



Howden
School



THE CONSORTIUM
ACADEMY TRUST

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the 9 parents' evening. It was the start of our new process where we are guiding students in their choice, particularly in relation to having a balance of subjects and students getting a good insight into the demands of the subjects and the skills required to do well. We have made quite a few changes to the curriculum model at Key Stage 4 which – as agreed by our central services education team and governors – provides more time for the subjects students will be studying, which should help with their progress and outcomes at the end of year 11.

The Senior Senate came to see me regarding Red Nose Day which is on Friday 15th March requesting that we do something for charity. I had already discussed the possibility of a non-uniform day with them and how we would organise it. An important part of the day is the planning, and my intention is to repeat a process I have successfully gone through in other schools. We had agreed that the Senior Senate have to organise the day themselves and as they had been tied up with recent mock exams, we should move the fundraising day to Friday 22nd March. Therefore, Friday 15th March will be a normal school day.

The outline plan as follows:

- We will raise funds “for” Red Nose Day not “on” Red Nose Day.
- The day will be a non-uniform day and it will be on Friday 22nd March.
- The Senior Senate will manage and run the event. This includes:
 - Organising activities for the day.
 - Writing to parents explaining what will be happening.
 - Writing to staff about their plans.
 - Doing the last 10 minutes of assemblies to go through the day with students.
 - Seeing how well the day is going and celebrate all the events that will be taking place at break time and lunchtime.

The day itself will be lessons as usual, which is really important, so there is quality learning taking place with activities at break and lunchtime.

The Year 11 parents' evening process will be different this year as I alluded to last week. There will be a series of revision workshops for English, maths and science for parents and students to attend. These will run from 4.30 – 6.30 in various classrooms, each lasting 15 minutes. We are asking parents to give us an indication as to which session(s) they will be attending. Year 11 parents are receiving a separate letter going into more detail.

There will be an assembly for Year 11 on Monday that is focused on their final weeks and how they can still make a difference to their grade and so hopefully help motivate them. Mock results on Friday afternoon gave students a very clear picture as to where they are with their progress, and we will be providing additional support for those students who would benefit from a little bit extra.

I thoroughly enjoyed walking around school looking at the doors, not something I am usually focused on if I am honest. My thanks to all the staff and students for superb displays and for all the interest that students demonstrated not only on the day but leading up to it as well. Congratulations to the winning tutor – 9S with

their theme of the Gruffalo, I am glad I did not have to choose the winner as there were so many outstanding entries.

Finally, it has been brought to my attention that a few students have been arriving to school very early. We have breakfast club available from 8.15am but can I ask that you don't send students into school before this as we can't supervise them during this period.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Nixon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mr Jim Nixon
Headteacher

Future events:

- 18 March – Year 11 Parents' Evening
- 20 March – Asia day
- 20 March – Year 9 Parent/Carer Launch event regarding Guided Choices at 6pm
- 22 March – Fundraising day for Red Nose Day