

## Student Voice Minutes

Black notes came from KS4/5 meetings, [blue notes from KS3 meetings](#).

1. How do you know when you are awarded a merit (or in KS5 a Student Academy Award) and how can we improve this?

### Notes

- We are supposed to get told but this doesn't always happen - it depends on the teacher
- We would like more consistency with all teachers & subjects
- Not everyone who feels they work hard gets the credit
- Recognition should be for effort & contributions (not just for test marks)
- [Don't always find out/are told verbally](#)
- [Told they've got one then not put on system](#)
  
- An email for merits would be preferred - but not for Y13 during UCAS applications (Oct half term - Christmas)
- KS5 get a letter or sometimes written on work
- [Don't know/can't check how many you have](#)
  
- We have a grid in languages and English have cards - this helps to make it clear
- [Stickers in languages](#)
- [6 stamps for 1 merit](#)
  
- We like it when postcards are sent home for younger years
  
- It would be useful to categorise merits so we know what they are for

### Actions and Feedback

- We will ask staff to consider department guidelines for awarding of merits/Academy Awards so that we can aim for better consistency.
- This year we are regularly sharing merit totals with staff so that they can check consistency within departments, between classes etc.
  
- If an email was sent every time a merit was awarded, the system would be used less (as staff would be put off by the time it takes).
- We are also aware that students are already swamped with emails and don't want to add to this.
- However, we can look into a way of tutors giving information on a more regular basis.
  
- The MFL model seems to work well and some departments are going to be doing something similar - this should hopefully be reflected in department guidelines.
  
- The cost of postage makes it impossible for us to do this for every merit awarded but we will ensure STLs consider this option where someone has done something particularly notable.
  
- Teachers are able to put information in the comments section but often this is time consuming so isn't used.
- However we can look at the categories available and Mrs Wilkes will get a group of students together to discuss the possible

	categories. If you would like to be part of this group, please email Mrs Wilkes.
<p>2. We want merits/Academy Awards to be meaningful but also awarded sufficiently to be achievable. With this in mind, how many merits (or Student Academy Awards if you are KS5) should an <u>average</u> student achieve in a week?</p>	
<p><b>Notes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student reps gave marks ranging from 1-5, most common result was 3</li> <li>• 3, year 7s get more than others (teachers told them...)</li> <li>• 5-10 but dependant</li> <li>• 5 ish</li> <li>• Mainly between 3-4</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions and Feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For September - October staff issued 12027 merits which is approximately 1.67 merits per student per week (Y7-11). We will continue to monitor this aiming for 3 per student per week. This will obviously vary over different weeks and from student to student.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Are there other forms of reward at school you particularly value?</p>	
<p><b>Notes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stickers</li> <li>• Food rewards are needed</li> <li>• 'Skills for success' - a booklet used in Year 9. We appreciated the clarity of what we had to do to achieve something.</li> <li>• Verbal praise &amp; positive criticism</li> <li>• In English the student of the month is rewarded with a cupcake</li> <li>• Skip lunch queue</li> <li>• ABLE TO CHECK MERITS/BEHAVIOUR MARKS</li> <li>• Raffle tickets each time?</li> <li>• We appreciate the Amazon voucher</li> <li>• Email home about good things(merits) as well as detentions</li> <li>• We would like badges eg for Eco rep, HEART rep</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions and Feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some teachers are using some of these systems. We have asked staff to focus in the short term on consistency with issuing merits. Once we have achieved this, we will consider some of the options you have suggested.</li> <li>• We will start issuing Student Voice pin badges for students that have attended at least 3 meetings. We will ask Mrs Queralt and Mrs Hamnett for their thoughts on something similar for Eco and HEART badges.</li> </ul>
<p>4. Merits and Student Academy Awards are counted each year and get turned into House points. How could we make more of this in House Assemblies?</p>	
<p><b>Notes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• House captains should be informed of house progress to try and encourage their house to get more merits</li> <li>• Ongoing, tell them all the time who's winning, House notice boards</li> </ul>	<p><b>Actions and Feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• House Captains were given information about the merits/Student Academy Awards their House had achieved so far this year - this should have been shared in assembly on Thursday.</li> </ul>

- Form merits should mean something
- Weekly updates on which house is in the lead
  
- House Assembly more often?
  
- Merits should be worth more in house points - every student contributes in merits whereas they don't in House Events (Can we have more explanation about how Houses work)
  
- Mufti day for highest achieving house
- House with the most get a non uniform day
  
- Voucher awarded to highest achiever rather than raffle
  
- End of term assembly get rewarded/recognised

- We will ask House Captains to update noticeboards.
  
- This would put a lot of pressure on our House Captains who are also preparing for their A Levels. From experience, we have found half termly House assemblies work well
  
- This is a very valid point and we will speak further with Mrs Jarrett about how we change this for next year.
  
- Mufti days are not the easiest days for some members of the school community so we are conscious not to have too many.
  
- The raffle is done the way it is so that it is not the same person being awarded each time.
  
- We will add this to the assembly rota from next term.