

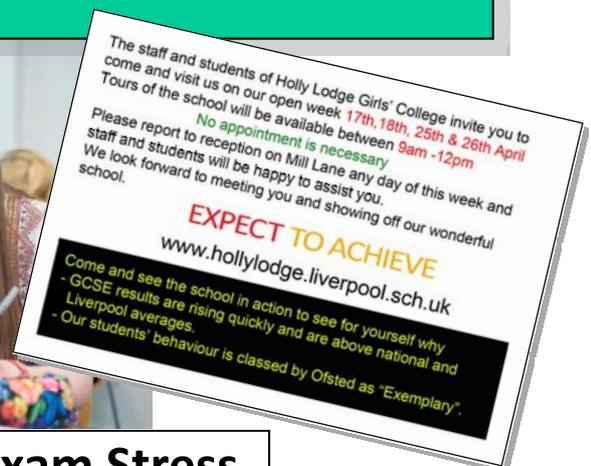
## Welcome

Welcome back – we all hope that you had an enjoyable and restful Easter. School was very busy during the holidays, with over 30 revision sessions taking place for Year 11 and 13 students. We were delighted to see so many students at the sessions, showing their commitment to their studies and the support they are offered by our staff. These sessions capped off a very busy Spring Term for us. I have listed some of the many highlights from last term overleaf and more details are available in the News section of our website.

As final examinations for Years 11 and 13 approach we are acutely aware of the pressure they are under and we will continue to support them as they move towards doing their best and achieving their aims. Good luck everyone!

## Open Mornings

We are proud of our students and staff and would like to show them off to you. To that end, we will be running a series of **Open Mornings after Easter on 17/4, 18/4, 25/4 and 26/4**. During these mornings, please present yourself at reception and a member of staff will take you on a tour around school so that you can see what happens in lessons and how the school runs. We will also be able to answer any questions you may have. No appointment is required!



## Top Tips for Dealing with Exam Stress

A little bit of stress can be a good thing as it motivates us to knuckle down and work hard. But exams can make stress levels get out of hand, which can stop us from performing our best. So it's important to address it and get it back under control.

- Learn to recognise when you're stressing out. A break or a chat with someone who knows the pressure you're under will get things into perspective.
- Avoid comparing your abilities with your mates. Those "Oh my God I've only read Macbeth 17 times" conversations are such a wind up. Everyone approaches revision in different ways, so just make sure you've chosen the method that works best for you. Make a realistic timetable. Stick to it.
- Eat right. Treat yourself like a well-honed machine - eat fresh fruit and veg and have a proper breakfasts. Fuel your brain as well as your body - no one can think straight on coffee and chocolate.
- Sleep well. Wind down before bed and don't revise under the duvet - your bed is a sanctuary, not a desk. Get your eight hours.
- Exercise. Nothing de-stresses the mind faster than physical activity, so build it into your timetable. Being a sloth makes our mind sloppy too.
- Steer clear of any exam 'post-mortem'. It doesn't matter what your mate wrote for Question 3(b), it's too late to go back and change your answers, so it will just make you worry even more.

# Numeracy Counts at Holly Lodge

At Holly Lodge Girls' College, we are committed to developing numeracy skills in all subjects across our curriculum, believing that it will support the learning of students and raise standards in every subject. Students who are mathematically literate are better problem solvers, and can explain their reasoning more clearly.

We currently promote numeracy at Holly Lodge in many ways. Every week, pupils complete a "Numeracy Challenge" in form time that helps them apply their understanding of basic mathematical concepts. We will publish this weekly challenge on our Twitter page each week ([twitter.com/HollyLodgeLiver](https://twitter.com/HollyLodgeLiver)) and we would like to encourage all parents and carers to work through this challenge with their daughter's. We are also starting this half-term by appointing Numeracy Ambassadors from each form group, who will be taking the lead in the form time Numeracy Challenge, and working with other students to develop their logical thinking.

Over the last term, we have had opportunities to celebrate maths across the whole school in a number of ways: we have ran workshops on codebreaking and STEM careers (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). We also celebrated International Pi Day in March, where many of our students engaged with the activities that were running during the day (one student was even able to recall Pi to 106 decimal places). There will be more opportunities coming up over the next term to celebrate and promote numeracy and mathematics, including our "Women in Maths" day in May, and the "Liverpool Maths Party" in July. We look forward to sharing information with you very soon about how you can take part.

We also believe that parents and carers play a vital role in helping promote numeracy. We have updated the Numeracy page of our school website with some links to websites that promote ways in which parents can support us with this, and we will be writing to parents and carers shortly with more specific information about the role you can take in making sure that numeracy counts!



## Year 8 Options

Year 8 will be choosing their options during May so that they can begin their GCSEs in Year 9. This means that they will have more time to get through the extra content in the new GCSEs and allows us to give students more choices and more qualifications by the end of Year 11. 2017 was the first year we offered options in Year 8 and the current year 9 gave an average of 7 out of 10 when asked how happy they were with this new arrangement. More details will be available at the Year 8 Parents' Evening and the Year 8 Options Evening. (See dates below)

## Highlights from last Term

Liverpool Readathon... BAE Stem Roadshow...  
Year 11 Employability interviews... Enigma machine codebreaking with Bletchley Park...  
Year 9 Drama winning the Theatre in Education Award... World Book Day... UK Parliament outreach... Jekyll and Hyde... BBC School... Pi Day... Tutor Trust... Year 7 Twitter Takeover and much, much more

## STUDENT VACANCIES



The Maths Department are recruiting  
**NUMERACY AMBASSADORS**

To help Holly Lodge promote numeracy across the school, the Maths department are looking to appoint **one "Numeracy Ambassador"** from every form in Years 7-10 to support us. The Ambassadors will need to:

- **Help and support their classmates during form time once a week with weekly Numeracy Challenges (starting from next week),**
- **Commit to a 5-10 minute briefing every Monday break time in A2,**
- **Commit to a lunch time meeting once every half-term,**
- **Help to plan and deliver activities for form time and whole-school Maths days, such as Pi Day and the Liverpool Maths Party.**

This is an excellent opportunity to contribute to the wider school community, and would look very good on future college applications. Each tutor group should nominate **one responsible student**, and form tutors should pass these names to Mr Liptrot via email by the end of **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018**. See Mr Liptrot for more information.

## Upcoming Events

12/4/18 Year 8 Parents Evening

17/4/18 Final Year 11 Elevate Study Skills session

8/5/18 Year 8 Options Evening

14/5/18 GCSE and A Level external examinations begin

25/5/18 Break up for half term

EXPECT TO ACHIEVE

