



Friday 2nd July 2010

.... coming up!

### Open Day/Fun Day and Summer Fayre

Saturday 3rd July

1.30—4.00pm—We look forward to welcoming all our families and friends—past, present and future—for an afternoon of fun activities

There will be lots of stalls including Tombola, Cakes and a Raffle and refreshments will be available in the Dining Hall

Remember to return quiz entries to school by Tuesday

A number of our Old Girls will also be in school for their reunion lunch at 12 o'clock

### Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Saturday 3rd—Monday 5th July

Silver Award Assessment weekend

.... next week

### Year 9 Pantomime

Tuesday 6th July

10.00am—Year 9 will be performing their 'touring' pantomime 'Jack and the Cleanstalk' to the Mayor in school

### Year 11 Book Return Day

Tuesday 6th July

Please make sure all books are returned to school by today

.... Uniform Sale

The second hand shop raised £613 this term through the sale day and email sales. Thank you to the parents who helped on the day

### Sports Day

Wednesday 7th July

Sports Day will take place at Maiden Castle—events will start promptly at 1.30pm

Girls are advised to bring drinking water in plastic bottles

We do hope that many parents and families will be able to come along to support the girls in both their individual and team events

Girls are to be collected from Maiden Castle at 3.55pm except by prior arrangement—**if you have not already returned your reply it is important to do so on Monday**

In the event of bad weather, Sports Day will be cancelled by 10.30am—please see the School website for bad weather plans

### Last Day of Term

Friday 9th July

An afternoon of fun activities in school before **TERM ENDS at the end of the school day**

We hope you all have a very enjoyable and restful Summer holiday and look forward to seeing everyone again on **Wednesday 8th September**

Transport ....

A reminder that requests for School Transport for the Autumn term need to be returned to Mr Craig, the Assistant Bursar, by Wednesday 7th July

Holiday events ....

Wednesday 18th—Sunday 22nd August—Harvest Christian Camp

Thursday 19th August—9.30am A2 results and 10.30am AS results

Tuesday 24th August—10.00am GCSE results and Year 10 results posted home

Tuesday 24th—Saturday 28th August—Duke of Edinburgh's Award Gold Assessment

# Durham High School *for Girls*

## The Lesotho Team are GO!

*The 2010 Lesotho Team leave Durham today and we send with them our prayers and best wishes for a safe journey and a rewarding and fulfilling trip. We thought you might find it interesting to learn a bit about the purpose of the trip and what the Team will be doing while they are there so Mrs Jacklin, who has herself been on one of the trips, has written a very brief outline for us:*

The team comprises three staff (Mrs Settle, Mrs Anderson and Mrs Hudson from Junior House) and 18 Lower Sixth girls. Three more staff will swap half way through (Mrs Middleton, Mrs Clarke and Mr Riding) and bring the team home.

They will be flying to Johannesburg and then making the 6 hour minibus drive to Lesotho. They then stay at the Link's Site in Maseru the capital, in youth hostel style accommodation (which we raised the funds to build 5 years ago).

### **But WHAT DO THEY DO out there?!**

**Decorating buildings** that belong to the Link's Community Project in Ha Mohatlane – sometimes a classroom, a bedroom, a dining room. They usually need to scrub and sand before they can do any painting at all, but it's a good bonding project for their first week.

**SHAPE courses.** Every girl takes part in a week's Schools HIV and AIDS Peer Educators course, where they are taught how to teach their peers about sexual health and have to prepare lessons and work on team building activities too. They do all this mixed with a secondary school or youth group and meet local Basotho teenagers and learn about their culture.

**Children's Holiday Clubs** based in two village churches. The teams go out for 5 days to entertain children from aged 3-23 sometimes – and there may be up to 150 children that come out to see them! The holidays clubs involve the usual games and craft, but also Bible stories and songs. The children are even poorer than those that are cared for in orphanages and many 11 year olds are the head of their family. So these clubs are a special treat for them and it can be heart-breaking to hear their stories.

As you can see, every week is tiring in its own way and the girls and staff are really stretched through serving the projects and people in these ways. In the evenings they still have to cook their dinner, clean up and wash their clothes by hand before they can chill out or sleep!

So, after the first week they go to Malealea for a night, a popular tourist spot in the mountains, where they stay in little round chalets ("Rondavels") and go pony trekking or hiking if they like – or just sleep and sun themselves! And at the end they also have a treat and stay in a Safari lodge for two nights in South Africa, getting to go on safari drives for a whole day before heading home.

Please would you keep the team in your thoughts and prayers, but also the people they will meet. The Link's email address is [ldlink@leo.co.ls](mailto:ldlink@leo.co.ls) if you would like to send the team, the staff or the Link personnel any messages of encouragement.