



06 October 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we get to the end of Week 5 of the half-term it has been good to hear from both Year 8 students and Year 11 students in a student voice session that the new homework systems are effective and students are being pushed, with homework set more consistently than during last year. Whilst it is still relatively early in the school year it is good to know new systems are being implemented by staff.

Staffing

We have some good news, Madame Castets is arriving this weekend, following protracted problems acquiring her visa. We will be inducting her into the school across the week, making sure she is properly prepared and fully aware of how the school and curriculum work.

However, we have some sad news also. Dr Ramsookbhai, who only joined us two weeks ago and was shaping up to be an excellent teacher, has decided to permanently return to South Africa and left earlier this week. This has left us with a difficult situation. We have an art teacher who is booked for cover over the next week, and we have the position advertised and are exploring some in-house solutions within the Trust, but I realise this is not great. Please be assured that the students in Year 10 and 11 are our priority as we endeavour to minimise disruption and maximise student achievement despite this difficult situation.

Lottery

Please can I use this opportunity to advertise our school lottery that is run by CESA. Last year CESA raised £11,500 for the school and this has been used to purchase things such as table tennis tables for the playground, a 3D printer, extra textbooks, and many other items. I am proud of their work, and it says a lot about us as a school community. The lottery link is below and can I thank you in advance for your support.

[Support Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge when you play Your School Lottery - Your School Lottery](#)

CESA will be doing some painting of the inside of the school on Saturday 14 October and Tuesday 24 October. Any assistance would be appreciated, please contact Suzanne Hopes in the school office to put your name forward on s.hopes@maidenerleghtrust.org

Additionally, CESA's AGM is being held on Wednesday 11 October at 7.15pm in the school Training Suite. Please do come along to see how you could support one of the MANY events and initiatives that CESA are involved in.

Governor vacancy

School Advisory Board (SAB) Parent Member Vacancy

Today we open for nominations for a new parent member on our School Advisory Board (Governing Board). The remit of the SAB is to be "critical friend" ensuring the school and headteacher is held to account. The SAB currently have a vacancy for a PARENT SAB member as one of the parents' of 2023 leaver's will be leaving us at the end of the 2023. The election process opens Friday 6 October and closes at half term, we would strongly encourage you to consider applying. As the school grows, and with the change of Headteacher next year, this is going to be an interesting and important time for the SAB team.

If you would like an informal chat with someone about the role please contact our Clerk, Helen White at h.white1@maidenerleghtrust.org.

Stars of the week

My student star of the week this week is Vinny in Year 7 who, in his fifth week at MECE, led the History Club with a brilliant presentation on life in pre-unification Brazil. Vinny is a talented historian, and it is great to know he has an outlet for his intellectual passions through our History Club. Great work Vinny!

My staff star of the week is **Mrs Sarpong**, our Head of Science, who led a fantastic Science Fair earlier this week. The student's work was of a very high quality and their passion for their studies was apparent. This only comes from the high standards and strong leadership of Mrs Sarpong.

Have a great weekend and please do not hesitate to leave any feedback you may have using the links below.

Yours sincerely



Andy Hartley
Headteacher

