



05 April 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

It has been a long term. Right up until the end we have been working hard.

KS3 footballers came fifth in the regional finals and our Year 7 netball team have made it through to the playoffs.

This week visitors were in school to conduct a full review. This was important for us as it allowed us to demonstrate the progress we have made. The reviewer spoke positively about us:

- Things are better.
- The school is calm and well ordered.
- Students are polite and well mannered.
- Learning is happening in classrooms.
- There is a joy around learning.
- The wide range of opportunities is a strength of the school.

Whilst we know that there are still things that we need to improve his opinion is that we are no longer in special measures. This is a really great way to end the term. It has been a massive team effort to get this far.

The ends of terms are always bitter sweet because we sometimes have to say goodbye. I am delighted for Miss Tustian that she has secured a promotion in the Oxfordshire Hospital School, however, I am sad for the school because I know that Miss Tustian has provided stalwart support for many of your children. We wish her the very best of luck.

For Year 11 Easter school is the 15, 16, 17 and 18 of April.

Have a restful break,

Moira Green

Headteacher

E-Safety and Screen Addiction

During the Easter holidays your children will probably want to spend (even) more time in front of their screens. We are all aware that this poses a risk to them not only in terms of what they might access and who might be talking to them but children are increasingly developing addictions to their screens.

If you need help or advice on keeping your child safe online, how to talk to them or what you should talk to them about, then the NSPCC is a great source of information: [NSPCC](#)
National Online Safety have a wealth of information about the apps and gaming platforms your children are using: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/>

If you are concerned about the amount of time they are spending online, this Parents' Guide to [Screen Addiction](#) may be particularly useful to you.

Thinkuknow is a website delivered by the National Crime Agency's CEOP Command and is another great source of information and advice [What is the internet of things?](#)

Performing Arts Newsletter

We've had a busy term in Performing Arts and have been able to celebrate lots of great performances in GCSE assessments, lessons, workshops and after school clubs. Some of the highlights include:

- Stunt workshop run by a professional stunt artist from TAKE3 Productions
- GCSE performance in Drama, Music and Dance – Well done!
- The Performing Arts Showcase which hosted 26 acts! All singing, all dancing – and acting too!
- Year 11 Drama students went to see *Woman in Black* in London's West End
- The first Battle of the Bands – Organised and run by Year 9 student James B.

Here's a taste of some of the fun we've had:



Everybody Dance Now! – Dance update

Year 11: Huge congratulations to the year 11 dancers for completing all of their GCSE Practical components! The Choreography exam successfully took place on Monday, and Miss Gardner was very proud :) Have a lovely break over Easter and come back ready to nail the theory exam!

Year 10: Year 10 have been working on Ballet technique this term, and looking at the dance piece 'Infra' by the Royal Ballet. The class will also have the opportunity to see the Royal Ballet perform at the Opera House in London in May, along with other selected performing arts pupils

Year 9 Thriller!

Year 9 have been studying Thriller this term! For their assessment, they had to create a costume and apply stage make-up to look like one of the creatures of the night in the Thriller video. They looked fantastic!



Year 8: This term, Year 8 have been studying the hip-hop styles of Tutting and Krumping - two very different and difficult styles. They have explored the dance company Boy Blue Entertainment and created a fact-file to show their knowledge of their topic. Home-work of the term went to Ian J and runner up home-work of the term to James B - well done!

Year 7: Year 7 have been exploring the musical Lion King, and the use of props and masks in dance. They have been embodying the style of African dance, and understanding how to develop skills for choreographing. For home-work the year 7s created a mask for their chosen animal, and used these in their assessment.

'Shadows' workshop: On Sunday 7th, MECE will be hosting a 'Shadows' dance workshop by the Phoenix Dance Theatre. All GCSE Dance year 11s and 10s should be attending, along with some potential GCSE Dance year 9 pupils. The workshop will aim to expand upon pupils understanding of the company, and the dance piece 'Shadows', which is studied at GCSE level, and to immerse them into a full day of contemporary dance delivered by a professional artist.

REMINDER: if you haven't paid yet - please do so!



Music to my ears! – Music Update

Year 11 have finished their performance unit these past 2 weeks. I have been so proud of year 11 for this exam and they have produced some really high-quality performances- Even our guest musicians commented on the high standard of the performances! Well done year 11!

Reminder: Every Thursday after school will be revision class- this is imperative that students attend.

Year 10 have made a good start in preparation for their performance exam and are gaining good marks towards this.

Year 9 have been using their compositional skills to create either a song or compose music to a video game. Some really creative ideas, and really catchy songs!

Year 8 have shown excellent musicality this term with their project 'Musical Futures.' The students have been performing pop songs in bands and have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to play on different instruments or sing to create confident and well performed pieces. Well done year 8!

Year 7 have been composing too! They have been understanding the theory of chords and melody where they composed a chord progression and a melody to go over the top. The students have written their pieces in notation form and performed them to the class.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Choir every Thursday Lunchtimes

The Minuets- Every Friday lunchtime for students who can play instruments

'All the World's A Stage' – Drama

Year 7 have been exploring the works of Shakespeare this term. We have been to 'fair city of Verona' when we looked at the tragedy of *Romeo and Juliet*, to the towers of Elsinore castle in *Hamlet*, ending up upon stormy seas in *The Tempest*!

Year 8 have risen to the challenge of the bizarre acting style of Berkoff through the play *Metamorphosis* which is based on Franz Kafka's story of a man 'wakes from uneasy dreams' to discover he has transformed in a beetle!

Year 9 worked in large groups this term as they produced an ensemble performance based on a key moment in Willy Russell's *Blood Brothers*. The students worked hard to create a tense, sombre and tragic atmosphere in their performances.

Year 10. Students have begun their first examined piece – devising their own performances based on a stimulus from the exam board. I can't wait to see what they create!

Year 11. After a trip to see the terrifying *Woman in Black* at the Fortune Theatre in London, year 11 Drama students have been preparing for their written exam. Keep revising!!

A Farewell message from Ms Tustian

I just wanted to thank the incredible students, parents and staff for everything while I have been working at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge over the last 5years. I have loved working here and wish all the students the very best in the future. I am looking forward to moving onto an exciting new challenge, but will miss everyone in the school community and I am very grateful for the positive support I have always received. Best wishes Mollie Tustian