

October 2009

This newsletter is on the school website along with other important information about the school.

You can access the website at [www.sydney-smith.hull.sch.uk](http://www.sydney-smith.hull.sch.uk)



## Autumn Newsletter 09

# 'helping students to become learners'

### Examination Results 2009

The GCSE results showed a significant improvement this year and meant that the school either met or exceeded its very demanding targets. This is a testament to the hard work of the students and the staff and the fantastic support provided by the families.

	Achieved	Target
5 A* - C	61%	49%
5 A* - C in EM	34%	34%
5 A* - G	90%	90%
1 A* - G	97%	97%

There were some excellent results from some curriculum areas and 8 different areas had over 90% of the students achieving an A\* to C grade. The targets are even more demanding next year but the school is confident that it will achieve the new targets as many students have already achieved good grades at GCSE. This will ensure the school achievements will then be very close to the national average for GCSE results. This will be a fantastic achievement by the current year 11.

### School Uniform

The big change this year has been the fact that **trainers are no longer accepted** as part of the school uniform. I would like to thank the overwhelming majority of families that have supported this move and ensured the students are in full school uniform.



# Safer Schools Partnership

All Hull schools are now part of this national programme that is seeking to develop a closer working partnership between schools and the local Neighbourhood Policing Teams. Sydney Smith School is part of this initiative and an early joint project that we will be working on will see the use of drugs sniffer dogs at the school. They will be used around the school site and on the school buses as the students arrive to school. This will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009 and will be linked with a series of talks and workshops that will be conducted at the school during the term. **The whole aim of the exercise is the prevention of drug use and consequent drug abuse.**

## Important Dates for your Diary

### Term 1

School closes at end of day  
School re-opens at 8:30am  
School closes at end of day

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2009



### Term 2

School re-opens at 8:30am  
School closes at end of day  
School re-opens at 8:30am  
School closes at end of day

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2010  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2010  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2010

### Term 3

School re-opens at 8:30am  
May Day  
School closes at end of day  
School re-opens at 8:30am  
School closes at end of day

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2010  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2010  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2010  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2010



## Emergency Closure Procedures

As the winter months approach we are asking parents to ensure that their child knows what to do if an emergency early closure occurs at the school, would you please take time to read the enclosed letter and respond in your child's planner.

## Parent Voice

Would you like to be part of a forum that can discuss topics such as homework, school policies, alternative education, uniforms, in fact anything that impacts on your child's education? If so 'Parent Voice' would love to see you and welcome your contribution. Meeting every half-term in Parent Services for approximately an hour, you will find the discussions informal and friendly and an ideal opportunity to meet new parents and chat over new ideas.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 4th November at 5.30 pm so why not come along and become a valued part of the Sydney Smith Team. For further information contact Ian Lamb, Parent Services Manager.



Awarded for excellence

