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Dear Parent/Guardian

This is the end of my second week at MECE and I continue to be really pleased with the attitudes and conduct of so many of the students. It is a lovely place to work and I feel so proud to lead the school.

I have continued my visits to local primary feeder schools this week, dropping in to The Hill, Caversham Primary and Thameside. It has been great to forge links with these schools but what really excites me is the opportunities we will be giving our students. As a result of these links there will be a range of leadership and mentoring opportunities. Linked to this, today we hosted the South Oxfordshire Primary School Sports Hall Athletics Event and it was wonderful to see our students being great leaders and superb ambassadors for the school.

Earlier this week Mrs Benham, our Assistant Headteacher, gave an assembly on uniform and reminded the students of our expectations. As I stated last week I won't be changing anything in the uniform code, however, I will be insisting that students stick to the published code.

To me the uniform of a school is so important; it is a way of communicating a corporate identity and pride, an opportunity to look smart and learn the importance of dressing appropriately for work. Lastly, and most importantly, the uniform also allows all students to feel a part of the community regardless of the family income and background.

I have also been very pleased with our daily litter duty that has begun this week. For 5 minutes, once every few weeks during afternoon tutor time, each tutor group will be picking litter (using picking sticks you'll be pleased to know!). Already the site is looking cleaner and sharper and this will help us to take pride in our school which is so important as we move forwards.

I continue with my daily walk rounds and this gives me a clear insight into the standards of teaching and student conduct in the school. The vast, vast majority of students get it right, engage, work hard and delight the staff. With this in mind and looking to support this 95% of students please be reminded about the Parents' Forum I will be hosting on Wednesday, 22nd January, at 6.30pm. Anyone wishing to attend should email headspa@maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk before the end of Monday.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Andy Hartley Headteacher