



# MAIDEN ERLEGH

## CHILTERN EDGE

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Dear Parents & Carers

Spring is certainly in the air in Sonning Common as we have seen a welcome return to sunny, if a little chilly, days over the last week.

Monday was National Offers Day – where families with Y6 students across the country received their Secondary School Offers for September 2025. We are delighted to have offered over 100 places to students from South Oxfordshire and North Reading and look forward to welcoming families into the MECE community over the upcoming weeks and months as they begin their preparations for Year 7. On Thursday we held the first of three open morning events for prospective parents to (re)visit the school and student ambassadors from Years 7 and 10 acted as guides spotlighting key areas of the school and answering questions.

Some immediate feedback from Year 6 families has been their delight in seeing the positive news stories on local Social Media pages as well as our own dedicated channels – a huge thank you to parents who have posted themselves or shared the school's stories, it really does have an impact. Details below of our handles, please do take a look and follow us!



[@maidenerleghchilternedge](https://www.facebook.com/maidenerleghchilternedge)



[@MEChilternEdge](https://twitter.com/MEChilternEdge)



[@maidenerleghchilternedge](https://www.instagram.com/maidenerleghchilternedge)

This week we have been shining a light on some of the many students who have been awarded Praise Postcards within lessons for work that embodies the Trust and School values: Aim High, Work Together, Be Inclusive – it has been wonderful to read the testimonies of students and hear their pride at receiving the award.



Last Friday, when the students were enjoying a lie-in, all our staff attended the MET Conference for a day of reflection and professional development. Sessions across the day focused around a central theme of “Belonging and Mattering” which struck a chord for me and the MECE team as

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Aim High



Be Inclusive



Work Together

these are values, we endeavour to uphold for our students on a daily basis. The conference provided much food for thought and I look forward to gathering student voices over the upcoming weeks to hear their thoughts and ideas for pushing this forward too.

Year 11 student, Dariia has, this week delivered an extra-ordinary assembly to some of her peers outlining the ongoing struggles in the Ukraine. She spoke passionately about the conditions and impact on her own family and others alike. Students and staff were moved by the content and impressed with her strength to talk about something so deeply personal and emotive.

Year 11 are now firmly in the final run into GCSEs with Drama and Food Tech NEAs over the last two weeks and the D&T and Art deadlines fast approaching. The quality of the work created has been phenomenal and students can be rightfully proud of their efforts.

This week saw World Book Day – an opportunity to focus on the importance of reading both within the curriculum and for pleasure. Mrs Flett made a sterling effort with her attire dressed up as Mrs Birling (from GCSE text, An Inspector Calls) whilst other staff shared their current reading book to start conversations and tutor groups completed activities in tutor time. Year 7 and 8 students have had reminders about accessing Sparx Reader and can reflect their commitment through ensuring their reading homework has been completed for the week to date, collectively, the students in these year groups have completed 167 books since mid-January – a good start but room for improvement still.

Year 10 Work Shadow Day in May draws closer and I know students are working hard to secure a placement. I will renew my plea to make contact with the School Office if you are in a position to host a student for a day and provide an insight into your line of work.

A shout out to the 60 or so Year 9 DofE students who continue with their training and are progressing nicely with their volunteering, skills and physical sections of the award. They are in school this weekend for an extended training day – a huge thanks to Mr Caldwell and the team for giving up the time to support them.

And finally, Saturday marks International Women's Day and I wanted to say thank you to the very many strong and inspirational women within the MECE Community – those who are champions of the school and what we stand for, those who are raising wonderful young people and those who give tirelessly to ensure the very best provision day in and day out.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



Miss E Bliss  
Interim Headteacher

