

Friday 15 November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

MER “Heads Up” News

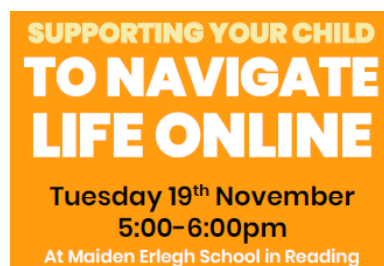
I hope that all the students and their families managed to find some time for downtime during the half term break and took advantage of the extra two days! We have had a great start to the new half term, uniform looked great on the student’s return and behaviour has been positive. The Year 11 students have come straight back into their first set of Pre- Public Exams (PPEs), last week they had their core subjects under exam conditions in the sports hall, to replicate conditions for the summer GCSEs, this week they have been undertaking their option subjects’ exams in classrooms, still under exam conditions.

At the beginning of this week, the Year 10 students also had a ‘Walking Talking’ PPE for their Religious Studies; the year group engaged extremely well and understood how important the exam rules and regulations are – well done Year 11 and Year 10!

Earlier this week, Mr Tomsett took a small group of students to the InterClimate Conference 2024 – a mock version of the real Cop-29 Conference taking place in Baku, Azerbaijan. Schools from across Reading took part in the debate which also saw the students discuss local climate action and questions a climate change panel in the afternoon session.



Next Tuesday (19 November) we are delighted to be hosting our first ever Online Safety Event – this is being run by our Safeguarding team, with the support of local charities and aims to help you and your child to build awareness of life online – including gaming and social media – please do join us and spread the word to friends and family who may not have children at MER – this is a community event.



On Wednesday 21st November parents of Year 9 & 10 students will receive their first set of results for the year. These will be emailed to all parents. Please take this opportunity to discuss your child's progress so far this year with them.

Also coming up on Thursday 21 November is our annual Cultural Dress Day – more info on that will come out nearer the time.

Finally, a reminder that coming up at the end of this month, as part of a whole school programme to build positive relationships and strive for success, we will be holding a **Student Progress Day (Thursday 28 November)**. This is in addition to your child's Progress Evening and is an important opportunity for the school to work with you to ensure your child makes good progress. During this day, it is our expectation that students will use this time at home to complete independent learning on platforms such as Sparx, Seneca etc. You will be invited **with your child to attend an appointment** to meet with your child's tutor or another member of staff to discuss academic progress, engagement and general participation in school life. To confirm, school will be **CLOSED** to students on that date apart from when they come to their appointment. There will be staff around to help with ParentPay and ClassCharts queries and, as long as we haven't sold out by then, we will be able to sell items from our second-hand uniform shop. Appointments will be made via our usual School Cloud system; an email with more information will be out this week and appointments will go live on Sunday, we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on this day.

Finally, we are trying to establish a presence on social media! We have had an X (formerly known as Twitter) account for a while, but we also now have a Facebook page – if you are on social media, please click the links below and give the accounts a follow to keep up to date with what is happening at MER.



Best wishes

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Will Graham'.

Will Graham

Headteacher
Maiden Erlegh School in Reading

