



10 May 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

The builders have landed! The whole of the site is changing daily as scaffolding is erected and the rooves are prepped and repaired. We thank all the staff and students for their patience during this time. Short term pain for long term gain!

Today a group of budding scientists from KS3 have visited from KS3 have visited Johnson Matthey Technology Centre in Sonning Common village to learn about the work undertaken.

Next week fixtures and athletics for the Summer begin in earnest. I am hoping to be able to share lots of good news on the Summer Term.

Year 11 French Orals were completed yesterday. Another exam ticketed off for some.

Next week sees the start of the main block of written exams with a French Listening on Tuesday morning and the all Year 11 have Biology that afternoon.

Parents of students in Year 11 are asked to familiarise themselves with the recent communication from Mrs Reilly (Exams Officer) for the procedures and expectations around exams.

Moira Green
Head Teacher

Parent/Carer Workshop - CAMHS

Focus: Fears & worries are very common among young people- this workshop will explore when anxiety might become a problem, thinking about what keeps it going and suggesting practical strategies based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy techniques to help you as parents / carers to support them to overcome their worry.

This session will be run by Cerian Townsend-Allen *SPA In Reach Mental Health Lead* and Verity Harris *School in Reach Worker*. All parents & carers welcome.

Date: Tuesday 6th June

Time: 5.30pm-6.30pm

Location: Maiden Erleigh Chiltern Edge - AV Theatre



A Focus on...

Bullying

From time to time all schools have issues with bullying. At Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge we work with our children to educate them about bullying and how and where to get help. We take all reports of bullying seriously but we can only intervene when we know about it so it is important that concerns are raised with us as and when they arise. The NSPCC definition of bullying is *behaviour that is repeated over a long period of time and can hurt a child both physically and emotionally*. We work with all of our children so that they understand:

- When someone does or says something unintentionally hurtful and they do it once, that's RUDE.
- When someone does or says something intentionally hurtful and they do it once, that's MEAN.
- When someone does or says something intentionally hurtful and they keep doing it even when you tell them to stop or show them you're upset, that's BULLYING.

For information on how we tackle bullying at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge please see our [Anti-Bullying Policy](#). For support and advice: [National Bullying Helpline](#) or [NSPCC](#)

INCLUSION NEWSLETTER

A new mentoring service

We are delighted to report that we have secured funding from Thames Valley Police to be able to employ the services of a local mentoring organisation. NOMAD are based in Henley and already work with students in local secondary schools. They will start working in our school after the half term break, two mentors will come in each Thursday morning and between them they will work with eight students. They will see each student for a six week period (or longer if need be) and will tailor the sessions to the needs of the child. The inclusion team will identify students to be mentored but if you have someone you would like to recommend please let us know.



Deaf Awareness Week

This week is Deaf Awareness Week and to celebrate it, all tutors were provided with resources to help both themselves and students understand the Deaf experience. A lot of people remain unaware or cautious in communicating with Deaf people, which keeps them (roughly 11 million in the UK) isolated within what is commonly referred to 'the Deaf world'. Isolation is both unpleasant and damaging; everyone likes to be included. However, many of us don't know where to begin, and many of us remain unaware of the experiences and adversity a Deaf person might face - the solution is often just a little awareness of their circumstances.

Please find these resources as a good point to start, and hope it sparks some real interest. Deaf culture is as rich and diverse as any other. Remember, we can learn to sign, they can't learn to hear!

Watch: What It's Like to Read Lips | Short Film

<https://youtu.be/n1jLkYyODsc>



We are delighted to be able to confirm that the school has purchased new **Lexia** licences for 50 of our students. This means that the Year 7 students currently using Lexia will have time to finish the programme at the beginning of Year 8 and we are able to offer this wonderful resource to our new Year 7 cohort in September.

Lexia has complemented the English curriculum for those students who have needed a boost with reading, spelling and comprehension and has been well received by the majority of students in the group. A number have completed the programme and the most recent to have achieved this is **Kaitlyn 7C – Well done!**

Due to the two Bank Holidays we have not been able to deliver our normal 'rewards lesson' where students are congratulated for their progress and certificates have been given where levels have been achieved (there has also been the occasional chocolate incentive!!), so this Monday we will hopefully see some huge progress from some of our students.

If your child uses Lexia, please do encourage them to complete their 60 mins a week at home. This can be divided into 3 sessions of 20 minutes which is very achievable.

Communication and Interaction Group

Tracy Hinton, our ASC support worker, has been visiting the school every Tuesday and engaging groups of students in activities to increase confidence and self-esteem. We are delighted that Tracy has agreed to continue these sessions with our students until the end of the Summer Term.