

10<sup>th</sup> July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we move towards the final week of another busy and successful academic year, it has been wonderful to see our learners continuing to embrace the wide range of opportunities available to them both inside and outside the classroom. From celebrating important milestones and sporting success to taking part in educational visits and careers experiences, recent weeks have once again provided countless examples of our learners demonstrating aspiration, respect, resilience and kindness.

Last Friday evening, many of our Year 11 learners attended their **Prom**, marking the end of their journey at Holderness Academy in style. It was a truly memorable evening and a fitting celebration of five years of hard work, achievement and friendship. We were delighted to receive positive feedback from the staff at Craven Park, who praised our learners for their conduct, maturity and respectful attitude throughout the event.

The celebrations continued online, with one of our Instagram reels featuring our Year 11 girls arriving at **Prom** achieving an incredible 56,397 views and 871 likes. It has been wonderful to see so many members of our wider community joining us in celebrating this special milestone and the achievements of the **Class of 2026**.

A number of our learners have also recently embarked on an exciting international adventure and have now arrived safely in **Peru**. We look forward to hearing more about their experiences in the coming weeks and sharing highlights from what promises to be a truly unforgettable trip. Opportunities such as these help learners develop independence, resilience and a greater understanding of the world around them.

On Monday this week our **Active Travel Ambassadors** attended a celebration event at Beverley High School in recognition of their hard work and commitment throughout the year. Students enjoyed a range of exciting activities whilst celebrating the positive impact they have had in promoting healthier and more sustainable journeys to school. We are incredibly proud of the leadership and enthusiasm they continue to demonstrate as ambassadors for both active travel and Holderness Academy.

Sport continues to flourish across the academy. We were delighted to host our **Year 5 Festival of Sport**, expertly organised by Mrs McCubbin. Pupils from our feeder primary schools enjoyed activities including cycling, rugby league, cricket and golf, delivered by specialist external coaches alongside academy staff. Our Junior Sports Leaders once again demonstrated exceptional leadership throughout the day and were superb ambassadors for the academy.

There has also been further success in competition, with our **Year 7 Girls' Rounders Team** finishing an impressive third place overall at the East Riding end-of-season tournament. Their achievement reflects the teamwork, dedication and resilience they have shown throughout the season.

Learning beyond the classroom has remained a significant feature of recent weeks. Our GCSE Geography students recently completed important fieldwork at **Dalby Forest**, applying their classroom knowledge in a real-world environment and developing valuable investigative skills. At the same time, our PE students successfully completed a **mountain biking** course, embracing the challenge with enthusiasm, determination and resilience.

Our commitment to providing enriching experiences beyond the classroom continued with a recent visit to the **Hull Reform Synagogue** in Willerby. Year 8 students had the opportunity to learn more about the Jewish faith and what it means to be a follower of Judaism, exploring key aspects of worship, festivals and religious traditions. Learners engaged in thoughtful discussion throughout the visit and were able to deepen their understanding of a faith community different from their own. We are grateful to Surita from Ne've Shalom for providing such a warm welcome and informative experience. Our students represented Holderness Academy exceptionally well and were praised for their engagement, curiosity and respectful conduct throughout the day.

It has also been another busy and successful period for **Careers Education**. Students have benefited from a range of experiences designed to broaden horizons and raise aspirations as they begin to consider their future pathways. This has included a STEM-related visit, alongside Year 10 visits to both **Wilberforce College and Bishop Burton College**. Staff at both colleges were quick to praise our learners for their excellent conduct, engagement and proactive approach throughout their visits. These annual taster sessions provide valuable insight into post-16 opportunities and encourage learners to start thinking carefully about their next steps as they prepare for their final year at Holderness Academy.

We were also delighted to welcome support from the **Log On Move On** team, helping our Year 10 learners understand how to access their online careers platform and begin preparing for future applications. These practical sessions play an important role in ensuring learners are confident and well-informed as they make decisions about their future education, training and career pathways.

As part of our ongoing partnership with Wilberforce College, a group of students recently visited the college's Engineering Department and **Warhammer Club** for a unique and highly engaging experience. During the visit, learners enjoyed a tour of the college and its facilities, including computer-aided design suites and streaming studios, providing valuable insight into the opportunities available to students after secondary school.

The group then took part in a creative Warhammer workshop, where they designed their own Space Marine faction, developed background stories and created bespoke paint schemes for their models. Working within the engineering department, each student was given a model to paint before taking part in a friendly competition, with selected winners receiving a limited-edition Warhammer coin. Every student was able to keep their completed model as a souvenir of the day. The visit was a wonderful combination of creativity, concentration and teamwork, and learners fully embraced the opportunity whilst representing Holderness Academy superbly.

Unfortunately, due to the exceptionally high temperatures forecast for today, we made the difficult decision to cancel Sports Day. Whilst we know many students were looking forward to participating, the safety and wellbeing of our learners and staff must always remain our highest priority. We would like to thank students, families and staff for their understanding and support.

| Key Dates                                                         |                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Awards Evening                                                    | Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July       |
| Last Day of Term ( <i>Academy closes for students at 1.30pm</i> ) | Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July         |
| Year 11 Results Day                                               | Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> August     |
| First day of term ( <i>all students return to the Academy</i> )   | Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> September  |
| Y11 Steps 2 Success                                               | Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September |
| Year 5/6 Open Evening                                             | 24 <sup>th</sup> September           |

Yours faithfully,



Mr N Holder  
Headteacher