



# Maryhill High School

## *A Media Arts College*



### Summer Term Newsletter June 2010

Dear Parents,

Here is our first edition of this term, containing lots of information about student achievements.

#### Attendance

Our overall attendance is now nearly 94% and has increased by 1.2% over last year's. This may not seem a lot, but it means that nearly 3,000 more student days attended! You will find details of your child's form and year attendance in the year group achievements section of this newsletter. There you will also see a list of students with 100% and over 95% attendance.

However, there is one attendance story that I must single out as it is so exceptional. Stephen Booth who has just finished year 11 has not had a single day off since he started school nearly 12 years ago! This exceptional achievement has also been reported on local radio and in the "Daily Mail" (go to [www.dailymail.co.uk](http://www.dailymail.co.uk) for the full story). It has even led to a link with a school in Australia!

Well done Stephen!



#### Credits

You can also see how many credits have been won by our students for a whole range of achievements, both in and out of class. Over 41,000 have been won or banked this year. In September a new online rewards system will be introduced that will give our students even more choice of rewards, so watch this space and our website for more news.

#### Home to school transport

An addition to the usual 3-mile rule is that children of secondary school age (aged 11 to 16, school year 7 to 11) from low income families will have an additional entitlement to income assessed transport assistance to one of the three nearest suitable schools to where you live that is more than 2 miles, but less than 6 miles from your home. Parents who think they may be entitled to free transport for their child should check by phoning the Staffordshire school transport service on 01785-278593.

#### Sports News from Mr Bunn, Miss Hambleton and Mr Davies

## UNDER 16 FOOTBALL – STOKE NORTH CHAMPIONS 2009/2010

The Under 16 football team rounded off their year in magnificent style by becoming the champions of Stoke North Schools for 2009/10. This is a competition that involves 10 schools and runs from September to May. After a hard campaign the Maryhill side eventually reached the final, where they faced the formidable opposition of Biddulph High School, which is a specialist sports college.

It was played at Crewe Alexandra's Reaseheath training complex which cost millions to build. The impressive facilities were matched by a blistering MHS start to the game and we were soon 3-0 up and heading for the title.

But Biddulph rallied after half-time and it was a carbon-copy of the semi-final as with five minutes to go it was 3-2. But some heroic defending and goalkeeping saw MHS cling on to a slender 3-2 victory. The victory was just reward for a squad that played games in a great spirit and never let their heads drop. The team showed heart in all games and also no little skill.

The squad comprised:

Joshua Brayford  
Adam Campbell  
Danny Williams  
Jon Keeling  
Tom Gould

Ryan Leyland  
Matthew Sherman  
James Byrne  
Alistair Hattersley  
Ross Perks

Cailen Owen  
Alex Robson  
Fred Coates  
Connor Heath  
Joe Donaldson

## CHEERLEADERS NEWS

After the recent success of the Cheerleading Team, they have been asked to perform in several events across the County. The first is taking place on Saturday 19 June at the Alsager Carnival. The team are walking in the parade at 12pm and performing in the main arena at Alsager High School at 2.30pm. Following this on Tuesday 22 June, the Cheerleaders are taking part in their second North Staffordshire Competition in order to attempt to retain their title. This takes place at 1pm at Fenton Manor. Later on this month, on Saturday 26 June, both the Cheerleading team and the Dancers are taking part in 'GymFest' in memory of George Finney. This again takes place at Fenton Manor and starts at 1.45pm. Finally, on Saturday 10 July, the Cheerleaders will be auditioning for 'Stoke's Top Talent'. They were asked to take part after the organiser saw their article in the Sentinel! Please feel free to come and support the girls in all their events!

I would like to wish the girls good luck and express how proud I am of all their hard work!

## PARTNERSHIP GAMES WINERS

On 8 June 28, year 9 students took part in the Newcastle Schools Partnership Games at Keele University. The aim of the games was to give students who do not usually represent the school in sporting activities the opportunity to do so. There were competitions in cricket, basketball, dodge ball and dance mats and Maryhill was the overall trophy winner. Congratulations to the team!

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

The "Get Active" scheme that is supporting many fitness-related projects in this area has now come up with a new project for Kidsgrove. It involves training sessions at the Tom Lowe gym in Market Street. These will be on Tuesdays every week from 8 till 9pm, starting in July.

There are a limited number of places available to boys and girls from year 7 upwards and the cost is £3 a session (free to those on free school meals). If you are interested in receiving further details please give your name to the school office by **Friday 18 June**.

## SPORTS AFTERNOON

We are holding a sports afternoon on Friday 16 July, 12.30 -300 pm, all parents are welcome to attend.

## Arts News

WE NOW HAVE ARTSMARK SILVER!

Arts Council England has awarded Artsmark Silver to the school in recognition of our commitment to and excellence in arts education. Maryhill High School is one of the 1676 schools in England who received an Artsmark award this year.

We are delighted that the Arts Council has recognised our dynamic arts education programme. Our students have really enjoyed working with many of the arts professionals who have inspired them and helped to develop this area of the curriculum. We are committed to recognising achievement and this is one example of our determination to make a difference.

Artsmark is more than simply a mark of distinction to us; taking part in the scheme has enabled us to develop our arts provision, and see the students develop self confidence and engage in learning.

Alan Davey, Chief Executive, Arts Council England, said:

“Arts Council England believes that the earlier children are creatively inspired, the more likely they are to have a lifelong engagement with art – something that can transform lives and give young people a voice for their thoughts and feelings. This award recognises Maryhill High School’s commitment to providing exciting arts experiences and their belief in the power of creativity.”

#### TOWN HALL ART PROJECT

Ten talented artists from our school are celebrating their work being displayed in one of the main function rooms inside the prestigious Town Hall.

Kidsgrove Town Councillor, Mrs Bowyer was delighted with the two large canvases painted by the students in Year 10. They depict imagery taken from notable features in the town such as The Harecastle Tunnel, Mow Cop Castle, The War Memorial and perhaps the most distinctive building in Kidsgrove the Victoria Hall.

The canvases took several weeks to produce with students working in two groups of five to complete the ambitious project. Mrs Bowyer was particularly impressed with the colours used in the paintings.

Well done to all of the students who contributed their skills and talents to produce the stunning artwork:

Jack Zicari, Jasmin Eardley, Mitchell Williamson, Charlotte Boote, Shannon Braxton, Jake Flett, Paige Gillie, Sophie Whittingham, Robert Franklin & Amy Frost.

#### **Appeal for host families**

Would your family enjoy introducing someone from another country to your way of life? There are international students from all over the world at universities in the UK: they speak English and most are in their 20's. They would love to spend a weekend sharing your family life in order to understand more about the UK. You could have fun introducing them to British food, customs, your local community and area; and you could learn about their country and culture. This is an opportunity to make friends across international boundaries. Geography comes alive, and afterwards, any news bulletin about your guest's country will have much more meaning. HOST is a national charity, backed by the Foreign Office, which has been linking students with volunteer hosts for many years. See [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org) or call Ruth Pelly, the voluntary organiser in Staffordshire, on 01335 330555.

#### **Educational Charity Grants**

Students who live in the parishes of Audley, Talke and Hardingswood are eligible to apply for maintenance grants. Please contact the office for details before the end of the month.

Dr A Jones  
Headteacher