

4th April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we close for Easter and the ducks have arrived on site to commence their nest building, we celebrate another term of success and busy activity. Our learners have once again demonstrated their commitment to our school values of Aspiration, Resilience, Respect, and Kindness, engaging in a range of enriching experiences and fundraising efforts.

Over the past two weeks we have seen a variety of activities taking place, including:

Our learners enthusiastically supported Comic Relief by wearing non-uniform and showed their support for Downright Special by wearing odd socks, demonstrating their commitment to inclusivity and raising awareness of Down syndrome. Our learners raised a fantastic £488 to be split between both causes. A special mention must go to Dylan in Year 9, who displayed outstanding leadership and organisational skills in running a very popular chocolate tombola. This was a huge success, raising a further £202.26 for Downright Special – an incredible achievement that highlights both his initiative and the generosity of our school community.

Our staff also played their part, proudly wearing purple for Purple Day in aid of the Epilepsy Society. Alongside their donations, our learners took the opportunity to develop their understanding of epilepsy during tutor time, learning how to support friends and members of the community who may be affected by the condition.

Beyond fundraising, our learners have also had fantastic opportunities to engage with inspiring speakers and real-world experiences. We were privileged to welcome renowned Asian singer-songwriter Shao Hao, who delivered a captivating live performance that blended live music with powerful messages on mental health, diversity, LGBTQ+ awareness, and the importance of inclusion.

Our Year 11 learners also benefitted from an aspirational talk by Adam Corbally on Thursday 3rd April, motivating them as they approach their exams. In addition, we were proud to be invited to the Hull and East Yorkshire Careers Hub meeting to share the success of our Apprenticeships for All event. Whilst our Year 10 Business Studies learners had the opportunity to take part in mock interviews with Cranswick Foods, giving them invaluable experience to support their future career aspirations.

It has also been a busy time for school trips. Year 11 geography students enjoyed an early spring visit to Bridlington to complete field work, while our STEM learners explored Wilberforce College to further develop their scientific and technological understanding. Year 8 learners also visited Winifred Holtby Academy, where they participated in the Faraday Challenge, designing a robot guide dog for the blind—a fantastic display of innovation and teamwork. Finally, our Y13 Sociology and Geography students went to Leeds experience their first conference as many of them prepare for university.

Our academy has also seen impressive achievements in sport. The KS3 swimming team performed brilliantly at the East Riding Championships, finishing in a commendable 7th place. Meanwhile, the Year 11 girls' football team showcased their talent and determination by reaching the semi-finals of the Humberside Cup, though they narrowly missed out against a strong Malet Lambert side. Our Year 7 boys' rugby team put in a fantastic performance in the East Riding Cup, securing a 10-4 victory at home to Withernsea to advance in the competition. Over in rugby league, our Year 9 learners proudly represented the academy in the Future Robins Tournament, demonstrating resilience and teamwork as they came away with medals and a Silver Plate.

Meanwhile, our Active Travel Ambassadors successfully bid for a new bike shelter, which has now arrived, supporting our commitment to sustainable travel. We also said farewell to Amy the Rat sculpture, as she embarks on her journey to take part in the Hull and East Riding Mischief of Rats sculpture trail.

Finally, I would like to recognise the excellent conduct of our learners during our recent Ofsted visit. As always, they demonstrated the same respectful and engaged attitudes that they show every day and were described by the inspectors as 'delightful', and I am incredibly proud of the way they represented our academy. I would also like to express my gratitude to our parents and carers for their continued support—it truly makes a difference.

Next term will see our Year 11 students start their Summer GCSE exams, with students receiving their bespoke timetables in the first week back after the Easter break. The full timetable for all exams taking place during Summer 2025 is available on our website here: [Exams - Holderness Academy](#)

Some key dates detailed below:

Key Dates for Summer Term 1	
Academy reopens to all students	Tuesday 22 nd April 2025
Year 8 Vaccinations	Thursday 24 th April 2025
May Bank Holiday (Academy closed to all students)	Monday 5 th May 2025
Year 10 Work Experience	Monday 19 th May – Friday 23 rd May 2025
May Half Term	Monday 26 th May – Friday 30 th May 2025

As we head into the Easter break, I want to take this opportunity to thank our learners, staff, and parents for their hard work and dedication. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable holiday.

Yours faithfully,



Mr N Holder
Headteacher