

Holly Lodge High School

NEWSLETTER

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College of Science

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13th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our last newsletter of the year!

Thank you to all who attended our Festival of Light last week. It was a wonderful night. The visiting Gospel Choir were incredible – we really enjoyed their performance and were so grateful to them all. And such fantastic fireworks! Spectacular. We had lots of performances, food, crafts and positive messages at our Festival of Light event. See the photos on the next page.

Thank you to everyone who has donated clothing, food or money toward our winter community collection. We have delivered the food and warm clothing and also over £250 in cash for the food bank, raised by our sixth formers. We have also raised well over £1000 for Save the Children through all our fundraising over the year.

If you do need any support over the holidays you can find lots of links on our website, and St Albans Community Centre are giving out warm clothing on Tuesday 17th December. See our social media for details.

This week we had a 'Lunch for Democracy' with some students from Y9 to 12, hosted by a company called Wonder Future. As part of this event the students discussed some key political questions, whilst sharing lunch together. The aim was to introduce students to key democratic ideas and give them the opportunity to enjoy informal, respectful discussion around these ideas. With huge thanks to Chartwells who kindly agreed to sponsor the meal.

Some Y7 and 8 students watched the Beauty and the Beast panto at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre this week, this was a wonderful opportunity for them to take part in a great Christmas tradition.

The English Department have organised several themed quiz



nights this term for Yrs7-11; Harry Potter and A Christmas Carol have both featured. Creativity has been in full flow with themed snacks, drinks and games. Well done to all who attended. Don't forget next Tuesday is sixth form quiz night, raising funds for the food bank. We are also looking forward to the Class of 24 Celebration Evening next Monday. Some students a Premier League Inspires - The Challenge event, alongside 5 other partnership schools of The Albion Foundation. The topic for this year was 'Gender Equality'. The students went on a 'Gender Equality' themed scavenger hunt around the stadium where they had to complete certain tasks, they also created a social action project on raising awareness for Gender Equality.

Year 11 BTEC Animal Care pupils spent the day at Forge Mill Farm last week, completing their practical assessments. They had to demonstrate that could safely handle and restrain two different types of animals. Check out our social media to see the brilliant photos.

In sports news, Holly Lodge beat Broadway Academy 11-5! 4 Goals from Uthman, 3 Goals from Isaac, 3 Goals from John and 1 from Zamin led to a convincing win for our sixth form football team. In what turned into an end to end second half we must say a big thanks to Braidn who used his free basketball week to jump in goal to help us out due to injuries. See the photo here.

In our recent Election of Head Student Ambassadors I would like to congratulate Jasmeet Kaur and Jasjit Chahal who were elected by the student body. Also well done to our Y12 St John Ambulance NHS Cadets who practising their basic life support skills on CPR manikins last week. Last week Y12 T Level Education and Early Years students enjoyed a visit to the Sea Life Centre to learn about how to organise visits for children.

Next week, all students will finish at 12.50 on Friday 20th December. Our sixth form students are visiting Aston Uni and German Market on that day.

We will see students in Y7 to 11 back to school on Monday 6th January 2025 at 10am. Sixth form students will be advised separately because of their exams.

Have a great weekend and week ahead and enjoy the festive break.





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Imran Iqbal - Headteacher

1. Carson

BestRegards

As we approach Christmas the pupils have shown a huge improvement towards their attendance and ensuring they are in school. We currently sit at 94.26% for our whole school figure which puts us well above the current national figure of 93.30% which sees us above the average by +1.06% and we have significantly moved the 7-11 attendance up by 3.40%! This only reinforces our hard work, commitment and support in ensuring that your child is in school but more importantly the support you are offering is clearly working and the pupils are more intent on being in school and driving their attendance up. Please can we continue to ensure pupils are in school, we will hopefully drive up our attendance above 95% which is the bench mark we are setting for all pupils. One area we do need to improve on and we are now focusing on is the pupils punctuality to school, the school is accessible from 8am but pupils must ensure they are on site for 8.40am and in their form class rooms by 8.45am. I have set out the key points below:



- Pupils will be recorded late after 8.47am and receive a detention which is logged on class charts
- Same day lunch time detention of 20 minutes B block hall Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. On Thursday we will use D14.
- Register will be taken for attendance at the lunchtime
- Non-attendance will be collected the next day for the lunch time detention
- Non-attendance or 3 lates in one week will result in an after school attendance detention on Friday's with ARO for 30 minutes

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

