Well we didn’t quite get the snow we were all hoping for but rather a wet and grey day today! However, I have had a wonderful week carrying out Phase Reviews across the school. This is a process where I spend a morning in each phase (FSU, KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2) with a member of the SLT, a governor or a colleague from another school. We review the teaching and learning, behaviour and outcomes by observing lessons, looking at books, analysing data and talking to the children. I have been thoroughly impressed with the quality of teaching and learning and the behaviour of the children. A colleague I worked with in Richmond joined me for one review said, ‘I was enthused by the atmosphere created by excellent teaching and learning at Hollymount.’ Well done to all the staff and children. Now we work on our areas of development to make the provision your children receive even better.

Kings College School Jazz Band Visit
Last Friday, we had a visit from the KCS jazz band who performed to our Year 5s. It was a real treat for our children and they thoroughly enjoyed watching the show. Hopefully it has inspired some to take up a musical instrument.

Parent Consultations
Parent consultations are taking place the week after next. Please see the dates and times below. A letter was sent out to all parents today with further details. Online booking will open on Monday 4th February.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12th Feb</td>
<td>3.40pm – 6pm</td>
<td>Y3KS and Rowan ONLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13th Feb</td>
<td>2pm –</td>
<td>Whole school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13th Feb</td>
<td>8.30am –</td>
<td>Nursery (please refer to letter sent to all nursery parents on January 11th)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 14th Feb</td>
<td>3.40pm – 6pm</td>
<td>Whole school (NOT Y3KS and Rowan)</td>
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Swimming Gala

On Tuesday 29th January, the Hollymount Swim Team entered the Merton Swimming Gala. We had a number of wonderful results including five 1st places and six 2nd places. The girls also came first in the “Relay Medley” and second in the "Relay Freestyle". The boys came fifth in the “Relay Medley” and third in the "Relay Freestyle". We now wait to see who is through to the finals as the times from each event are calculated against other schools. Thank you to all the parents for your support and well done to all children for their enthusiasm and dedication.

More swimming news: The 12th Wimbledon Brownies came 3rd overall in the district girl guiding swimming gala on Saturday. They swam brilliantly and Ella, Lola, Lily and Chloe came first in the relay.

Year 5 Fire Station Trip

As part of their Microsociety topic, Year 5 visited the local fire station. They got to go on a fire engine, try on the uniform and were told all about fire safety.

Ex-Hollymount student’s words of advice

To prepare our Year 6 children for secondary school, we invited some ex-students to visit us and talk about their experience of secondary school. They gave some wonderful advice to our Year 6 children and their top tips were:

- Have a good night sleep to prepare for the next day
- Ask for help if you are unsure.
- Make sure you make good first impressions.
- Make new friends and don’t be shy.
- Do your homework for when it’s due and always arrive to class on time.

Wise words indeed. This is another quote that particularly pleased us at Hollymount: ‘The education Hollymount gave me, gave me a head start at Rutlish; in fact, the first few weeks was just going over the things that I had already learnt! Being in the lower set at primary school helped me progress at my own pace, building confidence slowly. When I found out my new Rutlish sets, I was delighted (and shocked) that I was in the top set for maths. I didn’t believe it! It was only then when I realised the standard at Hollymount was so high, which has given me a great start at secondary school.’

Amazing Pirate Environment in FSU