



# Information For Parents

October 2009

Mayfield

ST LEONARDS-MAYFIELD SCHOOL

Also available on the website: [www.mayfieldgirls.org/netcommunity/document\\_download](http://www.mayfieldgirls.org/netcommunity/document_download)

## What goes on in your daughter's brain?

Wouldn't you *really* like to know? On second thoughts...! In all seriousness, we have been approached by researchers at University College Hospital Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience asking for volunteers to help in their research. The research focuses on 'brain development during childhood adolescence, and the affects on children's behaviour.' The researchers require girls aged between 11 and 13 years to travel to London (expenses paid) during the half term to undergo the various assessments.

If you are keen to find out more, please contact Mr Fisher in the Lower School or follow the link:  
[www.icnucl.ac.uk/sblakemore](http://www.icnucl.ac.uk/sblakemore).

## Darker evenings

A request from Mr Fisher: As the evenings are getting darker could I ask that you come into Lower School building to collect your daughters? I shall be asking the girls to wait in Lower School to be collected. As you will appreciate keeping the girls safe is my priority and your support will be much appreciated.

## Christmas Card Competition

The Art Department has launched a Christmas Card competition. There will be a winner from each of three groups: Lower School (Years 7/8), Middle School (Years 9/10/11) and Upper School (Years 12/13). The deadline for submissions is **Friday, 6th November 2009**.

The winning cards will go to print and be available for you to buy. They will be ready by the end of November, in good time for Christmas. Further information and an order form are on a separate sheet.

## Free books with *Times* tokens

Please cut out the tokens from Section 2 of *The Times* and send them to School as we can claim free books for the Library.

## Book Fair

**Monday, 23rd to Thursday, 26th November 2009**

There will be a range of books for all age groups in the School. Please sign and return the form below to allow your daughter to purchase book/s and put the cost onto your school account.

## Lower School Christmas Party

**Friday 11th December 2009, 4.30pm to 6.30pm**

Make sure that this date is firmly etched in the diaries of all girls in the Lower School. It promises to be the usual fun celebration of Christmas - and in fancy dress too!

## Romanian Shoebox Appeal

One of our Year 12 Actions not Words groups is trying to raise awareness of a charity called Link Romania. This worthwhile charity has been working to make a difference in the lives of poor and poverty-stricken people in Romania and other Eastern European countries. Although the needs of the people no longer make headlines in the west, they are still as pressing as ever.



This year we are trying to collect as many filled shoeboxes as possible to send off to Link Romania, who then hand them out to Romanian families for Christmas.

All the information you need to help us make a difference is in the leaflet that your daughter has been given. Please could you help by filling a shoebox this year and handing it back into the school immediately after the half term break on **THURSDAY, 5th NOVEMBER 2009**. Thank you for your support.

## Open Morning for Prospective Students & Parents

Tuesday 10th November 2009

Places can be reserved by calling our Admissions Office on 01435 874642.

## Sports fixtures on the website

Please regularly check the Sports Fixtures on the school website as they will be updated on a weekly basis.

## NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS AND YEAR REPS

A WARM WELCOME to Jane Phillips who is the new Year 8 rep.

### Michaelmas Fair

Fair Organiser, Sally-Ann Tibbles, and the Friends and Year Reps would like to thank all parents and staff for their tremendous support which helped to make this year's Fair such a huge success. The attendance was up by 35% and stall sales were up by an average of 30% with the takings for the Café up by 35% resulting in an overall profit of in excess of £6,500. The takings from the raffle were also up on previous years and are being donated to Kent Air Ambulance and The Shelter Box Scheme which gives aid to war-torn areas or those suffering as a result of natural disasters. The feedback from stallholders and customers alike has been extremely positive, many commenting that the atmosphere was the best ever. The new Café at the heart of the Fair was welcomed by everyone who was asked as it resulted in a much less congested and more welcoming fair.

### Stonegate Amateur Dramatics Evening of Tom Foolery

Thank you to everyone who supported this event, particularly those parents who attended and/or made up tables and those who helped on the night or provided raffle prizes. The evening was a great success, raising £1,804.53 for the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Actions Not Words charities, in particular the Visit of the Blessed Sacrament School. The sixth form girls who helped on the night did a fantastic job and were great ambassadors for the school.

### Year Lunches

We have so far had five of the six year lunches which have been a great opportunity for parents to get together. A very big thank you to Di Clarke and Janet Leves for the wonderful spread they put on for us.

### Year 11 Year Reps

held a coffee morning recently at Karen Steven's home to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support and raised £55. Many thanks to all who supported this worthwhile cause.

### Dates for your Diaries

Year Lunches – A reminder that the Year 10 lunch will be taking place in the Courtyard after half term on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 12 noon. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

### Cookery Master Class

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 10am in the Food and Nutrition Department. Unfortunately this popular event is now fully booked but there will be another opportunity to join one of the Parents' Cookery Master Classes in the Summer Term.

### Year 11 Christmas Lunch

Year 11 mums are invited to a Christmas lunch on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> December at 12 for 12.30pm at Charmaine's home. "We thought this year we would prepare a simple two course lunch with vegetarian option to include a drink for a contribution of £5 per person". If you are able to come could you please let us know by email.

### Pilates Classes

Lindsay Anderson is running Pilates beginners and intermediate classes for Mums in the Dance Studio on a Tuesday morning – 8.45 to 10am. For more information and to book a place on a course please contact Lindsay.

### School Bags for sale

We have a supply of cotton bags (see photograph) left over from the Fair which we are selling at a special price of £2.50 each. The bags are heavy duty and make ideal stocking fillers for aunts, grannies etc or for the girls to carry their heavy folders. They are available from Mrs Luckhurst in the School Shop. Please note that the girls will need to pay for the bags in cash rather than putting them on the school bill.



### Knitting

Knitting will start after half term in the Chaplaincy Common Room on Fridays at 1pm. All years welcome.

### Girls' Cookery Master Class for Christmas Cookery

#### Saturday, 28th November

Girls from Year 9 upwards may attend from 10.00 am until 1.00 pm. All ingredients will be provided at a cost of £15, to be added to your bill. Mrs Nash and Mrs Davies will be leading the group. Please return the form below to Mrs Rothero by 6th November 2009.

### Ceramics – Exhibition Space Sought

The Ceramics Department at Mayfield has an enviable reputation, and rightly so: the girls are taught and encouraged to produce some outstanding creations and the Department has been acknowledged on several occasions by the Good Schools Guide as one of the finest in the country. Work is on display in Beckett Hall, in Main School Library, in Lower School and elsewhere, and now we are looking to showcase the girls' talent to a wider audience through an off-site exhibition in London or the South East. An exhibition will provide the school with a platform for displaying one of the many aspects of Mayfield life of which we are proud and also give pupils the experience of having their work on public display. If you work in an office with a reception or board room which could accommodate a small temporary display, or can provide other opportunities for the girls' work to be exhibited, please contact Director of Admissions & Development, Tim Eaton on 01435 874642 or e-mail tea-ton@mayfieldgirls.org.

### New Car Park

You will have seen over recent weeks the construction of a new car park where once we had tennis courts. This work should be complete by the time school reconvenes after half term. Parents are requested to use this area as the pick-up and drop-off point when they bring girls to school in the future. There will be lights in the car park to make it as safe as possible for girls arriving at and leaving School.

The road from the lower gate that leads up the hill now has a constriction and there will be NO ENTRY (EXCEPT FOR STAFF AND DELIVERIES) signs at this point. Parents are requested to comply with these signs to remove the inherent dangers of traffic moving around the buildings of the School. The word 'deliveries' includes the delivery of girls and their luggage to the boarding houses, but otherwise there should be no reason for parents not to use the car park and they should not come beyond the NO ENTRY signs.

We acknowledge that parking in this area has been difficult over the past few weeks and apologise for any inconvenience. Your assistance in reducing the risks to pedestrians in the future would be appreciated.

### REPLY SLIPS



#### Book Fair

I will allow my daughter to spend £ ..... at the Book Fair on Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th November 2009.

Parent/Guardian Signature:.....

Daughter/Ward's Name:..... Year:.....

Please return this form to Mrs Helen Figes, Librarian by  
Friday, 21st November 2009



#### Girls' Cookery Master Class for Christmas Cookery Saturday, 28th November

I would like to enrol my daughter for the Cookery Master class. Please add £15 to my bill to cover ingredients.

Daughter's Name ..... Form .....

Parent/Guardian Signature .....

Please return this form to Mrs Rothero by  
Friday, 6 November 2009

## Highlights for Parents & Family—Autumn Term

### Bonfire Celebration with Fireworks & BBQ

**Wednesday 4th November 2009, BBQ 6.30 pm, Fireworks 7.15 pm, School Field**

This extremely popular event for parents, pupils, siblings and staff is being held again and you will soon see signs of a huge bonfire being built in readiness, in the area around the hockey pitch. Food will be served from 6.30pm–7.15pm, with fireworks starting at 7.15pm. Tickets cost £5 for adults and £3 for under 10s. Tickets for Mayfield girls and staff are free of charge. Day Girls must apply for their free ticket from the School office and tickets must be produced on the night. Please make sure you obtain yours in good time as no tickets are available on the day. Tickets can be purchased from Reception on a first come, first served basis.

**This is not a public event so you cannot invite friends and neighbours.**

### Drama Production: 'Celebration of Christmas' (Years 7-11)

**Thursday 19th & Friday 20th November 2009**

This year the Drama Department are taking a rest from the traditional school play and instead embracing Christmas in all its glory! Girls from all years will celebrate the Christmas season through poetry, prose and drama. From Dickens to Roald Dahl, Joyce Grenfell to the girls' own monologues. Forget the stresses and strains, in the lead up to Christmas, put aside your lists and join the girls for a light-hearted evening which is intended to lift the spirits.

We warmly encourage all of you to join us for this event in the Concert Hall on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th November at 7.30pm. Tickets are £6.00 for adults and £3.00 for children, including mulled wine and Christmas biscuits. Tickets will be available from Reception from Monday, 9th November.

### Live Crib

**Monday 7th -Thursday 10th December 2009, 6.30 pm**

The start of the second half of term reminds us that it is almost time for the presentation of the Live Crib: a procession along the High Street in Mayfield ending in the Convent Chapel. For those of you who haven't been before, this is a beautiful and moving re-enactment of Mary and Joseph's journey to the inn on Christmas Eve. With the over-commercialisation of Christmas these days it is a wonderful reminder of what Christmas is really about.

The performance on Monday 7th December is reserved for members of the school community, parents and family members only and is not open to the public.

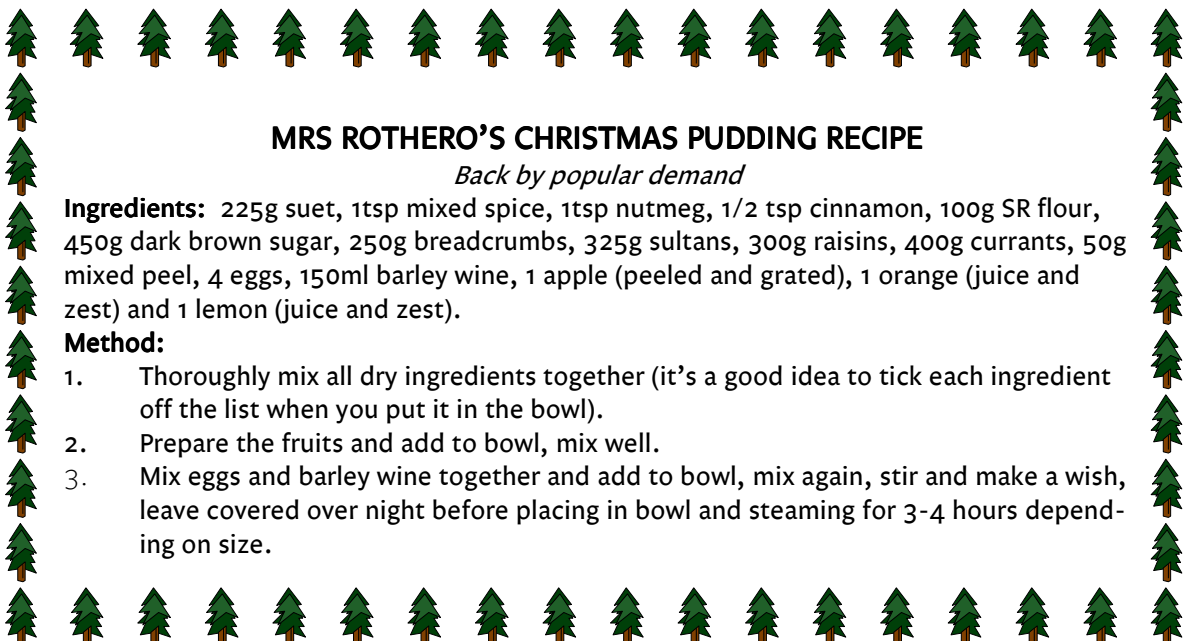
### Orchestral Concert

**Thursday 3rd December 2009**

The Autumn Orchestral Concert this year will have the theme 'Fantasy and Fiction' and will feature the orchestra, various soloists and instrumental groups.

The Concert will take place on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December in the Concert Hall at St Leonards-Mayfield School. The performance will start at 7.30pm and should be finished at approximately 9.30pm (including a short interval).

No tickets are needed and all are welcome.



### MRS ROTHERO'S CHRISTMAS PUDDING RECIPE

*Back by popular demand*

**Ingredients:** 225g suet, 1tsp mixed spice, 1tsp nutmeg, 1/2 tsp cinnamon, 100g SR flour, 450g dark brown sugar, 250g breadcrumbs, 325g sultans, 300g raisins, 400g currants, 50g mixed peel, 4 eggs, 150ml barley wine, 1 apple (peeled and grated), 1 orange (juice and zest) and 1 lemon (juice and zest).

**Method:**

1. Thoroughly mix all dry ingredients together (it's a good idea to tick each ingredient off the list when you put it in the bowl).
2. Prepare the fruits and add to bowl, mix well.
3. Mix eggs and barley wine together and add to bowl, mix again, stir and make a wish, leave covered over night before placing in bowl and steaming for 3-4 hours depending on size.

St Leonards-Mayfield School, The Old Palace, Mayfield, East Sussex TN20 6PH

Tel: 01435 874600 Fax: 01435 872627 E-mail: [enquiry@mayfieldgirls.org](mailto:enquiry@mayfieldgirls.org)