

24th November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Over the last two weeks, our Holderness Learners have been fortunate to welcome a range of dignitaries to the academy. Last week saw a visit from our local MP, the Right Honourable Graham Stuart. As part of a whistlestop tour, Mr Stuart spent time with a group of students from a range of year groups. The students shared the Holderness ARRK values: *Aspirational, Resilient, Respectful and Kind* with him, and explained what these values mean to them. Specific values highlighted in their discussions included *resilience* – the understanding that everyone has knockbacks but it's having the ability to get up and keep going which leads to success, and *aspiration* – aiming high to achieve your goals. Mr Stuart was particularly interested in hearing about our students' aims for the future. Students shared their ambitions, and our older students discussed the benefits of the work experience programme the academy provides for them. The visit also gave the students the chance to quiz Mr Stuart about his role and he suggested making a return visit, which could focus on politics.

This week also saw a group of local councillors visit the academy. Our students gave a presentation to the councillors on what it means to be a Holderness Learner and then gave them a tour of the school site. Our students did a fantastic job, with the councillors commenting on how impressed they were; we are very proud of everyone involved.

Our assemblies and tutor programme this week have focused on Road Safety Week, with the local council giving out free bike lights at our academy this morning. On Monday 27th November, 'Braking Point' will visit the academy, to provide our Year 12 and 13 students with a Young Driver & Passenger Safety theatre presentation, which is paid for by Safer Roads Humber. The presentation focuses on the responsibilities of being a young driver or passenger, and the potential consequences of risk-taking behaviour.

In sporting news, congratulations to the Year 11 boy's football team who won the first round of their East Riding 7-a-side competition this week. The boys played some fantastic football to remain unbeaten all night to progress to the finals after Christmas. Well done to the Year 10 and 11 girls' netball teams who drew one and won one match this week in some highly competitive matches. It was great to see the girls' hard work paying off from their weekly training sessions. Well done to the Year 7/8 girls' football team who won three matches at a highly competitive Tigers Trust tournament last week. Mixed fortunes in other football news with the Year 7/8 girls bowing out of the School Cup competition and the Year 7 boys missing out on the East Riding 7-a-side final by one point. The Year 9 boys' team advance into the East Riding semi-finals.

In other news, at the recent East Riding Apprenticeship Event held at Bishop Burton college, we were the most represented school in Hull and East Riding with 78 students attending the event. This event provided our students with a greater awareness of local organisations, and the apprenticeships that they offer. Yesterday we welcomed Year 4 students from Keyingham Primary School into our academy, who came to visit our Food Tech department and take advantage of the equipment available to create some culinary masterpieces.

Finally, I hope everyone who attends the Hedon Light Switch On tonight has a wonderful time – have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Holder', written in a cursive style.

Mr N Holder
Headteacher