



ThePulse

Aim High, Be Inclusive and Work Together

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

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

As we reach the end of another busy and vibrant half-term and look forward to a much-appreciated weeks holiday, to recharge our batteries, I want to take a moment to reflect on the many achievements and events that have made this half-term so memorable.

Firstly, a huge well done to our **Year 11 students**, who have shown incredible focus and determination as they tackle their GCSE exams. We are immensely proud of the maturity and resilience they've demonstrated, and we wish them continued success as they move through the remainder of the exam season. Thank you to all of our staff who work so hard to prepare and support our students to do their very best in their final exams.

Our **Year 10 students** have been equally busy, sitting their **PPEs** in preparation for next year. They also sat their first "official" GCSE examination this week, their Religious Studies exam. Their attitude towards revision and assessment has been commendable, and these exams will provide excellent preparation and some valuable insight as we support them on their journey into Year 11.

We also welcomed families of **Year 7** to our virtual **Progress Meetings**, which offered a great opportunity to celebrate achievements and discuss next steps. Year 7 have also been preparing for their **Assessment Week**, and we're confident they'll approach it with the same enthusiasm and curiosity they've shown all year.

This term also saw the curtain rise on our **school production of Matilda**; and what a show it was! The talent, energy, and teamwork on display were simply outstanding. A heartfelt thank you to all the students, staff, and families who

supported this magical production, particularly Mr Butchers, Ms Z-M, Miss Venables-Perrett and Mrs Godfrey. It was a true celebration of creativity and of the MER community spirit.



This term, we marked **Mental Health Awareness Week** with a range of activities and discussions focused on wellbeing, kindness, and self-care. It was inspiring to see students and staff engaging so thoughtfully with such an important topic.

Finally, a special mention to our sporting heroes, on the 14 May our **Year 10 handball team**, competed in the **regional finals** in Bournemouth and finished an impressive **5th place, we were just one point away from the semi-finals!** Their teamwork, sportsmanship, skill and determination were a credit to the school. Our boys athletics team also competed this week in the District Athletics finals in Bracknell. There were many amazing performances, with 9 of our athletes winning medals in their events. Our Year 8&9 relay team won their competition, winning gold and the Year 7 relay team finished with a silver medal. Many of our athletes will now go on to represent Reading later in the season, which is an outstanding achievement.

As we head into the half-term break, I want to thank all our students, staff, and families for their continued support and commitment. I hope you all enjoy a restful and refreshing break, and I look forward to seeing everyone back for the final half-term of the year.

Mr Graham

CALENDAR

2 June	START OF TERM
11 & 12 June	Year 10 Geography Field Trip
16 June	Year 9 Careers Day
16 June	Year 10 Work Experience
18 & 19 June	Year 9 Geography Trip
18 June	Williams Racing Trip
24 June	Bank of England Tour
24 June	ELT Celebration Event
25 June	Year 6 Transition Day
30 June	Sports Day
2 July	Oxford University - Gold Programme
3 JULY	INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
4 July	Big Bang STEM Event
4 July	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
4 July	Year 11 Prom
7 July	MET Inter Trust Sports Event
8 July	Year 9 D&T Cadbury World Trip
10 July	Cultural Event Day
11 July	Year 7 Zoology Day
16 July	Year 7 Champions of Enterprise Workshop
16 July	Summer Arts Workshop
17 July	Awards Evening



Mental Health Awareness Week

12-18th May 2025



The theme for Mental Health Awareness week 2025 was community. To highlight Mental Health Awareness Week we had different activities for our community to access. In lessons we had Do Now activities in every lesson with a focus on different areas of Mental Health, we shared resources for parents in our weekly communications and we had a Wellbeing Competition organised by our Wellbeing and Anti-bullying Ambassadors, the winner of this competition is still to be decided but we had some excellent entries!

Mental health is something that everyone has and can be impacted in different ways and so it was important to

highlight this in school. As a reminder we have various methods for students to seek support if they need this; speaking to a member of the Safeguarding team, speaking to any member of staff, Wellbeing and Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, reporting concerns through ClassCharts and the school counsellor drop in sessions. We are also aware not everyone would like to talk to someone in school so we would like to remind everyone to try to talk to any trusted adult or their friends, or reach out to charities such as NSPCC, ChildLine or Young Minds if they need support.

Miss Davies

Year 7

Year 7, one half term to go!

As we settle into the summer term there is a lot to look forward to on top of the nicer weather and brighter evenings. In the final term there will be Sports Day, afterschool clubs, Careers Day, reward trips and events and much more.



We need to have a big final push on being on time to lesson and getting as many dream points as you can. The more dream points, the higher chance you have of being rewarded!

Keep up the good work, and one big push until 6 weeks off and being officially year 8.

Mr Hibbins

Lesson 1 – Community

The theme of Mental Health Awareness week 2025 is "community".

Social connections and community are vital for mental health and wellbeing. Through meaningful relationships and community participation, we gain support systems that help us navigate life's challenges. Communities provide emotional support, companionship, and a sense of belonging that reduces isolation.

Discuss what does community mean to you? What impact does it have on your mental health or wellbeing?

Lesson 5 – Create a gratitude jar

In the back of your book, or on paper, draw a gratitude jar and write all the things you are thankful for inside it. Decorate the jar with these like the example

Lesson 5 – You are not your thoughts

Watch the video.

In silence, take a few moments to reflect upon the thoughts you have had and how each thought makes you feel.

How can this be helpful for some people?

Year 8



Well what can I say another term has absolutely flown by. The progress that is being made across Year 8 continues to make me incredibly proud. I was thrilled to see so many of our Year 8 students represent the school fantastically in the school production of Matilda and across a variety of summer sporting fixtures. There is an overwhelming sense of positive maturity in Year 8 at the moment, and we are continuing to work together as a fantastic year group!

We have been on a journey to improve our attendance and punctuality this term and we are now really starting to see some great strides from the year group. I am looking forward to seeing how we fare in the second half summer term as we move closer and closer to Year 9!

Keep up all your hard work and let's keep on moving forward!



Mr Carpenter

Inter-Trust Sport

Exciting & varied sports events designed by our Heads of PE for all of our students in all of our schools

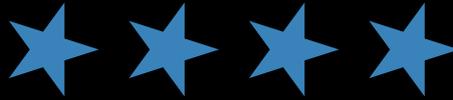
From Badminton to Ultimate Frisbee —
get involved, try something new, have fun
& build confidence



Opportunities For Everyone | Year Round | Celebrating Our Values |
Recognising Participation, Effort, Team Work & Leadership

Look out for information and updates on school notice boards, websites and social media

#METSport #TeamMET
#ProudOfOurSchools



On the 8 May the cast of Matilda performed twice for a magical performance. Alfred Sutton (year 5) came to visit MER, during the day, and loved the songs and were especially terrified of Miss Trunchball and her chokey!

The students have been working hard since November and they have put in the hours and were committed to excellence. The cast supported one another and learned about teamwork, focus and determination. They learned life skills which will impact them forever!



The evening performance was filled with parents, relatives, staff and peers. We had standing room only ! Well done to the cast and Mr Butchers who was the musical director, Ms Z-M drama director, Mrs Godfrey set designer and Miss Perrett our amazing PGCE student who was helping students with learning lines and motivating all the students.

We can't wait for next year!



ROALD DAHL'S
Matilda
THE MUSICAL JR.



Aim High, Be Inclusive and Work Together





MAIDEN ERLEGH TRUST

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

THERE ARE
TYPICALLY 3 SAB
MEETINGS PER
YEAR PLUS 3
TRAINING
SESSIONS TO
SUPPORT
DEVELOPMENT

BE PART OF OUR GOVERNANCE TEAM OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

Who are SAB Members?

School Advisory Boards (SABs) are crucial elements of our work with schools and communities.

SAB members are ambassadors of the school, engaging with stakeholders and ensuring the school is a safe and and happy place to learn and work.

The role description and person specification for School Advisory Board Members can be found on our website.

Our School Advisory Board

The SAB works closely with the Headteacher to provide support, challenge and a critical friendship in the context of the Trust's strategic vision and values and the school's culture.

SAB members also support the school by attending school events, providing support and encouragement to staff and pupils, developing links with the wider community and participating in panels for recruitment, exclusions, and admissions.

How can you get involved in a role?

We have a variety of School Advisory Board Member openings available across our schools in Reading, Wokingham and Bracknell. We are especially keen to hear from anyone who has an interest or experience within **Safeguarding and/or SEN** as we have vacancies for Link SAB Members covering these areas.

Experience of school governance or related fields would be helpful but is NOT essential as we would provide training.

Maiden Erlegh Trust Schools



www.maidenerleghtrust.org



0118 929 6020



governors@maidenerleghtrust.org

Recycling at School: A Greener Future with Food Waste Collection



As part of our ongoing commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility, MER has taken a significant step forward in waste management. In line with the **new UK recycling regulations** that came into effect on **31 March 2025**, we are now actively **collecting food waste from staff rooms, the kitchen and food tech separately** from other types of rubbish.

What's Changed?

The UK Government introduced a new "Simpler Recycling" system to standardise recycling practices across homes, schools, and workplaces. Under these new rules, **all schools in England** are now required to separate their waste into specific categories, including:

Food waste

Dry mixed recycling (glass, metal, plastic, paper, and cardboard)

Residual (non-recyclable) waste

This means food waste can **no longer be placed in general bins** or mixed with other recyclables. Instead, it must be collected in a **dedicated food waste container**.

Why It Matters

Food waste is a major contributor to landfill emissions. By separating it, we can ensure it is properly composted or processed into renewable energy, rather than contributing to methane emissions in landfills. This change not only helps the environment but also

supports MER and Maiden Erlegh Trust's sustainability goals.

What We're Doing

To comply with the new regulations and do our part:

The Eco Club is currently reviewing all classrooms to ensure that each one has **two clearly labelled bins**—one for recyclables and one for general waste.

Staff have received guidance on **what goes where**, helping everyone make informed choices and encouraging students to make the right choice in the classroom.

We're working with our cleaning team and waste collection provider to ensure **regular and responsible disposal** of all waste streams.

How You Can Help

Ensure your child has a reusable drinks bottle with them every day to reduce the amount of single use plastic bottles purchased from the canteen

Encourage your children to **use the correct bins** at school.

Talk about recycling and food waste at home to reinforce good habits.

Support our green initiatives by reducing food waste in packed lunches.

Together, we're making a difference— one banana peel at a time!

Year 9

It was fantastic to see so many Year 9 students leading the way in the school production. Congratulations to those involved in what was a truly remarkable performance. We have an exciting half term up ahead, our final half term before we begin our GCSE option subjects! A careers day, trips, sports day and more. We've got so much to look forward to. Keep up the hard work – you're amazing!

Miss Ryan



Year 10

Year 10 have had a fantastic term and should be incredibly proud of themselves. Their attitude towards learning has been nothing short of impressive, particularly in the lead-up to their first GCSE examination in Religious Education.

It's been brilliant to see so many students taking full advantage of the revision and booster sessions on offer, showing real commitment and maturity in preparing for their exam. This positive approach to study and revision lays an excellent foundation for the year ahead, when they will be sitting their full set of GCSEs.

Well done, Year 10 - you've set the bar high, and we're excited to see you continue to grow and succeed.

Mr Hood



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

SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

Click button for our latest Safeguarding Newsletter





Well done to members of 11E-En3 who came to intervention this Easter, outstanding effort and really determined to make progress.

Great work Deven, Edd, Kaiden, Javan, Jariece, Laura and Ganesh!

Maiden Erlegh School in Reading

BREAKFAST CLUB

STUDENTS ONLY

FREE TRIAL *Toast & Spreads*

STARTS WEDNESDAY 23RD APRIL

MUST ARRIVE IN THE ATRIUM BETWEEN 8:00-8:15AM

Funded through Tesco Stronger Starts Scheme

Year 11

Wishing Year 11 the very best of luck in their GCSEs. We have already started with a bang and I have no doubt we will see incredible success! Remember Year 11, stay calm, believe in yourself and do what you can - be empowered by what you can control.

Mrs Cotton



Chalk messages of support for students entering their exams.



Staff writing positive messages postcards for all of our year 11 students prior to their exams.



Year 11 students attended the first exam prep workshop.



SCHEME AT RISK OF ENDING DUE TO LACK OF VOLUNTEERS

Be a School Street marshal

Crescent Road is closed to traffic from 8.15–9am + 2.45–3.30pm, Monday to Friday, during term time.

Volunteers have been closing the road since February 2022, supported by the council. Around 2000 children attend three schools on Crescent Road and accidents were happening to pedestrians. It is now **quieter, safer and calmer** for everyone.

Marta O'Brien from the University of Reading measured air quality in the area. She said the School Street: '...helps reduce the air pollution, which is dangerous to health, especially to the younger population that is still growing and developing. A School Street scheme is also encouraging a healthier lifestyle and active travel.' She confirmed that the **Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) levels dropped** on average by over 40% between January to March and April to May 2022.

Alfred Sutton school asked parents and carers what their thoughts were on the School Street and 98% responded that it made them feel 'good, positive, happy, relieved and safer'.

Volunteers receive training and generally do one shift (morning or afternoon) each week. More volunteers are needed to keep the scheme going. Chat to a marshal or email meroffice@maidenerleghtrust.org to find out more.





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**

 0118 966 8065

 merlettings@maidenerleghtrust.org



MAIDEN ERLEGH
SCHOOL IN READING

Sports



school with hopefully much more to come and succeed in.

We had year 7-9 boy athletes compete in Reading school town Championships, where we had some fantastic success. We had 22 athletes go out on the day and 9 return with medals which is a fantastic achievement. We may have had some more had

the 100M. Remy came 3rd in High jump. Salim won the 300M comfortable and he is looking forward to representing Reading schools in the next round and beating his time.

The girls Reading school town championships are up next, happening just after I am writing this and I aim to post an update on their success next time.

Mr Blakeway



Carrying on from last term year 10/11 football won their league a huge congratulations to them.

This term has seen cricket training starting, and u15 have had their first fixture against Reading Boys school, it was tough day but with some positive experiences coming for some such a good partnership in the bat created by Nischal and Harshill in year 9 and also Ahmed in year 10 who has started the school recently showing us his excellent bowling skills.

Year 10 went to Bournemouth to represent Berkshire in handball. They represented the school and county with excellence on the day and missed out on the semi finals by one point. Some of our players stood out on the day Henij, Ezra and Sahibdeep. A growing sport in the

they not run out of the medals in time for the relays, where year 8/9 came 1st place and year 7 came 2nd place. Some standout performances came from Vihaan jumping 1.35m on the high jump and coming first place on his first time competing, his brother Vivvan came 2nd place in the Javelin losing out to first place by 35cm. Joshua and Elias both placed 2nd in their races. Nabil came 3rd in Javelin for the year 8/9's beating teammate Senzo by 20cm. Johnson and Lorenzo came 2nd and 3rd respectively in



Really successful day lots of medals and some going on to the next round.

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.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Click [here](#) to find a list of after school clubs

TERM DATES 2025	
	22 April - 23 May
Summer Dates	2 June - 23 July

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 for support.