



# MAIDEN ERLEGH

## CHILTERN EDGE

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Dear Parent/Guardian

### **What a week!!**

Another memorable week in the life of the school comes to a close!

When I got home on Thursday evening the weather reports were worsening and we were already absolutely stretched by a number of absences. The train service cancellations finished us off in terms of being able to offer all students face to face teaching so we made the late call of going to remote learning for Year 8 and 9. Communications were written to parents and staff and we were ready to go for a reduced service on Friday. However, I was awoken early on Friday morning by a notification on my phone of the red wind warning along with a subsequent number of What's App messages from the other Heads in the Trust and the CEO and CFO. By 5.50am the closure was confirmed. At this point I called Miss Bliss and we went into overdrive ensuring everyone was informed - staff, students, the website, Twitter, the buses, taxis, the council, radio stations, the governors, visitors, contractors etc. By 7.05am we had completed the communications and I think we did a good job as only one student came up to school - no names will be shared! The closure took a huge team effort and it is clear just how invested our staff are in 'Project MECE' - from very early morning, staff were messaging and enquiring how they can help and guarantee we get everything sorted ready for half-term.

To close is not a decision that is ever taken lightly and we have done our utmost to stay fully open in the last few weeks. Storm Eunice however presents a danger to human life and therefore the decision to close was not only prudent but also essential to ensure no members of the MECE family were put in danger.

### **The Addams Family**

The weeks other notable event was the school show. This was another brilliant #teammece event. I was up at school on Sunday to support the rehearsals and to be honest was a little unsure what Wednesday's performance would look like. Mr Harte had contracted Covid twice during the run of rehearsals, Miss Fay once, Ms Gardner was off with Covid in the final week including the performance night and numerous cast members had also suffered. At the final dress rehearsal on Tuesday evening one of the principal characters, Jess C, badly hurt her foot and needed to go to A&E. It was not boding well. However, Wednesday was just amazing. The costumes, the dancing, the acting, the staging and lights all came together brilliantly. CESA supported the performance with drinks and snacks along with raffle tickets, we sold out of tickets and two thirds of my staff watched the show (including support staff). It said so much about the school and the resilience and inner drive that our community possess along with a sense of solidarity and purpose. I was a very proud headteacher!



### **Behaviour, Uniform and Tools for Learning**

After half-term we will be doing a behaviour reset. The students have had a number of different staff in the last few weeks and we want to remind the students of our high expectations. One or two seem to have forgotten about skills such as quiet working and other positive habits.

In a similar vein please can you use half-term to replace any uniform that is outgrown, lost or worn out. Also, please can we ensure that every student has the correct set of Tools for Learning for Tuesday 1 March when we return to school.

The link for Tools for Learning is below

<https://www.maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=847&type=pdf>

My student 'Star of the Week' this week goes to **Jess C.** for her incredible dancing and acting despite being injured. The show must go on!!!

My Staff member of the week goes to **Miss Gardner**, who despite Covid, despite being absent still managed to support rehearsals and her classes across her absence

Please use the links below to leave us any feedback.

Have a great half-term and take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Andy Hartley  
Headteacher

