School** for his outstanding commitment to changing the lives of the children he works with every day. Representatives from Pearson came to school to present the award and Mary Davies delivered a tribute outlining Mr Johnson's many achievements.

As a Silver Award winner, Andy has now been shortlisted to win one of just 16 Gold Awards later in the year. Recognition of this once in a lifetime achievement will be broadcast on the BBC's *The One Show* as part of a week-long celebration of teaching, which sees famous faces honour award winners every night in the run-up to the ceremony.

#### Education Secretary Nadhim Zahawi said:

"Congratulations to Andy on this incredible achievement, and for the hard work and dedication which led up to it. Winning this award is impressive, well-deserved and



shows Andy's commitment to helping students achieve their full potential."

We congratulate Mr Johnson on this amazing achievement and wish him well in his new post as Director of Teaching and Learning for the Trust from September.

## Y6 Transition day and information evening

On the 29<sup>th</sup> June, we welcomed our new cohort of students to the school for our Y6 transition day. We had a great day, where students met their peers in their new tutor groups, as well as participating in two lessons. The lessons included food tech, drama, history, art, geography, languages, music and technology. I was very impressed by the attitude and maturity of all of our new students, with everyone speaking to students from other primary schools. One highlight was the technology group managing to make a wooden village in just 40 minutes!

We also held the Y6 information evening that day, where it was great to meet the parents and carers of our new cohort of students.

I'm really looking forward to seeing all of our new Y7 students, smartly dressed in their new uniform, in September.

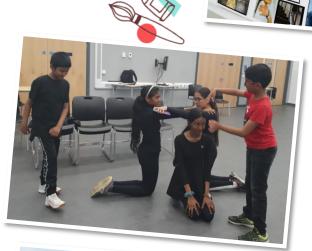


Miss Ryan

## **SUMMER ARTS GALLERY**

This year's Summer Arts Gallery took a new approach and there was more of a festival vibe as parents were able to visit five different performance areas for music and drama. Parents, staff and students were also able to visit exhibitions in food, art, photography and technology and were impressed by the high quality of all of the work that was exhibited from all year groups.

The Creative Arts Faculty would like to thank everybody who supported this event and we hope that it continues to expand in years to come. *Mr Butchers* 





GCSE ptography 2022











## $\Lambda p || \mathbf{o} ||$

This term, the music department has formed a partnership with the local Aldworth Philharmonic Orchestra (APO). Three members of the orchestra visited to give an hour's workshop to musicians in years 7-9 to demonstrate their instruments and talk to students about music and being an amateur musician. Next term, we aim to develop this link with further workshops and also to invite students to rehearsals and a performance with the APO.

Mr Butchers

#### StepintotheNHS competition

We are delighted to have now won a certificate for participating in the competition as a school, and even more thrilled that one of our students has received a certificate for a highly commended entry. Well done Yan!

Back in April, a group of KS3 students took part in the StepintotheNHS competition. This was a National Competition aimed at increasing awareness of the range of jobs

available within the NHS. Students were challenged to research and choose an NHS career that interested them. Once chosen, they created materials to promote it, starting with a job description to capture key responsibilities, along with any qualifications, skills and experience needed. *Mrs Rogeon* 





#### **Combined Cadet Force Agreement**

Archery, rafting, paintball, clay-pigeon shooting, assault course, paddleboarding, mountain-biking, outdoor shelter building, army fieldcraft, tactical assault practice... If you had to choose just one of these it would make for a great day. However, twelve of our students were able to experience all of this and more at the CCF cadet camp this term. As well as all the activities, cadets were also able to



develop teambuilding skills and learned to take responsibility for timekeeping, kit and supporting their peers. The weather was beautiful and cadets learned so much from the experience – our team even won



bronze for the military knowledge competition! We are looking to continue the relationship with Reading UTC into the next



academic year presenting more students with this fantastic opportunity to learn new skills and discover that they can do so much more than they imagined. *Mr Greener* 



#### Silverstone Interactive Museum

On June  $8^{\rm th}$  a group of students from Years 8-10 visited Silverstone Interactive Museum. The trip was an exciting

opportunity to explore the world of motorsport. Students were able to explore the museum, which documented the history of Silverstone, with plenty of activities to try out. These included the

Luffield Priory Crawl Tunnel, the Gunner trainer, sitting in a replica Grand Prix car, the Pit Gun Challenge and the Ultimate lap video experience. During the day, students took part in a

workshop where we focused on how the sport has developed, and the associated advances in the design and technology of its



various aspects. These included the cars themselves, the tracks, the fuel and clothing. Associated careers were discussed, revealing an extensive list of jobs that many would not automatically with resing. It was an excellent day out

think of in connection with racing. It was an excellent day out and our students did us proud. *Mrs Rogeon* 





If you are interested in any of these roles, please email Vicky Boatman, Clerk to the Board of Trustees via governors@maidenerleghtrust.org

TRUST

MAIDEN ERLEGH

# **BE PART OF OUR GOVERNANCE TEAM OPPORTUNITIES AVAILAB**

#### UR LOCAL ADVISORY ARD MEMBERS

Local Advisory Boards (LABs) are crucial elements of our work with schools and communities.

LAB members (Governors) are key partners to both the school and the Trust and help secure the best possible education for all learners, and best possible working environment for staff, in line with our Vision and Ethos.

The role description and person specification for Local Advisory Board Members can be found **HERE** 

# HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED IN A ROLE?

We have a variety of Local Advisory Board Member opening's available across our schools. There are also Chair of the Local Advisory Board opportunities available, to provide effective leadership to the LAB.

We would like to hear from anyone who is interested in these roles. Experience of school governance or related fields would be helpful but is NOT essential as we would provide training.

#### CHAIR OF THE LOCAL **ADVISORY BOARD**

The Chair of the Local Advisory Board provides leadership to the LAB and ensures that LAB members fulfil their functions for the proper governance and ethical leadership of the school.

THERE ARE TYPICALLY FIVE LAB MEETINGS PER YEAR PLUS THREE TRAINING SESSIONI

SESSIONS TO

SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT

The Chair facilitates the Local Advisory Board, working as a team to challenge, support and contribute to the effective leadership of the school.

The role description and person specification for the Chair of the Local Advisory Board can be found **HERE** 



Maiden Erlegh Trust is committed to safeguarding, the principles of equality and the celebration of diversity and would want all new LAB members to share these commitments.





College



HamiltonSchool

A PLACE OF EDUCATION, GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY



#### Food Technology

#### **Chicken Nuggets**

The year 7 food technology students did a fantastic job in making delicious chicken nuggets in a recent practical. The students demonstrated fantastic chopping skills, while following excellent personal hygiene and food safety practices. The students perfected using a meat probe, checking that their chicken was cooked thoroughly at 75 degrees, preventing risk of food poisoning. A very impressive and successful practical!

Miss Frost







### Macaroni Cheese

The year 8 food technology students absolutely excelled in a recent practical making Macaroni Cheese. The students made their cheesy sauce from scratch, after learning about the method of 'Gelatinisation'. It was a big challenge for the students, having to concentrate on multiple tasks at one time. However, it was a hugely successful practical!

Miss Frost







#### **Egg-based Recipes**



The year 9 food technology students were incredibly successful in a recent practical. The students were tasked to research an egg-based recipe which demonstrated a high level of skill. There was an incredible amount of creativity, effort and thought put into the practical from all students and their outcomes were fantastic. I am extremely proud of all achievements! *Miss Frost* 



## **FOOD TECHNOLOGY - MOCK TRIAL DISHES**

Year 10 students have been working very hard in preparation for their final food technology mock exam.



### Healthy Eating Week round-up

MER held 'Healthy Eating Week' during 13th – 17th June. Each day provided a theme for all students as a way to encourage them to eat healthily. The students were challenged to upload a picture of themselves eating healthily onto Google Classroom, gaining 10

A fantastic effort came from tutor group 9G1, with each student bringing in a piece of fruit to have during Friday's PSMSC time!

Staff also got involved by putting up posters around the school and

making healthy food choices. The week was rounded off by having fresh fruit provided in the staffroom. It was a huge success all round!

Miss Frost







#### Buying Set GCSE English Literature Texts -Years 9, 10, 11 – Parent Pay Online Bookshop

You are probably aware that we ask students to buy their own copies of our 3 set GCSE literature texts - Macbeth, An Inspector Calls and A Christmas Carol. The fourth text, a poetry anthology, is provided free to students by the exam board - Edexcel. We encourage students to buy their own books because they like to annotate them with notes from class which makes them unusable for future students. To make it easier for students to buy their books, we now have an online Parent Pay Bookshop where you can drop one of the set texts into your basket at any time. Once you have paid for the books, it will be delivered to your son/ daughter at the end of the week by their form tutor. There are also revision guides available to complement the set texts.

Any student who is in receipt of Pupil Premium Funding can apply for assistance with the cost of the books if needed - just email the office on meroffice@amidenerleghtrust.org to

request this funding via your child's Pupil Premium Champion.

The link to the bookshop can be reached though the school website Parent pay Mrs Escott-New

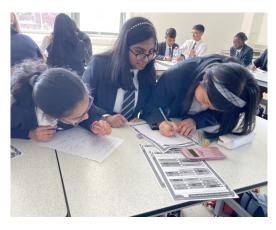


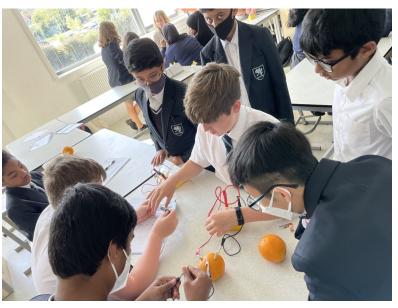






On Friday 8th July, Science together with Design and Technology welcomed a representative from EngineeringUK to run two workshops for our year 8 and Year 9 students. They were tasked with working in groups to build a battery from everyday materials, followed by designing shelters and filtration systems. The students engaged really well with the activities, impressing teachers with their team work and determination. The Engineering Design Process was followed, with students being encouraged to see engineers as problem solvers. A range of options within the world of Engineering were also discussed, to facilitate students appreciation of the range of options available in the field. This included taking a look at the types of engineering that would best suite their own personality types, through an interactive quiz. Mrs Rogeon

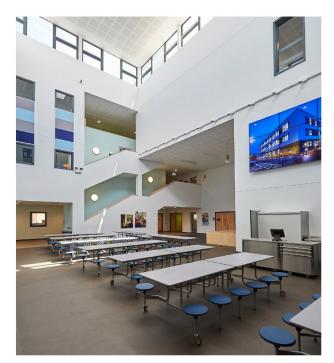
















## ARE YOU LOOKING FOR FACILITIES TO HIRE?

We welcome enquiries about the private use of our facilities. If you would like to come and see what facilities we have to offer, please arrange a visit via Reception or contact us by emailing merlettings@maidenerleghtrust.org.

A full list of our facilities and hire charges can be found on our website or by contacting our school Business Manager.



SPORTS HALL - NETBALL COURTS - TENNIS COURTS - DANCE STUDIO -MUSIC STUDIO - MAIN SCHOOL HALL - DINING AREA - ATRIUM - MULTI USE GAMES AREA (MUGA) - CLASSROOMS - MEETING ROOMS

## **81 CRESCENT ROAD, READING, RG1 5SL**

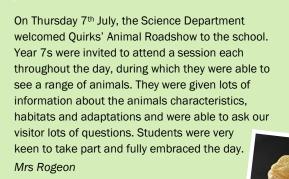


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MAIDEN ERLEGH SCHOOL IN READING



Zach - 'the python was amazing and so strong it could lift itself up and was very long'.

Quirks'Animal

Bringing Animals to Life

Logan – 'my favourites were the spiders when they lifted their legs in defence, the Hog-nose snake which ran away from the handler and the Bearded Dragon when it jumped out of the box'.

21



Friday 1 July was the exciting moment for the first ever Year 11 Prom for Maiden Erlegh School in Reading. It was amazing to see everyone dressed up and all the effort the students had been to. There were some incredible entrances. This was a great opportunity to celebrate Year 11 finishing their

HOOL IN READING

time with us and I loved the opportunity to celebrate with them all. The students seemed to have a great time, and I've included just a few of the pictures we took – there was a few hundred of them.

This was the first of many proms for the school and I am so glad my year group was the group that got to do it first...to show everyone how it's done and being the amazing young people they are. *Miss Davies* 

MAIDEN ERLEGH







#### **Regional Athletics Competition**

We would like to congratulate our Year 7 Athletics Team who have achieved impressive results at the Reading Town Championships this term. A huge well done to all the students who, in total, won 4 golds and 6 silvers. A special shout out to Henij, who won a gold medal at the Berkshire County Athletics for shot put and Mfonsio for achieving a gold medal in the 150m event. We are truly proud of the progress these students have made, in such a short period of time.

Mr Galvin



Our fantastic school facilities are available for hire to the general public. For information on lettings for the next academic year please contact the school.

TERM DATES	
Autumn	1 September - 21 October 2022
	31 October - 16 December 2022
CPD Day	1 September 2022 2 September 2022



Click on envelope to view recent communications





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