



THE HOLLINS TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE



PLEASE NOTE

School will close at 11.55am on Wednesday 21 July and re-open for:

- Year 7 and Y11 Prefects on Thursday 2 September 2010 at 8.45am
- All years on Friday 3 September 2010 at 8.45am

Dear Parents

At the end of another very busy, successful school year I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with the school for their commitment, co-operation and support over the past year; staff, parents, governors and pupils. It is this support that has allowed us to continue to improve and develop into a highly successful school.

Much happened last year and I list a few of the highlights:

- ❖ Our *GCSE* results continued the trend of improvement over the past few years and we were delighted with our best ever headline figure of 63% 5A*-C including English and maths.
- ❖ Our 'High Performing Specialist School' status as a Leading Edge school has involved us in working with partner schools in Hyndburn and Burnley to enhance learning opportunities for all of our pupils and extend our schedule of events and activities for both staff and pupils.
- ❖ In addition, we have worked successfully with two 'Gaining Ground' schools (a good school, with good *GCSE* results, but should perhaps be doing better) across the Local Authority in sharing good practice and focusing further on raising standards of achievement, particularly in English and maths.
- ❖ Sport continues to thrive at The Hollins, both at a recreational and competitive level. There have been many sporting successes this year, not least the amazing feat of winning the Hyndburn and Ribble Valley Schools Athletics Championship for the 18th consecutive year, despite being one of the smallest schools. This is due to the dedication of both the staff and students of the school.

- ❖ Our Extended Schools programme has flourished over the past year with a broad range of activities available for pupils on a rolling programme after school. Our Cohesion through Creativity project provided six storyboards which have been travelling around local venues and we have now been invited to present this project as an example of good practice at a Lancashire Authority conference in October. Other major projects have included a Fashion Show hosted at the Printworks in Manchester, Community Radio project, Wheels project, Film Club, Horse Riding, Girls' Kickboxing, Nail Art and Healthy Hearts.
- ❖ Pupil attendance has improved dramatically across the school this year and we are very pleased with this and the impact it will have on pupils' learning.

This summer we say goodbye officially to Mr Bradley who will be retiring from the maths department, but he will be covering Mrs Heys' maternity leave until early February. Miss Kelly will join the maths department to replace Mr Bradley. Other staff on maternity leave next term includes Mrs Sarwar (Graphics), Mrs Johnstone (Geography) and Mrs Hemissi (MFL).

Miss Forbes has been appointed Able, Gifted and Talented Coordinator during Mrs Heys' absence and Miss Mortenson will be covering Mrs Johnstone's role as Skills Based Coordinator during her maternity leave.

Staff who will be covering these temporary maternity positions are; Miss Aston (Graphics), Mr Davies (Geography) and Miss King (MFL)

In addition we have appointed Mrs Crewe to a new post as Careers Education, Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) Coordinator from September. This new role will be focused on liaising with pupils, parents, staff and external agencies to ensure that our pupils receive impartial advice and guidance at key points of progression in their school career in addition to coordinating work-related learning.

I sincerely hope we all enjoy a well deserved, enjoyable summer holiday and I look forward to everyone returning safe and refreshed in September. Once again, thank you for your support over this year and I look forward to working with you in the year ahead. We have much to be proud about at The Hollins!

Yours faithfully

S Holden
Acting Headteacher