

Reades Lane, Sonning Common,
Reading, RG4 9LN

0118 972 1500

MECEoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org

www.maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk

MEChilternEdge

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## Dear Parent/Guardian

Another week rolls by and we are definitely in the rhythm of things now. The levels of engagement to our live lessons and online learning remain high and our staff remain incredibly positive in all sorts of ways. Hopefully, Boris Johnson's announcement earlier this week about 8 March as a date when schools could open was seen as positive endpoint for the students.

Whilst we are delighted with our provision we are constantly looking at ways that we could break up the weeks with worthwhile activities. This week's Holocaust Day memorial was part of that strategy. I was delighted to read the positivity on social media regarding the work the students completed. Eve Kugler's story, like all Holocaust survivors' stories, is both harrowing and remarkable and we were honoured to give our students the opportunity to understand and grasp the genocidal acts of the Nazis in World War 2.

Over the next few weeks we will be looking at other opportunities to change our offer on certain days. Watch this space for details on tutor mentoring days, World Book day activities and Science Week fun.

Our Options process for Year 9 is in full flow at the moment and the students attended an initial workshop last week. This will be followed up with a presentation on Tuesday 2 February during period 5 and an evening presentation for parents. The following week will see our full Year 9 Parents' Evening taking place. Once again this will be hosted on School Cloud and give an opportunity for some very productive conversations between all of our students, parents and staff.

I am delighted that at the moment we have been able to restructure our Inclusion Team to create a provision that works for our school. These staff support those students outside of lessons in a variety of ways to enable them to feel safe and access our taught curriculum. We are currently advertising for a part time Family Support Worker and a full time Inclusion Manager. Details of these vacancies can be found here

http://www.maidenerleghtrust.org/page/?title=Maiden+Erlegh+Chiltern+Edge&pid=53

if you are interested in being a part of a great team and a resurgent school.

A huge thank you to Miss Bliss who has been leading our drive for lockdown reading books. We have also had a financial donation from the Chiltern Edge charity to support this initiative to which are incredibly grateful. As a result, we will be giving each student in the school their own copy of a reading book in the next two weeks which is a fabulous achievement. Reading for pleasure is such an important habit to follow and supports academic achievement in so many ways so we are delighted with this accomplishment. We will be putting out our latest



Parent Bites video on this subject on Monday. In addition, Ms Grewal is running a reading challenge with the students which I heartily recommend the students get involved in.

Lastly, a big thank you to Ms Hardman who organised a great 'extra' for Year 11 set 1 today. These students had a virtual tour of a lab producing Hydrogen Fuel Cells courtesy of Mr Buche, one of our parents. This was a wonderful opportunity to enrich their learning. If any other parents wish to offer a small amount of time to discuss their careers in STEM industries please contact Ms Hardman on khardman@maidenerleghtrust.org

Please do not hesitate to contact us through our <u>FAB</u> and <u>DRAB</u> links to provide us with any feedback on our work and also use the <u>staff member of the week</u> link if you want to let us know about any member of staff you feel has gone above and beyond for the school.

We've had more lovely feedback in the last 7 days including a wonderful article in the Henley Standard which can be found here <a href="https://www.henleystandard.co.uk/news/chiltern-edge/158687/parents-praise-schools-lockdown-virtual-lessons.html">https://www.henleystandard.co.uk/news/chiltern-edge/158687/parents-praise-schools-lockdown-virtual-lessons.html</a>

"I would like to say a huge thank you for all the teacher for their dedicated work and endless help!

I am very grateful for each of you.

Your online teaching is really works and I can see all the works my daughter done. Everyday learning is running smoothly in our home the new schedule on the time table it's better.

My daughter is happy and balanced without any worries of falling behind.

MECE was our best choice for secondary school and it's keep improving time by time.

Thank you again!!"

Take care and have a lovely weekend

Andy Hartley Headteacher