

THE HOLLY LEAF

Message from the Head – Mrs Hutley

Welcome back. I hope you all had a relaxing break and the girls are already back into the routine; early starts, busy days, homework and after school clubs. Clubs have begun this week and as well as some continuing ones e.g. fencing (space is still available for juniors and seniors), there are new ideas being proposed all the time and we continue to work towards having a broad offering to meet the needs of all our girls. I hope you will encourage your daughter to try new things and to support the clubs we offer. I am happy to consider your ideas for other activities. Would any parents like to consider running one?

I congratulate our Year 11 leavers on their exam success. Our headline statistics read really well with 97% achieving 5 or more A*-C grades (94% including Maths and English). Do come along to Prize Giving to hear the full story and to celebrate all our successes with us on Wednesday 12th October. It is the showcase of our school year.

Some of the girls are looking very smart though we have already had to chat to older girls about skirt lengths and wearing make-up. Please ensure your daughters are appropriately dressed and fully equipped for school. I appreciate that there has been some difficulty in purchasing certain items including blouses and longer skirts from D&P and that there have been some issues with the quality of customer service. I have already had a meeting with the store and area manager and have received assurances that they will do everything they can to improve relationships with us and improve their level of stock. You may not be aware but stock ordered online from D&P is picked from stock in the shop and posted out within a number of days. Though this may be convenient if you are unable to collect in store, there is no guarantee of arrival date or that items will be available.

I would like to introduce some new staff to you: Mrs Fisher has taken up the post of Bursar and can be contacted at bursar@hollygirt.notts.sch.uk with any issues you may have with regards to fees, charges, payments etc. Mr McLean is our new Senior ICT Technician and Mr O'Neill is joining us as our new part time Caretaker. We also welcome Mrs Twells who is teaching Years 1 and 2 on Wednesdays. Mrs Taylor is our new Speech & Drama teacher and Mr Ackroyd joins us as our new Guitar teacher.

If you are aware of any of your friends' children who have started at new schools and who have not settled or have issues with the educational provision they are receiving, please recommend us to them. It is never too late to benefit from the very special education and pastoral care that Hollygirt has to offer. A good opportunity to look at the school for the first time is on Wednesday 28th September when we will hold our Open Day at 9.30am and 2pm.

Can I remind parents to let us know if you have any success stories you wish to share in our Holly Leaves which will be issued at half term.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sun 18th
Sept

Friends of Hollygirt
Family Picnic Day

Wed 21st
Sept

Individual School
Photographs

Wed 21st & Wed
28th Sept

Year 7
Confidence
Project

Thurs
22nd Sept

Year 11 Set 1 English
Visit to Merchant of
Venice

Fri 23rd
Sept

Year 11
Conference Day

Parents' Forum
Meeting

Mon 26th
Sept, 7pm

Year 7 Parents'
Evening

Wed 28th Sept
9.30am & 2pm

OPEN
DAY

Thurs
29th
Sept

Year 8 English Visit
to A Midsummer
Night's Dream

Year 9 Geography
Visit to Natural
History Museum

Fri 30th Sept
11.00am

Senior
Harvest
Festival

Fri 30th Sept
2.00pm

Junior
Harvest
Festival

Fri 30th
Sept

Next issue of The
Holly Leaf

Message from the Head of Juniors – Mrs Payne

Welcome to a new academic year at Hollygirt Junior School. A special welcome to all our new starters and their families. I have never seen so many little bodies having so much fun in Nursery and Reception. Look out for their photos in the Nottingham Post tomorrow. After a busy but relaxing break I was greeted by a newly painted office - it looks fab but a little colour would make it feel much more welcoming. If any girls would like to paint me a picture on a canvas I would be most appreciative as I aim to FILL one of the walls with paintings from the girls for all to see.

Our Junior Harvest Festival is just around the corner so pop the date into your diary. This year the juniors will be holding it in the Senior Hall at 2.00pm on Friday 30th September. Don't forget your shoeboxes girls!

Walking around the school the girls seem to have settled in really well in their new classes. Well done girls. Keep up the high standards, work hard and ENJOY!!

Our school charity this year is the **Aegis Trust**. Aegis means 'shield' and the Trust is based at the Holocaust Centre in Laxton, which pupils from Hollygirt visit very year. The Trust works to protect people from crimes against humanity. In particular, we are supporting the work of the **Gisimba Orphanage** in Kigali, Rwanda. The orphanage was a place of refuge during the Rwandan genocide of 1994 when more than 800,000 people were murdered in 100 days. The dedication of the Gisimba family together with the support of American Carl Wilkens saved all 400 children and adults in the orphanage from certain death. The orphanage continues to be a haven for Kigali children and is a 'symbol of survival'. It still struggles to fund all its costs and Hollygirt would like to help. We are launching this year's charity on **Monday 26th September**. We would like every girl to hang an outgrown or unwanted item of clothing onto our 'washing line' during morning break. These will then be transferred to our clothing bank which you will have seen outside Senior School. The clothing bank will be there all year so please remember to send in all unwanted clothes, shoes, sheets, blankets and towels to school. If you would like to find out more about this year's charity you can find information at www.gisimba.org.

School Photographs Wednesday 21st September

Girls will be having their individual photos taken next week. Girls can choose to wear either their formal or normal uniform. Hair must be tied back and make up is not to be worn.

Friends of Hollygirt Family Picnic & Games Afternoon

Wollaton Park - Sun 18th September

Meet at 12 noon at the top car park near Wollaton Hall. Bring a picnic and enjoy some afternoon games.

There is no need to book.... just turn up!
(If the weather is bad, please check our website www.hollygirt.co.uk first)

Yr9 Geography Visit - Natural History Museum

Thursday 29th September

Girls must wear school uniform and bring a packed lunch. Please note the coach will return to school at 6.30pm.

Congratulations to Eleanor Davison (11M) and Laura Barnes (11S) who took part in the Ikano Mini Marathon (2.6 miles) on Sunday 11th September as part of The Robin Hood Marathon.

Girls in Year 11 Set 1 English will be visiting Stratford on **Thursday 22nd September** to see 'The Merchant of Venice', the Shakespeare play they're studying for GCSE English Literature.

All of the girls in Year 8 will be visiting Stratford on **Thursday 29th September** to see 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', the Shakespeare play they studied at the end of the Summer Term in Year 7.

Friends of Hollygirt Fashion Show!

for mums and daughters of all ages

Friends of Hollygirt are organising a Fashion Show on **Friday 11th November** from 7pm at Take One Dance Studios, Grant Street, Nottingham NG7 3GS. The Lord Mayor is opening the event and expected participants are high street clothing chains and boutique stalls selling products and gifts.

PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARIES NOW!

The next Parents' Forum Meeting will be held at 3.45pm on Friday 23rd September. If you have items you would like discussing at the meeting, please email to lucywilkins@hollygirt.notts.sch.uk.

Our next
OPEN DAY
will be held on

Wednesday 28th September
with sessions at 9.30am and 2.00pm.

This will give families the opportunity to meet the Headmistress, staff and girls and to experience the unique atmosphere of our school and discuss entrance arrangements.

Please tell your friends to come along if you feel they may benefit from what we have to offer.

The Year 7 Parents' Evening listed in the school calendar is for parents of new Senior girls to come into school and meet their daughter's Form Tutor together with some members of staff who teach her. Mrs Hutley will speak briefly to parents and there is the opportunity to talk to teachers about work the girls are doing and expectations on homework and standards in general.

Senior Harvest Festival

Friday 30th September, 11.00am at St. Andrew's Church

This year's harvest will be focusing on the work of Water Aid which is the UK's only major charity dedicated exclusively to the provision of safe domestic water, sanitation and hygiene education to the world's poorest people.

Junior Harvest Festival

Friday 30th September, 2.00pm in Senior School Hall