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Dear Parent/Guardian

Although this term has been but five weeks long, I feel like we have packed in just as much as usual! Yesterday marked the end of the year 9 options process which has been expertly run by Miss Bliss. I am delighted that every single form has been returned in time for the deadline - what a brilliant example of how seriously year 9 have taken this important process. We have welcomed Miss Lategan into the ADT team this week and sadly say goodbye to Mr McEvoy who is returning to John Mason School in Abingdon - we wish him well for the future.

Skiing, Geography Association Quiz & Primary School Athletics

Most of you will, I am sure, be looking forward to a break next week but those taking part in the ski trip will still be getting up early to make the most of the slopes - this is just one of the great extra-curricular opportunities on offer at MECE and we will shortly be asking for expressions of interest for the 2025 trip!

I was delighted to hear of the success of our Geographers at the annual Geography Association Quiz on Monday. They put in an excellent performance against some teams which included much older students. Congratulations to Dylan C (Yr 8), Vini D (Yr 7), Achinthya N (Yr 7), Samuel S (Yr 9) and Imogen C (Yr 9) for their outstanding efforts and for being great ambassadors for MECE. We are very proud of you all. A big thank you to Mr Sheridan for organising the trip and giving up his time to support the team.

Back in school, the PE department have been busy hosting two athletics events for Primary School students this week. Pupils from years 5 and 6 joined us on Wednesday and pupils from year 3 and 4 joined us on Thursday and were ably supported by our year 9 young leaders and our year 10 BTEC students who showed great maturity and leadership skills in the roles which they took on and were a credit to the school. Thank you to the PE team for a great event!

MECE Pride

Looking ahead to next term, I am going to be focusing on our sense of MECE pride. There are so many wonderful things going on around school both in lessons and through the extra-curricular programme and I will continue to showcase them each week through this update. This week I have been particularly impressed with Mr Spicer's tutor group 7D: they received praise for their brilliant learning in geography from Mr Sheridan and I dropped in on a perfectly silent room when they were reading in registration (to be honest I was the main disruption asking them to tell me about their books!) Thank you to Mr Spicer for everything you have done to support 7D in their excellent start to their time at MECE.

Uniform

Finally, do look out for a letter about uniform which will be sent out today. For me, wearing school uniform with pride is an important element of creating a school culture where everyone is 'on the team'. Students who choose to do the right thing every day will be rewarded for their efforts in this area.

May I take the opportunity to wish you and your families a peaceful half term break. Thank you very much for your support in these first weeks of my headship, I have appreciated your warm

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welcome to the MECE community. As always do use the feedback form <u>here</u> or email to <u>meceoffice@maidenerelghtrust.org</u> to let us know your thoughts about the school.

Best wishes

BBOWERS

Briony Bowers Headteacher

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