

PARENT BULLETIN



Holderness Academy
& Sixth Form College

September 2020

Upcoming Events

October/November

Thursday 1 Oct

Year 6 Virtual Open

Evening

Wednesday 14 Oct

Year 7 and 11

Virtual Parents

Information Evening

Monday 12 –22 Oct

Year 13

Centre Assessed Exams

Monday 2-11 Nov

Year 11

Centre Assessed Exams

Thursday 5 Nov

Virtual Sixth Form Open

Evening

Thursday 12 Nov

Year 7 Virtual Settling In
Evening

**School closes for half term
at 3pm Thursday 22 Oct**

Re-opens Monday 2 Nov

Welcome to our Monthly Parent Bulletin. We hope that you find the information useful.



This has been the start of an academic year like no other. When the government announced that schools would open fully in September, our aim was to do so as safely as possible. We were desperate for students to return but we knew we had to reassure them, staff, parents and the community that it was safe to do so. With your support, we had a remarkable response with 98% attendance in the first week. Since then, I have been extremely impressed and proud of the mature attitude of our student community to the changes and the safety measures we have implemented as a result of Covid-19. They have shown fantastic resilience and, as one Year 11 student put it when I asked if they were apprehensive about returning.... "Nah, Sir, I just want to be back, see my mates, roll my sleeves up and get cracking!"

We will continue to move forward and do the very best we can for our young people.

I have been equally impressed by our new Year 7 and Year 12 students who have coped admirably with the transition and settled very quickly to life at HA.



September 2020

Staffing Changes

At the end of the year we wished Mr Giles, Mr Shephard, Mr Roantree, Mr Martin, Mr Midgley, Miss Mellis, Miss Stammers and Mrs Taylor all the best in the future as they moved on to pastures new.

At the start of this academic year we welcomed Miss Arnett (Director of Maths), Mr Munawar (Maths), Mrs Laud (Maths), Miss Saunders (MFL), Mr Johnson (Science), Miss Hairsine (History maternity cover– Mrs Jarvis), Ms O’Malley (Music maternity cover—Mrs McCorrie), Mrs Kemp (Teaching Assistant) and Miss Hague (Admin) to Team HA! Mr Wobbaka was also appointed to Assistant Headteacher (Standards).

Developments

Over the summer, we have invested heavily in ICT infrastructure including a full network upgrade, classroom and ICT suite upgrades and enhanced CCTV. The network and classroom upgrades will enhance Teaching and Learning and the improved CCTV will further safeguard our young people.

Our Teaching and Learning priorities continue to be centred around Presentation of Work, High Quality Feedback and Bespoke Planning.

A key focus for all staff centres around Formative Assessment (regular low stakes assessment) to identify gaps in learning to allow bespoke planning to move students forward and achieve well.



The Holderness Learner

There are four strands to the Holderness Learner. They are: Explorer, Scholar, Leader and Collaborator. Our core values are attached to each strand and we want our students to be; Aspirational, Resilient, Respectful and Kind. We continue to embed these values into our Tutor Program and through the curriculum. Students have been working hard to achieve stamps in their planner for each of the four values and progress towards Holderness Learner Bronze, Silver and Gold awards.

Students also have a wealth of opportunities highlighted on their Holderness Learner journey as they move through their time at the school. And, as our vision states, we hope to *inspire and empower our young people to make a positive difference today; ready for tomorrow.*

More information about this can be found on our website and in the student planner.

Holderness Communicator

We are delighted to hear students state how frequently they are reading within lesson time across the curriculum. Thank you for ensuring students are equipped with a reading book.

The Department for Education has stated reading is a crucial approach to enable all students to make progress in every subject.

Students have a page in their planners which assists in 'Training their brain to read' and this may be a useful tool when discussing a book with your child at home.

Due to our forced closure in March we have 281 outstanding library loans. A book amnesty box will be placed in Year areas for students to return books. We would really appreciate your support in enabling our library to be fully stocked.



Care And Support

The safety and wellbeing of our young people is of paramount importance. Our Well Being STEPS programme involves highly trained staff in the school and across the Trust as well as close links with external agencies who regularly visit our school. Please click [here](#) to visit our Care and Support section on our website to find out how we can support you and your child.

We also have a dedicated email address welfare@holderness.academy should you have any concerns and cannot reach your child's Pastoral Manager.

Blended Learning

We have been working hard throughout lockdown and the summer break to ensure that should we have to enter another lockdown or a Year group bubble has to self isolate, our remote learning package is of the highest quality. As previously mentioned, we have upgraded our ICT provision and staff have participated in training to make use of the ICT resources available. As a result, should remote provision be required, all work will be set through Google Classroom to allow students to follow their normal timetable on any given day. This will be through a combination (blended learning) of live lessons, pre-recorded or interaction via Google Classroom. There will also be a programme of Pastoral support integrated into the provision. Please find more information [here](#).

We are currently updating our Homework policy to involve use of Google Classroom (more on that in next month's bulletin).

More Upcoming Events

Week Beginning Monday 9 November

Year 10 Centre Assessed Exams

Year 7-9 Standardised Assessments

Wednesday 11 November- Armistice Day

Friday 13 November - Children In Need and World Kindness Day

Monday 16 November - Anti-Bullying Week

School Photographs

The last day to order your child's school photograph is Monday 12 October. Orders should be passed by students to their Pastoral Manager.

School Gateway App

If you have not yet registered for a School Gateway account, please do so via the following link:

<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/register>

Further information and guidance can be found by visiting the Information tab on our [website](#)

Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a school governor. If you can: attend 5 meetings a year, read reports with a keen eye for detail, challenge the Leadership Team, and you are enthusiastic and want to make a difference, please email gilly.stafford@consortiumtrust.co.uk

Competition Time

The closing date for the Year 7 Halloween Competition, organised by Mercure Hull Grange Park Hotel, is **Wednesday 7 October**.

Entries should be placed in the designated Halloween competition box, which can be found in the Year 7 area. The winning entry will receive a spooktacular stay at the Mercure Hull Grange Park Hotel in Willerby.



WHO CAN DRAW OR PAINT A SPOOKY PICTURE?!

ENTER IF YOU DARE AND WIN A SPOOKTACULAR STAY AT THE MERCURE HULL GRANGE PARK HOTEL - WILLERBY



Terms & Conditions: Includes one night stay for 2 adults & 2 children or 2 adults & 1 child or 1 adult & 3 child. Breakfast is included & a breaky (br. right (age appropriate film) which includes pizza, popcorn & pick n mix. Subject to availability. Available between 10th October - 31st November 2020. Cannot be redeemed with any other offer. All extras purchased will be charged and payable on departure. All entries to be received by 7th October 2020 and winner announced on Facebook & Instagram on 12th October 2020 - make sure you follow us so you don't miss out!!!



Mercure Hull Grange Park Hotel

Mercure
Hull Grange Park Hotel