



Howden
School



THE CONSORTIUM
ACADEMY TRUST

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Dear parents and carers,

On Thursday we recognised Mental Health Day by staff and students being asked to wear a yellow item of clothing. You do not have to go back very far in time when no one would ever use the phrase “mental health”, and everyone was expected to “get on with it.” I saw a quote a while ago, and my apologies if I have said it before, that said “life used to be tough on the body and easy on the soul but now it is tough on the soul and easy on the body.” It is not a coincidence to my mind, that mental health issues have risen since the advent of social media and improved technology. This, combined with a significant reduction in the amount of unstructured physical activity that children engage in has arguably led us to this place.

On Wednesday we had more school tours for prospective students and their parents, and I am pleased to say that we had a large number of people looking round. We had to divide the tour into different groups because there were so many. They went into lessons and could see the school in action with the tour taking over an hour in total. Many parents commented on how calm the school was, even when students were moving from lesson to lesson. We will be looking to do more of them next year and much earlier, given the success of this year.

Our attendance has improved this year so may I thank you for sending your child into school. At present, our overall figure is 94.5% which is significantly up from the same time last year and I am pleased to say that all year groups are doing well. On Tuesday, Senior Leaders did some book looks to check on the quality of presentation and also how much extended writing was being completed. The picture is considerably better than in previous years and we are now at the standard I would expect to see. If you are helping your child or just looking at their books, have a look at their standard of presentation and congratulate them if it's good, as most of them are. First impressions are important so we would appreciate your support in maintaining these standards.

It was a real pleasure to award our Senior Leaders their badges in the Year 11 Assembly this morning. They have a crucial voice in school, playing a key role in further improving our school. I am really looking forward to working them over the rest of this year. The rest of the assembly was given over to our trust 6th Form who are based at Hessle and Wolfreton school. Not many of our students attend our Consortium sixth form so the aim was to ensure year 11 are aware of the provision that is available.

Finally, you may have read the article in the press a couple of days ago that highlighted the Ukrainian students visit to the area. As I wrote at the time, we thoroughly enjoyed their time in our school, so it was pleasing to read their positive views about Howden in the paper. Following on from this positive article we are planning to start sharing the news and events that happen in school on our relaunched Facebook page in the very near future, when you can follow us and see all the great things that are happening.

Attendance winners this week are:

Monday	Year 11	97.27%
Tuesday	Year 11	96.88%
Wednesday	Year 8	96.56%
Thursday	Year 8	94.06%
Friday	Year 8	94.38%

I hope you have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully



Mr Jim Nixon
Headteacher

Future events:

- 16 October – Restart a heart (Y8) and Careers Fayre
- 17 October – Y7 Meet the Team event
- W/C 21 October – Food Exam
- 24 October – Students break up for half term