



MAIDEN ERLEGH

CHILTERN EDGE

Headteacher: Mr A. Hartley
BA (Hons), PGCE

Reades Lane, Sonning Common,
Reading, RG4 9LN
0118 972 1500
office@maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk
www.maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk

31 January 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

This has been another very interesting and exciting week for the school.

On Monday, we implemented our Removal and Reflection Room. This room along with a clear behaviour code is designed to promote students making the correct choices in the classroom. With all new initiatives one never quite knows how it will go, however I have been incredibly pleased with the way the students and staff have responded to this initiative. Firstly, I think it has created a much more consistent language and standard from the staff in dealing with behaviour management which can only be beneficial to the student body. Secondly, it has helped many students to recalibrate their behaviour in lessons and be calmer. Walking around the school it has been very interesting just to stand in the corridors and listen and it has been noticeably quieter. Staff have reported very positively that students have understood the systems in place and have responded accordingly with some students who can 'get it wrong' being much calmer. Of course, it isn't perfect yet but we will continue to strive to ensure that the classroom and school is a safe space where children can learn and progress.

On Wednesday, the school along with everyone else in the Maiden Erlegh Trust attended an INSET day in Reading. Two things stood out for me: Firstly, that as a school we should be proud of who we are, our staff knowledge and growth mind-set. Our staff threw themselves into the day and really distinguished themselves with their contributions to the discussions and presentations. Secondly, that the Trust membership gives the school access to a huge wealth of knowledge and expertise which really enhances what we can do as a team. The staff returned from the day buzzing with enthusiasm and ideas which was just what we needed.

I also used this week as an opportunity to give the students an assembly on what I have noticed so far about MECE. There are so many positives about the student body - their manners, willingness to grow and develop and take on new challenges which heartens me considerably in the context of our improvement journey. One of my key messages though was that as a group and a team, we must not dwell on the past but look forward and seize the opportunities and possibilities that will be offered by the school.

Certainly, in my walk around during Period 4 today I saw so much positivity; brilliant Year 11 Drama and Food Technology work, outstanding application to Year 9 English group work, a superb Year 10 Science practical and great Year 7 art work. The students seem to be working really hard to adjust to our higher expectations.

Next week is another busy week. Can I use this opportunity to remind you of the Trust Careers evening at 7pm on Tuesday at Maiden Erlegh School on Silverdale Road in Earley. With over 80 exhibitors this is an excellent opportunity to really light the blue touch paper on the student's career aspirations along with improving their knowledge of academic and wider requirements for each career.

On Wednesday we have our Year 11 Intervention Evening which launches our final push for the GCSEs and how parents can support this as we move into the final 12 weeks of school before the examinations begin.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Andy Hartley
Headteacher