

The Eagle

Newsletter



INSIDE, WE ALSO TALK ABOUT:

Head of Year
Updates

Subject Information

House Notices

Events/Sporting
Events

Key Dates and
Notices

Before the half term our Heads of Houses hosted a Christmas Fayre over both lunchtimes for all of our students, it was very busy and the atmosphere was great!

Miss Raw shared her amazing singing with us and our Sixth Form students continued the festivities into the afternoon.

Tutor groups were given the challenge of producing an idea to sell. Each year group was given a stall that was located within their house section.

Students played Christmas games and sold cakes and festive creations in order to raise money for our chosen house charities.

They raised over £1,300. Well done to all involved!

Head of Year 8 Updates

As we begin this new term, it feels the perfect moment to reflect on one of our core school values: **Aspiration**. Aspiration is often seen as something grand—a big dream or a distant goal—but for our Year 8 students, it is just as much about the small, everyday habits that build success over time. Being prepared for learning, completing homework, contributing positively in lessons, and engaging consistently all create the strong foundations young people need to thrive.



Mr Riches

We are delighted to welcome our new Headteacher, **Mr. Nixon**, who has already brought a renewed energy and a clear message: **high aspirations for all students, every day**. His belief that every child can achieve their best with the right guidance and attitude has been felt across the school already and Year 8 students have already attended assemblies explaining their role in maintaining a calm and purposeful learning environment and the “marginal gains” they can make along the way.

Our recent **Year 8 Progress Evening** was a fantastic opportunity to come together, reflect on progress so far, and begin to look ahead. Many parents used the evening to talk through next steps and identify how daily routines—such as completing homework and revisiting classwork—can strengthen learning further. If you were unable to attend, please get in touch so we can provide the relevant information.

A great example of aspiration in action comes from one of our Year 8 students, **Ayva**. Mr Scott shared the following Shoutout:

“After missing a recent lesson, Ayva needed to catch up with starting our new unit, which is programming in HTML. Not only did Ayva catch up and show a good understanding of what we had covered, but she is the only student to complete my challenge across the five classes in Year 8 that I teach. Congratulations Ayva! Very impressed, keep up the good work.” — **Mr Scott**

This is a perfect illustration of what aspiration looks like in everyday school life—showing resilience, working independently, and aiming high. Well done, Ayva!

We would also like to emphasise the importance of **homework** and independent study as key components of aspiration. Our online platforms remain essential tools for supporting learning, providing clear instructions, resources, and opportunities for practice. Checking these regularly with

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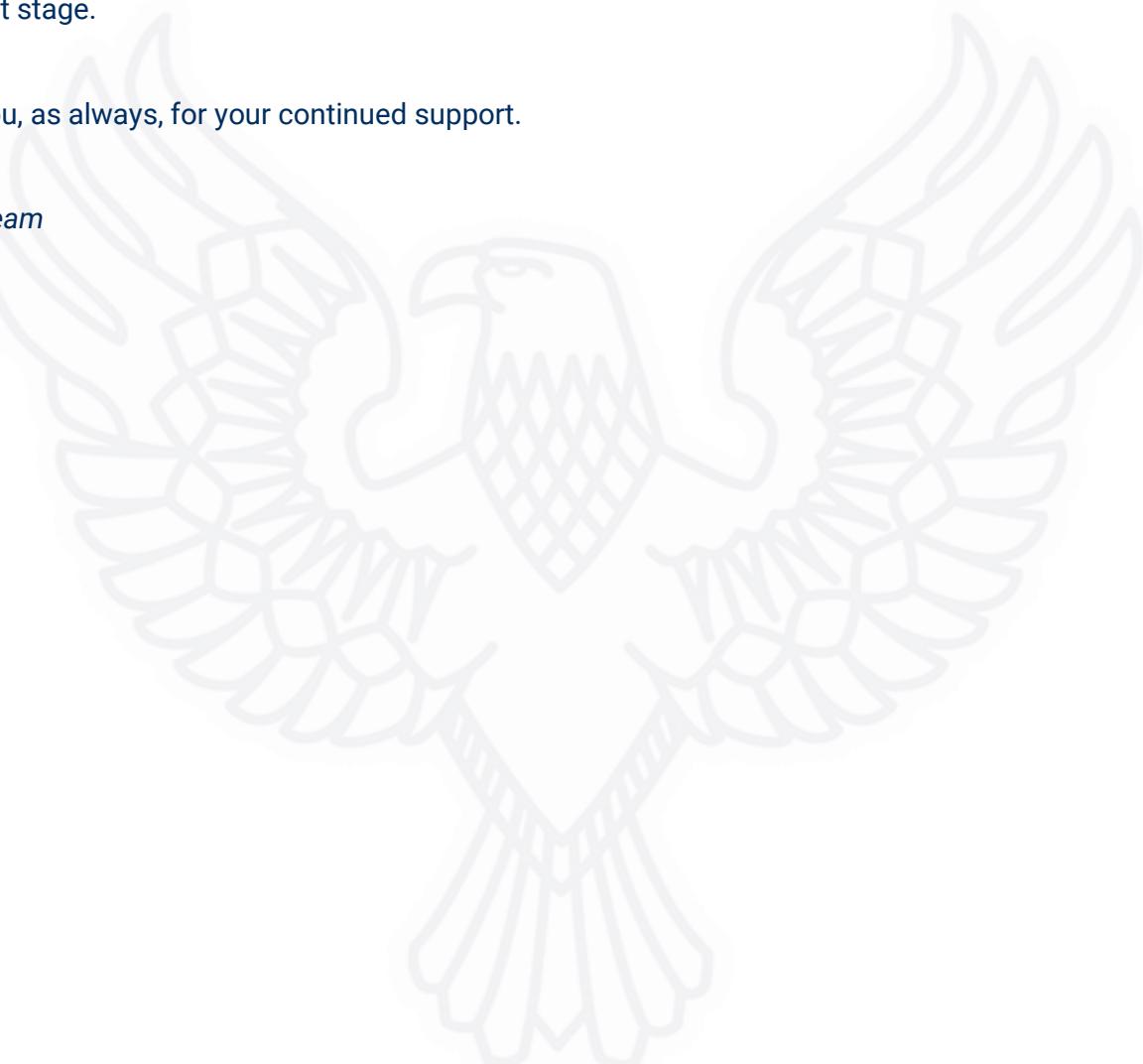
Head of Year 8 Updates

your child can make a real difference, helping them embed the content taught in class and develop independent learning habits that will benefit them throughout their school journey.

It is also worth remembering that this time next year, our **Year 8 students will be in Year 9 and choosing their GCSE option subjects**. Although this might feel some way off, the effort students put in now will shape both their confidence and the range of choices available to them. Establishing strong routines, maintaining focus, and embracing new challenges will ensure they are ready for this important stage.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Year 8 Team

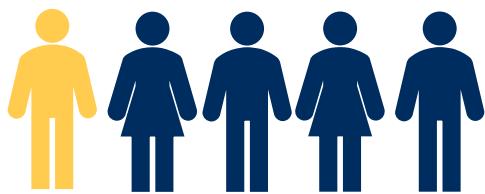


Attendance Matters

Every student,
on time, every day



Did you know



1 in 5

students don't attend school regularly

It's never too late to improve attendance

- Going to school more often will make a difference
- Attendance habits will follow your child into work and life

What families can do ...

- ✓ Be firm: send your child to school every day, all day, unless they are unwell
- ✓ Develop good sleep and morning routines
- ✓ Schedule appointments and extra-curricular activities outside of school
- ✓ Avoid taking holidays during term time
- ✓ Seek help early before your concerns become serious

Each day missed ...

- Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up
- Can lead to lower achievement in reading and writing
- Can lead to gaps in learning
- Makes school completion less likely
- Makes the transition into a career less likely to be successful

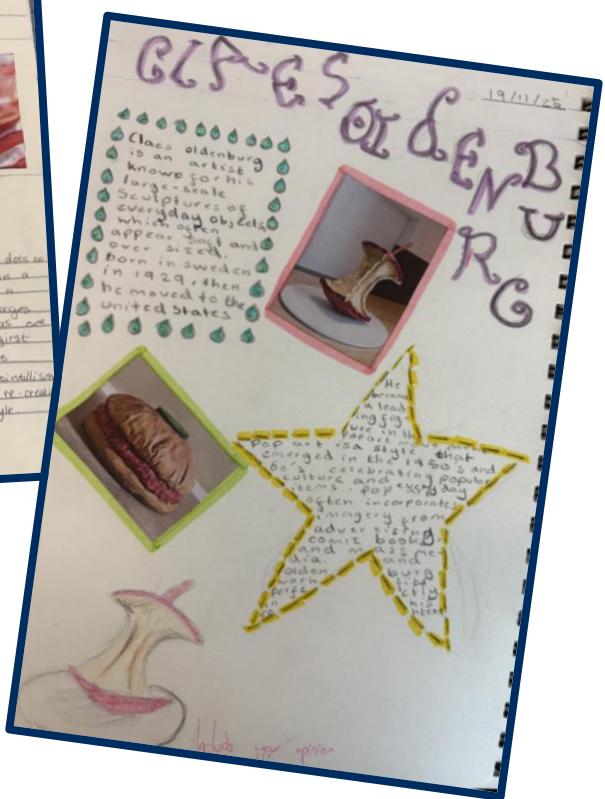
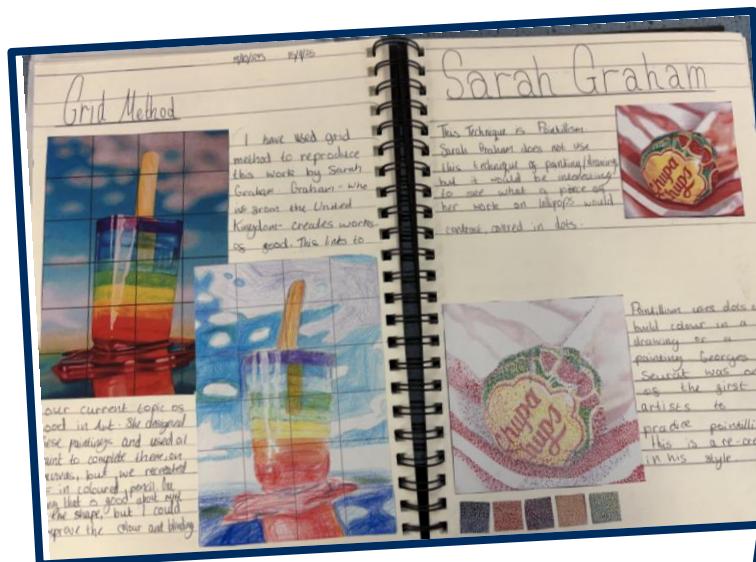


**Schools
are here to help.**

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Year 8 Art

Year 8 students have been extending their skills looking at Sarah Graham's work - using Pointillism and on watercolour. They are now working on research page for 'Pop Art' and will look at Claes Oldenberg for their large group sculpture pieces.



Teacher Shoutouts

Zachariah S, 801

Byren P, 8C3

Harry H, 803

Rose I, 8C2

Year 8 PE

This term, Year 8 students have completed units in **trampolining** and **badminton**. Through these activities, students have been developing key physical skills such as balance, coordination, agility, and control. Alongside this, there has been a strong focus on safe participation, cooperation, confidence, and resilience. Many students have shown positive engagement and a willingness to challenge themselves in unfamiliar activities.

As we move forward in the curriculum, students will now begin units in **volleyball, basketball, and rugby**.

These team sports will support students in further developing:

- Teamwork and communication skills
- Hand-eye coordination and movement skills
- Tactical awareness and decision-making
- Fitness, strength, and understanding of rules and fair play



Teacher Shoutouts

Elif K, 803

Joseph H, 8P3

Betsie-Mae H, 8A3

Dylan L, 8P1

Maise D, 803

Jack W, 8C1

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Year 8 English

This term Year 8 are developing their knowledge of the non-fiction writing through their study of diary entries, reviews and articles. They are also studying *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare and developing their textual analysis. Stormy seas abound in the English department....



Teacher Shoutouts

Excellent analysis by Polly A, 802.

Fantastic Sherlock Holmes assessment from Joseph H, 801

Showing very high level analysis skills Cherry-Mai S, 8C1

Consistent excellent effort Ellie Mae S, 801

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Year 8 Maths

This half term, Year 8 students have been developing their skills in graphs, decimals, place value, and ratio & proportion. They've been working with conversion graphs, distance-time graphs, line graphs, real-life graphs, and curved graphs. In addition, they've been ordering, rounding, and calculating with decimals, and applying decimals in ratio and proportion problems.

Following their exam prior to the Christmas holidays, every student received a QLA (Question Level Analysis). This is a powerful tool that shows exactly where they did well and where they could improve. This half term, students are expected to use their QLA independently at home to "put right" mistakes from the previous exam. We encourage them to use their QLA alongside their SPARX homework to guide focused independent learning and strengthen understanding in areas that need attention.

SPARX homework is set every Wednesday and is designed to reinforce classroom learning in a fun, interactive way. Parents receive weekly update emails, and you can also access your child's progress via the SPARX parent hub. This makes it easy to monitor their progress and celebrate achievements.

Why independent learning matters:

- It helps consolidate knowledge from class.
- Builds confidence and resilience in mathematics.
- Ensures students are actively growing their mathematical capabilities week by week.

We strongly encourage students to complete their SPARX homework on time and to use their QLA independently at home to "put right" mistakes. Together, this will help them reach their full potential in maths.

Thank you for supporting your child's learning journey!

The image shows two screenshots of the Pearson Edexcel Sparx Maths platform. The top screenshot is titled 'How to use your maths QLA' and shows a breakdown of a student's performance across various topics. The bottom screenshot is titled 'Independent Learning' and shows a user interface for tracking progress and selecting topics to practice.



Teacher Shoutouts

Joseph H, 801
Martha I, 8C3
Rose I, 8C2

Daisy E, 8C3
Sanah S, 8C1

Year 8 RE

Year 8 have been studying the world religion of Judaism. We have been learning about Jewish culture and practices with topics such as Bar/Bat Mitzvah and Kashrut food laws. This also included a pupil homework about the Jewish festival of Rosh Hashanah, where pupils could choose which task they completed.

We have also been learning about the Synagogue and the Torah and how they are used as part of worship.

The year group has shown great maturity when taking part in a lesson about the holocaust. Each person in the class was given an account from The Holocaust Museum in New York. They had to discover if their assigned person survived or perished in the Holocaust.



Teacher Shoutouts

Jordan A, 8P3

Jacob K, 8C1

Indiana F, 8C1

Rochelle O, 8O2

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Year 8 MFL

<p>YEAR 8 – Food & Diet</p> <p>Name:.....</p> <p>Teacher:.....</p> <p>Class code:.....</p> <p>Classroom:.....</p> <p>Big Question: How does my diet compare to a Spanish diet in the USA?</p> <p>Grammar focus: Intensifiers</p>	<p>Why study languages? Learning a language strengthens the area of the brain which is responsible for memory, speech and sensory perception. Bilingual people are better at retaining lists, sequences, names and directions. They are also more creative, perceptive and can concentrate for longer.</p> <p><i>Did you know you could be an....</i></p> <p><i>...Account Manager...</i></p> <p><i>and work in the food industry</i></p> <p>It's definitely an advantage to intern in account managers that speak multiple languages. These skills can be put to good use while managing clients in Spanish-speaking countries.</p>	 <p>¿Qué tipo de comida prefieres? [What type of food do you prefer?]</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Adoro</th><th>la comida... [the food]</th><th>es</th><th>sana [healthy / wholesome]</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>[I love]</td><td>china [Chinese]</td><td>[is]</td><td>tipica [typical]</td></tr><tr><td>Me flipa</td><td>inglesa [English]</td><td>dado que es</td><td>rica [tasty / delicious]</td></tr><tr><td>[I like]</td><td>francesa [French]</td><td>[given that it is]</td><td>extraña [strange]</td></tr><tr><td>No aguento</td><td>americana [American]</td><td>debido al hecho de que es</td><td>asquerosa [disgusting]</td></tr><tr><td>[I can't stand]</td><td>suiza [Swiss]</td><td>[due to the fact that it is]</td><td>vegetariana [vegetarian]</td></tr><tr><td>Odio</td><td>belga [Belgian]</td><td>como es</td><td>adictiva [addictive]</td></tr><tr><td>[I hate]</td><td>española [Spanish]</td><td>[as it is]</td><td>sabrosa [flavourful]</td></tr><tr><td>Soy fan de</td><td>india [Indian]</td><td>aunque sea</td><td>grasienta [fatty / greasy]</td></tr><tr><td>[I am a fan of]</td><td>italiana [Italian]</td><td>[although it is]</td><td>amarga [bitter]</td></tr><tr><td>Me gusta comer</td><td>griega [Greek]</td><td>muy [very]</td><td>fresca [fresh]</td></tr><tr><td>[I like eating]</td><td>alemana [German]</td><td>bastante [quite]</td><td>fria [cold]</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>japonesa [Japanese]</td><td>un poco [a bit]</td><td>caliente [hot]</td></tr><tr><td>Para mí</td><td></td><td>extremadamente</td><td>cara [expensive]</td></tr><tr><td>[For me]</td><td></td><td>[extremely]</td><td>barata [cheap]</td></tr><tr><td>En mi opinión</td><td></td><td>realmente [truly]</td><td>saltada [salty]</td></tr><tr><td>[In my opinion]</td><td></td><td>demasiado [too]</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Pienso que</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>[I think that]</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></tbody></table> <p>muy [very] bastante [quite] un poco [a bit] extremadamente [extremely] realmente [truly] demasiado [too]</p> <p>bien para la salud [good for the health]</p>	Adoro	la comida... [the food]	es	sana [healthy / wholesome]	[I love]	china [Chinese]	[is]	tipica [typical]	Me flipa	inglesa [English]	dado que es	rica [tasty / delicious]	[I like]	francesa [French]	[given that it is]	extraña [strange]	No aguento	americana [American]	debido al hecho de que es	asquerosa [disgusting]	[I can't stand]	suiza [Swiss]	[due to the fact that it is]	vegetariana [vegetarian]	Odio	belga [Belgian]	como es	adictiva [addictive]	[I hate]	española [Spanish]	[as it is]	sabrosa [flavourful]	Soy fan de	india [Indian]	aunque sea	grasienta [fatty / greasy]	[I am a fan of]	italiana [Italian]	[although it is]	amarga [bitter]	Me gusta comer	griega [Greek]	muy [very]	fresca [fresh]	[I like eating]	alemana [German]	bastante [quite]	fria [cold]		japonesa [Japanese]	un poco [a bit]	caliente [hot]	Para mí		extremadamente	cara [expensive]	[For me]		[extremely]	barata [cheap]	En mi opinión		realmente [truly]	saltada [salty]	[In my opinion]		demasiado [too]		Pienso que				[I think that]			
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Year 8 students completed their topic on School prior to the Christmas break and also a set of assessments. We have been impressed with their retention of knowledge over time.

Students showed a real interest in the comparison of Spanish and English schools, learning about them not wearing uniforms and their timetables. Students have since moved on to our new topic on Food and Drink where they are comparing lifestyles to those in Spanish speaking America!

Several students in Year 8 have also been working towards the annual East Riding Translatathon with the first round taking place just before we broke up – well done to those involved!

Teacher Shoutouts

Well done to the following students for really impressing their Languages teacher this half term!

Polly A, 802 and Joseph H, 8P3



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Orlando House Updates

As we welcome in a new year, it's easy to focus on our resolutions and the things we want to change or improve. However, it's also important to take a moment to reflect on what is already working well and commit to continuing those successes. I have been really impressed by how students have returned to school after the holidays and how quickly they have settled back into their routines. They have continued to show resilience and a strong work ethic in their schoolwork, and it has been lovely to hear about all the fun our Orlando students had during their well-earned break.



Miss R Bishop
Head of House

There are many exciting opportunities to look forward to as the year progresses, including our charity day on **17th March**. This event will support **Dove House Hospice**, and we hope to raise a significant amount of money for this worthwhile cause.

Our Orlando team leaders are currently working hard to plan a range of activities that students across the house can take part in. I look forward to sharing more details with you soon and keeping you updated on everything that is planned.

Christmas Fayre – A Wonderful Community Effort!

Just before the festive break, our school came together for a truly special event – the Christmas Fayre! The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement as students, staff, and families enjoyed an afternoon filled with creativity and fun. From handmade crafts and delicious bakes to beautiful jewelry, competitions, and raffles, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

The effort from all four houses was nothing short of outstanding. Every stall showcased the hard work and imagination of our students, and it was fantastic to see the whole school community supporting such a great cause. Thanks to everyone's generosity and enthusiasm, we raised an incredible **£1,343.04**, which will be split equally between our four house charities.

This achievement reflects the spirit of teamwork and kindness that makes our school so special. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed – whether by baking, crafting, organising, or simply coming along to join the fun. Together, we've made a real difference!



Orlando Shoutouts

Top Value Points from last half term

Ayva S-C – 803



dovehouse
hospice
caring for people with a life limiting illness

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Portia House Updates

What a great start to the year for Portia House! As we step confidently into a new academic year, Portia House does so with pride, purpose, and momentum. Our students have returned with a renewed sense of commitment, building on the achievements and positive habits established last term. The dedication they have shown—to their studies, to one another, and to the values of Portia House—sets a strong foundation for continued success. This term begins not as a fresh start alone, but as a continuation of growth, resilience, and excellence that defines our house community.



Miss E Foster
Head of House

Just before the festive break, our school came together for a truly special event – the Christmas Fayre! The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement as students, staff, and families enjoyed an afternoon filled with creativity and fun. From handmade crafts and delicious bakes to beautiful jewellery, competitions, and raffles, there was something for everyone to enjoy. Sixth form students performed a medley of Christmas songs that added an extra sparkle of magic to the fayre, with a guest performance from our fabulous singing coach, Miss Raw.

The effort from all four houses was nothing short of outstanding. Every stall showcased the hard work and imagination of our students, and it was fantastic to see the whole school community supporting such a great cause. Thanks to everyone's generosity and enthusiasm, we raised an incredible **£1,343.04**, which will be split equally between our four house charities.

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Portia Shoutouts

Lois H, 8P1

Top Value points in year group



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Cassio House Updates

We are delighted to begin the new year by celebrating the fantastic start Cassio House students have made this term. With a fresh sense of purpose and enthusiasm, pupils have returned ready to challenge themselves, support one another, and continue striving for excellence in all they do.

It has been wonderful to see such positive contributions across the house since the Christmas break and you could feel a real sense of pride in our shared achievements.

Cassio House students have shown impressive resilience, determination and their commitment to maintaining high standards and working together as a community truly reflects the values of our house.

As we look ahead to the exciting events and opportunities coming up this year, I am confident that Cassio House will continue to grow stronger by coming together and supporting one another. Thank you to all parents and carers for your ongoing support. We look forward to making this a successful and another memorable year for Cassio House.



Mr E Griffiths
Head of House

Christmas Fayre Success

Just before the Christmas break, our school came together for a wonderful Christmas Fayre, filled with creativity, fun, and a real sense of community. Students, staff, and families enjoyed a range of stalls, including crafts, bakes, jewellery, games, and raffles.

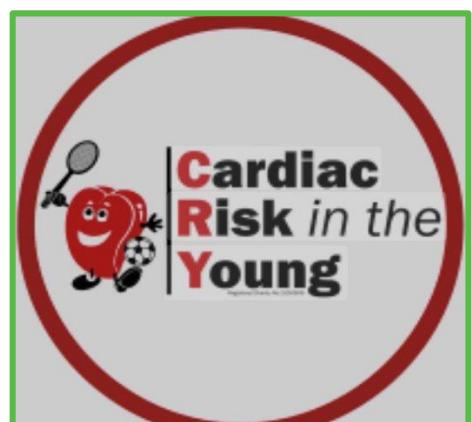
All four houses showed fantastic effort and teamwork, and it was brilliant to see everyone supporting such a worthwhile cause. Thanks to the generosity of our school community, an impressive £1,343.04 was raised and will be shared equally between our four house charities. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the event such a success.



Cassio Shoutouts

Top House Point Collectors this Half Term:

Martha I – 8C2



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Ariel House Updates

I am thrilled to share how brilliantly Ariel House students have been working during this first half term of the school year. Building on the incredible momentum from before Christmas, our students have continued to show dedication, enthusiasm, and a real commitment to excellence.

House points have been pouring in as students strive to meet expectations and go above and beyond in their learning and conduct. It's wonderful to see so many pupils contributing positively to our house community and celebrating their achievements together.

Despite the challenges of the cold winter weather, Ariel House students have demonstrated outstanding resilience. Their determination to keep working hard, support one another, and maintain high standards is something we are truly proud of. Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support – together, we are making this a fantastic year for Ariel House!



Miss A Deveney
Head of House

Christmas Fayre – A Wonderful Community Effort!

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This achievement reflects the spirit of teamwork and kindness that makes our school so special. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed – whether by baking, crafting, organising, or simply coming along to join the fun. Together, we've made a real difference!



Ariel Shoutouts

Top House Point Collectors this Half Term:

Betsie-Mae H, 8A3
Jayden B, 8A2
Laci E, 8A1



YOUNG MINDS

House Points



13211

13410

12640

15170

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Dungeons and Dragons	Year 7 – 13	G16
Production Rehearsals	Year 7 – 13	Main Hall
Choir	Year 7 – 11	F26
Band Rehearsal	Year 7 - 13	F25/26
Badminton	Year 7 – 11	Sports Hall
Table Tennis	Year 7 – 11	Sports Hall
Netball	Year 7 – 11	Sports Hall
Boys Football	Year 7 – 11	Field
Tigers Trust Girls Football	Year 7 – 11	Field
Boys Rugby League	Year 7 – 8	Field
Scalectrix/Greenpower	Year 7 – 10	G05
Dance	Year 7 – 13	G20
Duolingo	Year 7 – 13	S18

Sporting Events



Year 7 Soccer Sensation Tournament

The annual Year 7 boys' and girls' five-a-side football tournament took place at Soccer Sensations before the Christmas break and was a great success. Students showed enthusiasm, teamwork, and excellent sportsmanship throughout the day.

Both the boys' and girls' competitions were highly competitive, with fast-paced matches and impressive individual and team performances. Players demonstrated strong skills, determination, and respect for officials and opponents alike.

The tournament provided an excellent opportunity for students to represent their year group, build confidence, and enjoy competitive sport in a positive environment.

Overall, the event was thoroughly enjoyed by all involved and was a fantastic celebration of Year 7 football. Congratulations to all participants for their effort and commitment.

Hull F.C. Inspiring Futures Programme

Last year, our Year 10 students had the opportunity to take part in the Hull FC *Inspiring Futures* programme, which was delivered over a 12-week period.

The programme included weekly group mentoring sessions that focused on personal wellbeing, teamwork, and leadership, combining classroom-based learning with practical sports activities.

As part of the programme, students also had the opportunity to complete a Sports Leader Award. Congratulations to all that achieved this accolade.



Sporting Events

East Riding Futsal qualifiers at Hull University

The Year 10 boys represented the school proudly at the East Riding Futsal Qualifiers held at Hull University. They started strongly with a hard-fought draw against South Hunsley, followed by an impressive 3–1 victory over Wolfreton. Further draws against Goole and a narrow loss to Hornsea saw the team finish on 5 points, missing out on qualification by just a single point. A determined performance throughout the competition and plenty to be proud of. Well done boys.



Cross Country

The Humberside Cross Country event took place in Scunthorpe, bringing together talented young runners from across the county to compete for a place at national level. Held over a challenging course, the races showcased determination, endurance, and high-quality performances in all age groups.

The top 10 finishers in each race secured qualification to represent Humberside at the English Schools Cross Country Championships, which will be held in Liverpool in March. The event was a great success and highlighted the depth of cross-country talent across the region.

Congratulations to G. Wright who finished 4th in his category and will progress to English Schools.

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Sporting Events

Upcoming Sporting Fixtures

Rugby	Year 7/8/10	TBC	TBC
Football	Year 8 Boys	Kelvin Hall	TBC
Football	Year 10 Boys	St. Mary's	TBC
Football	Year 11 Boys	South Hunsley	TBC
Football	U15 Girls	St. Mary's	TBC
Football	Year 7 Boys	St. Mary's	TBC
Football	Year 9 Boys	John Whitgift	TBC
Football (7-a-side)	Year 10 Boys	Tournament	TBC

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Key Dates and Notices

School closes for half-term

Friday 13 February 2026

School reopens

Monday 23 February 2026

If you want to see more of your child in our marketing materials, please make sure you consent on the Arbor parent portal. To learn more, click [here](#).

Please click [here](#) to see all of our term dates

HOUSE CHARITY DAYS

Tuesday 17 March 2026



Thursday 30 April 2026



Tuesday 12 May 2026



Wednesday 3 June 2026



Have your contact details changed?

If you have changed any contact details such as home address, mobile number, email etc. Please update these via the Arbor Parent Portal.

Please contact us via office@hessleacademy.com if you have any issues with accessing your account.

Make sure to follow our Instagram to keep up to date with communications and events.

ATTENDANCE CLUB

100%



Students with 100% will be given a rewards badge for their outstanding attendance, with a twist...

This launches w/c 23 February 2026.