

# THE HOLLY LEAF

## Message from the Head

### SPORTING FACILITIES

I was really pleased to be able to visit the University Sports Centre recently to see the fantastic facilities we are able to hire for our girls' swimming and games lessons.

Hollygirt's sporting offering is sometimes the biggest concern expressed by prospective parents and the school has been criticised, in the past, for its lack of provision. However, I was struck on the occasion of my visit, by not only the quality of the facility (which is second to none), its cleanliness, orderliness and friendliness, but also and more importantly, on the level of participation, which struck me as being potentially greater than in many schools: the girls were competing in their inter-house netball competition and because we are a small school, every girl in the year was representing their house - whether they were talented in netball or not; whether they wanted to or not - they had all been selected, and they were all playing as part of a team, in a friendly yet competitive way. Thus, each girl will represent her house, in several sports, each year. This is a great opportunity for girls to learn to be a team player, to learn to adapt to competitive behaviour, to get a good level of exercise and to feel the benefits of participation irrespective of ability or talent.

This is exactly what I love about Hollygirt, the genuine opportunities it offers to all. We do do sport at Hollygirt- we just have to catch a bus to get there!

### UNIFORM

Parents will be pleased to note that D&P are now providing an online buying service, which for many will be a great help (*see separate letter*). Our unique school page is to be found at [www.schoolwear-centre.co.uk](http://www.schoolwear-centre.co.uk). It is worth noting, that early orders are still required as garments will be selected from the stocked items at the Nottingham branch, not a central warehouse. The system is not fully computerised so although the order is received centrally you will not get an instant acknowledgement that the items are in stock and ready for dispatch. Orders will be posted home. I do expect there to be some teething problems with the system, and would be keen to hear from parents who are experiencing difficulties or who find the site hard to navigate.

We have two unique evening opening slots at the D&P store on Maid Marian Way during the summer term:

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July for Preparatory to Year 6 (6.00-9.00pm) *and*  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July for Years 7 to 11 (6.00-9.00pm)

I am pleased to report that the girls' smartness has improved and I look forward to your continued support in maintaining these high standards of dress.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Year 10 GCSE Science Module Tests

- Wed 5th March
- AM Only

### Second Hand Uniform Shop

- Wed 5th March
- The White House
- 2.30pm - 4.15pm

### Hollygirt World Book Day

- Wed 5th March
- All Junior School Girls

### Friends of Hollygirt Committee Meeting

- Wed 5th March
- No. 9 Villa Road
- 7.15pm

### Form Photos

- Thurs 6th March

### ISI Inspection Week

- Mon 10th March to Thurs 13th March

## ISI INSPECTION

We are looking forward to the visit of the Independent Schools Inspectorate during the week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> March. The seven strong team, led by Mr Eric Hester, will be using the Headmistress's office as a base and will spend 3½ days in school observing lessons and the day to day life of the school, talking to girls, staff and trustees, scrutinising girls' work, and looking at policies/procedures. A copy of the report will be sent to all parents on publication.

Many thanks to those parents who completed the questionnaires and returned them to Mr Hester before Christmas.

**FOR OTHER NEWS AND GIRLS' SUCCESSES PLEASE LOG ON TO OUR WEBSITE.**

## Form Photographs

All girls will be photographed with their form classes and form teachers during the morning of **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March**.

Girls in Preparatory to Year 2 are to wear their normal red and white checked blouses with their blazers. Girls in Year 3 and above are to wear their formal white shirt, tie, blazer and green tights. All photographs will later be available to order online directly through our photographers.



## Parents' Evenings

**Yr1, Yr3 & Yr4**  
**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

**Yr7**  
**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March**



Mrs Ibbett, one of our visiting music staff, is in the process of completing a course to teach Associated Board Jazz Piano Syllabus. She is aiming to teach Grade 1 in the Summer Term to any girls who are interested. Please contact Mrs Purchase or Mrs Storey.

### Vocational Studies: CACHE Level 2

Girls in Years 10 and 11 will be finding out just what it takes to look after a baby and the demands it makes on your life when they take home a computerised baby for the night during the weeks of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> March.



## World Book Day

World Book Day 2008 in the UK will take place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

Due to our School Photographs taking place on this day Hollygirt will hold their World Book Day on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March**.

A main aim of World Book Day is to encourage children to explore the pleasures of books and reading.

This year the theme of our celebrations will be Roald Dahl. We would like all girls to come into school dressed in a character from a Roald Dahl book. All girls throughout the Junior School will participate in events linked to this theme throughout the day.

There will be prizes for the most imaginative costumes!



## Second Hand Uniform Shop

Our Second Hand Uniform Shop is usually open every first Wednesday of each month (during term time). This is a great opportunity to get hold of uniform at discount prices.

Our next opening is on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March from 2.30-4.15pm in the foyer of The White House.

### [www.schoolwear-centre.co.uk](http://www.schoolwear-centre.co.uk)

The new arrangements for ordering uniform should make the whole buying experience less stressful and time consuming but please remember to buy early for September! Although D&P have promised to carry more stock in a greater range of sizes, and will be informed of expected numbers for the new academic year, supplies may reduce quickly during August!



**Thank you to Mrs Atherton, Mrs Wood and Mrs McEwen for escorting the girls on their recent skiing trip to Folgarida in Italy. Everyone returned home safely!**

Many thanks to Mrs Carnill, Mrs Peck and their team of willing Mums who organised the Craft Afternoon for Junior School.

## Years 7, 8 and 9 Food Groups

Girls will be completing their written assignments and cooking their products in order to gain their Active Kids Get Cooking Certificates.

Year 7 (11<sup>th</sup> March): A healthy lunch box that proves health eating is not boring!

Year 8 (11<sup>th</sup> March): Decorating a celebration cake for a person or occasion.

Year 9 (12<sup>th</sup> March): Creating a snack product that is contained in a carbohydrate and is influenced by a country/culture of choice.

**Issue 3 due out on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

If your daughter has recently achieved success then please let us know so this can be mentioned on our website.

Please email:  
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Headmistress's Secretary & Registrar:  
[lucyraybould@hollygirt.notts.sch.uk](mailto:lucyraybould@hollygirt.notts.sch.uk)

**Hollygirt**  
SCHOOL