



**HOLLY
LODGE**
GIRLS' COLLEGE

Autumn '25
8th Edition

NEWS LETTER

EXPECT TO ACHIEVE



Welcome to the first newsletter of the year at the end of what has been a very, very busy half term for all.

This newsletter is just a snapshot of some of the events which have taken place this term, as well as those right at the end of the summer term. We are delighted that so many students benefit from the opportunities we can offer outside the classroom due to the diligence, expertise and determination of our staff to provide these experiences.



We hope you have enjoyed the improved communication offered by our new Arbor system. We look forward to improving this still further when the Arbor parent app is released just after Christmas. In the meantime, best wishes for a happy and healthy half term break.

Mr A. Keen
Headteacher



PERCY JACKSON THEATRE TRIP



KEY DATES:

- INSET Day - **Friday 24th October** - Students not in school.
- October half term - **Monday 27th October until Friday 31st October**
- **Back to school Monday 3rd November**
- Friday 19th December - half day before Christmas
- Christmas break - **Monday 22nd December until Friday 2nd January 2026**
- INSET Days : Monday 5th January
Tuesday 6th January
- **Back to school Wednesday 7th January.** All students at 8:25am



VARIETY SHOW PERFORMANCE



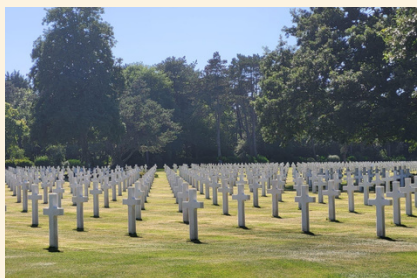


At the end of term last year, the MFL department took 40 Year 8/9 students to Normandy. They stayed at a chateau in northern France which acted as their base while they were there.

Across 4 days and 3 nights, students experienced a variety of French culture, with food markets, cathedrals, historic streets and vast landscapes. They also visited the American Cemetery, D-Day beaches and museums, and the Bayeux Tapestry.

In between the historical elements of the trip, they went to a Caramel Factory, Chocolate Factory and a French supermarket. The chateau itself was full of its own entertainment, with sports activities such as swimming, and evening discos including karaoke! Thanks very much to the MFL Department and Angie for their efforts in making the trip one to remember!







Y10 STATISTICS STUDENTS

During the summer holidays we waited with anticipation to see how students in KS4 had done in their GCSEs. Once again we celebrated with all of them as they shared their news with friends and family, it was brilliant to see so many happy faces! In many of the attainment measures, the students achieved record scores which is fabulous and shows that we are still continuing to improve year on year.

As for our Sixth Form, we were delighted to see that overall, Key Stage 5 results were really positive and the majority of our students got into their first choice for their next stage, whether that be university, apprenticeships or otherwise. We are so proud of the cohort and can't wait to hear how they get on!



Ruby-Joy T
Class of '25
University of York
English & Politics

Grace R
Class of '25
LIPA
Theatre and Performance Design

Reyan Y
Class of '25
University of Liverpool
Mathematics & Philosophy

Eva R
Class of '25
Liverpool John Moores University
Forensic Psychology & Criminal Justice

Chidera I
Class of '25
University of Bath
Pharmacy

Alexia M
Class of '25
University of Sheffield
Criminology

Rawan B
Class of '25
University of York
International Human Rights Law

Noah C
Class of '25
University of Manchester
Film Studies and Linguistics

RESULTS DAYS

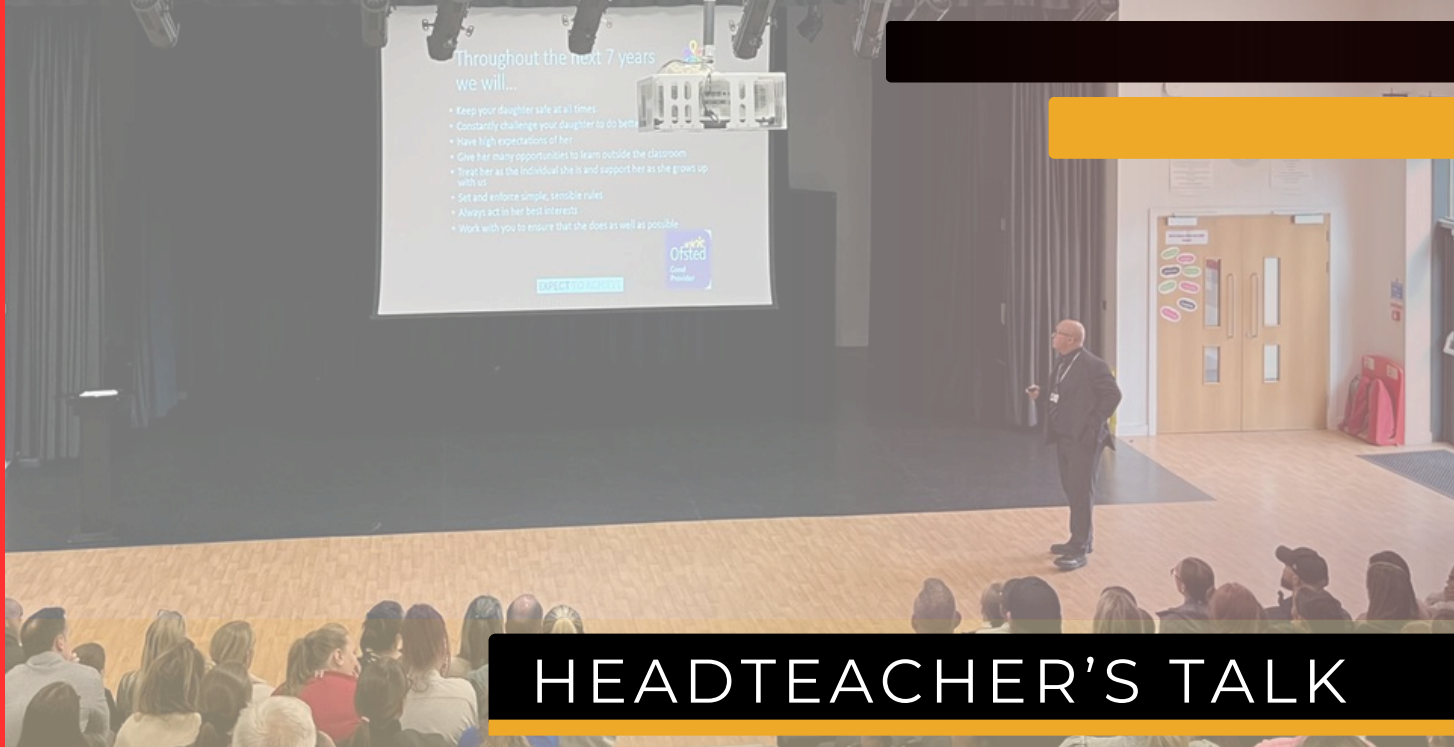
EXPECT TO ACHIEVE



In the summer term, we had a really fantastic Variety Show, with a packed out audience, resulting in Sophia (now Year 11) winning the trophy. She performed the Musical Theatre song “Roxie” from Chicago and was stunning in her delivery – a well deserved winner! As well as musical theatre, we saw a variety of skills on show, including comedy, photography, dance, public speaking, even a fully kitted out band!

All the students involved were amazing across the day, whether that be in their performance, backstage or just in their professional attitude towards the event. See you there next year!





HEADTEACHER'S TALK

In September we welcomed prospective parents and students to our annual Admissions Evening. We had two full presentations in the hall, and many parents were very keen to talk about how mature and proud the students they met were, the warmth, passion and pride of the staff they spoke to, and also what a lovely site we have!

It was lovely to hear so many people pick up on what makes Holly Lodge such a special and successful place and we anticipate another over-subscribed year group for the 2026 intake.

The application process is drawing to a close - anyone still hoping to join us at Holly Lodge in September 2026 has until **Friday 31st October** to apply.



THANK YOU

FOR YOUR

SUPPORT

HOLLY LODGE GIRLS COLLEGE

FOR RAISING AN AMAZING TOTAL OF

£2101.46

For Claire House Children's Hospice

After a year of fundraising for Claire House Children's Hospice, we were thrilled to receive a letter of thanks from Olivia, who has been supported by the charity as a young carer while her sister has been unwell. We have raised over £2000 so far and hope we can continue to support this wonderful cause!



HOLLY LODGE FOOD PANTRY

Our School Food Pantry – Here to Help

We know that times can be tough, and everyone needs a little support now and then. Our School Food Pantry is here to help any families in our school community who could use some extra food supplies.

The pantry provides free food hampers containing a range of essential items – and all requests are completely confidential. If you'd like to request a hamper or find out more, please contact Angie Martin -Student Support Officer via a.martin@hollylodge.liverpool.sch.uk, or speak to any member of school staff you feel comfortable with.

We're here to support every family in our community – no questions asked, no judgment, just kindness. ❤️



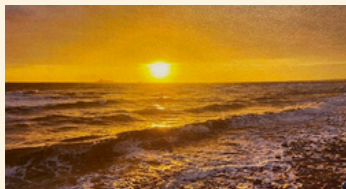
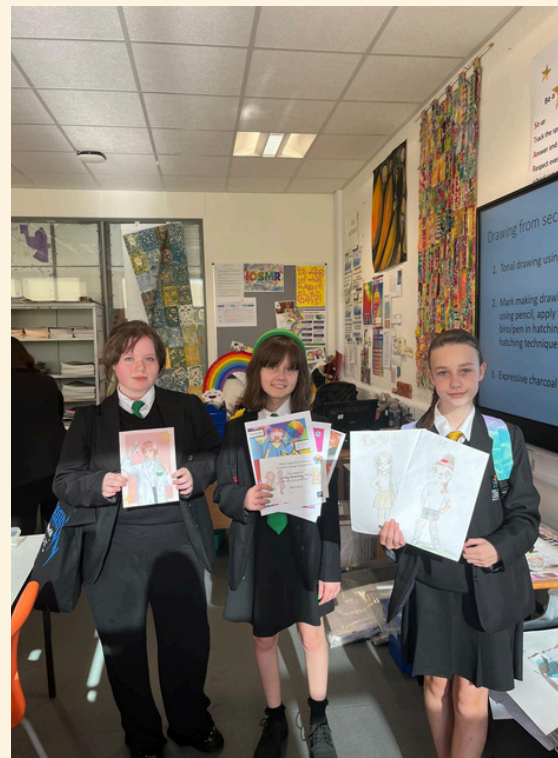
COMMUNITY & CHARITY WORK



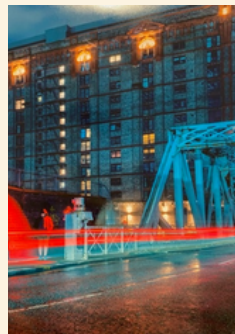
SCHOOL BAND

The school band treated some year groups to an end-of-year performance during assemblies. It was brilliant to see so many different year groups coming together! If you are interested in joining the school band please speak to Mr Wellens.

Due to the hugely popular art competitions that began in the last academic year, over the summer holiday Mrs McAllister ran two competitions for students to get involved in. One was a 'Character' design competition and another focused on Photography. As always we were inundated with brilliant entries and the selected winners and runners up joined us in the art room for a mini certificate presentation. Students were also awarded sketchbooks as an incentive to keep on drawing! Well done and thank you to everyone involved, particularly our new Year 7s who had to submit after only two weeks!



Art



Get fitter and have fun along the way!



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
Holly Lodge School

IS RECOGNISED AS
A DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD
OPERATING UNIT
FOR THE NORTH WEST REGION.



Help others and do things for the better



Skills section

Devote yourself to your skills in the love to do

Discover new passions and develop talents didn't know you had



Expedition

Explore the great outdoors and spend two nights away from home
Create memories that will last a lifetime



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Join Holly Lodge's Duke of Edinburgh's Award Programme 2026!

Are you ready for an adventure? It's that time again, the DofE is back for another exciting year – and it's your chance to challenge yourself, develop skills, and make unforgettable memories! Whether you're aiming for Bronze or Silver award, the DofE is all about trying something new, helping others, and discovering what you're capable of. From volunteering in your community to taking on adventurous expeditions, the DofE helps you grow in confidence, teamwork, and resilience – qualities that stand out on CVs, university applications, and in life.



Why take part?

- ☀️ Learn real-world skills employers and universities love
- 💪 Push yourself and grow in confidence
- 🗺️ Take part in expeditions you'll never forget
- 👥 Meet new people and make great friends

How to get involved:

Look out for the Stripy Badger and the team coming to a Year 9 assembly near you soon - don't miss the chance to take on a challenge and achieve something amazing this year!

EXTRA-CURRICULAR - D OF E



READING & LITERACY

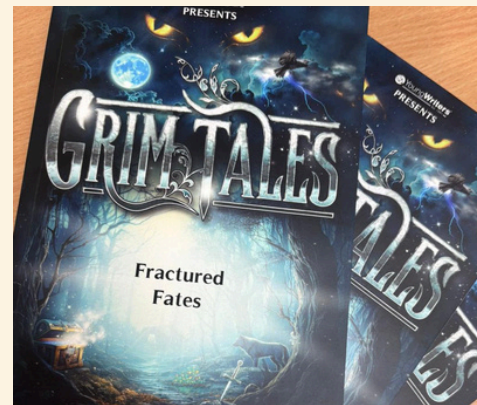
LUNCHTIME READING

Over the summer and into September, we launched a competition to name our new Multi-Purpose Reading Space. After countless suggestions (thank you to all who contributed their ideas), we decided on 'The Reading Lodge'. Competition winners were 4 year 7 students from 7SMA, who all won prizes including a new book! The Reading Lodge has proved a popular facility throughout both lunch times. After consulting with a range of students, we now have a range of beautiful brand new titles for students to enjoy at the Reading Lodge. Since opening on 17th September, students have borrowed 124 books, and the number is increasing every day!



National Poetry Day was celebrated by reading, creating and listening to poetry in our Reading Lodge, as well as some hilarious poetry-writing sessions in year 7 and 8 English lessons, inspired by poets such as Brian Bilston. Students were also treated to poems to read in the canteen.

Our Black History Month writing competition is in full swing, alongside our Reading Challenge competition. Entry forms can be located in the Reading Lodge. Look out for more competitions, events and activities in the coming months!



64 students have written their own gothic twisted tales and been selected to be published in the Grim Tales Competition book! Everyone who has been published has received a copy, and we have another couple of spare copies available to borrow from the Reading Lodge. Well done to all those involved!



SPORTS DAY JULY 2025

As one of the final and most anticipated events in the Holly Lodge calendar, the 2025 Sports Day took place on a blisteringly hot day. This was the first year in a long time that the weather had held up, so it meant the whole school was able to get out onto the field to help cheer on the competitors. Special shoutouts go to the top forms of each year: 7SF, 8LGA, 9NOL and 10VC. Huge thanks go to Mrs Frost and the rest of the PE department for their planning and logistics!

This academic year, the PE department have already launched multiple after-school clubs such as Football and Netball, and also organised a cheerleading workshop with Year 8 and 9 students.

Some of our Year 10 Students have recently completed Multi-skills training with Liverpool Schools Sports Partnership as part of their leadership course. This will hopefully enable them to run some of their own sessions with younger year groups in the future. Well done to all staff and students involved!





RUGBY ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

To kickstart Year 11's final year of Key Stage 4, many students were already celebrating fantastic results! Along with last year's cohort, this year group picked up Statistics grades as well as many students completing additional GCSEs in home languages. It gave them a taster of what they can hopefully expect and aim for next summer.

In true Holly Lodge fashion, at the end of September Year 11 finally got to experience the real benefits of a wellbeing week. Not only was after-school revision paused, but instead they were able to take part in events such as Staff vs. Students benchball! Unfortunately even despite the high levels of participation from large numbers in the year group, they weren't quite a match for the well-established staff team. We look forward to a rematch later on in the year!

Like previous years, a selection of Year 11 visited Rugby School for their Academic Conference. Students represented Holly Lodge so well as they presented their academic papers, all exploring the theme 'Connections'.

GCSE Drama students were also treated to a Q&A session with 2020 alumini student Latesha Karisa who is currently touring in the UK production of *Blood Brothers*. Students were given an insight into how the production is put together and the responsibilities and skills an actor needs to be successful, to support them with their coursework.





STAFF VS STUDENTS BENCHBALL



GCSE CITIZENSHIP TRIP





BRILLIANT CLUB GRADUATION

At the end of the summer term, some of our current Year 10 students were invited to Manchester University to attend a graduation ceremony for their involvement in The Scholars Programme, organised by The Brilliant Club. They had a campus tour and a uni Q&A before receiving their certificates. This is based on a dissertation-style research project they worked on throughout the year, and the certificates were very well deserved!



This term, GCSE Citizenship students took a trip to London, following an invitation from our local MP Ian Byrne! They visited the Old Bailey, New Scotland Yard, Royal Courts of Justice and Westminster Palace. They behaved brilliantly and we are very proud of you. It was a very long, busy day!



Year 10 have been getting 'Onside' with the help of the LFC Sports Leadership programme. They are currently working towards gaining a Level 2 Qualification, enabling them to work with younger children.



FRENCH TRIP JULY 2025



Y10 SPORTS LEADERS



NETWORK RAIL TRIP

Earlier this month, Year 9 students headed to Network Rail's state-of-the-art STEM Lab in Milton Keynes! They explored hands-on activities, met industry experts, and discovered how rail careers connect with science, technology, engineering and maths. This fully funded visit, supported by Network Rail and Avanti, was a fantastic chance to spark ideas about future pathways – especially encouraging girls in STEM. The girls behaved admirably and we hope this has inspired some of you!

LFC have been working with Year 9 on improving their employability skills through a Creative Works project ran by the LFC employability team. They are working towards a team building day in the November half term.



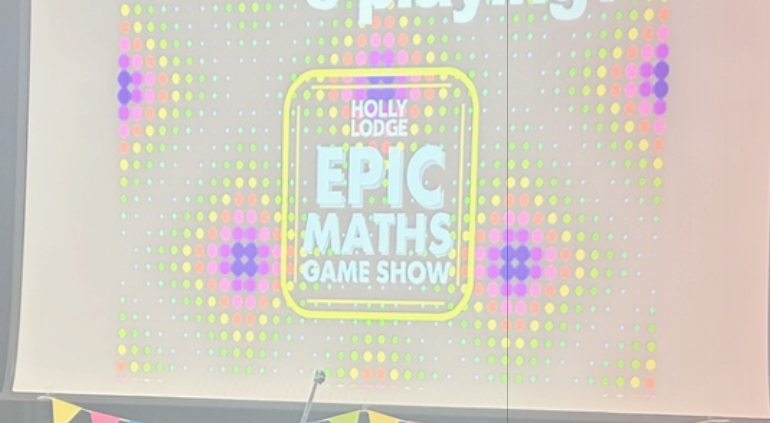


FRENCH TRIP JULY 2025



MATHS PARTY DAY





MATHS PARTY DAY

Year 8 have settled into their second year at Holly Lodge very well! They got very involved in this year's Maths Party Day where several students were brave enough to volunteer for the games! Thanks to Mr Whoriskey for hosting and to all of you who took part.



To celebrate the first half term, Mrs Murphy handed out awards to students who had been specially selected by their subject teachers, for their excellent attitude to learning. There was also a huge number of 100% attendance certificates which is testament to their hard work. This year group are consistently at the top for their attendance so should be really proud of themselves and keep up the good work. This should enable so many students to be eligible for the end-of-year rewards trip!





CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

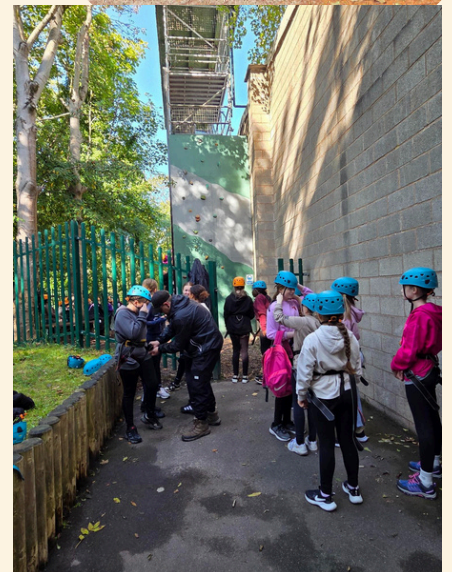




THE FIRST DAY!

“Year 7 have made a brilliant start at Holly Lodge. It has been great getting to know the students over the past few weeks and I am looking forward to continuing to offer them my support. Barnstondale was a real highlight, it was fantastic to see the students getting involved but also supporting and cheering each other on. I am really pleased with how our Year 7 students have adapted and settled in to secondary school. Transitioning to a new school, meeting new teachers and making new friends can feel overwhelming but they seem to have taken this in their stride and I am really proud of them. I would like to take this opportunity to remind students that help is always available in school. If anyone is having any issues or worries – however big or small they may seem – they are welcome to seek my help and I will do my best to support them. Students also have access to Kooth which is a free online platform for young people. If you have never used Kooth before, I recommend that you take a look!” - Mrs Doolan, Year Leader

BARNSTONDALE TRIP





CREATIVE WRITING





PGL TRIP



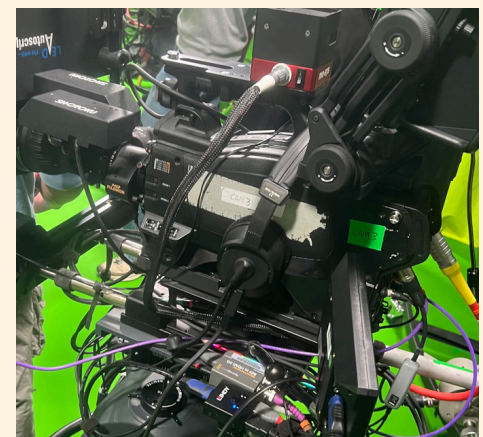
MIA AT THE BBC



Last month, sixth form students spent an action-packed weekend at PGL as part of a wellbeing trip welcoming our new Year 12s. They did kayaking, abseiling, rifle shooting, zip lining and many other activities, all in the challenging weather! It was a brilliant opportunity for all our sixth formers to get to know each other a bit more and spend time together outside of the classroom.

L3 Digital Media students headed to Liverpool city centre to capture footage and photos for their Level 3 Digital Media coursework! From St George's Plateau to iconic city landmarks, it was a fantastic opportunity to develop skills and gather material for their assignments.

One of our Sixth Form students recently took part in the BBC's 'GET IN' Taster Day, and it was an amazing experience! Mia was able to explore the media industry and BBC studios, try hands-on skills, and discover the wide range of roles available.





PGL ADVENTURE WELLBEING WEEKEND



L3 DIGITAL MEDIA TRIP





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