

THE HOLLY LEAF

Message from the Head

Welcome to our first Holly Leaf of the academic year. We've made a really positive start back and look forward to a hardworking and productive term. It's good to see the girls so well turned out and so happy. It is a scarily short time until half term!

Congratulations to last year's Year 11 who have done themselves and the school proud in their summer examination results. An amazing 92% of girls got 5 or more A*-C grades *including* English and Maths. 42% of every paper sat was awarded an A*-A grade. These are not the only important statistics however as many girls have exceeded their potential as predicted by their data on entry. If any of you are reading this we can't wait to see you all at Prize Giving on Wednesday 14th October!

In order for us to keep up the high standards of dress for which Hollygirt is known, I am looking to parents for support. It is imperative that key items of clothing are labelled. The blazer is the biggest problem for us as the girls take them on and off throughout the day and they are not always (you might be surprised to hear) left in the appropriate place. A clear name label in the neck of the garment is the quickest and easiest point of identification. Senior girls' blazers must be worn to and from school until at least October half term. May I remind you of the new rule which states that skirts should be 'on or just above the knee.' Girls are not permitted to wear make up in school and acrylic nails are forbidden.

You may have heard about the changes we have made to the shape of the school day. The beginnings and ends of the day are the same, but may I remind you that lessons now commence at 8.50am. It is really important that your daughters do not miss important curriculum time by being late.

In Senior School we have also started offering girls the opportunity of staying in a supervised homework club after school every night (until 5pm on Monday-Thursday and until 4.30pm on Friday). I recognise that with so many distractions around when the girls get home, for some, it would really help to stay in school mode and to get some tasks out of the way. Additional benefits may be that the traffic at 3.45pm is diluted a little and the girls have less to physically carry home. Full details were sent home in a letter on Monday.

Owing to unforeseen staff absences there have been a couple of shift rounds this term. We will always put in place the best solution to ensure the continuity of your daughters' education, always using qualified and experienced staff. If there are to be any further changes we will endeavour to communicate it to you at the first opportunity.

One last plea: please support our fledgling extra-curricular programme by encouraging your daughter to join in after school events that have been organised. We are testing the water a little to see what is desirable and which activities after school parents and girls want but it is very sad when clubs are struggling to get off the ground because of poor uptake. Can I remind you that you must sign a consent form for each activity undertaken.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friends of Hollygirt Committee Meeting

- Tues 22nd Sept
- 7.15pm
- No. 9 Villa Road

Individual School Photographs

- Wed 23rd Sept
- 8.55am - 12.30pm

Year 11 ISCO Interviews

- Tues 22nd Sept
- Wed 23rd Sept

Junior Harvest Festival

- Thurs 24th Sept
- St. Andrew's Church
- 2.30pm

Senior Harvest Festival

- Fri 25th Sept
- St. Andrew's Church
- 10.45am

Year 6 Horrible Histories Theatre Royal Visit

- Sat 26th Sept
- 2.00-4.15pm
- Only for those who've booked!

Parents' Forum Meeting

- Fri 25th Sept

Year 11 Vocational Studies Placements

- W/c Mon 28th Sept

Year 7 Parents' Evening

- Mon 28th Sept
- 7.00pm

Residential Visit to Kingswood

- Years 5 & 6
- Wed 30th Sept to Fri 2nd Oct

Year 2 Visit to Goose Fair

- Thurs 1st Oct

Please note that the Hollygirt Singing Day for Years 5, 6 and 7 will now take place on Saturday 17th October and NOT Saturday 10th October as published in the calendar.

OPEN DAY

We will be holding our first Open Day of 2009/10 on Tuesday 6th October with sessions at 11.00am and 2.00pm. *No need to book, just turn up.*

Please let your friends know if you think they may be interested in attending Hollygirt in the future.

Our Senior School Entrance Assessment for entry into Year 7 in September 2010 will take place on Wednesday 25th November

If you are able to display in your workplace or deliver additional leaflets to places where interested families may go please ask Mrs Nuttall for some.

Junior Choir for Girls in Years 7 & 8

**Mondays after school
3.45-4.45pm
With Mr Turner**



Please see Mr Turner if you would like to join.



8 novels for the Year 8 'Passport to Reading' from four continents: America, Africa, Asia and Australia. £1.50 each or £10 for the lot. Contact Debbie on 07951 522577.

Scuba boots – as new, size 40/41, typhoon titanium... looking for a new home in exchange for a small donation to Friends of Hollygirt. Contact Lin on 0115 965 2084.

The Year 9 Art trip to Nottingham Contemporary Art Gallery will take place on Wednesday 18th November. (not Monday 16th November as indicated in the calendar)

Issue 24 due out on Friday 2nd October

Design your own Christmas Card

We now have the chance to design our own Christmas Card.

Completed designs must be back in school to your Form Teacher by **Wednesday 23rd September** – NO LATE ENTRIES!!



REMEMBER: use felt-tip pens or coloured pencils – **NO** glitter, glue or wax crayons! Everyone will receive a free sample of their own card and be able to order plenty in time for Christmas.



Contact Mrs Nuttall for further information.

The first meeting of the Parents' Forum will be on Friday 25th September. If anyone would like to submit agenda items please email them to Lucy Raybould or speak to a member of the group. The members for 2009-10 are:

Mrs Boughlaghem	Nadia, Year 4	
Mrs Brown	Emily, Year 2 Charlotte, Year 6	
Mrs Dare	Star, Year 11	
Mrs Hahn	Sophie, Year 7	
Mrs Jacobs	Jasmine, Year 9	
Mrs Reckless	Victoria, Year 6 Jennifer, Year 9	
Dr Smith	Eleanor, Year 4 Abigail, Year 7	
Mrs Vasudevan	Nandika, Year 3 Anushka, Year 7 Saranya, Year 9	

No Incentives Necessary?

I am surprised that no one has claimed their £100 fee discount for recommending a new customer to Hollygirt! This offer is still open, full details can be found in the letter which is on the parents section of the school website. It occurs to me that if you persuaded 30 friends to have a Hollygirt prospectus, who all subsequently joined the school, you could get a full term's fees for free (and be my best friend)!

Mrs Hutley

If your daughter has recently achieved success then please let us know so this can be mentioned on our website. Please email: Miss Lucy Raybould
Headmistress's Secretary & Registrar:
lucyr@hollygirt.notts.sch.uk

Hollygirt
SCHOOL