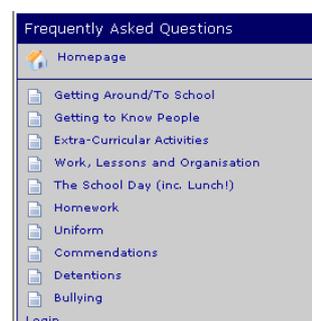
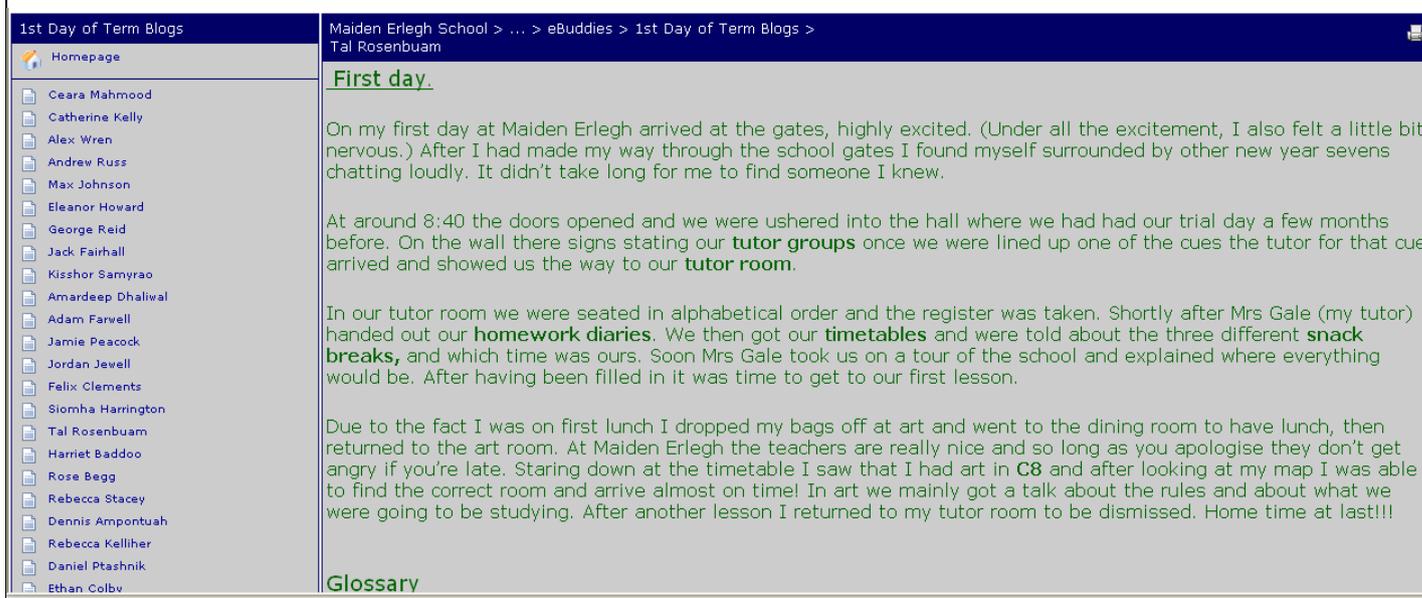


-The cLc Learning Platform is supporting teaching and improving learning outcomes in schools around the world. These Best Practice examples enable teachers to share experiences, ideas and recommendations to support and aid other teachers tackling the same challenges.

Find more cLc Best Practice along with curriculum maps and 'How To' guides & films at www.clcsuccess.com

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| School: Maiden Erlegh School | LA: Wokingham |
| Teacher: Parras Majithia | Students: Secondary / Primary |
| Contact: mj@maidenerlegh.wokingham.sch.uk | |
| Learning Focus: To ease, and make seamless the transition between KS2 and KS3. | |
| Curriculum Focus: Transition / Student Voice | |
| Tools used: Forums, Links, Custom Pages, Blogs | |

How this worked in practice: Students who will be joining Maiden Erlegh School are being supported with their transition from Year 6 to Year 7 through ME-Space; a specifically designed area of the Maiden Erlegh Learning Platform. Year 6 students can read and comment upon  blogs that have been written by Year 7s to recount their first day, week and half term at Maiden Erlegh School. Alongside these  blogs are further areas of information through a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) area which was written by Year 8 students.

The named teacher has kindly agreed for this example and the relevant contact details, to be shared within the cLc community for other teachers benefit.

Welcome to Maiden Erlegh School!

We have set up this forum for you so that you can ask us questions about what it is like to be in Year 7 at Maiden Erlegh.

There are different topic categories in the forum so that you can post your questions to the most appropriate place.

Feel free to ask us anything that you would like to know about the school and we will do our best to reply to your post as soon as we can.

Remember also to take a look at the questions that other people have asked as you might find one that answers your question!

:-)

Year 7 eBuddies

| Topic | Views | Posts | Last Post |
|--|-------|-------|---|
| General Questions... Created By Mr Majithia(MES_MJ) | 822 | 232 | 25 Jun 2009 08:16 Carla Thomas (MES_TH08551C) |
| Art Activities... Created By Mr Majithia(MES_MJ) | 179 | 37 | 04 Jun 2009 18:20 Amy Tuson (MES_TU88557A) |
| Music/Drama Activities... Created By Mr Majithia(MES_MJ) | 205 | 33 | 04 Jun 2009 18:23 Amy Tuson (MES_TU88557A) |
| Sports Activities... Created By Mr Majithia(MES_MJ) | 385 | 86 | 06 Jul 2009 17:40 Kara Jackman (MES_JAC8420K) |
| Setting Around the School... Created By Mr Majithia(MES_MJ) | 249 | 52 | 04 Jun 2009 18:28 Amy Tuson (MES_TU88557A) |
| At Lunch... Created By Mr Majithia(MES_MJ) | 333 | 73 | 22 Jun 2009 15:33 Kara Jackman (MES_JAC8420K) |
| In Lessons... Created By Mr Majithia(MES_MJ) | 276 | 63 | 17 Jul 2009 19:28 Amy Tuson (MES_TU88557A) |

The teachers at the feeder primary schools set up  links from the respective Year 6 page of the primary school learning platforms to the eBuddies area within the secondary school learning platform. Students can then link directly and seamlessly into the  blogs. At a later point in the academic year, a  forum is set up, with predefined topics. Year 6 students ask questions of the Year 7 eBuddies who then in turn answer these questions, often  linking to other areas of the learning platform to support their answers and provide easy reference to further information for the Year 6 students.

The impact of these activities is seen in a smoother transition period in the Summer term as students 'know what to expect'. There is also an increased sense of ownership by the new students as they have been empowered; and increased familiarity by Maiden Erlegh of

how the new students feel, in order that we can better support their transition.

The quantifiable impact of eBuddies is clear, with 70% of the feeder schools being involved in the first year, and 70% of the 1st cohort of Year 7 students making use of eBuddies. From that critical mass, 87% found it useful, and 80% reported that it positively helped them to settle into Maiden Erlegh more quickly. This has ensured that there is Continuous Progression between students attainment in Year 6 and Year 7; avoiding the Year 6-7 "dip".

By the end of this sequence of work:

Learning Skills: Literacy, eSafety, Communication, Empathy

Life Skills: Transition Familiarity, Confidence, Continuous Progression (avoiding the Yr 6-7 "dip"), Empathy, Communication

Next Steps:

As a result of feedback received from Year 7 students in October 2009, and as part of the development plan for eBuddies, we will be incorporating vodcasts which will be created by Year 7 as part of their ICT curriculum. We are also going to be providing more subject-specific information to support targeted progression. 6th Form students and Year 8 students will be taking an increasingly active role in training and supporting the Year 7 eBuddies online and offline. In addition, we are hoping to use a similar model to help the KS3→KS4 transition so that students can ask older peers questions about subjects and courses to support the Options process.