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16 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and positive week at Howden, with lots happening across the school.

Our Year 11 mock examinations have started this week and I have been really impressed by the way students have approached them so far. There has been a real sense of focus and determination, with students engaging positively and taking the opportunity to demonstrate everything they have learned. There are still a number of exams to come over the next few weeks, so it is important that students continue to work hard, revise carefully and make the most of the support available to them. Thank you, as always, to parents and carers for everything you are doing at home to encourage and support them during what can be a demanding few weeks.

Today, our Year 8 students have been taking part in Restart a Heart Day. Students have engaged really positively throughout the day and it has been a valuable opportunity for them to learn important life skills. Experiences like this are such an important part of education beyond the classroom, giving our young people knowledge and skills that could make a genuine difference in the future.

Last night, we welcomed our Year 7 students and families to our Meet the Team event. It was lovely to see so many of you back in school and to have the opportunity to catch up now that students have completed their first half term with us. Staff created some fantastic displays and activities across their areas, while our catering team provided some excellent food for everyone to enjoy. We received lots of positive feedback throughout the evening, which was wonderful to hear. Thank you to everyone who joined us and to the staff who helped make the evening such a success.

There has been plenty happening on the sporting front too. Congratulations to our U13 football team, who secured a win in the National Cup competition. Our Year 7 team also celebrated a win in their friendly against Snaith, while Year 9 unfortunately lost their fixture. Well done to everyone who represented the school this week.

This week we have also launched Educake as our main homework platform. Please take a few minutes to check that your child can access Educake successfully and knows how to navigate the platform and find the homework that has been set. Developing good homework routines will help students consolidate their learning and stay on top of their work.

As we head into the final week of this half term, there is still plenty to fit in! Alongside all the usual school business, we will be holding rewards activities through early lunch passes recognising students for positive attendance and behaviour. We finish for the half-term break on Thursday, and I am sure students and staff alike will be ready for a well-earned rest.

Finally, a quick reminder about uniform and appearance standards. Thank you for continuing to support us in ensuring students arrive at school looking smart and ready to learn. Please be aware that henna

should not be worn in school, and we would appreciate parents and carers reinforcing this expectation at home.

Have a lovely weekend, and I look forward to seeing everyone for one final, busy week before the half-term break.

Yours faithfully



Mrs L Tester
Headteacher