

 Reades Lane, Sonning Common, Reading, RG4 9LN
0118 972 1500
office@maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk
www.maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk

7 January 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to the Spring Term

I am writing to you to introduce myself and to share with you an overview of the assembly I gave to the students this morning.

Firstly, can I say how incredibly excited I am to take on the role of Headteacher at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge. I spent all of Monday working with staff on my vision, my expectations for teaching and learning and my expectations for behaviour management. I will be putting aside an hour of each day to visit classrooms and lessons to ensure that standards are a high as possible. However, changing the culture of the school and moving it forward will not be an instantaneous event so please can I ask for your trust and a modicum of patience whilst I observe and appraise current provision. In my previous role at Brakenhale School, whilst progress was rapid it still took a period of time before the improvement initiatives implemented gained traction and yielded results.

As a Headteacher feedback from the parents' community is really important therefore please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail on head@maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk and I will endeavour to respond to your concerns as rapidly as possible. However, whilst I am always happy to meet parents this is usually very difficult within the school day as you can imagine so please can I ask that an appointment is always made before seeing me, this can be booked by emailing my PA, Mrs Allen, on meceheadspa@maidenerleghchilternedge.co.uk.

I will be holding a Parents' Forum on the evening of January 22nd so please look out for the invitation in the next few days.

Lastly, with regard to the assembly I held this morning, I saw all of the students in an attempt to ensure there was a clear message given on the first day of my tenure. I shared my educational values and vision and made it clear that my moral drive as Headteacher is firmly focused on improving the life choices and life chances of all the students within the school. However, within that I also shared my expectations of them and of their behaviour and attitude to learning. The classroom is a place for academic work and concentration and the teacher as such is in control of that environment, therefore to have the learning of 25 students disrupted by one or two individuals is simply not acceptable. The assembly also included some positive recognition to those students who had gone over and above; for me this was very important as I want the school to be a place that celebrates success, builds confidence and raises aspirations.

I look forward to working with you.

Best wishes

Mr A Hartley Headteacher