



11 May 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 7 Reading University Project – ‘People in your Neighbourhood’

Year 7 students from Maiden Erlegh School in Reading have been invited to take part in a project run by Reading University, in collaboration with international performance group ‘Mammalian Diving Reflex’. The exciting project has been funded by the Arts Council, England and will be part of ‘Reading’s Year of Culture’. We are very fortunate to have been asked to participate and are looking for students to get involved with the project.

The project will run over the course of two weeks, with the students working with Mammalian, university students and the local community to produce final performance based tours around the local area.

Students will be asked to spend two weeks from **Monday 20 June until Friday 1 July** working in 1 ½ hour sessions everyday afterschool. During this time they will get to design programmes, develop their presentation and interview skills, prepare material based on the local community and learn production and project management skills. They will also have the opportunity to work with the performance group during the school day on Wednesdays 22 and 29 June.

The final performances will be held on **Thursday 30 June and Friday 1 July from 6pm – 8pm**. It will involve students performing local walking tours around the area, engaging with the local businesses and the community. The tours will be designed and organised by the students in the two weeks prior, guided by Mammalian and a group of university students.

As the students are performing the tours, local people and those interested in the project will be invited to come and act as an audience. This is something that we would like the school community to get involved in and we would encourage families and friends of the school to come along to show their support.

We have a limited number of 30 places for the project and ask that students submit applications to take part. Application forms are attached to this letter and should students wish to apply, they must be prepared to commit themselves to the extra afterschool sessions and the two performance dates. If your son or daughter wishes to apply, then you will be required to return the reply slip and application below to the school reception by **Friday 20 May 2016**.

Should your child’s medical circumstances have changed it is your duty to inform the school in writing or email MERoffice@maidenerleghschool.co.uk as soon as possible and before the day of departure.

This is a very exciting opportunity that is on offer to our students and one that is not to be missed!

Yours sincerely

Miss E Jordan
Art Department

