



09 June 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope you've had a good week and have been enjoying the seasonal warmth!

### **The Return to School**

We have returned to school this week with a positive approach to lessons, and school in general, which is pleasing. To support this, I have been delivering assemblies to all year groups regarding the new values that we will be promoting in the school and the Trust. We will be using the terms Aim High, Work Together and Be Inclusive as our guiding values. Students will see these around the school, hear it in morning briefings and see it on our Monday slides. We will also be binding some of our rewards and House points to these new values so student's work in these areas will be celebrated.

### **Year 11**

Year 11 have continued with their positive conduct and mature approach to their GCSEs and it has been pleasing to hear their positive feedback from the papers. Today saw the students sit their fifth science paper along with a geography paper this afternoon. It's quite the slog and still with another seven working days of exams to go!

### **Science Museum**

A group of 30 Year 8s had the privilege of a visit to the Science Museum on Thursday led by Miss Swayne, our new Head of Science. As the photos show, the students were fully focused on the lecturer and the activities they were involved in.



### **Mary Poppins**

The students had the news this week that the school production for next year will be Mary Poppins. Our shows are always such brilliant community events, but I also think this is an excellent choice with lots of great songs that will be familiar to the audience, along with a high energy script to entertain. Auditions will be held soon, when the big question of who will be Mary will be revealed!

### Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition

Our Duke of Edinburgh team continue to prepare for their final GCSE expedition which takes place in a couple of weeks. Thursday night saw them practising their tent assembly skills on a very warm afternoon. Fingers crossed they can remember what to do in a fortnight!



### This Half-term

This is a packed half-term which is always far busier than you think. From my point of view, a lot of time is spent getting ready for September through writing improvement plans, updating documents, preparing training and ensuring our new staff are primed and ready. However, this half-term always has many highlights with our Prom for Year 11 at Badgemore Golf Club, Sports Day, our Duke of Edinburgh expedition, a day out in the river with the geography department, a trip to the Tower of London, CESA bingo night and Summer Ball, our Transition events for our new bumper Year 6 and open mornings for Year 5.

### Presentation Evening

Our annual Presentation Evening will be held in November. We always have a guest speaker who provides our guests with some inspirational words on their journey and the lessons they've learned. Two years ago, we had former Chiltern Edge student and Olympic rower, Sam Townsend and last year it was our new CEO, Jon Peck. If any parents have ideas on who could be our speaker for next year's event, please do not hesitate to contact me - [a.hartley@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:a.hartley@maidenerleghtrust.org)

### Sonning Common Vandalism

I was saddened to receive an e-mail from a local resident regarding recent vandalism to a fence. This took place on Farm Close and has obviously caused the residents a degree of anxiety and distress. If anyone knows anything about this, do contact me, but please also talk to your children about their conduct on the school journey and the potential criminal consequences if they are caught committing any acts of vandalism.

### Stars

My staff star of the week this week is **Miss Cheeseman** for her sterling work supporting the PE department this week. In addition, it goes to **Miss Swayne** for a fantastic first week as Head of Science.

My student star of the week is **Charlotte** in Year 10 for her brilliant performance in the National kayak racing events over the half-term break. She achieved bronze, silver and gold and is looking to join the Olympic hopefuls. Charlotte is an outstanding student, but the fact that she

combines academic success and sporting excellence is a testament to her as a person and she is also developing wonderful life skills for her future.



Please do not hesitate to leave any feedback using the links below.

Have a great weekend!

Andy Hartley  
Headteacher

