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29th November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted to share with you the many exciting developments and activities that have taken place in our school community over the past few weeks. Our learners have demonstrated remarkable enthusiasm and commitment to both personal growth and community involvement, all while embodying the values that we hold dear: aspiration, resilience, respect, and kindness.

## **Active Travel and Road Safety Week**

As part of our commitment to promoting sustainable and healthy travel, we have seen some fantastic results from our Active Travel Survey, showing a significant reduction in cars on site and an increase in the number of students walking and cycling to school. This shift towards more active travel reflects our values of resilience and aspiration as students embrace healthier habits and make positive choices for their future.

During Road Safety Week we have raised awareness with focused assemblies and workshops. Our immersive Bike Safety Lessons, the Dr. Bike free bike servicing, and the giveaway of bike lights, helmets, and locks were fantastic opportunities to encourage our students to stay safe and visible on the roads. These efforts support our core value of respect—respect for ourselves and for other road users. It is heartening to see so many students taking responsibility for their own safety while fostering a strong sense of community care.

#### **Children in Need and Remembrance Day**

Our school community came together to raise an impressive £620.50 for Children in Need through our non-uniform day. This charitable initiative highlighted the importance of kindness and generosity, while reinforcing our values of respect and aspiration as we continue to support causes that make a positive difference in the lives of others.

As the half term commenced, we marked Remembrance Day with pride, as our learners represented the academy at the Hedon Sunday Parade, the Augustine's Church Service, and during the wreath-laying ceremony. These events provided our learners with an opportunity to demonstrate their respect for those who have served, and their deep sense of responsibility to their community. We are incredibly proud of the way our students came together to honour this important occasion, showing the values of kindness and respect.

#### **International Day of People with Disabilities**

This week, we have been preparing for International Day of People with Disabilities on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Aim Higher has delivered inspiring assemblies throughout the week, encouraging our learners to reflect on how they can show kindness and respect to those with disabilities.

Our SEND and Pupil Premium team has worked to increase accessibility and support by taking their service desk into the local community, setting up at the Hedon Childcare Centre. This initiative demonstrates our commitment to being an academy that is both kind and inclusive.

## **Sporting Achievements**

Our Year 8 boys' rugby team showcased their determination and skill, emerging victorious with a hard-fought 16-14 win against Kingswood School in a thrilling match.

In football, our Year 8 girls' team finished an impressive 6th overall at the Tiger Trust tournament held at Hull University. Their performance was nothing short of exceptional, as they competed fiercely against top teams from across the region.

While the Year 8 boys' football team faced a tough challenge in the @SchoolsFootball Cup, they went down fighting in a 4-1 loss to a strong Toll Bar team. Their sportsmanship and determination were evident throughout, and they should be proud of their effort.

We also saw great performances from both our Year 7 and Year 8 girls' football teams at the 5-a-side competition at Market Weighton. The Year 8 girls came agonisingly close to the semi-finals, securing a brilliant 3-0 win over South Hunsley, but narrowly missing out on progression. The Year 7 girls, representing the school for the first time, gave an inspiring account of themselves and displayed tremendous promise for the future.

Well done to all the students who represented the school so brilliantly. We look forward to more exciting sports achievements in the coming term!

## 'Love Reading 4 Kids' - Christmas 2024

As the festive season approaches, we are excited to share with you our curated list of book recommendations that would make the perfect stocking filler present for your child. We have selected a range of fiction titles from Christmas stories, chilling murder mysteries, to fantastical adventures!

To view this list, please use the following link:

### Christmas 2024 | LoveReading4Kids

When you purchase a book from Love Reading 4 Kids, 25% of the cover price will be donated directly to our school! This contribution will help us continue to provide our school library with new and exciting books for your child to read and enjoy.

Happy reading and happy holidays!

# Migration to Arbor Behaviour Module - Parent Reminder

As you know we have now migrated to Arbor to use the behaviour and rewards module, one of the reasons is to support parents/carers to have everything in one place. As with all migrations, we are working hard to ensure we maximise its potential and make things as easy as possible for its users. We have noticed that it appears that detentions are given for a range of reasons, such as not having the correct equipment. However, Arbor only communicates this, in that way, when a student receives a 5th comment in the week. For example:

STUDENT NAME has an Afterschool Detention on 22 Oct 2024, 15:00 - 16:00 for Lack of equipment.

Lack of equipment in isolation is not a detention but when it is the 5<sup>th</sup> comment that week, it will be communicated this way.

## **Exciting New Developments**

Lastly, we are thrilled to announce the **relocation of our Art and Design block** into a newly purpose-designed suite in the very heart of our academy. This state-of-the-art space will provide our learners with an inspiring environment in which to develop their creative talents, embodying our values of **aspiration** and **resilience** as they work toward becoming future artists and engineers.

Some key dates for the current term are detailed below.

| Key Dates for Autumn Term                        |   |
|--|---|
| Santa Run – Year 7 Students                      | Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December                                   |
| Hedon Mixed Voice Choir Christmas Carol Concert  | Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December                                |
| Year 11 Parents' Evening                         | Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December                                |
| Christmas Jumper & Christmas Dinner Day          | Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December                               |
| Church Service                                   | Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December                               |
| Last day of term (Students will leave at 1.30pm) | Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December                                  |
| End of Term (Christmas Break)                    | Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January |

Our learners continue to show tremendous growth in their resilience, respect, and kindness as they navigate these opportunities, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support in helping us create an environment where our learners can thrive and aim higher. We look forward to the continued development of our academy and the achievements that lie ahead.

Yours faithfully,

Mr N Holder Headteacher