

10th February 2023



Dear Parent/Carer

As we come to the end of the half term, and my first as Headteacher of Holderness Academy & Sixth Form College, I would like to thank the community for the warm welcome that I have received. I have been blown away by the students and their politeness, respect and kindness, which is reflected in the 400,000 rewards marks that have been awarded to students since the start of the academic year. I am also grateful for the welcome that I received in my interactions with parents/carers during our year 11 and year 9 Parents' evenings, and Options evening.

I am aware that the academy has experienced a period of instability and flux over the last few years, and that has led to inconsistencies. The first few months of my job will be to address these issues, with your support, to ensure that Holderness Academy & Sixth Form establishes itself on a strong footing to achieve my goal, and that of my staff, in making our Academy an outstanding educational provision.

Although we have had a relatively short half term, we have still managed to pack a lot in. It started with our first annual Trust Conference at the University of Hull, with over 300 students in attendance, 60 students from Holderness alone representing students from years 7 through to 13, with some of our year 13 students leading workshops throughout the day. Other events that have taken place include:

- Our first Year 11 Steps to Success evening, with over 30 parents attending these sessions.
- As part of Children's Mental Health week, we welcomed musician Maddox Jones to the academy who performed and delivered mental health workshops to our students.
- Yorkshire Energy Park and the Sewell Group explored hydrogen and energy through constructing hydrogen buggies with 30 students in years 8 and 9.
- This morning, 30 students from years 10 - 13, accompanied by 4 members of staff, set out on a 5-day Geography trip to Iceland. We wish them a wonderful time.
- Today, we were overwhelmed by the maturity and aspiration of our Year 11 students, who engaged in a series of mock interviews with regional employers. Following this, students were lucky enough to hear from 2023 The Apprentice candidate Megan Hornby as well as engaging with a workshop on 'Making A Life Not A Living'.

Explorer • Scholar • Leader • Collaborator

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THE CONSORTIUM
ACADEMY TRUST

This first half term has also been a busy one for sporting fixtures and competitions, with several team and individual successes. Year 10 boys and year 9 girls are through to the semi-finals of the Humberside Cup. The year 7 rugby team is through to the next round of the Yorkshire Plate. Demi Leonard finished 5th in the Humberside Cross Country Championships – well done Demi!

I would like to wish all our students and staff a restful break following a busy and productive first half to the spring term and look forward to welcoming all students back to the academy on Monday 20th February.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Holder', with a stylized, cursive script.

Mr N Holder
Headteacher