



19 June 2026

Dear parents and carers,

I'd like to say it's been a quiet week here at MECE – but that wouldn't quite capture it! And certainly, as I look around at the staff and students this morning there are a few tired faces – not only as a result of the England game!

A look back at some of the in-school milestones and successes from the week:

- **Year 11 Final Exam:** A huge shout-out to our Year 11s who officially crossed the finish line this week! They sat their final papers on Monday and there was a palpable “We’ve done it” vibe around the building. They have shown so much grit and resilience over the last few weeks, and we are incredibly proud of how they handled the entire exam season.
- **Year 9 Core PPEs:** Our Year 9 students also stepped up in a big way this week, completing their core PPEs from **Tuesday to Thursday**. It was their first real taste of formal exam conditions, and they handled it brilliantly. Staff have commented on a commitment to revision as well as being fully prepared with the equipment they need for each exam. Next week Y9 will have their taster sessions in each of their allocated Options subjects – a chance to feel what the courses are like and actually learn the first pieces of content too. For each of their subjects they will have a small piece of holiday work assigned to help ensure they can hit the ground running in September. Students will have an assembly on Monday morning where all the details of the timetable will be shared – but those doing **BTEC Sport** will need **their PE kit on Thursday** for their session.
- We had some fantastic news from the maths department. Two of our students picked up a **Gold and Silver awards** in the Junior Kangaroo Maths Challenge. This is a massive achievement that puts them among the top young mathematicians in the country – congratulations to both Anushka and Hazel.



This weekend, amidst likely soaring temperatures, our intrepid Y10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh group take to the Surrey hills for their practice expedition. Accompanying them is Mr Caldwell and Ms Connolly – and I'd like to thank them both for volunteering their time.

As you know, we also welcomed Ofsted inspectors to the school this week. We knew we were in the "window" for a visit, so when the call came through on Monday morning, our plans swung right into action.

Naturally, there were a few nerves, but mostly we just felt a real sense of excitement. It was our chance to show off our wonderful school community and the huge strides we've made over the last few years in our lessons, our achievements, and student behaviour. It was an intense couple of days, but every single person did us proud. The inspectors repeatedly mentioned:

- The calm, positive, and purposeful atmosphere across the school.
- The high quality of the lessons and the great work in the students' books showing progress and knowledge acquisition.
- The kindness & respect shown between staff, pupils, and each other.

They were also incredibly positive about how we champion our most vulnerable pupils, noting how obvious it is that we truly know our students and their needs inside out.

There is a pretty long process of writing up the report and going through quality checks, so there's a good chance it won't actually be published until after we break up for summer. As soon as I'm allowed to share it, it'll be heading straight to your inboxes!

Finally, I want to say a huge thank you to all of you. Thank you for filling out the surveys so quickly and for sending such lovely, encouraging messages to our staff.

I also have to give a special shout-out for the absolute mountain of cakes and biscuits that found their way into the staff room. Those little hits of sugar and adrenaline were exactly what the team needed to keep powered up through three very intense days. We really are incredibly lucky to have such a supportive community behind us.

Have a wonderful, relaxing weekend!

Miss E Bliss
Headteacher

