



07 December 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

A one off guest appearance on Friday newsletter duty from me, Miss Bliss, as Miss Green has succumbed to the winter flu.

As we rumble through the term towards the Christmas break the pace of life here at school certainly isn't showing any signs of slowing down. This week has seen ongoing successes from the Year 7 Girls football squad (notching up a win and a loss) in the local league as well as ongoing clubs for students in other year groups to hone their skills ahead of matches restarting in January. As you would expect rehearsals for the production of 'Alice in Wonderland' are also intensifying and from the vantage point of my office I am enjoying seeing a constant flow of newly created props making their way across The Quad to the Main Hall – although the sight of Ms Beaumont with an axe did cause a temporary moment of panic! After a minor glitch earlier in the week, tickets are now available on the Gateway and we looking forward to welcoming you in the final week of term.

Year 11 have now completed their written Mock Exams in what has been an intense week of testing. They have approached it with maturity and the invigilators have commented on how punctual and well behaved they have been. Next week sees the practical exams in 3D Design, Textiles and Art – best of luck for all involved.

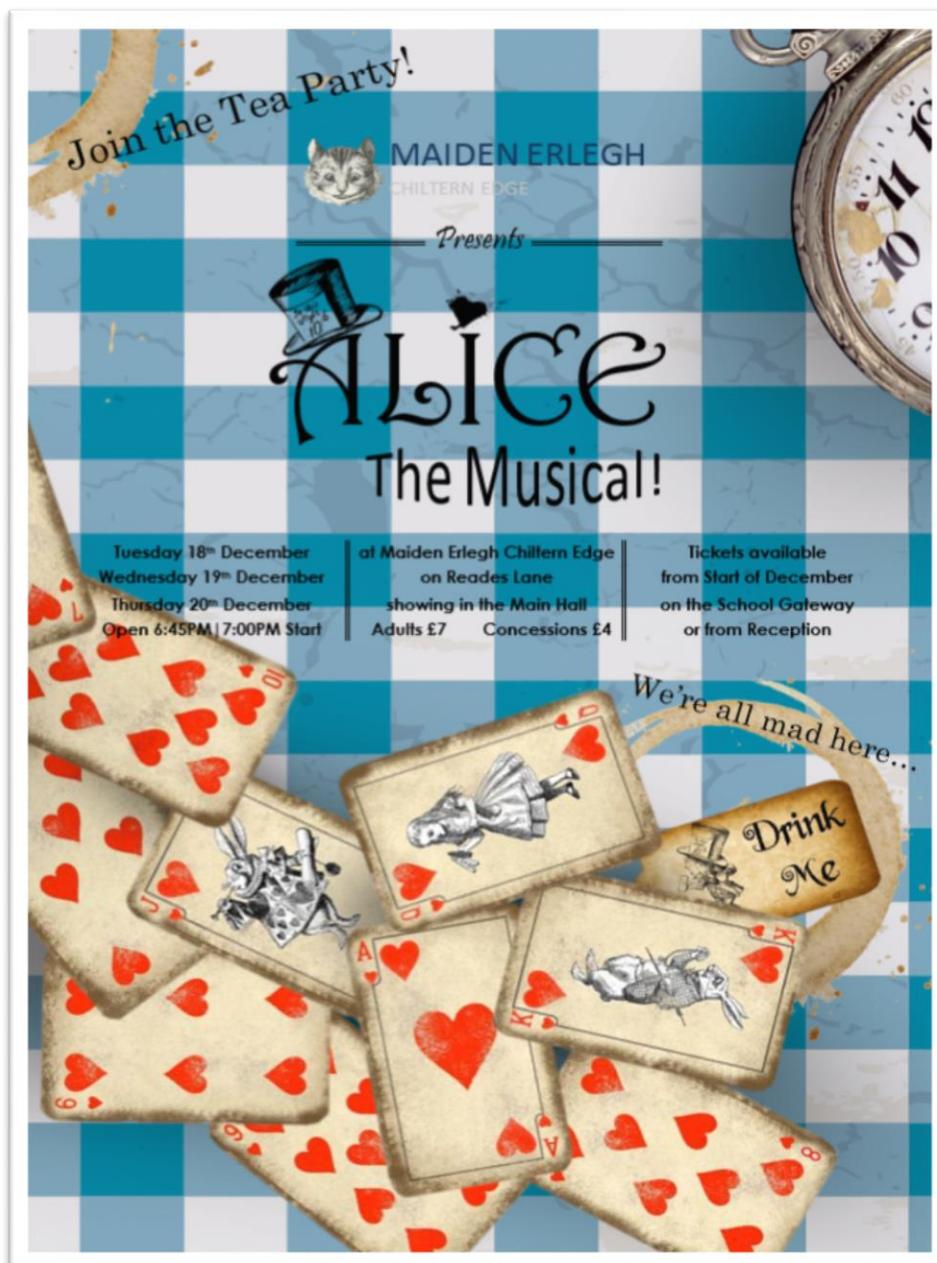
I was very proud to host Year 10 Parents' Evening on Wednesday evening. There was an excellent turnout and a very positive atmosphere in our temporary home of the English Block. An early warning that Year 11 Parents' Evening falls early in the Term 3 when we return after the holidays and provides an opportunity for a reflection on performance in the Year 11 Mock Exams. Details will be sent out next week for parents.

Wishing you all a happy weekend,

Miss Emma Bliss
Assistant Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

- 'Alice the Musical' tickets are now available to buy from School Gateway or from Reception.
- Christmas Jumper Day **21 December** for more details, click on the link [Last day of term](#)
- Last day of term is **21 December**. School closes at 12:30pm



Well Done

Well done to Year 11 who have completed most of their mock exams this week. The majority of students have behaved impeccably. There will be two catch-up sessions on Monday 10 December, for any students who missed an exam this week. These will be held in the classrooms next to the library.

Food Technology

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in the Food Department!

Year 9 completed their mini NEA2 style tasks on Thursday with an amazing array of recipes, from octopus salad, checkered cakes, to Yule logs and mince pies. Please do check out our Instagram [#mechilternedgeadt](#) for photographs of some of the amazing work they produced.

Year 11 have their mock exam paper today which I am sure will give them confidence for their GCSE's.

English

Year 7 have finished the play and have spent this week looking in detail at the main themes of loneliness and exclusion. The students have been thinking about which characters they empathise with the most and which characters they consider to be at fault.

Year 8 Some students in Year 8 have already completed their end of unit reading assessment task on *Much Ado about Nothing* and are now preparing for the end of unit writing assessment. This will be a persuasive writing task in which the students will have the opportunity to demonstrate the skills that we have been studying this half term. Homework this week is to make sure they complete the research and planning for the assessment next week.

I am particularly delighted to report that Cibran has completed his shoe box theatre which includes 4 of the key characters from the play. The care and attention to detail that Cibran has shown is fantastic! Well done.

Once all pupils in the group have finished their theatres, the aim is to use them to present key scenes to the class.



Year 9 The students are really engaging with *Romeo and Juliet* and have been very enthusiastically taking on the roles as we read through the play. Particularly well done to Clea and Taha for their portrayals of *Lady and Lord Capulet*. We are on the edge of our seats for next week's final act. The students will be taking a number of assessed pieces next week and homework is therefore to plan and revise for these. In our language lessons students have been creating and presenting their own manifestos to practise persuasive techniques. I was very impressed with the students' maturity and engagement with this task. The class then held an election which produced some very interesting results. This work leads us directly into the assessed piece in which the students will be writing a persuasive speech. **Mrs Quinn Head of English, KS3**

Year 10 are working on English Language paper 1 skills and English Literature power and conflict poetry. The poem this week has been *The Prelude* (extract) by William Wordsworth. The students have been exploring the conflict between man and nature and aspects of inner conflict in the poem. They also continue to have weekly spelling tests. Homework is published on Show My Homework.

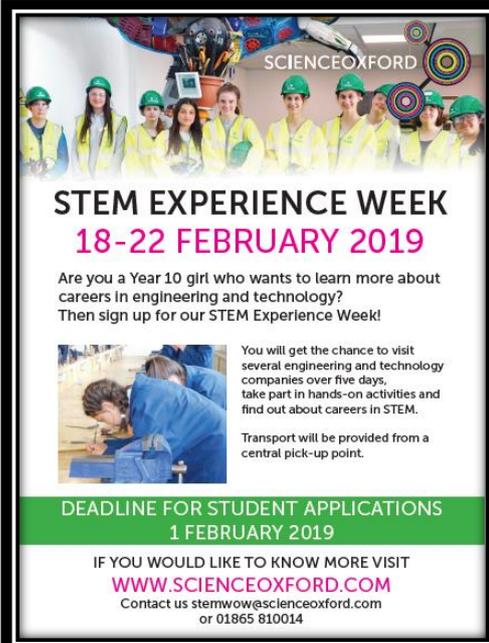
Year 11 have sat their English Language paper 1 and English Literature poetry mocks. They will now be preparing for their Spoken Language study which they will complete before the end of term. Weekly spelling tests are also completed. All homework, useful free revision guides and links to suitable revision/ study guides for every area of English Language and Literature have been published on Show My Homework. **Mr Ford – Head of English KS4**

SCIENCE NEWS

In today's world where employment is increasingly competitive our students need CVs that stand out from the crowd. This is particularly true for Science related degrees, careers and pathways. I regularly put posters by my classroom door communicating opportunities to students for work experience, participating in a clinical trial, optional Saturday trips, etc.

There are currently 2 posters outside my room that are for:

Year 10 Girls



SCIENCEOXFORD

STEM EXPERIENCE WEEK
18-22 FEBRUARY 2019

Are you a Year 10 girl who wants to learn more about careers in engineering and technology?
Then sign up for our STEM Experience Week!

You will get the chance to visit several engineering and technology companies over five days, take part in hands-on activities and find out about careers in STEM.

Transport will be provided from a central pick-up point.

DEADLINE FOR STUDENT APPLICATIONS
1 FEBRUARY 2019

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE VISIT
WWW.SCIENCEOXFORD.COM
Contact us stemw@scienceoxford.com
or 01865 810014

Year 11



SCIENCEOXFORD

STEM PLACEMENTS
JULY & AUGUST 2019

Are you thinking about a career in STEM?

Sign up for Science Oxford's work experience scheme for students in year 11 & 12!

STEM Placements last between 2 - 4 weeks and can be anything from laboratory practice and engineering to computing. It's a great opportunity to find out about STEM careers and training.

MARCH 29 2019 - APPLICATIONS DEADLINE
JUNE 2019 - LAUNCH
JULY/AUGUST 2019 - PLACEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 2019 - CELEBRATION

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE VISIT
www.scienceoxford.com/schools/secondary-schools/stem-placements
Contact us stemw@scienceoxford.com or 01865 810014

Ms Hardman, Head of Science

Humanities

Year 7 Geographers are busy finishing off their 'Landscape in a Box' homework project. I am really looking forward to seeing the outcome of their efforts this term as all landscapes are due in next week.

Year 8 Geographers have been trying to imagine how they would respond to a natural disaster and most importantly justify the decisions made.

Year 9 Geographers have been looking at migration and understanding the decisions a migrant may have to make when moving from Mexico to the USA.

Year 10 Geographers have been focusing on the challenges and opportunities of living in Rio de Janeiro.

Year 11 Geographers and Historians have finished their mocks in Humanities! Hurrah! The Summit workshop will return in January on Tuesdays from 3:10 to 4pm. KS3 Historians are busy preparing for their assessments next week:

Year 7 - Why did the Normans win the Battle of Hastings?

Year 8 - Why did the Spanish Armada fail?

Year 9 - Why was the Battle of the Somme so bloody?

Finally, Year 7 RE students are getting close to finish reading '*Running on the Roof of the World*' I wonder what happens next! **Mr Yarwood, Head of Humanities**

Physical Education

The PE department are now on Instagram! For updates and live streams of fixtures follow us at **maidenerleghchilternedgepe**.

Sports Captains

This week we have promoted the introduction of Sports Captains for each year group during assemblies. We are looking to appoint a boy and girl from each year group as 'Sport Captains' to help assist the PE Department with sports clubs, fixtures and leading at primary school festivals. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop their leadership skills and play a part in developing and promoting the school sports provision on offer at MECE. The deadline for applications is Monday 10 December, the application form can be found on our website, or by following the link: [Sports Captain Application Form](#)
Good luck to all who apply!

Fixtures next week:

Tuesday 11 December – Year 7 Girls Football play-off finals @ Bohunt School

Tuesday 11 December – Years 10/11 Boys Basketball @ St Birinus School

Fixture update:

Primary Schools Cross County

On a very wet and cold Saturday morning MECE held the last in the winter series of the South Oxfordshire Primary School Cross Country events. The weather did not stop students from Years 1 to 6 turning up in their hundreds to represent their primary schools and compete for the winter series trophy. Congratulations to Whitchurch Primary School who won the overall trophy for the winter series cross country. A massive thank you to the students from MECE, James, Will, Grace, Kamila, Alex, Shane, James and Chris, who have all helped over the 3 events that we have held and also to CESA for opening a café on the mornings to raise money for the school. We now look forward to hosting the South Oxfordshire schools finals in March!

Year 7 Girls Football

On Thursday evening our Year 7 girls' football team travelled to Bohunt School for the last round of games in the league. We were up against St Joseph's first, who had previously beaten us 1-0. The girls started the game strong with an early goal from Sajunae. The team remained focus and Hettie took the opportunity to score us a second goal. Our defence were solid, not letting anything past them and in the last few minutes Sajunae took on their defence, crossed the ball to Amy who smashed it in off the post, leaving the first games score at 3-0. Our next game was against Bohunt, who had only lost 1 of the 11 games they had played this season. The game started well, with both teams battling to get the first goal. Our defence worked hard against a strong Bohunt team but we conceded a goal 4 minutes into the match. Our team remained determined, taking every opportunity they could to attack but unfortunately Bohunt's team managed another goal shortly after, resulting in a 2-0 defeat for our girls. Despite the final loss our girls have done enough over the course of the season to make it to the play-offs on Tuesday 11 December, where they will face top of the league Denefield in their first match.



We are incredibly proud of Amy, Sajunae, Gemma, Hettie, Keeley, Summer, Jess, Jess, Carys and Frankie for such a fantastic performance this season and we wish them the best of luck for the play-offs on Tuesday! **The PE Department**

Art, Design & Technology

Another amazing week in Art looking at a range of artists developing, our observational drawing and painting skills.



Job Opportunity

TRUSTEE (NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR) OPENINGS ON THE MAIDEN ERLEGH TRUST BOARD

Maiden Erlegh Trust seeks two additional Trustees with particular interest and expertise in (a) education or school improvement and (b) finance.

Trustees are both charity trustees and company directors of the academy trust; the role is to hold to account the executive and senior leadership team. The Board of Trustees manages the business of the academy trust and may exercise all the powers of the trust. The Trustees ensure compliance with the trust's charitable objects and with company and charity law.

The Trust Board are responsible for maintaining stability during a period of rapid growth and the management of a dynamic structure. The role also includes contributing to financial planning for sustainability and growth, and holding the CEO/CFO to account. Applicants will serve as non-executive directors of the trust board with the opportunity to fulfil the role as Trust Strategic Lead and/or sit on an Interim Transition Board of a special measures school.

Interested parties do not need to be parents of children at any school within Maiden Erlegh Trust. Board meetings are held in Reading.

If you, or someone you know, are interested, please write to Mrs V Boatman (Clerk to the Local Advisory Board) at Maiden Erlegh School, Silverdale Road Earley, RG6 7HS or email trustees@maidenerleghtrust.org. **Closing date is Sunday 6th January 2019.**

CESA Lottery

The CESA Lottery is a great way to support the school and also have a chance of winning some great prizes in the monthly lottery draw. All proceeds go directly back to buying much needed equipment for the school. This year alone we have been able to purchase for the school a number of items including the Table Tennis tables, Vocab Express, Current Affairs Quiz and over £350 of PE Equipment all from the proceeds of CESA.



It costs just £1 per number, so for example a standing order just £10 would get you 10 numbers for the monthly draw.



December's bumper Christmas draw has an increased first prize of £100 and everyone signing up and paying before 14th December will get a free bonus number for the December draw. So why not sign up now and have the chance to win a prize whilst knowing all of the money will go back into your child's school.

In order to enter simply set up a standing order for the below account and email cesasect@yahoo.co.uk with your name, address, amount you wish to pay and date of the standing order. All prize winners will have the winning cheques automatically posted to their home address so no need to claim. Winning numbers are announced monthly on the Facebook page.

Account: CE Lottery

Sort Code: 60-10-35

Account- 05328322

Contact cesasect@yahoo.co.uk for more information

Thought for the week:

I can't go back to yesterday – because I was a different person then

Lewis Carroll