

## Notes from Friends of Ricards (FOR) Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> March 2014

The meeting was attended by Alison Jerrard, Anita Mannan, and Sarah Sawyerr together with parents from most year groups, several of whom attended for the first time.

Ms Jerrard and Ms Sawyerr summarised some of the many events happening at Ricards, including:

- The lively **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) drop down day** held recently which included rocket launching and outside speakers
- A **new initiative** funded by the Met and the local council to help all Merton schools provide training and education to staff and students with regard to avoiding gang violence, grooming, dangerous use of social media etc. There may be a parents' information evening organised to cover these issues and this was welcomed by the parents present.
- A very successful year 11 **trip to Rome**
- 20 students have signed up to take part in a **project in Tanzania** organised by Camps International to take place in summer 2015. They need to raise £3800 each but will stay for a month, assisting in various projects.
- There may be another **strike** on 26<sup>th</sup> March – if so Ms Jerrard will do her best to keep the school open for as many students as possible
- The **school production of Oliver** will be performed on 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June. Anyone who can offer to help run the bar, please email Polly with your details to pass on to Sarah. ([polly.cross@ricardslodge.merton.sch.uk](mailto:polly.cross@ricardslodge.merton.sch.uk))
- **Up-coming trips** include:

Bude - watersports	Yr 8	May 6 -9 2014
Lille - French market	Yr8/9	May 15 <sup>th</sup>
Barcelona – Spanish/tech	Yr 10	May 2014
Paris – Art/French		
Berlin – German/History		July 2014
WW1 Battlefields	Yr 9	
PGL residential trip	Hopefully for the whole of year 10	July
- **Arts Evening 20<sup>th</sup> March.** Students from throughout the school have been invited to submit work for it. All welcome to attend.
- **Year 6 BBQ** will be on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June. Again, helpers will be needed to help run the drinks stall – please put the date in your diaries!
- **'Meet the Parents'** We discussed an idea from Charlie Higson (the comedian) for parents with children at the local state school to meet with parents of younger children who may appreciate hearing first hand from someone with direct experience of the school. Please see link below.
- <http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/feb/25/charlie-higson-meet-the-parents-anxiety-of-choosing-schools>
- The relevant article will be attached to this summary
- A group of **Israeli students** will be coming over and will be meeting with RR6 students to exchange views on politics and history
- The next meetings will be on 13<sup>th</sup> May and 8<sup>th</sup> July

## **Quiz Night – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

The following was agreed:

- Quiz will be hosted by Chris Hykiel (Head of Science)
- Quiz will be sourced/written by Georgina and put on a Powerpoint
- Fish and Chips to be ordered once numbers are known (Georgie)
- Drinks/tuck/ketchup etc to be ordered for delivery (Georgie/Fiona)
- Raffle – the school already has a few prizes but Josu kindly offered to add two more
- Quiz prizes will be sourced by Fiona
- Heads and Tails competition prizes/bucket will be sourced by Nicky
- Bar Licence will be arranged by Georgie
- The school will send out letters inviting all students and family members.  
Ticket price: £7 adult - £5 student
- On the evening, anyone who can help is asked to arrive from 6pm to assist with setting up/running the bar, raffle and tuck shop. The more the merrier!