



30 November 2022

Dear Students/Parents/Guardians/Community

Cultural Diversity Day – Wednesday 7 December 2022

Last year we introduced a drop-down day whereas a school we celebrated the various cultures making up our community. It was a real success and we have now made this part of our wider curriculum. We will be holding this day again on Wednesday 7 December 2022.

This year the focus will be around celebrating and sharing the various **traditions** we all have as part of our lives. Students will be learning about these traditions through a variety of lessons and activities throughout the day:

Language Sessions – Year 7, 8 & 9

Students will be sharing and widening their understanding of the various languages spoken at MER. Students should think about the following in advance of the day: [What culture and identity means to you: a tradition you they like or celebrate at home \(it could be something linked to culture or something you do together\)](#) and a greeting in a language you speak or you are interested in.

PE sessions - Year 7, 8 & 9

These will explore traditional sports played in different parts of the world. Students should bring appropriate trainers to take part in these activities – students will not need to change into their PE kit for these sessions.

Art sessions - Year 7, 8 & 9

These will explore a variety of traditional techniques focused around the enjoyment of food. If students can, it would be great for them to take pictures of traditional food items, but also bring in their favourite traditional food recipes. Students will then get an opportunity to turn these into a beautifully designed cookbook and ultimately create an MER cookbook!

Dragons' Den – Year 10 & 11

Students will get an opportunity to build on their teamwork, creativity and problem solving amongst many other skills in a session exploring their business skills. Students should bring in traditional food items – these will form the basis of their business ideas as they will be pitching their ideas to each other.

Guest Speaker – Year 9, 10 & 11

We have managed to secure a guest speaker for the first part of the day. Students will be learning all about how your traditions can form an important part of their future – this session will look to inspire students to really consider their next steps and motivate them to believe in themselves and the possibilities they can achieve.

Food festival

Last year we had a cultural fair at lunch where students shared things about them, this year we want the focus to be around food. This will see students bringing in traditional cultural foods and sharing these on stalls in the sports hall at lunch creating an MER food festival & market place!

To ensure that this festival runs smoothly, students will need to sign up to secure a place in the sports hall – they can do this by speaking directly to Miss Hancock. When bringing in food students must ensure that they **provide an ingredients list**.

Traditional dress / Festive Jumper

Students are encouraged to wear recognised traditional clothing on the day. They can also choose to wear a festive jumper and bring in £1 to raise money for Save the Children – **this is not a non-uniform day** but a day to celebrate our individual and community traditions.

We are very excited for the outcome of this event, and are extremely confident that it will be rewarding, informative and a great learning experience, for not only the pupils but staff as well.

If you would like to offer further support and or participate in any way, please email the main office on MERoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org, addressing it to Miss Hancock.

Yours sincerely,

MER Student leadership team