

Our ref: MMC/NWI

17 April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

This week's newsletter celebrates a strong and positive return following the Easter break, with students demonstrating impressive dedication across their studies, revision programmes, and enrichment activities. Attendance at Easter Achieve sessions reached record levels, reflecting students' commitment as year 11 and year 13 approach their examination season. Alongside academic progress, students have engaged in a wide range of opportunities including geography fieldwork, upcoming Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, and new enrichment electives for the summer term. Continued success in platforms such as Tassomai and Sparx highlights excellent independent learning habits, while strong attendance and adherence to school standards, including mobile phone expectations, support a focused learning environment. With house competitions intensifying and key events ahead, the academy looks forward to maintaining this momentum and working in partnership with families to ensure every student achieves their best.

Teaching and Learning

Spring SEND Individual Education Plan Reviews

Thank you to the families of our year 7 students who attended IEP reviews this week, alongside Parents' Evening.

Year 10 reviews will take place on Tuesday 28 April. You will receive an invitation to book an appointment via the parents evening booking system.

Year 11 Easter Achieve and May Half Term Achieve

Over the Easter break, we enjoyed record attendance to Achieve sessions, with over 74% of students attending one of the many sessions that were offered across a range of subjects.

We are already planning ahead for our May Half Term Achieve sessions and will share the timetable as soon as it is finalised.

Year 11 Examinations

Year 11 continue to show excellent levels of investment as we approach the exam season, which commences next week with practical examinations in French, Art and Photography. The first written examination is BTEC Health and Social Care on Tuesday 5th May and the final examinations is Physics on Monday 15th June. However, a reminder to all parents and carers that students must be available on Wednesday 24th June as this is GCSE contingency day – there are currently no examinations scheduled on this date, but if a major national event caused disruption to the exam schedule (e.g. an unplanned Bank Holiday), examinations scheduled for that day would be moved to the contingency day.

The full timetable of GCSE and A-level examinations can be accessed [here](#), but students will shortly receive an individual timetable alongside the Summer Achieve programme, which includes the sessions that are bespoke to them.



Tassomai

In years 10 and 11, students' investment in Tassomai continues to be impressive, with over 225 hours of quizzing and over 64,000 questions answered in the final week before Easter!

We remind students of the importance of continuing to achieve their weekly goals in all subjects as part of their revision for final examinations for Year 11 and trial examinations in June for Year 10.

Personal Development

Enrichment Electives

With three weeks left of block three, students and parents will receive the block 4 Elective booklet via Class Charts this Friday. Please take the time to look through the offer with your child as they will be making their selections in tutor time next week. As we move into the summer season, we have some new additions such as rounders, tennis and rowing so there's lots to choose from!

Events

Holderness Geography Trip

On Thursday this week, our Geographers visited Holderness Coast to support their grasp of some key ideas as well as providing experience of fieldwork activities. Students focused on a range of sea defences and assessed how effective they are in preventing erosion on this part of the coastline. Of course we couldn't visit the seaside without also enjoying the customary fish and chips and Ice cream!

Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition

On Friday 24 April, our Duke of Edinburgh elective students will be heading out on their first practice expedition to the Peak District. Students will develop their confidence to work in teams and learn new skills such as map reading and navigation.

Athletics Event

On Monday 27 April, Sir Thomas Wharton Academy will be holding their Athletics Event – more details to follow shortly.

House Update

This week, Brodsworth have still managed to maintain their lead in the house standings, accruing over 60,000 house points, being followed by Cusworth who have 59,000, Wentworth with 57,000 and Chatsworth with 55,000.

Our Extended House Project for this half term centres on Lewis Hamilton with students being challenged to explore the impact of Hamilton's career and being tasked with creating a model of Hamilton's racing helmet.

As we progress into the summer term, there are an array of house activities and challenges where students can earn their house points to secure their place on the end of year trip to Alton Towers. Students need a minimum of 50 house points and less than 50 negatives to secure their place!

Attendance

It has been wonderful to see students continuing their fantastic attendance following our return from the Easter break. Thank you to the many families who have adapted to the bus strikes that have taken place this week. There are two further strike days planned for next week, and it is extremely important that students continue to attend the Academy every day to support their learning.



We understand that some students, may experience longer journeys or delays with transport. However, maintaining attendance during this time is vital to ensure they do not miss out on their education and they should not be kept at home.

Once again, at the end of this half term, there will be a non-uniform day if student attendance is above 93%. We look forward to sharing the outcome with you later in the half term.

Standards

Earlier this week, we completed a spot check on mobile phones across the Academy. It was fantastic to see all students using their Yondr pouches correctly. We continue to see the daily benefits that the pouches provide in supporting a focused learning environment.

As always, we are very grateful to both students and families for their continued support and commitment to this approach.

However, we would like to remind families that if a pouch is lost or damaged, a replacement should be purchased as soon as possible. We are currently reviewing the systems we have in place for students who arrive at school without their pouch.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr M McDonald
Principal

