



22 July 2026

Dear parents and carers,

End of Summer Term Newsletter

As we reach the end of another busy and successful academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our students, staff, parents and carers for their continued support. The final week of term has been packed with activity, celebration and opportunities for students to finish the year positively.

Whilst it may be the end of the summer term, productive lessons have continued right up until these final days. This has been particularly valuable for our Year 10 students as they edge ever closer to Year 11.

A huge well done to students for their commitment and dedication to continuing their studies deep into July, consolidating knowledge and beginning to make plans for the summer. As we often remind students, a little bit of consistent work goes a long way, and the foundations they build now will make a significant difference next year.

Kenya Expedition Update

Our Kenya expedition group continue to have an incredible experience and have fully embraced every aspect of the trip so far. Alongside time spent working within the local community, students have enjoyed a safari where they have been fortunate enough to see elephants, lions, giraffes and hippos in their natural habitat.

They have also experienced a traditional church celebration, giving them a unique insight into local culture and community life. The group are currently working within local schools, delivering lessons and supporting community projects. Their enthusiasm, resilience and willingness to get involved have been exceptional, and they are proving to be fantastic ambassadors for our school.

Throughout the trip, students are working alongside the charity **African Adventures**, which supports the Nakuru Grace Academy through year-round fundraising for essential supplies, equipment and development projects.

To find out more about the charity's work, or to make a donation, please visit our [African Adventures Just Giving Page](#)





End of Term Rewards

Today, the vast majority of students qualified for our end of term reward event and were able to enjoy a session on the inflatable assault course.

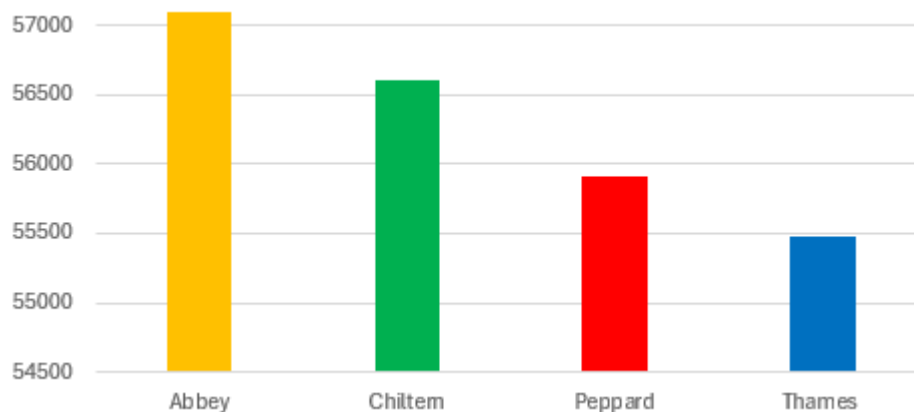
Following its huge success last summer, the inflatable has returned once again and proved just as popular. It was fantastic to see so many students taking part, encouraging one another and enjoying some well-deserved fun after a year of hard work. Even a number of staff members couldn't resist joining in!



End of Term celebration wrap up

Following Chiltern's success last week on Sports Day there was palpable expectation and excitement for the overall House Winner for 2025/6 which was announced in assembly earlier today – the final tallies can be seen below and a huge congratulations to Abbey House for their win.





House Points are collected by students in a variety of ways and as such truly reflect attitudes that meet our school values both in the classroom and in interactions around the site. Congratulations to our end of year House Point top scorers, whose positive contributions, effort and commitment throughout the year have been recognised.

Top House Point Scorers

- **Year 7:** Gabi, Emilia, Eva, Toby, Lucy, Hazel & Austin
- **Year 8:** Rosamund, Charlotte, Anushka, Isobelle, Mia, Hanna, Edith, Leo & Leathan
- **Year 9:** Achintha, Olivia, Zakary, Aaron, David, Peter & Ellie
- **Year 10:** Libby, Deanna, Elliot, Jay, Grace, Eleanor & Konstantinos

Additionally, I would like to make note of the students who have ended the year with 6 or less negative points to their tallies – equating to just one point per half term. The reality of being a teenager is that sometimes you get things wrong or forget something – but the important thing is not making a habit of it! Overall around 30% of Y7-10 fall into this category across the school – certainly something to be recognised and be proud of! A special mention to the 34 students who have had no negative points across the year – superb!

I am also now able to update the fundraising that was completed for our House Day earlier in the term – a huge thank you for your generosity which has meant we raised over £1000 for our 2 designated charities: The Epilepsy Society and The Weller Centre. In September there will be a further raffle for the Epilepsy Society – look out for details in the new year.

Congratulations also to the many students who have maintained outstanding attendance throughout the year. Our top tutor groups for attendance this year are 7C, 8A, 9C, and



10A. In addition, over 70% of student in Y7-10 have ended the academic year with an attendance of over 93% - congratulations to them all.

Attendance is an area that undoubtedly requires striking a delicate balance. Without question, both physical and mental health must always come first, and we will always encourage families to seek support through us, or specialist services, whenever needed. However, we also know that regular school attendance has a significant impact on future academic progress, confidence, friendships and overall wellbeing.

As a school, we finish the year just below the national average for attendance. While this reflects some positive improvement, we know there is more work to do together next year to ensure every student has the best possible opportunity to achieve their potential.

Farewell and Best Wishes

As we reach the end of the academic year, we also say goodbye to several valued members of staff who are leaving MECE to embark on new adventures and opportunities: Mrs King, Mrs Constanescu and Mrs Kosch heading to new posts within the Trust, Mr Bell, Mrs Roberts and Mrs Chakera complete their deployment with us, Mrs Jenkins and Miss Khawaja are commencing Teacher training. We thank them for their dedication, support and contribution to our school community, and we wish them every success and happiness in the future.



A special mention must go to **Mrs Howes**, who begins a well-earned retirement after an extraordinary career in education spanning more than **38 years** across West Berkshire and Oxfordshire. While her time at MECE has been just one chapter in that remarkable journey, it has undoubtedly been one that has left a lasting impression on our school community.

Mrs Howes has made a significant contribution to the life of the school through her commitment to students, her passion for mathematics and her unwavering support of colleagues. She has helped countless young people develop not only their mathematical understanding but also the confidence and resilience needed to succeed.



I know that MECE has also left a lasting impression on Mrs Howes, just as she has on us. She will be sorely missed by the Mathematics team and by the many students whose lives she has influenced over the years.

On behalf of the entire school community, we thank Mrs Howes for her service, dedication and care, and we wish her a long, happy and fulfilling retirement. We hope she enjoys every minute of this next chapter.



Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. I wish all of our students and families a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming students back in September, refreshed and ready for another successful year. A reminder that on Monday 7 September we welcome Y7 and Y11 only with the rest of the school returning on Tuesday 8 September.

Have a wonderful summer.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'E Bliss'.

Miss E Bliss
Headteacher

