



Dear Parents and Students,

I am pleased to report that the Autumn Term was both busy and successful. The newly **refurbished canteen** is now fully operable and the new timetable has bedded down well. We were fortunate with the weather too, and our end of term Christmas celebrations were unaffected by any snow. It was very good to see so many parents at the **Carol Concert** at **St Mary's Church**.

In November, we marked the opening of the new **Food & Nutrition facility**, which came about through generous funding from the **Wolfson Foundation**. The opening was conducted by **Mr Gordon Tregear**, Vice Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex and **Mrs Rosemary Cowley**, CBE. Guests were treated to afternoon tea, along with cakes made by students **Natasha Crawford**, **Hester Doran** and **Penny Stone**.

As we start a new term, can I remind parents and students of the importance of the student **ID badges**, which **must** be worn when at college. This helps us to ensure we can keep students and their property safe. This is particularly relevant at this time of the year as **STUDENTS MUST BE WEARING THEIR ID BADGES AND LANYARDS TO ACCESS THE EXAM ROOMS IN JANUARY**.

#### EXAM REMINDERS

**Exams** run from **10<sup>th</sup> January to 2<sup>nd</sup> February** inclusive. **Morning exams start at 9.30 am** and **afternoon exams at 1.30 pm**. Students are reminded to allow the appropriate journey time, both in terms of traffic and potential adverse weather. Please be aware that we can only run the examinations at the official times so please



make extra preparations and allow more travel time than usual to ensure that examinations can be sat. If the weather does turn really bad and it is impossible for a student to attend their examination then please ring the college to leave a message. Please mention in the message that you are due to sit an exam.

Students have their **timetables**, and any exam clashes have been resolved. **Any student not sitting an exam on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> January will be on study leave that day as classrooms will be required to cope with the large number of students sitting exams both in the morning and afternoon on that day.**

During the **exams**, as a reminder, **NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES** are allowed in the exam room (mobile phones, MP3 players, etc.). **IT IS A DISASTER IF A PHONE GOES OFF DURING A PUBLIC EXAM** so please be aware. We are obliged to report such an incident to the exam board and disqualification from the exam can be the outcome of any abuse of this rule.



Exam Boards also request that only **black ink** is used for writing on papers as many are either scanned or photocopied for marking, and black ink is clearer.

Results for the January modules should be available electronically on **8<sup>th</sup> March**, giving a short window of opportunity for students to register for re-sits during the summer series.

For information – the dates for the summer exams are **14<sup>th</sup> May to 27<sup>th</sup> June**, inclusive, excluding 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> June (half term). Practical and oral exams take place prior to 14<sup>th</sup> May, therefore I would remind parents **not to arrange holidays in term time**, particularly at this time of the year. Further details on exam leave and teaching arrangements for the summer term will follow later this term.

Early notification – **A level results day is Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> August 2012** and **GCSE results day is Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2012**.

#### STAFF NEWS

The following staff have left during the last term: **Caroline O'Malley** (Adult Education Administrator); **Gregor Thomas** (Systems Librarian); **Louise Nadim** (Study Support); **Jane Bussey** (Tutorial Support); **Lorraine Munns** (Adult Education Administrator); and **Geoff Brittain** (Premises Assistant).

The following staff have started at the college in the last term: **Juan Mateu-Bueso** (PGCE Student for Maths); **Tracey Arthur-Worsop** (Adult Learning Advisor); **Christy Hawkes** (Voluntary Library Assistant); **Tina Hebbard** (Cleaner); **Hannah Woodley** (Learning Resources Assistant); and **Nicola Algar** (Tutorial Support Officer).

#### STUDENT ABSENCE LINE

If a student is absent from college, e.g. due to sickness, it is important that they, or a parent, telephone the **student absence line** on **(01403) 216528** to report the absence.

#### HOME STAY

We are looking for **families to host international students** due to enrol in September 2012. Students living with host families will attend college on a full-time basis and become members of their new families and community. Accommodation will be required for a period of two years. Students will be 16-18 years old and will have studied English for a minimum of three years. They will have their own medical insurance and spending money, and will have undergone a screening and interview process by educational agencies in their home country. The students pay £120 per week for half board (breakfast and evening meal Monday to Friday, three meals Saturday and Sunday) and lodging. To request further information, please contact Frances Boulter, Admissions Manager on (01403) 216526 or e-mail [fb@collyers.ac.uk](mailto:fb@collyers.ac.uk). All families will be subject to a CRB check.

#### Collyer's Website

Our external website has a "**current parents**" area, where access to **key dates** for the academic year is available, the **Student Well Being** site, as well as the **Careers & Higher Education** sites. Go to the external **website**, the **sixth form** button and then **Current Parents**. We hope you find this information useful. **Term dates** and a **calendar of events** for the current year are available on the **Events** area of the website and we hope this will assist in avoiding student absences, particularly due to holidays during term time, which affect their progress.

#### COLLYER'S ASSOCIATION

One of the first tasks of our new Parent Governor, **Sarah Wilks**, was to be involved in the **New Parents Evenings** in September, and let new parents know about the Association. Parents are invited to be involved in the Association and informed of the work they do in supporting the college and the student body.

They were also invited to attend the AGM on 11<sup>th</sup> October.

The Association's focus is to provide funds which can have immediate benefit for all students in the college during an academic year. Money is raised mainly from parental donations, and parents purchasing shares in the **Collyer's Association 300 Club**, which has a monthly draw to win £40, £20 and £10. Parents were invited to purchase shares of the 300 Club in September. Fundraising is ongoing, and had included running a hamper raffle at the 1<sup>st</sup> year Parents Evenings in November. The raffle raised £538.00 for the CA funds and congratulations go to the winners of the hampers who were: Nicki Mash, Anne Harwood-Stamper, Alison Thornton and Kate Kirkman.

The winners of the **300 Club** draws during the autumn term have been:

**Oct** – Mrs L Mackman; Mr & Mrs M Heeley; and Mrs J Cassidy

**Nov** – Mrs D Barnes; Mrs J Cassidy; and Mrs C J White

**Dec** – Mr N Hout; Mrs J Smith and Mrs N Wright

#### COLLEGE COUNCIL

The term started with **Fresher's Week**. We were lucky with the weather and had two days of activities and music in the quad. This is a great way to launch life at college for new students – they get to see all the various groups and clubs that are going on in college. We are fortunate to have talented musicians who provide us with some live music and singing, much better than X Factor!

**Rag Event** was held as usual on the three days before autumn half term. Various fancy dress themes were chosen by the College Council reps and officers, and yes some staff do dress up as well! The students decided to raise money for a young woman in **Tanzania** – as part of the ongoing college involvement in Tanzania – **Elizabeth** is a young woman who is looking to train as a **teaching assistant** and we were asked to raise £400 for her tuition fees and living costs whilst she is at college. We can report that we raised all the money for her training. Our other charity was **Cystic Fibrosis Trust**. Sadly the college lost one of its ex-students recently to the disease and students decided to raise money in her memory. We raised £900 for the Trust, making a grand total of £1,300 raised in just three days – a brilliant effort by staff and students.

The college has just appointed three staff to support the running of the College Council. They are **Laura Ryan, Dan Page** and **Keith Burton**. They all have amazing skills in so many areas such as TV, Media, Music and Drama, their ideas and energy will make a huge impact on the role and activities of the College Council in the coming year.

### HEALTH & SAFETY

Our 2A Students attended the “**Safe Driving event**” held at the Hawth Theatre in Crawley in November. This is a hard hitting stage and road show called “safe drive, stay alive”.

Various works to improve the safety of the inner quad steps and provide level access into the refectory have been completed over recent months.

May I remind all students and their parents that the college is a **NO SMOKING** campus. This includes the immediate vicinity around the college. It is illegal to sell cigarettes to under 18's, and our expectation is that **students do not come to college with cigarettes in their possession**. This ensures that we can keep the environment safe and healthy. As we are a town centre site with nearby neighbours, we do ask students **to be considerate of residents** and not to gather where they may be on private property, don't drop litter and be courteous in their behaviour to others. **I would ask parents to support us in these endeavours**.



### CAR PARK MANAGEMENT

With the planned change in law regarding clamping on private property, we have reviewed our car park management procedure. Clearly we still have to have the means to ensure parking requirements are enforced, and to this end, we have adopted the **Parking Charge Notice** method of enforcement. On site staff will monitor and record offending vehicles and warning notices will be issued. An external company will be instructed to take action in the event of continual mis-use of the parking facilities at college by motorists. The company will issue the PCN from information held on the DVLA data base and this method of enforcement is supported by contractual law and the law of trespass. Students who wish to park on site need to apply and pay for a parking permit. Application forms are available from the Student Enquiry Desk in the LRC or the main college Reception.

### APPRENTICESHIPS

**Starting full time work this summer?** For students who will be finishing at Collyer's in the Summer and who are going in to work, an Apprenticeship can be a way of earning when you continue to learn. Students attend one day or evening at the college to complete professional qualifications. We can offer apprenticeships, if you are working, in any of the following sectors:

- Health and Social Care
- Accounting
- Business Administration
- Fitness Instructing
- Personal Training
- Customer Service
- Lifeguard
- Leisure Management
- Travel and Tourism from 2013

Come and see us in M8 in the LRC, or call 01403 216566 for a chat.

### ADULT LEARNING

Look out for details of the new **Adult Learning** courses which will be **on the website from April 2012**. A full range of recreational courses including Digital Photography, Life Drawing and Languages, alongside a new range of professional qualifications in IT, Accounting and Law.

### SPORTS NEWS

The **Rugby team** has had mixed success so far, but are fighting back after being knocked out of the Daily Mail Cup in the first round, remaining undefeated in the Daily Mail Vase. They beat Caterham School in the latest round on 30<sup>th</sup> November. Well done to Joe Wilde in his captaincy role and keeping the team together and Mark Sillett in his coaching.



**1<sup>st</sup> XI Football** team are regaining their fighting spirits and got through to round three of the Sussex Cup, up against St Bedes on the 7<sup>th</sup> December. Special mentions to Ryan Taylor, captain, for his commitment to the team and Dom Giacomelli for his team spirit.

The **2a Football** team have competed well and got through to round three of the Sussex Cup, against Thomas Bennett on the 7<sup>th</sup> December.

The **2b Football** team hope to reach the play offs as they did last year and they are inspirationally led by Edward Morley-Smith, both a great captain as organiser and a brilliant goalie for the team.

The **Girls Football** team are doing well and have a really strong side when they pull together. They did well at the British Colleges Sports Regional Championships on the 18<sup>th</sup> November where they made it through to the plate competition, along with the boys' team.

**Netball** have had mixed results, with a pretty tough start competing against some of the regions best teams. Thanks to the excellent team captains – Olivia Barnes and Beccy Fuller. The A team did well in the British Colleges Regional's where they won 2 matches, drew 2 and unfortunately lost 2, fighting against the top players in the region. They also competed in the Roedean Tournament on the 26<sup>th</sup> November.

The **Hockey team** are as strong as ever with some of Horsham and England's best players – Jess Dean and Lucy Wood, and a special mention to Rachel Kimberly for organising teams and motivating players. We were through to the next round of the BCS Cup and unfortunately with only 8 players at our side, lost the match after a toss of a coin after a 2-2 score! At the Schools National Championships the team got



through to the semi-finals and will now compete in the national final in the Midlands in early March. They were also in the Girls National Indoor Championships on the 4<sup>th</sup>

December where they excelled themselves and were runners up after 6 matches. There was only one goal difference between Collyer's and the winners. Congratulations to: **Carolyn Watson** (GK), **Jess Dean**, **Rachel Kimberley**, **Izzy Wood**, **Lucy Wood**, **Priya Bhogal** and **Sophie Knight**, for a brilliant effort.

The **Basketball** team are doing well, with some successes, but keep training hard and pushing themselves in the Sussex League.

#### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

This academic year for the first time, the college has awarded a **£500 bursary** to 8 new students, in recognition of their outstanding GCSE results. The students have joined the college from our 4 partner schools and also schools to the north, south, east and west of Horsham. The winners were presented with their cheques in October and include: **Isabel Braddock** (Millais), **Lucy Chenery** (The Priory), **William Earley** (Forest), **Sam Hammant** (Brighton College), **Zoe Hough**

(Tanbridge House), **Brett Pagden** (Holy Trinity) and **Katherine Urquart** (Warden Park).

A **Flamenco Workshop** was held in October, with professional dancer **Ana Duenas**. Dance and Spanish students were involved, and learnt to dance basic flamenco with "palmas y jaleos". Students, including some studying Adult Education courses, also attended a performance of **Amor en el Jardin** (Love in the Garden), at the Hawth in Crawley. The evening was inspired by Spanish writer, Federico Garcia Lorca, and included performance, poetry and music.



**A-Level Art students** have been involved in creating a display of artwork at Horsham railway station, in conjunction with Southern and Sussex Community Rail Partnership. **Drawings, paintings** and **photographs** reflecting Horsham and its history are on view on the 20 panels that surround the refurbishment work currently being undertaken.

The college hosted a regional advice and guidance conference for **Maths students** in November. It was aimed at preparing gifted and talented students for studying degree level Maths at top universities. Students from several sixth forms in Sussex joined Collyer's students on the day.

Students were involved in the '**Designing for the Future**' competition which is run by Horsham-based The Future Perfect Company. This is the second year of the competition and encourages young designers to think about the challenges that an ageing population face, and create innovative, attractive and aspiration designs that allow people to continue to live independent lives as they get older. The winning design by AS Level student **Alex Francis** was an ergonomic handle designed to hold a number of shopping bags with a unique reminder ring which ensures you never leave your bags behind again. Runners up included **Mike Davies'** design for a vibrating pillow alarm clock – ideal for deaf people, and **Sam Hammant's** toast tweezers. Well done to all involved!

**Ollie Wilks**, and second year A Level student, is a gifted photographer and has won some prestigious prizes recently. His photograph of 'red fox yawning after his afternoon nap' won the first prize in the 12-18 years category of the Young British Wildlife Photography Awards competition.