

14th February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of this half term, I want to commend our learners for their dedication, resilience, and excellent attendance. Keep striving for excellence.

Our academy values - **Aspiration, Respect, Resilience, and Kindness** - guide everything we do. Our learners' conduct, both in and out of school, reflects not only on our young people but on Holderness Academy as a whole. We are proud of the positive reputation you have built, and we must continue to uphold these standards with kindness and respect.

This term has brought fantastic opportunities for growth, and I encourage all learners to get involved in activities that develop both academic and personal skills. Year 11 learners deserve particular praise for their excellent conduct during **Centre Assessed Examinations (CAEs)** - their commitment and aspiration are commendable. Likewise, **Year 9 learners** have approached their options process with enthusiasm and maturity, making thoughtful choices about their future. **Year 10 learners** are preparing for their work placements; an exciting opportunity to gain experience and new skills.

We conclude the term with **National Apprenticeship Week**, celebrating vocational pathways and careers education. We are incredibly proud to be one of only nine **flagship schools in the UK** recognised for careers education offer this week. Today, we mark this achievement with the official opening of our new **Careers Hub**, opened by **Cranswick CEO Adam Couch**, with esteemed guests including the **Hedon Mayor and Mayoress**. Learners involved in our 'Apprenticeships for All' programme have created a special film for the event, showcasing their journey and aspirations.

Key Stage 3 Readathon

We would like to thank all students and parents/carers who participated in our sponsored readathon. Your support helped us raise an incredible £257 for Read for Good, a charity dedicated to bringing books and reading to children in hospitals across the UK. We are incredibly proud of our students' reading efforts that made this event such a success and we hope they thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Thank you once again for your generosity and commitment to this great cause!

Year 9 Events

Pathways Evening – Thursday 27th February

Information regarding this event was sent via email on Wednesday 13th February. Please use the link within this email to confirm your attendance.

Parents' Evening – Thursday 6th March

A letter regarding the Year 9 Parents' Evening will follow within the next week. This will include information about how to book your appointments and the date in which this will be available.

Year 9 Vaccinations – Wednesday 26th February

A reminder that the Year 9 DTP & Meningitis Vaccinations will be taking place in school on Wednesday 26th February. If you have **NOT** already done so, please complete a consent form online, please do this as soon as possible via the following link: <https://humber.schoolvaccination.uk/dtp/2024/eastriding>. If you do not wish to consent to your child having the vaccinations, then please complete a formal **NO** consent via the same link.

Parent Experience – Survey for Parents/Carers

A communication was sent out to all parents and carers on Tuesday 11th February regarding a parent experience survey. Our goal is to open a communication channel where your voice is heard and organised in such a way that we can create the best learning environment for your child. To help us with this, we are working together with the Edurio survey platform. To complete the survey, please use the following link: <https://edurio.com/poll/BuwHsT>.

Sports News

Our sports teams continue to represent our academy in fixtures and events, showcasing their resilience and teamwork in every game. Over the past two weeks, our Year 9 boys' football team have won 2-1 against Kirton Academy, and our Year 7 & 8 boys' futsal team entered the Tiger's Trust inspire tournament, winning four out of their six matches. Our Year 8 & 9 girls' football team have progressed into the Semi-final of the Humberside cup after a 2-0 victory against Hornsea, and our Sports Leaders have supported with a Primary Swimming Gala at South Holderness Leisure Centre. Well done to all and thank you for your continued commitment in representing our academy.

Half term activities

HAF (Holidays, Activities and Food) programmes do not run in the February half term holidays, but here's some free activities for you to enjoy with the Active Coast team. For full details of activities, times, and locations, please visit www.activecoast.org. Participants can also call our admin team on 01482 395320 to reserve a place on any bookable activities. All activities will take place over the East Riding coastline in Bridlington, Hornsea and Withernsea. Here's what's on offer: Half Term Heroes Activity Clubs, Family Tennis session, Geocaching Trail, Fossil Hunts, Indoor and Outdoor Crafts with Thread and Press CIC, Adult Yoga, Bushcraft & Rock pooling (including foraging and plant ID) with Rewilding Youth and Outdoor mindfulness Crafts with Wildcats Wild Crafts.

Grant application schemes are available now for HAF during the Easter holidays, so if you know of an organisation or school who could deliver lots of fun activities in the holidays, please can you let them know about the funding. It would be great if we could offer some new activities this year (together with our old favourites), but we need your help to make this happen - thank you.

Holderness Learners may also wish to use their half term to enter a Hedon Town Council competition to design part of the poster for the 80th Anniversary of VE Day and support our community. If your child would like to get involved, please see the poster template and further details attached.

We also extend our best wishes to our learners visiting **Iceland and Austria** this half term - safe travels and great success to all involved. A huge thank you to the staff supporting these enriching experiences.

Some key dates detailed below:

Key Dates for Spring Term 2	
Y11 CAEs	5 th February - 4 th March
Year 9 DTP/Meningitis Vaccinations	Wednesday 26 th February
Year 9 Pathways Evening	Thursday 27 th February
Year 9 Parents' Evening	Thursday 6 th March
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Thursday 13 th March
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Thursday 3 rd April
Easter Holidays	Monday 7 th April - Monday 21 st April

Wishing all our learners a safe and restful half-term.

Yours faithfully,



Mr N Holder
Headteacher