



# ThePulse

*Opportunity, Diversity & Success For All*

Maiden Erlegh School | 81 Crescent Road | Reading RG31 5SL | T. 0118 966 8065 | [www.maidenerleghschoolreading.co.uk](http://www.maidenerleghschoolreading.co.uk) | @MESReading

## FROM THE HEADTEACHER

The May half term holiday is upon us and we are already looking ahead to the final seven weeks of this academic year. As ever, we want to make every minute of learning count; our teaching staff have been working hard to develop their own practice through our Teaching for Excellence Programme, whilst supporting our students to achieve their very best outcomes in their final exams and end of year assessments.

Year 11 have been so impressive in the build up to their GCSE exams this half term, there was a wonderful atmosphere in school on their final "full" day in school, before starting their official study leave on Tuesday 16th May. Since then, the attendance at our pre-exam "booster" sessions has been outstanding, as has the attitude and focus of the year group. Thank you to Jenny Gale and her team of invigilators for all their hard work during the exam season. The attention to detail shown by Jenny is as impressive as it is important, in providing the right environment for our young people to perform at their best when under the pressure that inevitably comes with examinations. Thank you to our wonderful team of teachers and support staff for all their hard work in helping to prepare our Year 11s to be ready for their final exams; thanks also to Ms Headley for organising the final assembly and for leading Year 11 through their crucial final term at MER.

Alongside our very serious academic work, it has been heartening to see so many of our students getting involved in a variety of enrichment events. On Friday 19th May a number of MER athletes took part in the Reading Borough Athletics Championships at Palmer Park stadium; Mr Hibbins, Head of PE, was very complimentary about all

those that participated and it was fantastic to see a number of our students achieving some excellent results on the day. On the same weekend, our Silver Duke of Edinburgh cohort embarked on their practice expedition at Rushall farm. Miss Harrison Smith, who led the weekend, was very pleased with the attitude, determination and maturity shown by all those involved, as well as the respect they showed during a chance meeting with the Prince and Princess of Wales (William and Kate), who just happened to be visiting a local school at the time!! These events come hot on the heels of the wonderful news that MER had been awarded the Arts Mark Silver quality mark, a tremendous achievement for the school, and recognition of how important and how central the arts subjects are to our curriculum and to our community.

Inevitably, as we move towards the end of this academic year we start to look ahead to 2023-24. We have reflected on the feedback we have received through surveys from staff, students and parents and now begin the process of planning our priorities for the next academic year. This is also the time of year ensuring that we do our best to recruit some great colleagues to join us in September, so all in all it's been a very busy period and we look forward to exciting times ahead.

To finish, I would like to wish everybody a lovely break over the May bank holiday weekend; I hope that every student uses the half term break to re-charge their batteries for what will be an action-packed last seven weeks of the year.



## CALENDAR

29th May - 4th June	HALF TERM
Trainees Enrichment Placement	5th June
Year 10 NEA D&T/Food parent Information Evening	5th June
Year 9 & 10 French Institute Trip	8th June
Year 10 Geography Field Trip	13th -15th June
Parent Seminar 5	20th June
DofE Bronze Qualifying Expedition	24th - 25th June
Transition Day	28th June
Year 11 Prom	30th June
Year 8 Winchester Science Centre Trip	12th July
Year 7 Reading Museum & Abbey Ruins Trip	12th - 14th July
Year 9 Museum of English Rural Life Trip	12th - 14th July



On Sunday 9th April 2023, Sanjana in 10P1 was one of 1,300 children from over 31 countries who performed a repertoire from Bach to Bartok and Mozart to Mendelssohn at the Royal Albert Hall in the British Suzuki Royal Gala. Well done Sanjana what a great achievement.

## Year 10 students explore careers and apprenticeships in healthcare

14 Year 10 students gained great insight into apprenticeships in healthcare when they attended a live webinar on Thursday 20th April 2023. The 1 hour session included an overview of degree apprenticeships in Nursing and Physiotherapy. Our students were also introduced to the brand new Medical degree apprenticeship – due to be launched in January 2024. We learned that there are apprenticeships at a variety of levels offered in both healthcare and many other roles (including administration and other support roles – there are even apprenticeships for Electrical Installation!). Students reported finding out about these jobs; how apprenticeships work, and top tips for searching and applying for them, to be extremely helpful. They also learned that apprenticeships are advertised to external AND internal applicants (internal

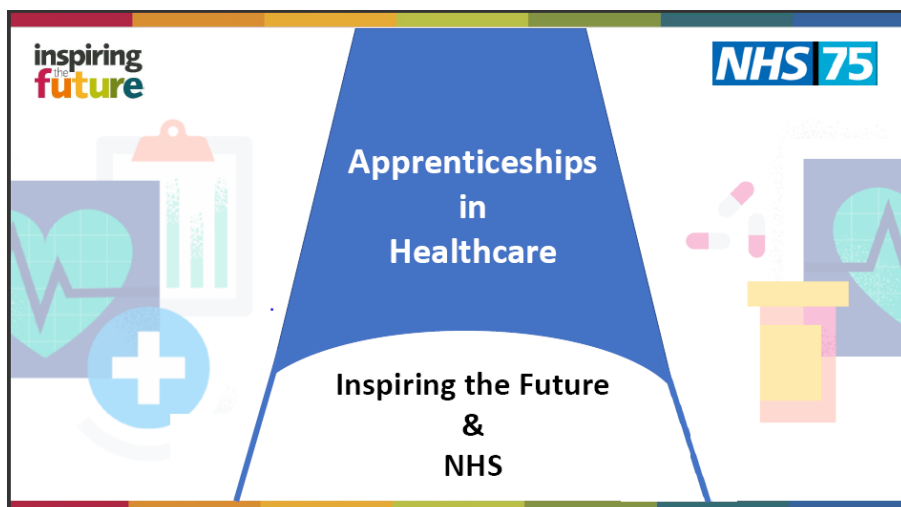
applicants are people who already work in the NHS/particular hospital).

After the session, we discovered there are students interested in training and working as nurses, doctors, and physiotherapists in the future. There are over 350 jobs in the NHS, a number of which have related apprenticeships. It's never too early to start searching! A good place to start... <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/explore-roles> and [www.unifrog.org](https://www.unifrog.org) (of course).

We are extremely proud of the students who attended the webinar – for showing respect, maturity, and enthusiasm throughout the session. The time you spent participating in the webinar will definitely help you – well done for taking part.

Anna Finlason

Trust Careers Adviser



## Published Poet!

As we move into the summer months, it is important to reflect on previous seasons and one of our very accomplished poets has done this with their celebrated poem 'Winter'. Congratulations to Muskan, 8P2, who has had the wonderful news that her poem has been published in the 'Young Writers' anthology. The poem was selected by a panel of judges and can be read below:

### Winter

When you smell,  
The snow  
On the Christmas tree, a glow -  
Winter,  
It brings joy.  
Everyone giggling,  
Ecstatic, like screaming toddlers.  
Let's celebrate this more!

When you feel  
The breeze  
It tingles,  
On your skin,  
The snowman smiling at you,  
It brings happiness.  
Having a snowball fight,  
Even under the moonlight,  
Everyone is  
Over the moon.  
This is the best season ever.  
Let's remember this more!



When you see,  
The leaves of the tree  
Through the frosty window  
Presents scattered everywhere,  
It's like a museum display.  
Sitting around a fire  
With hot chocolate.  
Let's make it winter every day.



### Apprenticeship Career Pathways in the NHS Examples:

NURSING PATHWAY	CATERING/ HOSPITALITY PATHWAY	ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PATHWAY	HUMAN RESOURCES PATHWAY	PARAMEDIC PATHWAY	ADMINISTRATION PATHWAY	MATERNITY PATHWAY
Healthcare Support Worker – Level 2	Production Chef – Level 2 or Hospitality Team Member – Level 2	Healthcare Support Worker – Level 2 Senior Healthcare Support worker – Level 3	Customer Service Practitioner – Level 2 HR Support – Level 3	Healthcare Support Worker – Level 2 Ambulance Support Worker – Level 3	Customer Service Practitioner – Level 2 Business Administrator – Level 3	Healthcare Support Worker – Level 2
Senior Healthcare Support worker – Level 3	Senior Production Chef – Level 3 or Hospitality Supervisor – Level 3	AHP Support pathway	Hospitality Manager – Level 4	Associate Ambulance Practitioner – Level 5	Department Manager – Level 5	Senior Healthcare Support worker – Level 3
Nursing Associate – Level 5	Assistant Practitioner – Level 5	Physio / OT / ODP / Dietician / Podiatrist / Orthotist / Therapeutic or Diagnostic Radiographer / Speech and Language Therapist – Level 6	HR Consultant / Business Partner – Level 5	Paramedic – Level 6	Chartered Manager – Level 6	Maternity Support pathway
Registered Nurse – Level 6	Hospitality Manager – Level 4				Senior Leader – Level 7	Midwife – Level 6
	Department Manager – Level 5					



MAIDEN ERLEGH  
SCHOOL IN READING

# Current Year 5 Open Mornings

**9.30am or 10.30am**

Thursday 8 June

Thursday 15 June

These events will be an exciting opportunity for you to visit the school, talk to students and meet senior leaders.

The headteacher will give a short presentation before our students take visitors on a tour of the school to see the school "in action".

Children are encouraged to attend!



81 Crescent Road, Reading, RG1 5HL



## Booking Required

If you are interested in attending, please click below or visit our website and complete the booking form to reserve a place.



*Book here*



*For parents and primary school pupils (current Year 5) moving to secondary school in September 2024.*



[www.maidenerleghschoolreading.co.uk](http://www.maidenerleghschoolreading.co.uk)



0118 966 8065



[merooffice@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:merooffice@maidenerleghtrust.org)



## Year 7

We are approaching the end of the year, and what a year it has been for year 7! I am so proud of the start they have all made to secondary school and I am looking forward to seeing them finish the year off strong.

We have lots of exciting events coming up in the summer term, including our reward trip for the students who demonstrate the MER way every day. Shout out to 7G1 for having the most DREAM points – you are all amazing!

Miss Ryan



## Year 8

This is a very quick half term and we are on the downward hill to the summer holidays.

We still have a lot to look forward to until we say goodbye to Year 8 – sports day, option choices, activities week and of course our end of year celebrations.



As a team we have over 45000 DREAM points since January and are currently beating the other year groups.

You are making me very proud to be Head of Year 8 – we know we are the best and we are showing this day to day. Keep it up!

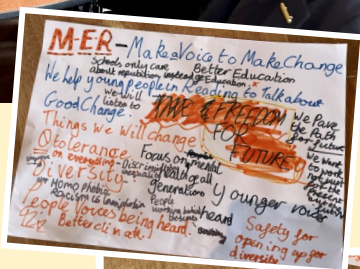
Remember to get yourself organised – order/buy new uniform/shoes and get set up ready for the first Monday back. Enjoy your half term, relax, do something fun and forget about school for a week.

Miss Hancock



## Reading Youth Council Annual Conference

On Monday 24th April, 12 of our student council from years 7-9 attended the Reading Youth Council Annual Conference, held at St. Joseph's College in Reading. This was a fantastic opportunity to hear more about what being in the youth council is all about and the students got stuck in to tasks such as creating elections manifestos, responding to local issues and debating national concerns such as voting age in the UK and censorship in the media. MER students represented us really well, taking part and



contributing to the lively debates. Some of those who went on the trip are now considering joining the Reading Youth Council to try and make a difference outside of school as well as in school.

Mr Tomsett



PLAY AN INSTRUMENT?



## SCHOOL BAND

Come along to school band on **Wednesdays 3:15 – 3:45 in 044**

See **Mr Butchers** for further details

MAIDEN ERLEGH  
SCHOOL IN READING



## Reading ambassador recommendations for pupils

***"We would strongly urge you to come to the library and pick out a few awesome books."***



The real world is a hostile place for twelve-year-old Bren, his schooldays stalked by vicious bully, Shaun, and his family life fractured at home. Ever since his sister Evie died in an accident, Bren's only safe space is Furthermoor, an imagined world of mechanised trees and clockwork animals, where Evie is still alive.

***"The story is part fantasy, part real-life and it was the real world that got me hooked. I can defiantly recommend it."***



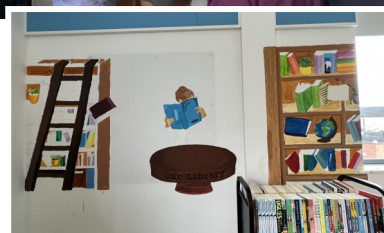
Ash lives in the coldest part of the monster infested snow sea where he waits for his missing parents. However, whilst in a dangerous situation he finds he is a song weaver. Rejected by the tribe, he boards the ship, 'Frost Heart', to look for his parents.

***"I recommend this book to 10–12-year-olds as it is full of comedy and has an unpredictable plot twist. The illustrations also brought it to life."***

## Marvellous Mural in the Library!

We are one week away from completing the mural for our new library. The title of the painting is 'Our Library'. A team of talented and dedicated students have been coming every week to paint the scene which depicts two bookcases and an MER student engrossed in their reading. It will certainly be an eye-catching image that will inspire many of the students to visit the space. Samuel (8P2), whose design was chosen for the mural, has also been involved with the painting.

Ms Lutton



## Energy Quest Workshops

Help students uncover engineering skills they did not know they had with Energy Quest. This free, 2 hour long, interactive workshop challenges young people to put themselves in the shoes of engineers to design a solution to power a mobile phone using only the contents of a backpack.



In July, we will be welcoming back EngineeringUK's Energy Quest workshops. We have two slots available for year 8 students. Those interested in claiming a space should complete the Google Form on the Year 8 Google Classroom.

<https://energyquest.org.uk/>

Mrs Rogeon

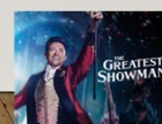


## COME AND SING SONGS FROM MUSICALS!

Like musical theatre?  
Want to sing along to some well known songs?  
No experience required, just enthusiasm!

Thursdays, 3.15-3.45 in 044

This week, we will be focusing on:





## MAIDEN ERLEGH TRUST

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

THERE ARE  
TYPICALLY FIVE  
LAB MEETINGS PER  
YEAR PLUS THREE  
TRAINING  
SESSIONS TO  
SUPPORT  
DEVELOPMENT.

# BE PART OF OUR GOVERNANCE TEAM OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

## OUR LOCAL ADVISORY BOARD 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 openings 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.

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.



MAIDEN ERLEGH  
SCHOOL



MAIDEN ERLEGH  
SCHOOL IN READING



MAIDEN ERLEGH  
CHILTERN EDGE



GREAT HOLLANDS  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Cranbury  
College



HamiltonSchool  
A PLACE OF EDUCATION, GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY



## So You Want to be a Doctor Club



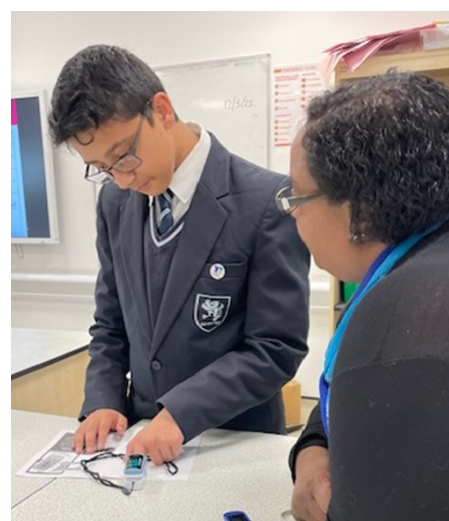
On Friday 12th May, the 'So you want to be a doctor' club had a visit from the University of Reading's Health Reach Team to talk about the different ways in which we can measure health. These included monitoring pulses and respiratory rates, and using equipment to give other useful data. Students were able to try out using:

- pulse oximeters,
- blood pressure monitors,
- stethoscopes,
- grip strength dynamometers,
- thermometers,
- a vertical jump tester,

- a doppler test,
- and peak flow meters.

Students really enjoyed this hands on activity! Many thanks to the University for making this possible.

We have two more workshops coming up, led by the same team: 'Outbreak' on Friday 19th May and First aid on Friday 9th June. Year 7-9 students can express an interest by commenting on the notice that will be put on each year group's Google classroom to request a space.  
*Mrs Rugeon*





## Year 9

Year 9 have been all about #Respect this half term. We have focused on having high expectations for ourselves and those around us. It has been so lovely getting to know the wonderful students of Year 9. I am looking forward to some of the great events in the summer term like our celebration event for students who show the MER Way everyday. Keep up the great work Year 9!

Mrs Langille



## Artsmark Silver Award

Maiden Erlegh School in Reading is delighted to have been awarded the Artsmark Silver Award. This is a national award from the Arts Council that recognises the school's dedication to the arts, both in the classroom and in extra and cross curricular activities. Most importantly, it measures the impact that the Arts have on students' lives and mental health. The road to receiving this award was a lengthy



**Artsmark  
Silver Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

one, and recognises the school's development of the arts over a number of years, including the response and redevelopment following the pandemic.

The Music, Art and

Drama departments continue to grow their offer of extra curricular activities and we encourage all students to participate in the arts.

*Mr Butchers*

## Farewell to our year 11 students



On May 16th 2023, we finally said farewell to our year 11 students after 5 years.

As a school community, we feel that it is important to say Goodbye and Good luck to all year 11 students.

These have been an exceptional group of young people and are all about to enter the big wide world of more studying and working, in sixth form, college or apprenticeships

I know you will all succeed. Take advantage of every opportunity you get and give it your all. Live life with no regrets and go have the best experiences. The world is your oyster! I Hope you all look back at school life and have fond memories of being at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading.

*Ms Headley*







# 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@maidenerlegthrust.org](mailto:merlettings@maidenerlegthrust.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**

 0118 966 8065

 [merlettings@maidenerlegthrust.org](mailto:merlettings@maidenerlegthrust.org)



**MAIDEN ERLEGH**  
SCHOOL IN READING

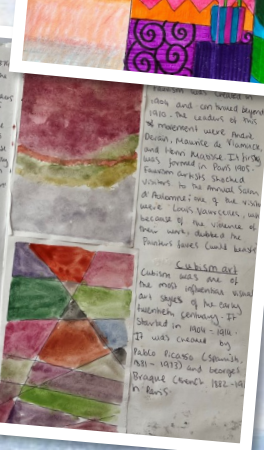
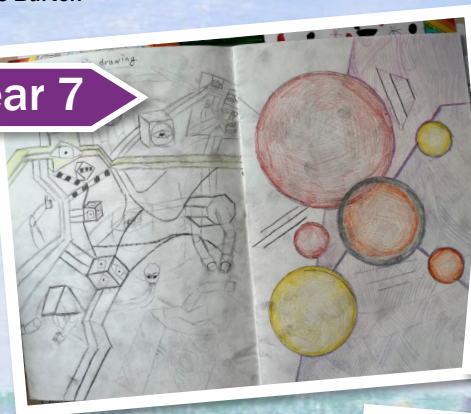


Whilst the Art department has been busy with Art and Photography assessments and moderation, students in Year 7 have been exploring different art movements discovering key artists styles and techniques. Year 8 have been looking into different cultures such as Day of the Dead celebrations and African masks.

Year 9 continue their GCSE journey with beautiful still-life studies exploring different materials and techniques.

Miss Burton

## Year 7



## Year 8



## Year 9







## Duke of Edinburgh Award practice expeditions

This half term 31 year 9s and 38 year 10s went on separate overnight camping weekends to help them gain valuable practical experience ready for their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions in the final term. The students spent time in after school training sessions planning in groups a walking route using OS maps before going on their respective practice weekend to follow the route in real life whilst carrying all of the equipment required (including the tents!). This made for some rather heavy backpacks but the determination of the students and a bit of team work saw them successfully reach their destinations without staff intervention despite some navigational errors. The students also practiced cooking their own substantial meal before putting up their tents and sleeping overnight. The year 9 Bronze DofE pupils stayed at John Madejski Academy whilst the year 10 Silver DofE students stayed at Rushall Farm. After walking



for at least 5 hours, there were some sore feet and tired legs but in the words of a year 10 student "that was so long and hard Miss but I can't believe I reached the end. Halfway I didn't think I could do it but I kept going and here I am!" Thank you to all the staff who volunteered their weekend to oversee the practice expeditions and help the students gain such a memorable experience.

*Miss Harrison-Smith*





## Reading Town athletics championships

MER took a group of students from Years 8, 9 and 10 to Palmer Park for the Reading Town athletics championships. The students had the chance to show off their athletic ability and compete against other schools in Reading. This was a high stakes event as the top 2 students from each race get invited to represent Reading at the County event in June. Just missing out on the top 5 overall on the day, MER had a great day with some notable results.

Our best result of the day was Jermaine in **Year 8 winning the U15 100m sprint** competing against Year 8 and 9 boys from other schools.

Other notable results:

YEAR 8/9	YEAR 10
Eman – 2 <sup>nd</sup> in Javelin	Ruby – 2 <sup>nd</sup> in 300m
Sinica – 4 <sup>th</sup> in Shot Put	Sara – 3 <sup>rd</sup> in Javelin
Natalia – 4 <sup>th</sup> in High Jump	Lewa – 2 <sup>nd</sup> in Shot Put
Henij – 3 <sup>rd</sup> in Shot Put	Emma – 3 <sup>rd</sup> in Long Jump & 2 <sup>nd</sup> in 100m Final
Jariece – 4 <sup>th</sup> in Long Jump	Rose – 3 <sup>rd</sup> in High Jump
Cobe – 3 <sup>rd</sup> in his heat for 300m	Kendra – 4 <sup>th</sup> in 800m
Jermaine – 1 <sup>st</sup> in his heat for 200m	Akwasi – 3 <sup>rd</sup> in Shot put
Jermaine – 1 <sup>st</sup> in 100m Final	Thomas – 3 <sup>rd</sup> in Javelin
Lucas – 2 <sup>nd</sup> in 800m	Ben – 4 <sup>th</sup> in 400m
	Emmanuel – 2 <sup>nd</sup> in his heat for 200m & 3 <sup>rd</sup> in his heat for 100m

## Year 10

Year 10s have successfully sat their first PPEs - an amazing triumph which showcased their focus, resilience and determination as a cohort. Taking this into their first GCSE examination for Religion and Philosophy, the cohort are set to achieve brilliant things. Coming up next term, the students take on their next adventure: Work Experience. Students are preparing with interview calls, writing their CVs and attending preparatory sessions. We wish the students all the very best of luck, in their next Religion and Philosophy exam and with their placements too!

Mrs Cotton



### Facilities Hire

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

Summer	17th April - 26th May 2023
	4th June -
Bank Holidays	1st, 8th & 29th May 2023
CPD Day	30th June 2023



## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS



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.



### MCAS -

Please contact us at [MERoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:MERoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org) for support.