



# MAIDEN ERLEGH

CHILTERN EDGE

Headteacher: Emma Bliss  
BSC, MED, NPQH

- 📍 Reades Lane, Sonning Common, RG4 9LN
- ☎ 0118 972 1500
- ✉ meceoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org
- 🌐 www.maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk
- 📧 @MEChilternEdge

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Dear Parents & Carers

Yesterday we bid a fond farewell to Year 11 who now have additional time to focus on their final studies for GCSEs. The day is always bittersweet with time for celebration and reflection. Emotions often spill over as we all contemplate the excitement for what is coming next and sadness for their MECE days coming to an end. Students completed the shirt-signing rite of passage and lots of photographs were taken with friends and staff alike. Their final assembly was punctuated with memories from Year 11 tutors, Mrs Smith and Mr Sheridan, photo montages of images from across their last 12 years of school, thanks and good wishes from the Head Students and finally a few words from me – an extract of which you can read [here](#).



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Aim High



Be Inclusive



Work Together

Last Friday, CESA hosted the annual MECE Quiz. Fourteen teams battled each other in rounds testing their knowledge of collective nouns, general knowledge, song first lines, Christmas Films and many more. The winning team took an early lead and never relinquished it, eventually clinching the top spot with a point to spare! Mr Perry's infamous humour kept the teams chuckling away and the bar did a roaring trade across the evening too. A huge thank you to CESA for putting the event on and to all those who supported the evening – all in we raised over £1100 which is a fantastic effort.



With the quizzers battling away in the Canteen, 60 Year 9s (and three staff) were setting up camp on the field for their practice DofE camp. Once camp was set, games of rounders were set up (to try and tire the students out a little!) and then bed and sleep with the knowledge of a day's walking ahead of them on Saturday. The practice walk is the perfect opportunity for students to realise for themselves that three sets of spare clothes, shoes, full toiletry kit and enough food for a week are really not necessary when you factor in having to carry everything you bring! The qualifying expedition in the summer term will (hopefully) see a bit of packing streamlining from a few as well as some closer attention to the map!



Yesterday around 30 students from across Y7-10 took part in South Oxfordshire County athletics at Tilsely Park. Students not only performed well and were keen to volunteer for the different activities but were hugely supportive of each other during their events too.

One of the great joys I have had as a Head is receiving information from students and parents about successes from outside school. This last week has seen a particular influx of good news stories, and I thought I would share a selection with you all.





Following a task in Personal Development, Y7 students **Isla, Lilah and Ruby** designed a poster to encourage their neighbours to donate to a local foodbank in Sonning Common and set up collection points. On Tuesday they delivered their donations to the Springwater Church who were extremely grateful! Excellent work girls!

At the end of April, Year 8 student **Ellie**, was invited to attend a Girl Guiding International Recruitment event with the hope that she might get selected to represent Oxfordshire Guides on a trip to Canada in Summer 2027. The assessors shared that they had been impressed by Ellie's leadership skills, teamwork, and positive mental attitude'. They also said, 'she was kind and friendly to all the other girls'. Last week Ellie received the news she had been offered a place on the trip next summer! The hard work continues now as Ellie embarks on fundraising activities which will include a sponsored kayak from Reading to London & hosting stalls at local village fetes selling cakes and bespoke earrings.



Lots of students represent sports teams over the weekends including football, rugby, swimming, netball, and gymnastics. One success we heard about this week was AFC U14 boys football team which Year 9's **Finn and Isaac** play for winning the Peter Houseman Cup with Finn earning Man of the Match for his efforts. Great stuff!



Last week I shared that Year 10 had engaged in Work Shadow and that we had received lots of positive feedback about their days out in the “real” world. The good news kept coming this week – one student, **Phoebe**, who had completed her work shadow at K9 Woodland Services had impressed so much that she was contacted by the manager and following a short interview has secured herself a Saturday job – superb!

Please do encourage your sons/daughters to share their successes outside school with us – we love to be able to recognise their achievements and celebrate with them!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully



Miss E Bliss  
Headteacher

