

18th December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of what has been a joyful and memorable festive period at Holderness Academy, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the many wonderful events that have taken place and to thank our school community for their continued support.

Festive events

Our celebrations began with the Dove House Hospice Tinsel Tree Trot on Thursday 4th December, where over 160 Year 7 students, supported by some brilliantly festive staff, took part to raise both funds and awareness for this incredible local charity. It was a joyful and meaningful event which perfectly reflected the kindness and community spirit that is so strong at Holderness Academy. We would like to thank everyone who donated for this event; with your support **we have raised £798!**

We were also overwhelmed by the generosity shown through our Hedon Foodbank collection. Thanks to the donations of long-life food items from our students and families, we were able to support many local families at a vital time of year. Your kindness and willingness to give truly captured the spirit of Christmas.

The Traditional Carol Service at St Augustine's Church was a truly special evening. The service began with a beautiful and emotional candlelit procession, which created a powerful atmosphere of reflection and togetherness. Our students' performances throughout the evening were outstanding and made it a memorable celebration of music, community and the true meaning of Christmas.

Our Christmas Extravaganza was a fantastic showcase of talent and creativity, with over 90 learners taking part. The confidence, enthusiasm and tremendous ability shown by our students set a wonderfully festive and celebratory tone for the holidays, and it was lovely to see so many families in attendance.

Christmas Jumper Day and our Christmas Dinner brought colour, cheer and festive excitement to the academy. Students and staff alike thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas dinner, and we are grateful for the generosity of families who supported our Save the Children charity collection on the day, helping to make a difference to children and families around the world. The option to donate is still available via your Arbor Parent Portal, under the 'School Shop' section, and will remain open until Tuesday 6th January.

Year 11 Parents' Evening

Our Year 11 Parents' Evening was very well attended and provided a valuable opportunity for families and staff to share positive conversations around progress, targets and the important next steps as our students move closer to their examinations.

'Read for Good' charity

As a school, we place great importance on the value of reading and the positive impact it has on young people's wellbeing. At Christmas time, parents and carers may wish to support Read for Good, a charity that provides brand-new books to seriously ill children in hospital. A donation of £10 can enable a child to receive a book, offering comfort and enjoyment during a difficult time. Donations can be made directly via the charity's website: [Donate now to gift the magic of books and stories to children when they need them most.](#)

LoveReading4Kids

With the festive season just around the corner, we're excited to share a handpicked collection of books that make the perfect stocking fillers. You can explore the full list here: [Christmas 2025 - LoveReading4Kids](#). Every book purchased through LoveReading4Kids contributes 25% of the cover price directly to our school. Your support helps us continue to add exciting new titles to our library for all our students to enjoy.

Holiday Activities & Food (HAF)

Please see the following link for information regarding the HAF (Holiday Activities & Food) programme - [Holiday Activities & Food \(HAF\)](#). The programme is designed to provide children and young people who receive benefit-related free school meals with free fun activities across the school holidays. There are also a limited number of places made available to children and young people with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Holderness Highlights

As we reach the end of term, I would like to commend our students for their excellent behaviour, positive attitudes and continued commitment to their learning throughout what has been a busy and rewarding few weeks. We are delighted to share with you our [Holderness Highlights](#).

Some key dates detailed below:

Key Dates	
Last Day of Term – <i>All students will depart at 1.30pm</i>	Friday 19 th December
Christmas Holidays	Monday 22 nd December – Friday 2 nd January
Academy closed to all students	Monday 5 th January
Academy reopens to all students	Tuesday 6 th January
Year 8 Parents' Evening	Thursday 22 nd January
Rescheduled: Year 9 Options Evening	Thursday 15 th January
February Half Term	Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February
Academy reopens to all learners	Monday 23 rd February
Year 9 Parents' Evening	Thursday 5 th March
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Thursday 12 th March
Year 11 Steps to Success Evening	Thursday 26 th March
Easter Holidays	Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April

Finally, I would like to thank our families and staff for their continued support throughout the term. We are incredibly proud of the maturity, resilience and kindness our learners demonstrate each day. On behalf of everyone at Holderness Academy, I wish all our families a peaceful, happy and restful Christmas, and we look forward to welcoming students back in the New Year refreshed and ready for the opportunities ahead.

Yours faithfully,



Mr N Holder
Headteacher