

Our Ref: 144 15

14<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

**Year 9 MerseySTEM Robotics Challenge Day – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

As a school we are ensuring those pupils with an interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) are receiving career guidance and hands on experience in these areas.

MerseySTEM, in partnership with the Local Enterprise Partnership in the Liverpool City Region, have invited our school to take part in one of our 'MerseySTEM Robotics Challenges'. This is a free-of charge robotics activity day, based around the VEX Protocol system. Your son has been selected to take part in a full-day event, building robots in the morning and pitting their robots against other teams in the afternoon in a series of challenges. Teams will be supported by manufacturing industry expert mentors to help build their machine! The winners from the day will go forward to the grand Final in June at 'The Skills Show' at Aintree Racecourse, as part of the International Festival of Business.

The day will enable students to understand a variety of design, science and engineering principles and also encourage teamwork, leadership and problem solving skills. The events aim to inspire and excite students' interest in robotics & to demonstrate the practical application of mathematics and engineering.

The competition will be held at Hugh Baird College on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October. Students must assemble in the school main entrance hall at 9.00am and are due back in school at 3.30pm. The students will need to bring a packed lunch. The cost of entry to the competition is free, however we do ask for a voluntary contribution of £3.00 to cover travel expenses. In line with a recent change to our Charging Policy, pupils for whom we receive Pupil Premium funding (egg those entitled or previously entitled to Free School Meals) will not be required to make a voluntary contribution for this trip. Parents or carers experiencing financial difficulties can contact me, in confidence, to discuss the matter.

Students will be accompanied by myself, Miss Lalgee and Mr Steve Jones.

We seek your permission to photograph your son during the activities, to be used by MerseySTEM and St. Margaret's publicity purposes only. Therefore, students would be expected to attend the event in full uniform. If you consent to your son attending the visit and the photographs being taken, please complete and return the reply slip below, along with the voluntary contribution of £3.00. As always, we expect the highest standards of discipline and effort and look forward to a successful and enjoyable day.

If you require any further information please contact Miss Lalgee at St. Margaret's C of E Academy.

Yours faithfully

**Miss S Lalgee & Mr S Jones**  
**Careers Co-Ordinators**

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**REPLY SLIP – Year 9 MerseySTEM Robotics Challenge Day – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Please return to Miss Lalgee by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Form: \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for my son to attend the visit the MerseySTEM Robotics Challenge Day on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October and for him to be photographed whilst involved in the activities (photographs to be used for MerseySTEM and St. Margaret's publicity purposes only). I enclose a voluntary contribution of £3.00.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_