

# MERIDIAN

# LINE UP

The Monthly Newsletter of Meridian School



MERIDIAN  
SCHOOL

SUCCESSFUL  
PERSONALISED  
PASSIONATE  
SUPPORTIVE  
COMMUNITY SPIRITED  
COMPETITIVE  
CELEBRATORY

October 2014

## "Headlines"

This has really been an excellent half term. As you know, we were delighted by our exam results in the Summer and whilst nationally GCSE performance has dropped 5% to 55% ( 5 x A\*-C in English and Maths), we increased by 2% to 63%. Signs are similarly encouraging for next Summer. Buoyed by this, the new Year 12 (lower sixth) are working really well. With this excellent work ethic in mind, we anticipate an Ofsted inspection before Christmas - which we hope will go well.

Building works are scheduled for completion by early November - difficult to cope with at times, but the real benefit will come in Winter when the school will retain its heating and energy costs fall. Classrooms will be much more comfortable.

I have been very impressed with the commitment of students to so many extra-curricular clubs and teams this term. Rehearsals for Spamalot take up a lot of staff and student time after school, but I know that the production will be another Meridian "stunner". All in all - a brilliant start.

Dr M Firth  
Head Teacher

## Student of the Month September 2014

- Art - Lucy O'Connor Year 10
- Biology - Aintzane Leveque Venteo Year 10
- Chemistry - Daniel Dawes Year 10
- Computing - Jake Brightman Year 10
- D&T - Amy Wilson Year 11
- English - Anneliese Burton Year 9
- French - Georgia Davison Year 9
- Geography - Hannah Smith Year 12
- History - Tom Fox Year 10
- Maths - Harry Tasker Year 9
- Music - Izzy Palmer Year 10
- PE Boys - Daniel Bauk Year 9
- PE Girls - Emily Kirkham Year 9
- Photography - Hannah Pocock Year 12
- Physics - Sophie Payne Year 11
- Psychology - Hannah Smith Year 12
- RS - Nathan King Year 11
- Spanish - Emma Mason Year 10

**THIS YEAR'S PRODUCTION  
IS MONTY PYTHON'S  
SPAMALOT, November  
20th -22nd - TICKETS  
GO ON SALE FROM  
MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER  
FROM THE MAIN SCHOOL  
OFFICE.**

**Price:**  
**Thursday evening and  
Saturday matinee  
£7/£5**  
**Friday and Saturday  
evening £8/£6**  
**Concessions - full time  
students and OAP's**

## **VIEWS OF PARENTS AND CARERS**

We are always keen to hear the views of parents/carers as well as from students. For this reason, we survey all of those who attend parents' consultation evenings, asking them various questions about their experiences of Meridian. In addition to this, we encourage parents and carers to complete the questionnaire on "Parent View". There is a link to this from [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk) or from the school website.

**Thank you**

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20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER  
2014

7.30pm Fri 20<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday Matinee

Ticket office opens  
3<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER  
School Office  
01763 242236

School  
Edition

**MONTY PYTHON'S  
SPAMALOT**

A new musical lovingly  
ripped off from the motion picture  
**MONTY PYTHON and the Holy Grail**

SPAM is a registered trademark of Hormel Foods, LLC, used with permission here.

## PE DEPARTMENT

### YOUNG AMBASSADORS' CONFERENCE

The following students: Ryan Judge and Leah Parcell, of Year 12 and Ryan Morgan and Scott Batchelor of Year 11 were selected as outstanding leaders and for their outstanding contributions to PE at Meridian to become Young Sports Ambassadors. The four attended the Young Ambassadors' conference at the Herts Sports Village, Hatfield to further their knowledge and inspire them to come back to school with fresh and new ideas to develop PE and sport at Meridian.



**Scott Batchelor, Ryan Morgan, Leah Parcell and Ryan Judge**

The day was broken down into four separate sessions with a mixture of practical and classroom based sessions. The practical elements were focused on adapted sports for those with disabilities and more conventional sports. Here the students were able to improve their understanding and learn new ways to engage people in sport. Sports they tried out included handball, sitting volleyball and new age curling. A member of Team GB's London 2012 Paralympic team was also at the conference. Sam Ruddock has competed in the F35 classification for sprinting but has recently changed his event to the shot putt in order to develop his career.



### Sam Ruddock talking to all the Young Ambassadors

During the day Sam led a session providing the students with an inspiring lecture on how he has got to where he is today and how others inspired him to get there. His message was clear to all the students who attended the conference, that they are the ones who are going to be the inspiration for many young people and he asked them what it is they're going to do to make sure these youngsters are motivated.

The students came away with lots of new and exciting ideas.

## NEPAL ADVENTURE & COMMUNITY PROJECT OCTOBER 2015



A group of 10 students and 3 adults is heading off on a school trip to Nepal next Autumn. After a quick orientation in Kathmandu, we'll be heading off to Pokhara, gateway to the Annapurna region. This is where we'll start our 5 day camping trek in the mountains, taking in amazing sights such as trekking up Poon Hill in the dark to see the 360 degree views of the sunrise across the Himalayan range.

Then, we will head for a mountain village where we are going to complete our community project. This is going to be the highlight of our adventure, as we will be actively involved in working to support and improve conditions for children in the community we visit.

The school is aiming to raise at least £2000 to fund the community project - the village elders are going to confirm whether our project will be spent on extending the school or laying water pipes into the village so they have access to clean water. It is really important to the village and to us that the project is sustainable and has a positive impact on the community. Our team has already raised £350 by washing cars on a Saturday morning in July.



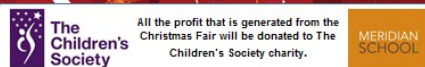
Further activities include doing a raffle at the school musical this year, 20th-22nd November and a non-uniform day at the end of term, 19th December. Look out for us bag packing in Tesco on 29th November and watch out for dates for the next car wash. Any donations of raffle prizes or towards the £2000 would be very gratefully received. You can see how much we're raising on the Nepal Community Project display on your way into the main school hall.

Miss Horner

## PUNCTUATION CLUB

If anyone's unsure about the correct use of any punctuation, please feel free to pop into H2 on a Tuesday break. Honestly, if there's anything I can help with, just ask. Mr Smith, English Department

## CHRISTMAS FAIR 2014



If you would like to book a stall please ring the school office on 01763 242236.

### LOOKING TO WORK WHILST STILL AT SCHOOL?

Did you know if you are still at school and working there are laws to keep you safe?

For more information please go to the Hertfordshire County Website:

[www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/schlife/employ](http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/schlife/employ)

Or contact - Children's Services Helpline **0300 123 4043** and ask about Child Employment. Get a copy of the "School Age Employment & Work Permits" leaflet for young people.

Applies if you are aged 13 to the end of year 11.

### ROYSIA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Monthly Car Boot Sales  
Saturday 25th October  
Saturday 29th November  
Contact Dale : 07882 273851

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

## Dates for your Diary

### HALF TERM 27TH OCTOBER - 31ST OCTOBER

**Week Beginning  
3rd November** - Year 11  
assessments

**4th November** - Year 11  
Consultation Evening (b)

**7th November** - Year 11, 12 &  
13 Photography Trip to the  
National Portrait Gallery  
DofE training 3.30-4.30pm

**10th November** - Year 13 Nepal  
Trip Meeting 6.30pm

**15th November** - Technical  
Rehearsal - Spamalot

**16th November** - Technical  
Rehearsal - Spamalot

**Week Beginning  
17th November** - Year 9 &  
13 assessments

**18th November** - Musical  
students out all day

**20th - 22nd November** -  
Musical Production -  
Spamalot

**23rd November** - DofE training  
9.30am-12pm

**26th November** - Year 10  
Consultation Evening

**30th November** - Christmas  
Fayre

**Week Beginning  
1st December** - Year 10 &  
12 reports

**4th December - Training Day  
5th December - Occasional  
Day**

**10th December** - Christmas  
Lunch

**11th December** - Year 9 Woman  
in Black trip to London

**12th December** - AR Millionaires'  
Trip pm

**Week Beginning  
15th December** - Year 11  
Reports  
Year 9 House Sports P3  
Year 10 House Sports P4  
Year 11 House Sports P1

**16th December** - Year 11 PSHCE  
Day  
Year 12 RS visit - pm

**17th December** - Year 9, 10 &  
11 PSHCE Day

**18th December** - Carol Service  
7pm

**19th December** - Year 13 UCAS  
application deadline  
Non-uniform day for Nepal  
Community Project

### CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS 19TH DECEMBER - 5TH JANUARY 2015

**5th January 2015** - Training Day

**6th January** - Term starts for all  
(Week 2 timetable)

**SCHOOL CONTINUES TO  
RUN A COUNSELLING  
AND MENTORING  
SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE  
ANY CONCERNS - SEE Mrs  
Read**

### ROYSIA SCHOOL FIREWORKS & BONFIRE FRIDAY 7TH NOV 6.30PM

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