



MARYHILL HIGH SCHOOL

A Media Arts College

NEWSLETTER

Issue 8: October 2011

www.maryhill-high.co.uk

HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents/Carers

One sixth of the school year has already passed! If your child is new to the school, I hope that they have settled in well and that they are enjoying senior school life. It makes me feel so proud of our students, when each year, the older students are so thoughtful and willing to help the Year 7's to find their way around.

I hope that you saw Maryhill mentioned in the Sentinel on 30th September as part of the new Trinity Sixth Form. Planning is well underway and I am meeting with my fellow Headteachers from St Margaret Ward, St John Fisher and St Thomas More on a regular basis. The Trinity Sixth Form will initially only be offering 'A' levels and BTEC courses. If this is what your Year 11 child has in mind the Sixth Form Open Evenings are due to take place after Half Term.

Sixth Form Open Evening Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 1 November St John Fisher
Wednesday 2 November St Thomas More
Monday 7 November St Margaret Ward
Tuesday 8 November Maryhill High School

The evening at Maryhill begins at 7.00 pm. The vast majority of over 30 'A' level courses will be available from the Maryhill and St Margaret Ward Trinity offers and this means that for most students KS5 will involve a relatively small amount of travelling. I would urge students and their parents/carers to come along to our evening to see our enhanced offer of courses. We are certainly able to match the colleges for 'A' level choices and indeed can exceed many of the colleges on success rates. You will also be welcomed at any of the other venues in the Trinity, as a few specialist subjects will only be offered on one site.

On a completely different note altogether I was very heartened when I was surrounded by a group of students as I left my office in early October. A young fox had been found and due to its condition, had been placed in a cage, to await the RSPCA's advice. The students were genuinely concerned about its welfare and asked me to provide it with more food, water and shelter (which I did). I am so pleased that we have young people who genuinely care for animals and who share my passion for animal welfare. 'The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated' Ghandi.

As I write this we are awaiting news of 'Dave' the fox.

Wishing the students a lovely half term break.

Yours faithfully

F. Hewardine

F. Hewardine
Headteacher

Open Evening



TRINITY *sixth form*



Succeeding together

Open Evening for 2012-13 Intake

Join us on our open evenings on

Tuesday 1 November 2011, 7.00 pm at St John Fisher

Wednesday 2 November 2011, 7.00pm at St Thomas More

Monday 7 November 2011, 7.00 pm at St Margaret Ward

Tuesday 8 November 2011, 7.00pm at Maryhill High School



www.trinity6.com

Free School Meals



Is your child registered for Free School Meals but not taking them?

You could be missing out on what you're entitled to.

I can save nearly £10 per child per week – that's around £300 a year!*

It's easy to claim Free School Meals – call your local council office or talk to your child's school today.

For more information visit www.schoolfoodtrust.org.uk/tm

*Based on the average cost of a school lunch (£1.80) which equates to 17p per week and £342 per school year.

SCHOOL FOOD TRUST
Eat Well • Save Better

If you are in receipt of one of the following, then please contact the school office on 01782 296 751 as your child may be entitled to free school meals:

- Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and your income is less than £16,190 (please note that anyone receiving Working Tax Credit, regardless of income, does not qualify)
- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- The Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- You are an Asylum Seeker

All applications and enquiries are treated in the strictest confidence.

School Website Hot Topics

Please visit our school website www.maryhill-high.co.uk for our latest school achievements. Our current hot topics includes results of 'youth parliament' election and our under 16's girls netball.

Charity

Well done to our Sixth Form students Dan Nelson, Chris Yates, Emily McHugh and Kaylea Edwards who helped to collect money for the 'Cauldwell Children's' Charity at Tesco in Kidsgrove. They helped to raise a fantastic £455.90.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards



A big well done to Alice Butler, Laura Cadman, Dani Staton, Grace Ferneyhough, Hayley Jayne Gibson, Charlotte Bowcock, Jessica Podmore and Georgia Moss. They all completed their Peak District Bronze Qualifying Expedition. The expedition started at Longnor Village Hall and lasted over two days. They walked in groups of 4-5 on a route that they planned themselves. They carried all of their equipment, camped and cooked their own meals on gas/trangia stoves.

Attendance

At the end of last year a massive 47 students achieved 100% attendance for the full school year! Well done to every one of you and to the parents who have supported their children and helped to achieve this outstanding attendance record.

Through the collection of the TESCO and SAINSBURYS Vouchers we have been able to get our hands on some fantastic prizes for attendance.

Last year we collected enough vouchers to get 2 iPod touches which were put into a prize draw in the final assembly.

The winners were Alice Foster 8HM (now 9NG) and Danielle Green 9EP (now 10EP).



This year we have been able to get loads more goodies from the Tesco and Sainsbury's voucher which you have handed in. These will be in the prize draw at the end of this school year.

7LMU (now 8LMU) achieved the best form attendance for the year. 8LMU and all those with 100% attendance have been rewarded throughout the year but as an extra treat they are having a day out Paintballing on 13th October! Thank you to all parent contributions to this trip, without your support this kind of additional treat would not be possible.

Last year we met our overall school target for attendance which was 95%. This is the highest attendance record in the history of MHS, we were 5th highest in Staffordshire. This year the bar had been raised and the target is set at 95.5% please continue to support us to achieve our target and raise the profile of our school.

School Text Messaging Service

Over the next few months we will be testing a new messaging service. Please note that during this trial period you will receive text messages/emails etc from a new number. We will keep you posted on its success and let you know as soon as possible if this change is permanent.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Due to the recent resignation of a parent governor we currently have one vacancy and I would really encourage you to put yourself forward for nomination. As a parent governor you will have the opportunity to share in the running of the school and to make a valuable contribution to the school community. There are five governors' meetings each year, held on Tuesdays at 7pm for at most two hours, so the commitment does not have to be a large one. Nomination details are attached with this letter. Full details and further Governor information can be found on our website.

Appointing Parent Governor Representatives to Education Scrutiny Committee

Eligibility to participate in the Election Process

- **Who can stand for election?**

To be eligible to stand, a parent governor will need to be - **at the time of the election** - a parent of a child at one of the Local Education Authority's schools or a parent or a child who is educated by the Local Education Authority in some other way. The child does not have to be at the same school at which the candidate is a parent governor. For example, a candidate whose child has moved to a secondary school in the authority, could still be a parent governor at the primary school. Although not ideal, it does not matter if the person standing only has a very short amount of their term of office as a parent governor left, or if all of their children will have left school very soon after they are elected. **The key point is that they should be both a parent governor and a parent on the date of their election.**

- **Who can't stand for election?**

The following persons are not eligible to stand as parent governor representatives:

- employees of the local authority;
- employees of schools maintained by the local authority (including teachers, non-teaching and other staff;
- councillors of the same local authority.

- **Who can vote in the elections?**

All parent governors at schools maintained by the authority at the date of the election are eligible to vote in the elections. This includes those parent governors who are not eligible to stand for election as outlined above.

The Nomination Process

Candidates should have a proposer and seconder, who themselves are - **at the date of the election** - a parent of a child at one of the Local Education Authority's schools or a parent of a child who is educated by the Local Education Authority in some other way. The nomination form should then be signed by all three. Candidates returning nomination forms are advised to submit a brief statement about themselves.

In preparing the statement it is suggested that you should try to cover, at the very least:

- why you want to be a parent governor representative;
- how you think your experience and abilities will help you in the role;
- what you can offer parent governors and pupils if you are elected.

You will also need to bear in mind that the role of parent governor representative is a non-political one. For example, you should not make any references to your politics or those of any other candidates.



APPOINTMENT OF PARENT GOVERNOR – NOMINATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NO _____

NAME OF CHILD(REN) AND CLASS _____

CANDIDATE INFORMATION:

Please state, **as briefly as possible**, the contribution you feel you could make to the governing body.

Signed: _____

Name of parent proposing the nomination: _____ (Print)

_____ (Sign)

Name of parent seconding the nomination: _____ (Print)

_____ (Sign)

Please return this form to the school office no later than Friday 4 November 2011