

8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

The last two weeks have been incredibly busy as we approach the Christmas festivities.

The Lifestyles finals took place on 28<sup>th</sup> November with several of our students winning trips and holidays in recognition for the work they have undertaken to improve their communities; we are immensely proud of the impact they have had. The values of kindness and respect have also been shown by our Craft Club members who have made and donated worry monsters for Ruben's Voice Adoption Day 2023.

We continue to remind our learners about the importance of keeping safe on the roads and have distributed more helmets and lights to those who travel to school by bike. Also, on the theme of staying safe on the roads, we welcomed 'Theatre PiE' who performed a live show for our Sixth Form students called 'Braking Point': a young driver and passenger safety presentation. This was aimed at creating awareness in young people where students investigated their own attitudes to personal safety and responsibility whenever they are in a vehicle as either a passenger or young driver.

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December saw the CAE Results Day with revision workshops taking place and keynote speaker Adam Corbally. Adam was a previous finalist on 'The Apprentice' in 2012 and is a member of the professional speaker's association. His keynote presentation focused on his story: from leaving school at 16 to starting his first business after returning to education. A reminder to all our aspirational learners about the value of education.

One Punch P.A.U.L visited to talk to our Year 7 and 8 students about the impact of brain injury caused by violence. In this talk, Paul, who is an ex-Holderness student, shared his trauma and lived experiences of brain injury to raise awareness of the impact of violence, in hope that it prevents unnecessary suffering.

In sporting news, congratulations to all our students who continue to make us proud. Just a few notable results below:

- The boys' Year 8 rugby team won 42-20 away to Manor Croft Academy in Dewsbury, also putting on a fantastic display to win 50-8 against Outwood Grange a week before this.
- The Year 8 athletics team produced some fantastic results, with the boys' team finishing 5<sup>th</sup> and the girls' triumphing to become champions!
- The Year 7 boys and Year 7 girls competed in the East Riding 5-a-side football tournament.
- The Year 9 and Year 10 girls' football teams took part in an evening of football at The Market Weighton School. Year 10 girls remained unbeaten to win the tournament and the Year 9s coming close to finish as runners up.

There are so many good things happening in and around our school it is impossible to capture it all in one update. I highly recommend that you sign up via our X accounts (formerly Twitter). This will allow you to keep up to date with some of the great achievements of our learners and colleagues.

This afternoon, our Year 7 students took part in the annual Santa run/walk in aid of Dove House Hospice. The option to donate funds raised through sponsorship is still available on your Arbor Parent Portal under the 'School Shop' section and will close at **9am on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**.

A few key dates for your diary:

Date	Event
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Hull Truck Theatre (Pinocchio) – Year 9 students and Drama Club students
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Christmas Carol Service, St Augustine's Church, 5-6pm
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Prison Me No Way! – in school event for Year 9 students
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Christmas lunch served in the canteens & Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	<b>School closes to students at 1.30pm</b> – early buses have been arranged
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	All students return to school
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Headteacher's Surgery
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Year 9 Pathways Evening
W/C 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Half term break

Yours faithfully,



Mr N Holder  
Headteacher