



# MAIDEN ERLEGH

## SCHOOL

Headteacher: Paul Gibson

MSc (Educational Leadership), BA (Economics)

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3 May 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

### #TeammaidenErlegh Updates

Mr Gibson is unable to send an Headteacher update this week, therefore in its absence we would like to inform you of some important staffing information and upcoming events.

#### Change of Deputy Headteacher from September

Earlier this term Mrs Bendall was successfully appointed as Vice Principal at another local school with responsibility for curriculum and SEND across two primary schools, a secondary and sixth form. This is an exciting role for Mrs Bendall, and we wish her the very best when she starts in September. Throughout my time here, Mrs Bendall has been instrumental in making changes to the school which have enhanced the inclusivity of the school such as increasing our capacity for working with children with SEND and supporting the opening of the Indigo Hub. She has also played an instrumental role in improving the culture of our school, simplifying the behaviour policy, and introducing our core values. What isn't seen by many is the day to say support she gives students, staff and myself which is what will be truly missed. She has been an integral part of my senior leadership team, and I will miss working with her, but I am sure you will join me in wishing her the very best of luck in her new role.

I can also now announce that this week we have appointed Miss Burns to replace her as Deputy Headteacher. Miss Burns brings with her a wealth of experience having been Senior Assistant Headteacher at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading and, more recently, Headteacher at Cranbury College. I am sure you will give her a warm welcome when she starts in September, and I know she is excited about the prospect of joining our team and getting started!

#### Summer Uniform

From Monday we will be moving to our summer uniform. Temperatures, whilst not balmy, are due to start creeping up towards the late teens and we want students to be comfortable during lesson time. The following rules will therefore apply from Monday 6 May:

- Students will no longer need to wear a tie and the top button will be allowed to be undone
- Jumpers and Blazers will become optional
- All other uniform policy including shoes

Please note, this is from Monday, not tomorrow.

#### Mental Health Awareness Week

Join us in raising awareness for mental health during Mental Health Awareness Week from 13 – 19 May, by 'wearing it green' on a non-uniform day scheduled for Friday 17 May to support the Mental Health Foundation and their vital work. A letter with further details will also be sent home.



Aim High



Be Inclusive



Work Together

### **Open Evening (current Year 5 pupils)**

This is an exciting event, aimed at current Year 5 pupils and their parents/guardians, giving them an opportunity to visit the school, talk to students, staff, and subject leaders. Further information will be available on our website in due course.

### **Understanding and Managing Anxiety**

We are inviting all our parents of Neurodiverse students across our Wokingham and Reading secondary schools to an event to help support 'Understanding and Managing Anxiety'. This event takes place on Wednesday 8 May at 6pm, please see the letter on our website for further information.

<https://www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=3703&type=pdf>

### **My Replacement**

The national advert is now live and has a few weeks to run. There has already been interest in the post, which is pleasing, and we will update you once an appointment has been made.

Your sincerely



Mr P Gibson  
Headteacher

