



# MAIDEN ERLEGH

CHILTERN EDGE

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Dear Parents & Carers

It certainly has felt more Spring like this week, with some glorious afternoons filled with sunshine. It has been fitting for our Kindness Week with spirits lifted and positive interactions abound. The initiative has been driven by the Year 11 Head Student team who were keen to showcase and promote the importance of “being kind” both to each other and to ourselves. In assemblies this week they have talked about the practice of ‘random acts of kindness’ and ‘paying it forward’ giving their audiences time to reflect on these simple habits that we can all adopt. There has been a noticeable drive on clearing litter from the site and the number of simple acts of holding doors and saying please and thank you have been abundant. On a personal note I must thank Phoebe in Year 7 who had taken the time to learn to crochet, spurred on by our increasingly popular lunchtime Crochet Club and gifted me a scarf to take on the Ski trip this Easter – a very kind and unexpected gesture that brightened my Monday morning.

I know Year 11 would want me to say a huge thank you to all parents and students who have supported today’s non-uniform day with over £500 being added to the Prom fund. This money will be spent ensuring that the tickets to the event (held after GCSEs finish) is as affordable as possible. Their final fundraiser takes place next Thursday with another bake-sale following the hugely successful event earlier in the Spring Term.

On Monday, REACH delivered a workshop to Year 7 students as part of their Religion & Philosophy lessons marking Easter and exploring the meaning of the festival within the Christian Calendar. REACH then provided a ‘pit-stop’ for staff at break time, serving tea and cake – a lovely and much appreciated offering in the penultimate week of term.



Students from across Years 7-11 and staff have also been sending messages of kindness to each other to say ‘Thank You’ for acts of thoughtfulness with Mr Clark acting as postman-extraordinaire sprinkling a little joy. These will continue into next week and complement our Praise Postcards which are still gaining huge recognition – please do check out our social media feeds for some of our most recent recipients.



Aim High



Be Inclusive



Work Together

I am always delighted to receive emails from parents (and the wider community) sharing good news stories about students, or to give a shout out to staff – you cannot imagine how much of a boost it can be to receive these. If you would like to share a good news story with us or would like to say thank you to a member of staff, please do drop me a line or send the information via this [form](#).

Following our successful Open Mornings for families with places for September, next week sees Sonning Common Primary School Year 5s on site for a Secondary School Experience Morning – this will include an assembly, some taster lessons in music, Humanities and Drama and some team building activities. Sessions will be delivered by staff and student ambassadors – I look forward to sharing the highlights with you next week. Planning is also underway for some MECE students to head out into selected Feeder Primary schools to work with groups of their students. Currently we have sessions by Year 8 students who are creating a workshop on Kindness and members of the ever-popular History Club devising a session on “The History of Sonning Common”.

I continue to be asked by parents how they can continue to support the school and so wanted to highlight a couple of upcoming opportunities to support the school over the next few weeks:

- **26 April (3-6pm):** Spring Clean Up – you will have received a [flyer](#) with further information and ways to sign up or offer other means of support.
- **9 May (from 7pm):** CESA Quiz – team sign up opening shortly!

Finally, I wanted to remind you all that next Friday 4 April is an extraordinary INSET Day, and the school is closed to students. Staff will be receiving training on Class Charts which will be replacing many of the functions of the MCAS app – most notably holding the information on behaviour and house points, attendance, and homework assignments. Many of our staff have used Class Charts in other settings (or as parents themselves) and speak very highly of its functionality and ease of use. Further information will be coming to parents about signing up and activating and we will be rolling out the student version of the App upon our return after the Easter holidays.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely



Miss E Bliss  
Headteacher

