

Holly Lodge Easter Newsletter

2016



Dear Parent/Carer

Just to remind you that school will finish at 12.15pm on Thursday 24th March 2016. Please ensure appropriate arrangements are made for your son/daughter's safe journey home at this time.

The dining hall and deli bar will remain open as usual for lunch.

Monday 11th April is a moderation day and school will be closed to students. It will re-open on Tuesday 12th April for all students.

- School will also be closed on Monday 2nd May 2016 (Bank Holiday).

May I also take this opportunity to remind parents and students of the following:

- All students are required to be in their form rooms for the start of the registration period at 8.45am every morning. This means that they should be on the school site before this time.
- Students must be in full school uniform including black shoes. Boots, trainers or sports shoes are not acceptable. If students need a top coat then it should be of a plain colour.
- Hoodies are not part of the Holly Lodge uniform and should not be worn to school.

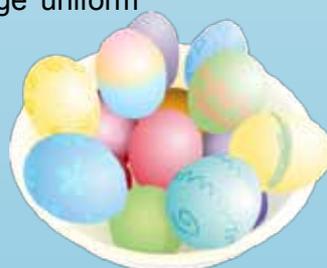
- Mobile phones, music players and other electronic devices used for leisure purposes should not be brought to school. The school will not take responsibility for any of these items. If these items and/or headphones are on view/used during the school day they will be confiscated and a parent/carer will be expected to collect from the school office.

- Energy drinks are banned on our school site.

After the Easter holidays we intend to ensure that these high standards are met by all students and that their main focus is learning so that they achieve their best – we ask for the full support of parents in bringing this about.

We wish everyone a happy Easter and an enjoyable break.

P Shone
Headteacher



Personalisation

Level 1 Craft Exhibition



The level 1 qualification in Creative Craft enables foundation students to develop their technical skills and creativity. Students are expected to complete three units. Students are expected to plan, prepare and create their final art and design items and present these at an exhibition. With this in mind and The Big Hoot capturing the imagination of everyone in Birmingham and beyond in the summer of 2015, it was decided that the Year 11 craft group would experience an outdoor learning opportunity by following the owl trail for inspiration. On March 3rd the students presented their creative outcomes in their own exhibition at school.



Community Event

On Tuesday, March 8th a Mother's Day inspired community event took place in school as parents of Year 7 students in the Rising Learners group were invited into school to celebrate their children's learning.



Year 11 Transition

SEND students have been taken to Sandwell, Dudley and Halesowen Colleges to support them in making choices about Post 16 provision or attend open days.



SIDs Day: EAL Treasure Hunt

The EAL Induction group went on a trip to Birmingham City Centre on SIDs day. They took part in a treasure hunt around the city, answering clues and finding information at key sites, such as the cathedral, St. Martin's Church, Victoria and Centenary Squares. This was followed by a game of ten-pin bowling. The trip was a great success, offering lots of opportunities to learn about a new city. The boys' team won the treasure hunt.



A Shining Boost for The Music Department

The Music Department have just had a fantastic donation of some new Steel Pans. Through local contacts, Mr Dickinson arranged with people from the Brasshouse Centre to collect their steel pans. All the pans have padded cases, stands and sticks. Also donated were 3 drum kits and a set of congas. This is a resource, worth thousands of pounds, that will be used daily by Holly Lodge pupils.



First Field Day for Holly Lodge Cadets

On Tuesday 15th March, the Holly Lodge cadets had a very early start for their first Field Day at Nesscliffe Army Camp in Shrewsbury. The training included: observation, feeding in the field and fire and manoeuvre. The highlight of the day however, was having the opportunity to participate in the Dismounted Close Combat Trainer - a large screen simulation where the cadets fire the rifle without the need for live rounds. The cadets had a fabulous time and are now looking forward to their first overnight camp in May.



A scheme To Support Accelerated Reading For Year 7

Last term 17 year 10 pupils were trained by Miss Lakhay to be peer mentor readers for selected pupils in year 7. This takes place every Wednesday morning during an registration with Mrs Whitehouse and support from the librarian, Mrs Richards. Here each pupil has a buddy to help them read. This support has encouraged pupils to improve their confidence in reading. The pupil's endeavours have been of such a high standard that 2 groups have now been able to exit the scheme and have been given certificates for their involvement. As this intervention has been successful, the peer mentors will be assigned their third group of pupils starting next term.



History Department visit to Auschwitz, Poland

The History department lead a trip this term to visit Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland, taking 2 students as part of an inter-schools partnership. After attempting an initial seminar in Birmingham, this trip took place over a single day, from early hours to late into the night, then was followed up by a further seminar in Birmingham on how this can impact our lives still today. It was a fantastic experience, and one we hope to repeat in the future.



Sports Report



Football

We have had a positive number of pupils represent the school this year in football fixtures against other local Sandwell schools. We have Sandwell Cup fixtures coming up against Oldbury for Years 7-9. On top of this we have also linked up with Tividale FC who now run coaching sessions on a Thursday evenings and also trials for our pupils to potentially play for Tividale FC.

Netball team report

We had a mixed year in both the U14/16 Netball Leagues, we won a couple of the harder games as the league went on, however, at the tournaments we were unfortunately beaten after being drawn in the harder round robin. Both the tournament and leagues were thoroughly enjoyed by all, and we look forward to building on their success from this year next season. The additional support of former pupil Peaches Campbell on a Wednesday has also aided their progress and improvement. We would like to congratulate the players on their attitude and perseverance so far and have no doubt this will continue. Thanks to Miss Corcoran, Miss Culloty and Mrs Davies for their efforts with the girls.

Cricket

After a promising year last year, KS3 cricket has started well with students regularly attending the extra-curricular club that has run from September. They have all shown great improvement in their own cricket performance and this came to fruition in the first indoor game of the season this year when we beat Perryfields. With many more indoor games to play before the Summer outdoor fixtures, we are hoping to enjoy further success against the other Sandwell schools.

Indoor Athletics Championship

A number of pupils have now completed the Sandwell Indoor Athletics Championship at Tipton Sports Academy; the pupils took part in 6 separate events over the year and gained points from the different events in an attempt to finish as high as possible. The pupils have done really well and have displayed a very enthusiastic

and hard working attitude against some tough opposition. Students are pictured with certificates.



Dodgeball

Years 7/8/9/10 have competed in the Sandwell Dodgeball tournament at Oldbury Academy. Students gave 100% effort in the games, and the year 9/10 girls came 7th and the boys came 8th. We look forward to taking the Year 7/8 teams this week.

Handball tournament

The students had an enjoyable time at the handball tournament that was run at Wood Green Academy. The students learnt a lot whilst being there, and came back beaming even though the results did not go their way. We took teams across years 7, 8, 9 & 10 to the various tournaments.

Badminton Reward Trip

Badminton Club held after school every Tuesday goes from strength to strength with increasing numbers of students of all ages attending with each week. Due to their continued efforts and commitment the group were awarded with an invitation to watch the Yonex All England Championships at the Barclaycard Arena on Wednesday 9th March. The group were treated to a number of games across 5 courts, played between some of the world's greatest badminton players at this time, including world number 1 Chen Long of China, and the number 1 ranked Great British and World number 5 ranked Mixed Doubles pairing of Chris and Gabrielle Adcock, Gold medal winners in the 2014 Commonwealth Games. The group also had the opportunity to take part in the events away from the games including

Wheelchair Badminton and an electronic reactions board. The group thoroughly enjoyed the day, commenting on the quality of the games and the events they took part in. Hopefully we will get to see some of these pupils on the world stage in the future.



Extra- Curricular PE Clubs

PE at Holly Lodge continues to develop and improve as more pupils are engaging in the extra-curricular programme offered by staff at the school. We have seen an uptake in pupils attending fitness club at lunch time, table tennis and basketball at lunch time as well as the football, netball, indoor cricket and badminton clubs that have been offered. Also the breakfast clubs have proved to be a real success for the department and pupils are enjoying the morning sessions. Be sure to check the timetable next term as some activities will change and if you are interested to get involved then see any member of the PE department.

SID's day successes as pupils try out Ice Skating & Laserquest!

Year 10 pupils enjoyed a range of new activities to engage them on the first of this year's SID's day, the pupils had the opportunity to take part in either Ice Skating or Laserquest combined with some physical activities at school. Around 120 pupils took part on the day their efforts, commitment and enthusiasm stood out as the pupils received a number of positive comments from the venues and staff that the pupils worked with. Thank you to the parents for supporting this trip and contributing to the activities and transport on the day. Finally I would like to extend my appreciation to the staff for their efforts and for their own enthusiasm in getting involved in the activities on the day. A great day was had by all and the experiences allowed for some great team work.

Sports Relief 2016

Staff and pupils have all contributed in some shape or form this year for Sports Relief 2016 with a number of lunchtime clubs, cake sales and wear something red taking place over a sports relief week.



World Book Day



Members of staff teamed up with the English Department on March 3rd in adopting fancy dress to promote World Book Day. Students were amazed to see their Teachers and Learning Support Assistants dressed as James Bond, Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz, Puck from A Midsummer Night's Dream, "Where's Wally", The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas, Mary Poppins and many more popular characters. Mrs N Kaur from the EAL team took home first prize for her astonishing portrayal of Cruella DeVille.



School Calendar

Summer Term	2016
Training Day 4	11 th April 2016
Yr7 Parents Evening	28 th April 2015
May Day	May 2 nd 2016
Half Term	30th May to 3rd June 2016
Yr7 and Yr8 end of year examinations	13 th June 2016
Yr10 Exam Week & Yr12 Work Experience	20 th June 2016
Yr8 Parents Evening	23 rd June 2016
6th Form Taster Day	27 th June 2016
SID's 3	1 st July 2016
Yr6 Induction Day 1	5 th July 2016
Yr6 Induction Day 2 and Parents Evening	6 th July 2016
Enrichment Day	12 th July 2016
Rewards week and New Staff Induction	18 th July 2016
END OF TERM:	22nd July 2016

