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ACADEMY**
*Creative
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Friday 8 September 2023

Dear Parent

Autumn Term – Principal’s Roundup - 1

At the end of last year, I received some parental feedback that you would like more regular communication from the Academy to enable you to be greater involved with the school community. With this in mind, I will write to you once a half term with news from across the Academy. I will also write to you each Friday with a shorter ‘principals roundup’ of the week’s events, and any important messages for the weeks ahead.

This week all year groups return to full time learning. We have noticed how incredibly smart, well equipped, and ready to learn our young people have been. As a parent I know this comes with support and organisation from home so thank you.

Though a short week, I wanted to highlight the great things below:

- We moved to ‘one lunch’. This week we experienced one lunch for the first time with all year groups and it has been remarkably successful. Each year group now has their own football pitch, and footballs are available to borrow from Heads of Year.
- Year 7 have made a slick start to their time at high school showing maturity and having the confidence to seek help if needed. I have witnessed a real culture of kindness in this year group throughout this week. It has been great to see Year 7’s older siblings and other students sharing the same lunch break and supporting one another.
- We have started to recruit student ambassadors to support us on open evening. If your child would like to support with this very special event, please ask them to see Mrs Ford.
- A special well done to our best attending form groups so far: 7NCU, 10MMA, 11DMC.
- And to the form groups with the highest rewards this week: 9SWA, 10ZJA, 11ALU.
- Students were treated to ice pops at lunchtime today for their incredible efforts this week.

Reminders for next week:

- Thursday 14 September - Senior Year Raising Achievement Evening - 4.15pm - 6.30pm
- Friday 15 September - Sunday 17 September - Senior Year Kingswood Trip
- Assembly themes next week:
 - Year 10 and Senior Year - Academic Journey
 - Year 8 and 9 - Head of Year Focus
 - Year 7 - Norfolk Police E-Scooter Safety



- All students can access a free breakfast each day from 8.00am-8.35am in the dining hall. We are also excited to have launched 'Fabulous Friday's', where students will be offered pancakes and waffles at no cost.
- Our Diana Trust trained Antibullying Ambassadors are situated in the Theatre every lunchtime from 1.20pm to support students with any concerns.
- Students have coped extremely well with the heat this week. The weather forecast for next week is looking similar, therefore, please encourage your child/children to bring a refillable water bottle, apply sunscreen and bring a hat if they would like.
- This week Year 7 students have been taking their lunch slightly earlier, next week this will be at the normal time. This could result in them over running slightly, please reassure your child/children that they will not be given a late sanction if this happens.

Beyond next week:

- Tuesday 19 September - Open Evening - 5.15pm - 8.00pm, please visit our website to book www.caisteracademy.org.uk.
- Wednesday 20 September - Senior Year career interviews.
- Thursday 21 September - Electives commence.

Friday 20 October - Tutor Day

Following the success of tutor day last year, we are delighted to announce that this will take place on the last day of term. The purpose of tutor day is to:

- Enable you as parents, the tutor and your child/children to discuss wellbeing, and their first report.
- Offer the opportunity for Senior Year students to seek support with career applications.
- Offer support and advice to parents on Academy systems, such as Arbor and ParentPay.
- Enable you as parents and your child/children to ask questions, seek re-assurance and raise any concerns.

To enable tutors and key staff to hold these extended 20-minute sessions, students will learn remotely from home and come into the academy with parents for their appointment. For parents that cannot attend a day appointment, evening appointments will be available on Thursday 19 October. Tutor day is in addition to parents evening. We will write to you with more information later in the term on how to book.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update, I look forward to sending you further information next week.

Yours faithfully

Helen Seath
Principal