



18 January 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Another guest appearance from me, Miss Bliss this week.

As the temperatures plummet we enjoyed our first winter snow on Thursday morning – fortunately short lived and highly non-disruptive, but certainly provided some heightened excitement for a few minutes.

We have also been on high alert following Sonning Common's brief appearance on the National news as the hunt for 'Chris the rhea' became a talking point across the country. Safe to say he hasn't ventured onto school grounds but if he does we have a fully worked out plan to welcome him to our school community!

On Thursday Year 11 received their Mock Exam results. Congratulations to all the students for their conduct and engagement during the afternoon session. We were also really pleased to welcome parents in the evening to celebrate the successes and discuss the next steps with those students who still have some ground to make up if they are to reach their potential. We look forward to welcoming any of Year 11 students to Saturday School tomorrow from 9am to work on improving their English, Maths and Science.

Thursday for girls in Year 9 and Year 10 saw them engaging in a STEM workshop entitled 'People Like Me' delivered by Thales. It was hugely enjoyable and many of the girls commented on how inspired they felt afterwards. Opportunities for other year groups will be coming up through the year.

Today Year 7 have been competing in an inter-tutor indoor athletics competition. Warm congratulations to 7C who emerged victorious, but a big well done to all Year 7 who got involved. Thanks also to the newly appointed Sports Captains who helped officiate the day which saw local Primary Schools competing this afternoon too.

Fixtures are underway in Girls Netball in Years 7-9 and training begins next week too for Boys Football. I hope to see lots of students getting involved.

Please can I urge you to ensure that students are fully meeting our uniform expectations. Unfortunately there have been a flurry of hair, nail and nose piercings infringements since the start of term. In particular please be aware that students are not permitted to have 'unnaturally coloured' hair or wear 'unnaturally coloured' contact lenses to school. A copy of the uniform list is available to view on the school website and should you wish any further clarification please contact your child's tutor.

Finally, a reminder that the school is closed to students on Wednesday 23 January as staff are involved in a Trust-wide day of INSET.

Have a nice weekend,

Miss Emma Bliss
Assistant Headteacher

SCIENCE NEWS

Hello everyone!

This week I thought I would take the opportunity to introduce the fully-formed Science Department. I am sure you are aware, that it has been a challenge to form a full science department and I would like to thank everyone for their patience during this process.



Mrs. Hardman – Curriculum Lead Science

Mrs. Hardman trained as a teacher through Teach First and worked in a large, disadvantaged school in North London for 5 years, leading a team of 30 science teaching staff for 3 years. Moving to Sonning Common and joining Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge in January 2018, Mrs Hardman is keen to spark a passion for Science and education in all students.



Mr. Macdonald – Science teacher

Mr Macdonald trained as a teacher down in Hampshire after studying at Southampton University, and took some time off to travel the world and do a ski season. He is very excited to be part of Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge and pass on his passion for Science, even if it involves setting off the fire alarm every now and then!



Ms. Booker – Science teacher

Ms. Booker studied for her PGCE at Cambridge university, specialising in Chemistry. Prior to this Ms. Booker has dedicated her time to rowing recreationally and competitively as a lightweight women's sculler. Ms. Booker is enthusiastic about joining Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge and teaching Year 7 to Year 11.

Year 11

Year 11 have been working very hard and have recently received their Mock results. In the Science department we are cautiously pleased with the mock results, recognising they are a *jumping off point* and I believe that with effort a student can always improve by 1 or 2 GCE grades.

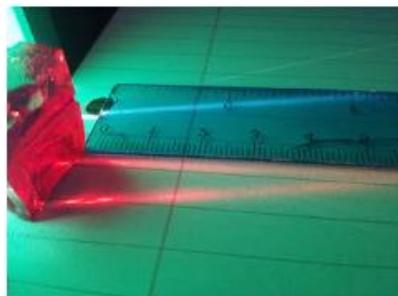
Year 11 have been conducting titrations in Chemistry this week and are looking forward to studying alcohols next week (although no consumption will take place in the laboratories ☺).

Please remember that there is Science Revision Breakfast every Monday with Ms. Hardman from 7:45 until 8:45.

Year 10

Year 10 are either studying waves in Physics or diseases in Biology.

Both groups are doing very well with Mrs. Hardman and Mr. Macdonald recently. Well Done to Will and Matthew who won the *Jelly Lenses competition* in Physics by shaping a convex lens with an exact 5.0cm focal length!



Year 9

Year 9 have been working hard with all three Science teachers. 9/2 have been learning about Mitosis and cell growth, making stop motion videos to display their understanding. 9/1 have been learning about the Brain and Spinal cord with Ms Booker and 9/3 have been learning about energy transfers and how it relates to particle movement and density.



Year 8

Year 8 have been studying Physics since coming back after Christmas and have been looking closely at magnetism this week. To the right is an example of work on magnetism.



Year 7

Year 7 have also been studying Physics, looking at Newtons Laws and Forces. We are pleased that Year 7 are now being taught by Science specialists and I know that a lot of excellent work has been happening across the department with Year 7.

Watch out for future trips and information for all of these year groups!

**Many thanks
Mrs. Hardman**