



NEWSLETTER

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15th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the second half of the autumn term.

As always, our school wholeheartedly joins together for Remembrance and this year we were joined by:

Philip Wright, Chair of Governors, Gurinder Singh Josan CBE, Governor and MP for Smethwick, "Blind Dave" Heely OBE, Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Kuldeep Singh Deol, Guru Nanak Gurdwara, Nasir Akhtar, Abrahamic Foundation and Rev. Nick Ross, Holy Trinity Church Smethwick. Thank you to all staff and students who supported at the service, including of course our wonderful CCF, who also attended the Smethwick Remembrance Service on the previous day. See photos on the next page.

This week is anti-bullying week and we have had lots of activities going on in school, particularly for Y7 to 9. We are again so proud to be part of the Cyrille Regis Strike a Change Programme, with West Brom, for some boys in Y9. Thank you to those parents and carers who joined us for Y7 settling in evening this week, it's great to see such a positive and supported start for our newer students.

Last week, some sixth form students visited Stratford upon Avon to see Othello at the Royal Shakespeare Company. They really enjoyed the experience. We also had a Y11 Geography field trip to Dovedale before half term.

Also, before half term, a group of Y10 students visited Oxford University. They were given advice on applying for and attending university and had a tour of Keble College, Christchurch College and parts of central Oxford. See photos on the next page.

We are very excited for our trip to the panto next month, some Y7 and 8 students will be watching a performance of Beauty and the Beast at the Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton, check with your HoY if you would like to go – tickets are selling really fast!

This week we have had lots of activities, including a reward trip to the cinema for some Y7 students, the school nurse roadshow for Y8, a Y10 More Able 'Rise' workshop where they worked on developing key transferable skills needed to be successful in the workplace, and our KS3 coffee afternoon session for parents and carers. Look out for the KS4 coffee afternoon session next week on 20th November.

We had loads of engagement for the Black History Month design competition this year, making it really difficult to choose a winner. A variety of entries came in from posters, drawings, collages and poetry and it was brilliant to see the vast range of people depicted, from Martin Luther King to Bessie Coleman and Ruby Bridges. Some students even took it upon themselves to spend time after school in the art department completing their work. All students who partook in the competition have been awarded 5 achievement points. The top 3, who will be receiving their prize in upcoming assemblies are: 1st – Mikail Krycak (8J), 2nd – Giulia Kaur (9E), 3rd – Libby Huise (8I). Well done all.

On 5th December we have our Festival of Light celebration evening (5 to 7pm), with a talent show taking place at school in the day. Please join us for the evening celebrations.

Coming up, we have A Christmas Carol themed Quiz, after school on 28th November for Y9, 10 and 11. Join us for some fun prizes, just 50p entry!

Y11 students will have their mock exams next week and sixth form students' will be held w/c 6th January. Good luck to all.

Please don't forget our Staff training day on Friday 29th November. Have a great weekend.



translate.google.co.uk/

Telephone: 0121 558 0691

Email: info@holly-lodge.org

Best Regards

Imran Iqbal - Headteacher



Welcome back to a new half term as we head into the winter months we know pupils are more likely to want to be off during this time as the days get darker earlier and the temperatures drop. It is even more important that we continue to drive attendance and punctuality up though, we finished the last half term with a whole school attendance of 94.32% this is up from 90.79% which we finished with in July. Attending school is so important for the pupils as it will support with: **Developing their wellbeing, Making friends in school who can support them both in school and outside of school, Ensure they obtain the knowledge and information from all their subjects to access homework and exams during their time at Holly Lodge, Achieve the best outcomes at the end of Y11 and sixth form as well as on other tests during their time at Holly Lodge to enable them the opportunity to achieve professional careers.**

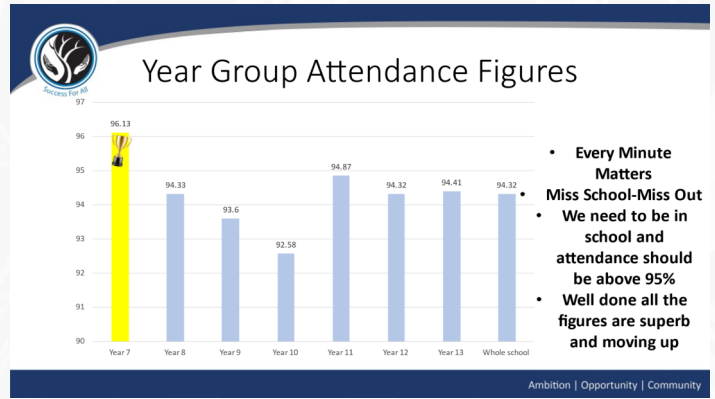
Pupils need to aim for attendance above 95% which means no more than 8 days off over the whole academic year. Pupils that are often ill and off school run the risk of being persistently absent, "Persistently absent from school means your child has an attendance of below 90%. The Department for Education defines a pupil as persistently absent if they miss one in ten school sessions. (Every school day consists of two "sessions" – a morning and an afternoon). If your child has 19 days off over the school year, they will always remain below 90% and be classes as a PA pupil from school."

Pupils being at school will provide them with the best opportunities of being successful not just at school but in life. Pupils who have ambitions to have nice cars and houses while enjoying beautiful holidays need to ensure they attend school. This will help them be successful and achieve all of their life goals. Should you have any questions around attendance please get in touch.

If you have any questions please get in touch with Mr Burke (lburke@holly-lodge.org) or Mr Robinson (Arobinson@holly-lodge.org).

Attendance Matters every minute matters

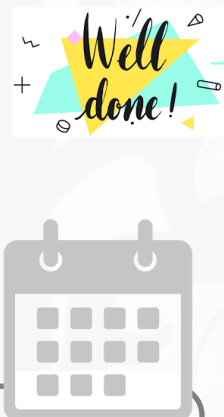
Report your child's absence
0121 558 0691
Option 1



HollyLodge_B67 @HollyLodge_B67 · 4s
Before half term, a group of Y10 students visited Oxford University. They were given advice on applying for and attending university and had a tour of @KebleOutreach College, Christchurch College and parts of central Oxford. #Ambition #Opportunity



HollyLodge_B67 @HollyLodge_B67
Thank you to all those who joined our Remembrance service yesterday, especially @gsjosan who laid a wreath #RemembranceDay2024 #Community



Well done! | **ਬਹੁਤ ਖੁਸ਼ | ਸਾਬਾਸ਼ | بت اچھے**

Follow us...
ਸਾਡੇ ਖਿੱਛੇ ਆਓ

FOLLOW US ON



আমাদের অনুসরণ করো
بمیں فالو کریں

HollyLodge B67

[6thFormHL](#) | [HollyLodge PE](#) | [HollyLodgeCCF](#)

- 18/11 Y11 mock exams—all week
- 20/11 KS4 SEND afternoon 1.30 to 3pm
- 26/11 SEND Careers Fair
- 27/11 Y7 theatre performance
- 28/11 Y8 theatre performance
- 28/11 A Christmas Carol quiz 3.30pm
- 29/11 Staff Training Day