

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Mrs P Hutley

I am writing this just before our annual Prize Giving ceremony, an occasion I love. It is great to see the leavers back with us, confident and settled in their Post 16 learning environments and it's a fine opportunity for me to summarise the highlights of the last year and to reinforce for you all the positive benefits of attending Hollygirt.

We welcome our new Cook/Kitchen Manager: Zak Goodwin joined us in mid-September,



and his food has already made an impression on us all. Junior school girls are eating their veg and clearing their plates!

A few concerns about Health and Safety:

Can parents please be vigilant when parking their cars, not to block drives on Cranmer Street and Villa Road. We need to live in harmony with our neighbours and there is nothing more irksome than not being able to get out of one's drive.

Can parents *please not* ask girls to meet them on the corner of Cranmer Street and Mapperley Road. Girls are much safer, in a group, just at the end of the avenue. If they are late being collected it's a short distance back to school.

Will parents especially of senior girls please check that school shoes are suitable for climbing lots of stairs. There is a prevalence of ballet style flatties which are very unstructured and liable to slip off the foot.

In response to a request from the Parents' Forum, we have prepared an information leaflet on Social Networking Sites so you can better understand some of our concerns and be in a position to monitor your daughter's usage. *See separate leaflet enclosed.*

Slight Changes:

In Senior School **during the course of an academic year**, each time a girl is given 3 order marks, she will receive an after school detention. These are held on Fridays for one hour and are supervised by Mr Burslem. Written notice is sent home to parents. This is a slight change from the existing system.

Can parents be aware that whilst there is no problem getting messages to girls at break time (10.55-11.15am) and lunch time (1.00-1.55pm), after 2.00pm can be very difficult.

Year 11 Homework Room

Some Year 11 girls have requested permission to stay at school at the end of the school day to do their homework. As a trial, for half a term, I will provide a staffed room (Room 2) where girls can work Monday to Thursday 3.45pm to 4.45pm. In the first instance it will be for Yr11 only. It must be stressed that this is a silent working room and not a social gathering.

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I had a fabulous time at Green's Mill with Nursery, Reception and Key Stage 1 girls recently. I thank the teachers for inviting me and hope to come on another trip soon... the staff do a great job with the youngest members of our community and I hope to give parents a chance to come in to celebrate the successes of these girls in the Summer Term when we will hold a mini Prize Giving assembly for them.