



MAIDEN ERLEGH

CHILTERN EDGE

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

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

1 May 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope everyone is safe and well. I was a little frustrated with the PMs briefing last night that nothing definitive was said in terms of re-opening. However, it looks like the details of reopening will be released next week from what was indicated. The term 'phased re-opening' had been used earlier in the week so we can imagine certain year groups being prioritised first (probably Year 10 given their GCSE examinations in the summer of 2021) however we are all guessing somewhat. In the meantime, I am involved in Trust meetings via Teams twice a week on what we need to do to make re-opening safe for students and staff.

We had some lovely news this week as our Year 10/11 Rugby team was nominated for the Sports Personality of the Year award at the Oxfordshire Youth Awards. Details of the awards night will be revealed later in the year but this was a fitting reward for a small school that enjoys so much sporting success.

Next, I'd like to apologise that I missed out from last week's newsletter the beginning of Ramadan. For the members of our school community who are Muslim please accept a belated "Ramadan Kareem" and "Ramadan Mubarak". We have two members of our teaching staff who are fasting so if you notice their communications getting slightly out of sync with the conventions of the normal western day this will probably explain why. Staff have been distributed a list of Muslim students so they are aware who may be fasting but from a parental point of view please do not hesitate to contact us if Ramadan is presenting any unforeseen problems in terms of completing work.

The week has been incredibly busy and I have met with Miss Bliss to plan out her upcoming role as Deputy Headteacher which is incredibly exciting. I have also spent a number of hours this week meeting the Heads of Departments and going through their curriculums. It is imperative to me that from the moment the students arrive at MECE that they are stretched, nurtured and supported in making the maximum amount of progress. I have been scrutinising what is taught, how it builds upon KS2, in what order, how it is assessed and how those assessments link with each other. These meetings were scheduled before Easter however lockdown rather overtook events but I was determined to hold them as they are a vital audit tool for me in establishing what needs to be done to move things further forward. Each meeting has been via Zoom and has lasted well over an hour and every HoD has left with a set of actions- for example to bring in setting in Maths early in Year 7 or in MFL to have clear unit learning objectives stuck into books so students can see how the work links back to previous learning but also gives clarity on what they are trying to achieve. In every case the actions will hopefully improve the outcomes. I will review the progress of these actions later in the term so that everything is very firmly in place for September.

I know that Mr Hunter has been busy this week with an exciting opportunity for Year 10 and 11 (Active Leaders) and also a whole school community initiative to keep busy and active during this month (Miles in May). Please have a look at the school comms he sent relating to these and do get involved if at all possible.

As promised, I want to launch the initiative of [FAB](#) and [DRAB](#). Please click on the links if you have any positive feedback about the school or staff or similarly any developmental comments which we can address.

Hopefully, the next time I write there will be more certain news about re-opening.

Yours

Andrew Hartley
Headteacher