

# MECEmatters

Issue 8 ♦ April 2021



Reades Lane, Sonning Common, Reading, RG4 9LN Tel: 0118 9721500

## Message from Andy Hartley Headteacher

The half-term closes on Thursday April 1<sup>st</sup> which, given the lockdown, remote learning, mass-Covid testing and a few weeks of normal teaching, seems an appropriate day to end the term.

I am delighted that we have navigated our way through so many twists and turns and emerged both as a school and as a community stronger and more focused than ever. Students have come to school with a real focus and strong work ethic and my daily walks are met with a quiet hum of industry and enterprise as I patrol the corridors and classrooms. It feels like everyone is pleased to be back.

I have also been really pleased that Year 11 have come back with a determination to succeed despite these uncertain times. Their NEA (non-examined assessment in subjects such as Food and Drama) work this week has really embodied their hardworking attitude with some superb brulees and monologues being constructed and delivered across these assessment days.

As we move into the summer term we can hopefully look forward to even more normality with the resumption of fixtures and some curriculum focused trips later in the term and hopefully residential trips in 2021/2022. I'm sure we're all, only too ready, for this return of proper school.

## CALENDAR

21–23 April	Year 11 PPEs (Pre Public Exams)
26 April	Junior Maths Challenge (Y7/8)
29 April	Year 11 PPEs (Pre Public Exams)
3 May	Bank Holiday
10–12 May	Year 11 Summer Assessments
W.c. 10 May	Careers Week
10 May	Adviza workshop (TBC)
11 May	TDP/MEN Immunisation
17–20 May	Year 11 Summer Assessments
28 May	Y10 Student Report
31 May – 4 June	Half Term

What has really shone through in all of this has been the resilience of our MECE young people. Despite so many restrictions, disappointments and ups and downs they have bounced back ready to seize their opportunities and for that I am both grateful and proud.

Happy Easter. Enjoy the break and we look forward to see everyone again on April 19<sup>th</sup>.



## YEAR GROUPS—HEAD OF YEAR ROUND UP

### Year 7

Year 7 have had a great transition back into the 'normal' school routine. They have shown such resilience and adaptability during these strange times, which has made me incredibly proud.

It is so lovely to have the whole year group back in school and I am thoroughly enjoying dropping into lessons to see all of the wonderful learning taking place.

A few of my highlights this term are as follows: Year 7 students putting themselves forward for and being appointed as House Ambassadors, the fantastic fruit kebabs and smoothies being produced in Food Tech, watching PE lessons that are full of great communication, laughter, positivity and team work and finally seeing so many Year 7 students attend afterschool clubs.

Despite the unconventional academic year, the Year 7 team continue to go from strength to strength, supported so well by their fantastic tutors.

I hope everyone enjoys a restful Easter break and that Year 7 return fully prepared for another successful term! **Miss Cheeseman, Head of Year 7**

### Year 8 & Year 9

I have been so impressed with the return to the classroom of both year groups. On the whole they have settled well and it is clear they are pleased to be back in school seeing their friends and, dare I say, the teachers too! I am certainly very pleased to see the students back in school.

Y9 have now received their options choices following a lovely presentation from Miss Bliss. They have dealt with the whole process in a very mature manner and it has been a pleasure to visit the tutor rooms and see them responding so positively to the next phase in their learning journey.

On my visits to the Y8 tutor groups, it has been great to see the Tutor Reading Programme in action, with them all listening to their tutors attentively and following the text carefully.

The uptake for extra curricular opportunities has been great to see and I know that the members of staff who run the clubs have been grateful for a sense of 'normality' in these being able to run.

All students have been reminded that they will need to have logged into Show My Homework so that we can set regular homework after the holidays.

With every good wish for a restful Easter break. **Ms Biddiss, Head of Years 8 & 9**

### Year 10 & Year 11

KS4 are settling back into the routines of school life and it is lovely to have them back in the classrooms with the energy they bring.

Year 11 are fast approaching the finish of their final year at MECE with timetables being given out for assessments, NEAs and mock exams. The majority of students are rising to the challenge and producing high level, quality work. A study skills assembly was held last Friday with lots of useful tips for successful revision. Behind the scenes we are setting up a Prom Committee and getting ready to order Leavers hoodies.

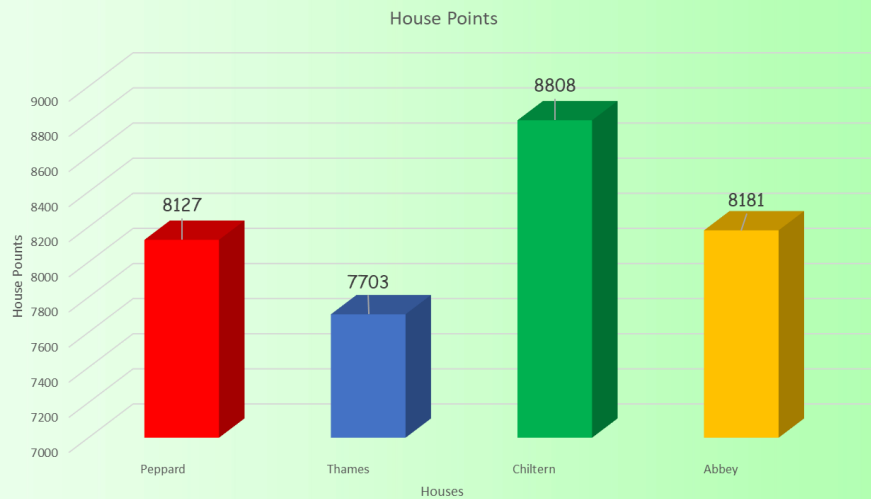
A couple of weeks ago we held Year 10 Intervention meetings with a selection of targeted students and looked at a range of strategies to support them. Hot Chocolate with the Head started again today for Year 10 and we will be looking to Year 10 to start thinking about applying for the positions of Head Students for their time in Year 11.

Being back in school after an extended period of remote learning has had its challenges and we are keen to support students with learning, or any other concerns they may have. KS4 have after school Maths support on Wednesdays and English/ Homework Club on Thursdays. Tutors or myself are always available to talk to about any worries or concerns. **Mrs Ashley, Head of Years 10 & 11**

## DOUBLE HOUSE POINTS WEEK—RESULTS



## HOUSE POINTS AS OF 29 MARCH 2021



## HOUSE MEMBERS OF THE TERM

### ABBHEY



Corey D—9C

12 House Points

### CHILTERN



Jerry J—9B

14 House Points

### PEPPARD



Siro—10A

11 House Points

### THAMES



Amelia B—8C

Lianna B—7C

Reice B—7B

Emma T—7D

13 House Points (each)

## REPORTING ABSENCE AND MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

If your child is absent for whatever reason our preferred way of reporting this is via [meceabsenceandmedical@maidenerlegtrust.org](mailto:meceabsenceandmedical@maidenerlegtrust.org)

Whilst medical appointments are advised to be made outside of school hours we understand this is not always possible. Medical evidence is required for all absences due to appointments in order to be recorded as an authorised absences.

We appreciate your support—*Inclusion Team*

## CAREERS

This term saw National Careers Week and the Trust's Virtual Careers Fair which can be found here:

[MET Careers Fair 2021](#)

There are some great, free, parental workshops here: <https://www.studyhigher.ac.uk/outreach-provision/space/>

Our #CareersWeek4 focus was all about Women, in conjunction with International Women's Day. Our objective is always to try to expand our students' horizons, and challenge some harmful and outdated social norms about what type of people have what type of jobs. The world is our oyster and we can strive for whatever career takes our fancy!

## RED NOSE DAY

Well done to all students who wore non-school uniform and donated at least £1 towards comic relief, we raised an amazing **£520!!** House points have been added for all those students and staff who all wore red items of clothing.

Well done to all students who also entered a joke via House google classroom in line with this years Red Nose Day theme, humour. House points have been added for all that entered, 5 points for the winning entries and 2 for the runners up.

Here are the winning entries:

**Theo R (Year 8, Chiltern)** - What do you call a judge who has no fingers? Justice Thumbs!

**Jess C (Year 9, Thames)** - What happened to the man who invented the door knocker? He won the no-bell prize

Runners Up: -

**Eleanor C (Year 7, Chiltern)** - Why do they tell actors to break a leg?

Because every show has a cast :)

**Ashton H (Year 7, Peppard)** - What do you call a Frenchman wearing sandals?

Phillipe Phillope





## ART, DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

What a fantastic end to online learning and return to the MECE kitchen, workshop and art studio. As practical subjects we found lockdown 2 another challenge, but have loved seeing KS3 students change Tech. and Food rotation. As Head of Department I love sharing our daily success so if you can't wait for MECE Matters why not check out our daily Instagram and Twitter posts to keep up to date.

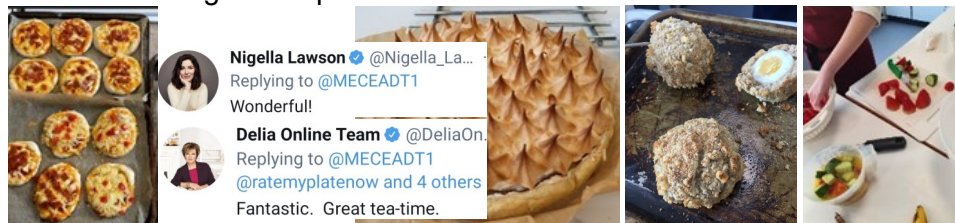
*Mr Watterson, Head of ADT*

**ART & PHOTOGRAPHY** We have been catching up with some of the practical skills we couldn't do in lockdown: Year 7 are exploring the patterns of Peter Randall-Page; Year 8 have been printing in the style of Angie Lewin and William Morris and Year 9 have been developing their work on KAWS drawing with marbles and creating designs for their post Easter ceramics.

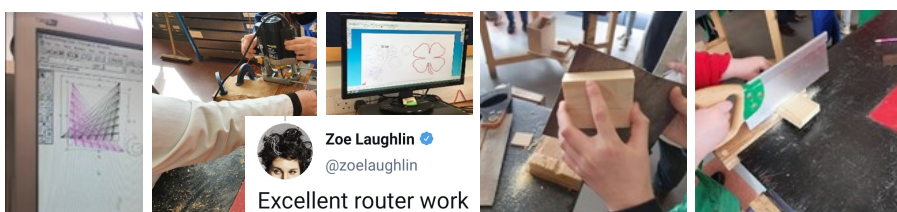


**FOOD & NUTRITION** Students have been creating some amazing culinary creations including: Year 7s, colourful and healthy fruit kebabs and smoothies; Year 8s, tasty pizzas out of their own homemade dough and Year 9s have been discussing food miles travelled to make their fantastic fruit pancakes.

Year 10 rustled up most amazing scotch eggs this week, looking at different cooking techniques and skills. Year 11 have



**DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY** Year 11 have been finishing off their projects that consist of everything from stools to sports memorabilia holders. Year 10 have been getting back to practical work learning about routers, vacuum moulding and pewter casting using the brazing hearth. KS3 has seen mainly preparation work with Year 9 designing clocks in 2D-DESIGN; Year 8 are using the same programme to design a pewter casting, while Year 7 are working on laser cut photo stands.



MECEADT @MECEADT1 · 1d  
Oh no it's Friday and maybe we didn't remember to take any photos 🤦 This weeks design and making highlights from the workshop! @Seymourpowell @Dyson @zoelaughlin all had to start somewhere! #FridayFeeling



@MECEADT1

@mechilternedgedt

## MATHS

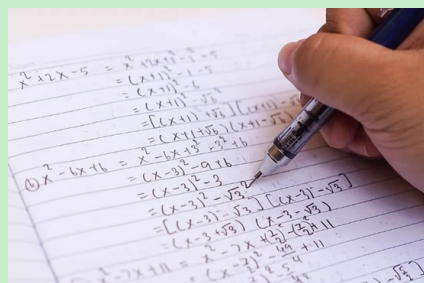
It is music to the ears to hear the footsteps of our students in the Maths corridor again. The classrooms are filled with excitement and the eagerness to learn. Finally, face to face teaching resumes!

While the Year 7s have been busy exploring the world of angles, Year 8 have been learning all about metric units and conversions. Did you know that the first speed limit was introduced by the United Kingdom in 1861 with a maximum speed of just 10mph? Imperial units were used back in the 19th century and was the unit of measurement until SI units (Système International d'Unités) were introduced in 1960. Most countries adopted this metric unit of measurement (kilometres rather than miles) and converted measured road distances and speed limits to kilometres (km) and kilometres per hour (km/h). The UK, USA and Canada retained the traditional mph unit as well as numerous UK colonies as shows in the table above.



Year 9 and 10 have been exploring the world of fractions after emerging from lockdown. The rational behind this is that fractions are a very specific point within the curriculum. They are of crucial importance for later mathematics, and without facility with fractions many of the subjects central to STEM, and more broadly, fully participating in the modern world, are simply out of reach. Hence, we have ensured that the students get plenty of practice through differentiated questions in class and homework.

Year 11s have been busy preparing for their upcoming examinations. We want to take this opportunity to wish them they very best in the coming weeks. May their hard and dedication pay off.



We understand that lockdown has not been easy for many, However, we are so pleased with the way in which the students have returned equipped, eager and ready to learn. In order to support their successful educational journeys, the maths department have moved to a weekly homework system. Undeniably, there is a link between homework and future success. Homework teaches students to work independently and develop self-discipline and encourages students to take initiative and responsibility for completing a task. With the aid of homework parents

are able to have an active role in their child's education and we recognise that it will help them to evaluate their child's progress. Therefore, the maths department will be assigning students with a written homework task on week 1 and an online Hegarty Maths homework on week 2. With a week to complete their homework and a Wednesday break 2 and after school Maths drop in session available for those who are struggling, the students will be reaching the tree tops of success in no time! *Mrs J Chopra—Head of Mathematics*

**Why shouldn't you let advanced math intimidate you?**



It's really as easy as pi!

**Why are obtuse angles so depressed?**



Because they're never right.





## PERFORMING ARTS



@MECE\_PA

### DANCE

**Year 7:** This term Year 7 students have been exploring Brazilian Dance! This includes the styles of Samba and Capoeira, with an emphasis on Capoeira once we returned to school. This week, students performed a short routine to self-assess their own blended learning - as half of this term was delivered online and the rest in school. It is really great to have them back in the studio, and see the energy and enthusiasm in person!

**Year 8:** At the beginning of term, Year 8 were creating their own TikTok dance at home, however when we got the thumbs up to be back in school, I decided to flip the topic to one that is more cardio based and with the possibility to be outside. Therefore in these last 4 weeks, we have been exploring parkour and Site Specific! The students are creating routines that are designed for specific environments and with props and obstacles.

**Year 9:** Time to get technical - this term Year 9s look at basic Ballet and the musical Billy Elliot! Although many get worried about studying ballet, this term is all about breaking down those stereotypes, gender assumptions and exploring Ballet in a fun, creative and narrative way. The story of Billy Elliot resonates even more so today, and challenges what is said to be 'masculine' or 'feminine'. As this is one of the last terms that all Year 9s will be doing before going into their GCSE subject groups, it seemed necessary to end with one of the hardest styles of dance, and give everyone an opportunity to show how much they have learnt over the last 3 years.



**Year 10:** Similar to the Year 9s, my GCSE Year 10 group have also been studying ballet. Whereas in this class, we take it up a notch and introduce the barre, with exercises executed in traditional ballet classes. This is accompanied with a contemporary/ballet dance in which the students helped to shape by using the approach SHOW-MAKE-TASK. This is used by Wayne McGregor, a choreographer for the Royal Ballet, who also produced the work 'Infra'. This is the professional work the Year 10s are exploring in their theory lesson. The Year 10s have done some great theory work over remote learning, so I am cranking up the level of intensity in the studio, to make up for lost time! And also prepare the students physically for a possible dance show in the summer...?! Fingers crossed!

**Year 11:** The Year 11 students are busy. busy. busy! This week was their NEA in dance, we wish them luck! They performed their Trio, choreographed by the teacher and also their own Choreography which they have been working on over lock-down. I have really enjoyed seeing these.

### MUSIC

In Music this term we have used our retrieval practice to remember the different musical elements and put them into practice.

This term **Year 7** have begun to read sheet music focusing on pitch and rhythm. Our Year 7s are learning to play the very famous 'Ode to Joy' by Beethoven by not only reading sheet music but enhancing their keyboard skills too!

**Year 8** are also enhancing their keyboard skills too, by playing various different elements of Blues music. All of Year 8 are playing the 12 bar blues with a walking bass line and some are even retrieving their memory of playing from sheet music by playing Glen Millers 'In the mood' melody line.

**Year 9** have been continuing their work from lockdown. They have been planning their music event, thinking about promotion, health and safety, pricing, jobs etc.

**Year 10** are finishing their first composition piece and consolidating their learning of Killer Queen by practising exam style questions and comparisons between Killer Queen and some unfamiliar listening pieces.

**Year 11** are completing their final pieces of coursework- performance and composition. The standard of work Year 11 are producing is fantastic and they should be so proud of the hard work they have put into their work.



## PERFORMING ARTS



@MECE\_PA

### DRAMA

Students have returned with great enthusiasm to their drama lessons. Here's a snapshot of what we've been studying this term in the Drama Studio:

**Year 7** – This term, we have been exploring the performance style of Melodrama. We have studied its origins in Victorian theatre, some of the typical storylines and many of the key features of the performance style. Many students have needed little excuse to show their melodramatic sides and it has been great to see the confidence of performance begin to return more and more each week!



**Year 8** – The unit of work we have been looking at this term is called *Devising Based on Human Rights*. In this unit, we use many resources from Amnesty International and also important works from the literary world to gain a better understanding of what Human Rights are and the work that charities like Amnesty International do around the work for those who've had their Human Rights abused. Many students have provided thoughtful reflections and have shown empathetic understanding of the hardships for many around the world and this has led to some considerable performance work.



**Year 9** – Having studied Willy Russell's *Blood Brothers* in Lockdown, we have come back to the studio to tackle some of the key scenes of this play in a more practical way. Whilst exploring the context of the play, we have been developing our performance skills, group working skills and interpretive skills with some engaging performance work.

**Year 10** – This term, Year 10 Drama students have been applying a practical approach to the study of their set text for their written exam that they will take at the end of year 11. In addition to realising key scenes, developing understanding of character, context, theme and plot, students have also learnt about motif and montage. After Easter, Year 10 Drama students will begin their first NEA (non-examined assessment) which is worth 30% of their final grade.

**Year 11** – Year 11 Drama students have been going full steam ahead as they have been preparing for their individual performances of monologues for their final NEA. The monologues have been taken from plays by John Godber which explore the realities and tragedies of nightlife culture in Northern England in 1980s/90s. The students have been working hard to learn their lines and perfecting their Yorkshire accents!



## PARENT BITES

Have you been trying to reduce your screen time? Thought of a digital detox? You might have watched our Parent Bites video clip on Digital Detox but not yet taken the plunge. Here are four fab tips to avoid common mistakes:

[https://www.itstimetologoff.com/2021/02/23/4-biggest-mistakes-people-make-when-they-try-to-log-off/?mc\\_cid=f7ddb09293&mc\\_eid=9c073a8830](https://www.itstimetologoff.com/2021/02/23/4-biggest-mistakes-people-make-when-they-try-to-log-off/?mc_cid=f7ddb09293&mc_eid=9c073a8830)

Our Parent Bites Video can be found here: <https://www.maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk/page/?title=Parent+Bites&pid=230>

We have had our first payment from the Co-op Community Fund and have raised **£155.38** so far. We have another 6 months to go, so please sign up, if you haven't already, and earn yourself and the school some cash!

All you need to do is register for a membership and name MECE as your chosen cause, either by installing the app [here](#) or signing up for a card [here](#). We will be using the money raised to improve the school canteen dining area, something that everyone can enjoy. Keep an eye on how much we raise by visiting our cause page <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/50537>



Remember the more people who signs up, the more money the school makes.

**Raise funds by collecting reusable clothes**

Items that <b>CAN</b> go in the bags	Items that <b>CAN'T</b> go in the bags
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adult's clothes and children's clothes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paired shoes and footwear <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soft toys and unwanted gifts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bath and hand towels <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Belts and handbags <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jewellery and accessories <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bedding and household linen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCHOOL UNIFORM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CURTAINS, PILLOWS OR DUVETS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCHOOL SPORTS KIT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BRIC-A-BRAC OR BOOKS

If you are unsure what to put in the bags **STOP AND THINK WOULD YOU WEAR IT?**

Please use the clothing bag provided. You can also use any additional bag if required.



We have 21 people signed up so far to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) who have raised a fantastic £196 so far! Thank you! If you haven't signed up yet, please do and choose Chiltern Edge School Association (CESA) as your cause.

[Support Chiltern Edge School Association](#)

Did you know... there is a parent-run private Facebook group for each year of students? Join to ask questions and take part in discussions related to your child's year group. Search for the following on Facebook groups

- \* New Starter 2020 Year 7 Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge
- \* July 2023 Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge Leavers
- \* Chiltern Edge - class of September 2017
- \* July 2021 Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge Leavers

## PE Department

*Click here to view our latest Sports Bulletin*



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## ParentPay

*Click on the ParentPay logo to login and register your account.*

*Any queries please email us at*

*ParentPay@maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk*



**ParentPay**

## Letters for Parents

[www.maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk/letters-for-parents/](http://www.maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk/letters-for-parents/)

*Click here to view recent communications*

