

## Head's update

*Richard Williams, Head of Federation/Headteacher*

I cannot believe that we're at the end of the longest term in the school calendar, it seems only yesterday that we were enjoying the September sun and a lovely warm extended autumn. It has of course been a really busy term and for me a term of renewing relationships with colleagues, getting to know new ones and of course getting to know a whole new cohort of students, none of whom know me from the days of Medina High School.

In terms of our successes, working more closely with our colleagues in Carisbrooke College has been a real bonus. We have all gained from closer links and certainly now feel more part of the Federation, especially at the Sixth-Form Campus in Nodehill. The Sixth-Form Campus continues to be a real jewel in the crown and when I sat down recently with Karen Begley the Head of the Campus to look at our data, we were really encouraged to see that the successes of our students last summer exceeded the national averages on the majority of OfSTED scores. Some areas were higher than Peter Symonds College in Winchester which is often promoted as one of the best Sixth Form Colleges in the South of England. This is something to be really proud of and something that in these times of uncertainty caused by yet another schools' consultation process is something we need to fight for.

I asked staff a fortnight ago to put together a list of all the extra-curricular events and trips that have happened during the term, which amounted to four pages of size ten font!! There were so many and this demonstrates that school is so much more than just academic results. We know from our own memories that such events and trips are often what we remember most about our own school days.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your warm welcome and support this term, and wish you all a happy, and hopefully restful Christmas



## Christmas market trip 2015

On Thursday morning 4th December myself, Mrs Shorrock, Mr Cooper, Mrs Batten, our German assistant Robert and 36 students set off on our journey to the European Christmas markets.

We arrived in Ypres on the first evening and had a chance to look around this beautiful city. Our evening meal was delicious and afterwards we caught the last post at the Menin gate. This was a very moving ceremony to remember the dead from the First World War.

The next morning we set off for Germany. Our first stop was in Aachen where we had a look around the beautiful traditional market. The students came back laden with gifts for their family and friends.

Later we headed to Cologne and checked in to our youth hostel. In the evening we walked in to the very busy city and visited two more Christmas markets.

The next day we went to the Phantasialand theme park. Most of the students went on the terrifying looking rides. The park was full of excellent attractions and we had a great day there.

Later we had one last chance to visit the markets and we left the following day to return home.

The trip was very enjoyable and really put us all in the Christmas spirit. Thank you to the staff who gave up their free time to join us on the trip. If you would like to join us on this trip next year look out for the announcements early next year.



**Medina College Breakfast Club**

**LRC - 8.00am - 8.45am Everyday**

**Film Fridays with Pancakes and Maple Syrup. Come and join us.**

## Medina College Maths Challenge

Following on from our successful Drop Everything And Read days, our students recently took part in a series of Maths Challenges throughout the day. Each class gave students a problem related to the subject they were studying. This was really important because, many of us may not like maths but it really is important in everyday use and in all walks of life.

Maths is used to calculate budgets in the supermarket, it's used in hospitals to calculate doses of drugs, it's used by builders purchasing quantities of materials etc etc. so maths is used by all of us and it is important to encourage students to be able to use it comfortably. Therefore relating it to individual subjects worked really well.

Students were asked all sorts of problems to calculate from, amongst others, The length of reign of the Roman Army in history, the proportions of world religions in RE, and the length of running required by a team of 4 in a 5000m race in PE.

Students also had colouring tasks based on times tables and tutor based quizzes which were extremely popular.

Our next Maths Challenge day will be on our first day back, 5th January, when students will have a series of problems to solve throughout the day. Please help us, and the students, by encouraging them to take part in maths and related tasks that you may do at home.

Your challenge is to count how many times you do any sums or number problems in the next 24hrs to see how important it is.



## Careers Information

### Year 11 – Up and Coming Open Days/Evenings:

- Wednesday 28th January 2015 – VI Form Campus (5pm – 8pm)
- Saturday 17th January 2015 – Isle of Wight College (10am – 2pm)
- Saturday 28th February 2015 – Highbury College (10am – 1pm)
- Saturday 17th January 2015 – Sparsholt College (10am – 3pm)
- Saturday 20th June 2015 – Southampton City College (9.30am – 1pm)
- Monday 16th March 2015 – Itchen College (times to be confirmed)
- Thursday 6th February 2015 – Brockenhurst College (6pm – 8pm)

### Events:

- Week of 19th January 2015 – ‘Speaker Weeker’ for all year groups (selection of speakers coming into Medina College to inspire students and talk about potential future careers choices.
- Tuesday 10th January 2015 – Year 11 Careers Roadshow at VI Form Campus (An opportunity to view a variety of stand offering further education, higher education opportunities for the future. This will include Colleges, Universities, Apprenticeship Providers, Police, Healthcare and many more)
- 4th & 5th February 2015 – Year 11 Mock Interviews
- Thursday 5th & Friday 6th February 2015 – Year 11 CHIP’s work experience.
- Thursday 19th March 2015 – Year 9 Take Your Child to Work Day.

## VI Form Campus News

Thank you to all students and parents who visited us at our VI Form Open Evening last week, we hope that you enjoyed your time at the Campus.

Please find below a link to an on line survey that will only take a few moments to complete. We would value your opinions and appreciate your feedback.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VIFormOpenEveningFeedback>

If you would like to visit the Campus during a normal school day, we welcome tours and these can be arranged at any convenient time (01983 522886).

Applications for September 2015 are also welcome and interviews will commence in the Spring term.



*Did you miss our VI Form Open Evening? We will be giving all Year 11 students and their parents another opportunity to visit us on Wednesday 28th January, between 5.00 and 8.00pm.*

*Come and see what the largest sixth form on the Island can offer you!*



ISLAND INNOVATION  
VI Form Campus

# Open Evening

Takes place on  
Wednesday 28th  
January 2015,  
from 5pm - 8pm



[www.iiviformcampus.org.uk](http://www.iiviformcampus.org.uk)  
[info@iiviformcampus.org.uk](mailto:info@iiviformcampus.org.uk)  
Tel: (01983) 522886

[www.iiviformcampus.org.uk](http://www.iiviformcampus.org.uk)

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## It's Your Future

On Tuesday 25th November Medina College offered an information evening for students and their parents in years 8 and 9. This was a joint event co-ordinated by extended services & careers to help develop some early interest in different career opportunities and linking this to the understanding of priorities for learning and social and personal knowledge, relevant to the maturing teenager.

Students and their parents were given the opportunity to attend two workshops over the course of the evening covering different areas of industry ranging from careers in the police and NHS through to banking and the different armed forces to businesses such as Yokogawa Marex Ltd and BAE Systems.

The workshops were very interactive allowing for lots of information, questions and answers to help students begin to think about which direction they may wish to follow and the types of opportunities they may want to explore in the future.

As part of the evening there was also an opportunity to visit various information stands linked to the workshops and to external support agencies. These included Portsmouth University, Smart, HTP and Care Learning, Police, Army, Navy, IW College, Youth Trust, NHS & NHS Outreach sexual health service, School Pastors and Parents Voice.

This was a really well attended event with around 300 students and parents taking part. The evening had a very relaxed and friendly atmosphere and overall was felt to be an ideal way of promoting aspirations about career opportunities.

Yokogawa Marex Ltd who is one of the trust partners of Medina College commented; We thought the event was well organised and the students we met were very helpful and attentive. It has made us think of what we are actually offering regarding career opportunities within our company, which was prompted by questions asked by some parents about apprenticeships which we will now look into.

Initial feedback from parents and students has been positive with comments such as "Very informative, a good mix of stands and very helpful staff" & "Good event and not too pressurising!"

Many of the providers who ran the workshops felt that the format of the evening worked well leading to lively and informative sessions!



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## Artsmark Gold Award

Medina College has achieved the prestigious Artsmark Gold Award. This top national accolade has been given to the College in recognition of outstanding provision in the arts by Arts Council England. The award also recognises the quality of work in partnership with creative professionals, outreach work with the community and partner schools as well as the progress students are making across the College.

Mr Lines, Director of Arts Specialism said, "I am delighted that our College has been recognised nationally for the outstanding work in the arts. The opportunities offered at Medina College contribute significantly to the development of our young people, giving students the chance to participate in a creative, motivational programme that develops the skills they need for their future lives".



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## Sports Leader Success

This term we have had over 30 students who have led by example and supported and volunteered at sports events. These sport ambassadors have been an invaluable asset and have received much praise from visiting schools. From running athletics sessions for Newchurch Primary students, to marshalling at the Isle of Wight Cross Country Championships, assisting the running of the a netball tournament to judging to the Indoor Athletics Competition we have been so proud of the way in which our students have shown responsibility, professionalism and a genuine enthusiasm for school sport.

Fifteen of our Btec Sport Studies students have also successfully completed a FA coaching qualification in November and we are looking for more coaching opportunities.



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**GCSE English Revision Books**  
If you would like to purchase a GCSE English Rvision Book both  
foundation and higher please see Miss Roberts in the English  
Department.

**Foundation - £4.20 Higher - £4.60**  
**HURRY WHILST STOCKS LAST!!**

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## Island Theatre Awards for Miss Saigon

Medina College won Best Male Lead, Best Choriography and Best Musical in John Hannom's Island Theatre Awards. The showcased talent was extraordinary and there were moments when it was easy to forget it was a school production, rather than something in the West End.

Libby Cadman gave an excellent portrayal of Kim, starring opposite Jack Roberts, as Chris. Jack was outstanding and is definitely a name to keep an eye on in the future.

Playing Chris's friend, John, was Callum Joshua, who was equally brilliant in his role, singing the opening of Act 2's Bui Doi with all the beauty and meaning the song deserves.

Taking on the role of The Engineer was Robbie Gwinnett, who did a fantastic job of bringing the character to life and filled the room with his energy in every one of his scenes.

Liesl Cantelo-Jones was perfect as Ellen, providing an apt contrast with Kim. The rather menacing Thuy was played by Giacomo Sedgwick, who portrayed the character extremely effectively.

The large chorus proved they weren't to be outshone by the principals and filled the auditorium, not only with their singing but energy and acting too.

A hidden orchestra provided a magnificent backdrop for the song-filled show, which barely had two spoken lines throughout. This really helped the performance to have a well rounded, professional edge.

The staging throughout the show was cleverly and swiftly manoeuvred. One of the most famous scenes in Miss Saigon is the helicopter scene, which is tricky to stage, to say the least.

Medina College not only tackled the scene head-on but did it incredibly well by creating a life-size moving helicopter, leaving many in the audience wondering how they did it.

Photo courtesy of the Isle of Wight County Press:





## Medina College Bake Off 2014

In September students designed a menu for a three course meal for a teacher of their choice. Four students from each house were selected to bake two different batches of identical cupcakes. We wanted to see their creativity and their consistency.

There were some amazing cakes made, they were all sorts of shapes, sizes, varieties, colours and flavours including lemon, chocolate and the adventurous lime and passion fruit. Some were decorated with butter cream, sugar icing, fondant icing, cream, spun sugar and chocolate mouldings.

Two winners from each house won a place in the final.

In the final students were asked to bake something sweet and something savoury of their own choice and decorate within a two hour time frame which is no mean feat and they responded in fantastic fashion.

The Bake Off Final was judged by Headteacher Richard Williams and Deputy Headteacher Karen Begley who told all of the finalists that she "would be happy for any of them to cook for her as all of the dishes were well thought out and tasted delicious".

Runner up Ruby McGloughlin, year 9 baked a mackerel soufflé and chocolate mousse with piped cream and caramelised hazel nuts.

Winner Nathan Kirkham, year 7 baked Goats cheese, pepper and basil savoury muffins followed by a perfect chocolate Swiss roll log with cream filling and chocolate butter cream topping decorated with a fondant icing robin.

Third place was given to Joel Lines year 10 who made 4 identical Cornish pasties and a pear frangipani.

Special mention for Georgie West, year 10 who made the most delicious cheese and bacon loaf. The judges requested a copy of the recipe, which originally came from her Granny.





# Be Prepared for School

Students need to make sure they come to school equipped and prepared for every lesson.

All students need to be in the correct school uniform, including a tie and blazer. Hoodies are not permitted on the school site!

# Remember PPP Pen, Pencil and Planner!!!

## Medina College Stationery Shop



Handwriting Pen - 25p  
Gel Pen - 15p  
Disposable Fountain Pen - £1.65  
Bic Biro - 20p  
6 Colour Click Pen - £1.00  
HB Pencil - 10p  
Mechanical Pencil - 35p  
Planner - £3.00  
And much much more.....

### Opening Times:

**Monday - Friday**  
**11.20am - 11.40am**  
**1.00pm - 1.40pm**

**Located in the foyer  
outside the LRC and  
the Green and Blue  
House Office.**

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## Head On 2014

On Thursday 27th November a group of professional came to Medina to provide workshops on road safety with our year 10 students.

Part of the day was a re-enactment of a car accident that happened a few years ago locally on the Island. The students were a credit to themselves and the school and a member of the fire service said that this was the best group of students they had ever worked with.



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## @MedinaMaths

*Need help with your homework?*

*Stuck on a question?*

*Tweet @MedinaMaths to get quick help and support.*



Medina College  
ASPIRE AND ACHIEVE

