

MERIDIAN

LINE UP

The Monthly Newsletter of Meridian



MERIDIAN
SCHOOL

SUCCESSFUL
PERSONALISED
PASSIONATE
SUPPORTIVE
COMMUNITY SPIRITED
COMPETITIVE
CELEBRATORY

July 2014

"Headlines"

'TOWARDS THE END OF TERM'

As we move into July it is possible to reflect on the school year - its high points and lows - and consider the challenges posed by the rapidly approaching new term.

The difficulties posed by staff illness in recent weeks and finding replacement cover staff have been a real challenge. However, this is outweighed by the long term advantages of our new appointments for September, who are going to make a significant contribution to our success in the future.

The challenge of continuing normal teaching in large sections of the school undergoing refurbishment will pose real problems. However, the short-term discomfort and inconvenience will soon be outweighed by the benefits of warm classrooms and water-tight roofing.

One of the recent highlights has been the way in which students responded to the exam season - in particular, Year 11 from whom we expect impressive results next month. It was a total pleasure to see them all on June 27th for their Prom - voted by the hundreds of people watching them arrive as the best Prom ever. I would agree. They will make an excellent Year 12 in the Sixth Form.

In the meantime, we all deserve a great Summer holiday. Term ends on 23rd July and let's look forward to some good weather.

Dr M Firth
Head Teacher

Student of the Month May 2014

Art - Abbie Robinson Yr 10
Biology - Tom Fox Yr 9
Chemistry - Eryn Symonds Yr 9
D&T - Hollie Jennings Yr 10
Drama - Amy Jordan Yr 10
English - Corey Miles-Greenwood Yr 10
French - Amy Kenealy Yr 9
Geography - Jessica Innocenti Yr 10
History - Tom Raymen Yr 10
ICT - Rebecca Edey Yr 10 and Ellee Rowley Yr 10
Maths - Daniel Dawes Yr 9
Music - Rhiannon Fage Yr 10
PE Boys - Myles Fisher Yr 9
PE Girls - Jodie Newsome Yr 9
Photography - Amy Law Yr 12
RS - Aintzane Leveque Venteo Yr 9
Spanish - Emma Mason Yr 9



DO YOU ENJOY ORGANISING?
DO YOU LIKE MEETING NEW PEOPLE?

DO YOU WORK WELL WITHIN A TEAM?

DO YOU HAVE A FEW HOURS TO SPARE EACH WEEK?

IF SO, YOU COULD BE WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR!

We need some committee members to help us raise funds for our new minibus and help with other events that go on during the year. If you are interested in supporting the Friends of Meridian, please contact:

admin@meridian.herts.sch.uk



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

5th-6th July - DofE Practice Expedition
7th July - Yr 2 morning
7th-11th July - Yr 10 Work Experience
8th-11th July - Yr 13 Biology Field Trip
9th July - New Intake Evening
10th July - Transition Day Year 8
11th July - Yr 3 Performing Arts Liaison Day
Yr 4 morning
14th-18th July - Performing Arts Week
15th July - Yr 6 Day Drama Showcase
16th July - Sports Festival Yr 9 Live on the Line
17th July - Summer Concert
18th July - Performing Arts Liaison Day

19th July - 9.30-1 Car Washing - Fund Raising for Nepal
19th-20th July - DofE Assessed Expedition
21st-22nd July - School Olympics
23rd July - Last day of Term

SCHOOL STARTS

WEDNESDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER FOR ALL STUDENTS

1st-2nd September - Training Days

3rd September - School Starts
Yr 9 start 8.50am
Yr 10 start 10am
Yr 11 start 10am
Yr 12 start 8.50am
Yr 13 start 8.50am

27th-31st October - HALF TERM

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Well done to the Year 10 D of E students, who had a brilliant pass out parade at Royston Fire Station in May. Thank you very much to all the firemen who looked after the students so well.



AS GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

Over the May Bank Holiday weekend, 8 A-Level Geographers visited the Lake District to prepare for their Geographical Skills exam. We arrived at the Blencathra Centre, a Field Studies Centre situated in a beautiful location at 300m on the south facing slope of Blencathra mountain. We headed into Keswick in the glorious sunshine



to look at the flood defences, built after the devastating floods of November 2009 when the River Greta burst its banks. In the beautiful May sunshine, with the river flowing gently through the town, it was hard to imagine the scale of that devastation but the students were able to think back to the images they'd previously seen in class and identify all the flood defences now in place to protect residents.



The afternoon's tour of Keswick was followed by an evening work session to prepare for the next day's fieldwork. On Saturday, we headed out on a 2km walk from the centre to our first site along the Glenderaterra Beck, a tributary of the River Greta. Here, students measured river width, depth, velocity, hydraulic radius, gradient and bedload size in an attempt to identify how these are influenced by distance downstream. The students worked well together to collect their data on two further sites



downstream. On Sunday we went onto the beach at St Bees on the West Cumbrian coastline. Here our soggy, but enthusiastic students collected data to investigate beach dynamics, built up a case study of factors affecting coastal erosion and assessed the pros and cons of a variety of coastal management strategies. They also gathered data to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of the Environment Agency's current approach. The students were fabulous, they worked incredibly hard in the field both days and in the classroom every evening in order to prepare for their Skills exam.

Mrs L Edwards
Geography Teacher



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If students are already getting Free School Meals, then they will automatically be renewed ready for September. You will only receive a letter if students are no longer eligible.

Reminder to Parents:
Please could you sign your son/daughter's diary to show that you have received this newsletter.
Thank you

MUSIC TUITION



If students would like to start or continue music lessons with Herts Music Service in September 2014, they may be eligible for financial assistance from Herts County Council. Parents/carers can apply or re-apply for financial assistance from Wednesday 11th June 2014. If students are already receiving 100% music remission as well as Free School Meals, the music eligibility will be renewed along with Free School Meals. Additional information about the scheme, including how to apply is available from:

www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/remission-criteria,
or email:
music.remission@hertfordshire.gov.uk.

PE DEPARTMENT

Well done to Year 10 Rounders team, who have now won both of their games and are now preparing for the district tournament.



Team: Lucy Huffer, Sydney Barfield, Brooke Racher, Caitlin Kaba, Ellie Laughlin, Cerys Curtis, Chloe Murphy, Frankie Hall.

NEPAL ADVENTURE

In Autumn 2015, 10 Meridian students will be taking part in an adventure trip to Nepal. As part of the visit, students will be trekking to a mountain village in The Annapurnes to complete a community project. We are aiming to raise a minimum of £2000 to fund this project. Please support us by having your car washed on Saturday 19th July, at Meridian School. All proceeds will go towards the community project.

For any comments or queries about the newsletter please E-mail:
lineup@meridian.herts.sch.uk