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Friday 23 January 2026

**CAISTER
ACADEMY**
*Creative
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Dear Parent

Spring Term – Principal’s Roundup - 3

Another busy and successful week here at Caister Academy.

Please see highlights from the week below:

- Year 7 mathematicians have been utilising the ‘flash cards’ option on Sparx Maths. In lessons this week, students elected to write each flash card onto a piece of lined card and added these to their mathematics exercise books as a useful tool for study and memorisation.
- Mr Soanes, Head of Mathematics, has been visiting Year 8 mathematics lessons and has praised the year group for their hard work and determination. Lessons are calm, focused, and students are thriving.
- Year 9 students have had an extremely busy week and Mr Fisher, Head of Year, is impressed by their attendance and attitude to learning. Zidane Semedo won this week’s 100% attendance award, and 12 students have joined the UniFrog East Norfolk Sixth Form Team Building Group. Great work Year 9!
- Miss Jackman, Teacher of Physical Education, praised Year 10 health and social care students for a fantastic start to their Pearson Set Assignment work. Students spent time preparing for their task 1 write-up and Miss Jackman was extremely impressed by their mature attitude and enthusiasm. Year 10 photography students have also been working incredibly hard experimenting with still life compositions, symbolism and colour theory. They have been learning to use these techniques to create still life portraits using objects and colours to represent themselves. On Monday, students experimented with analogous and complementary colours to create food photography.
- A huge well done to all students in Senior Year who have shown exemplary attitude towards mock examinations. Students were rewarded on Thursday with a sweet treat to say well done. With one more week to go, attendance is extremely important to ensure we can address any misconceptions.
- Well done to our best attending form groups so far:
 - First place – 11SMA (96.3%)
 - Second place – 9RMS (96.1%)
 - Third place – 7KLO (95.9%)
- And to the form groups with the highest rewards this week:
 - First place – 7LGO
 - Second place – 7AMA
 - Third place – 9AMC

Principal’s Learner of the Week

Congratulations to Amelia Filip, Year 9, who won this week’s Principal’s Learner of the Week for her fantastic contribution to whole school events through her student leadership role.



Reminders for next week and beyond:

- Wednesday 28 January – Intermediate Mathematics Challenge
- Thursday 29 January – Year 10 Parents’ Evening
- Thursday 5 February – Dear England Theatre Trip
- Friday 6 February – Archaeological Visit – Persimmon Homes
- Wednesday 11 February – Year 9 Options Evening
- Friday 13 February – End of Spring Term 1 - School closes for half term.

Archaeological Visit

We have been offered the exciting opportunity to visit the archaeological works undertaken by Persimmon Homes, as part of their ongoing homes regeneration project in Caister. Students will be able to view the exciting finds made by the team so far, discuss the work of an archaeologist, and view other historical sites on the farmland behind the works, such as the World War II battery. This visit will take place on Friday 6 February.

Students with an interest in archaeology should see Miss Mallett for a letter before Wednesday 28 January, this exciting opportunity will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Intermediate Mathematics Challenge

We are excited to announce that students in 10XY/MA1 and 9XY/MA1 will be taking part in the annual Intermediate Mathematics Challenge, hosted by the UK Mathematics Trust, during period 1 on Wednesday 28 January. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to demonstrate their mathematics skills. Please wish them the best of luck.

Year 10 Work Experience

A reminder that the deadline for Year 10 students to return their completed work experience placement slips is Friday 27 February. If your child is struggling to secure a placement, please inform Miss Sharpe or Miss Irvin via email sarah.sharpe@caisteracademy.org.uk or kim.irvin@caisteracademy.org.uk.

Careers Week – Monday 2 March 2026 to Friday 6 March 2026

During Careers Week on Monday 2 March 2026, students will be taking part in a variety of workshops led by further education providers and local businesses. We are looking at creating a form time provision where we have a paragraph from parents explaining their job role, career journey and skills required. If you would be happy to write a paragraph regarding your personal career journey, please email this through to Miss Sharpe, Assistant Principal, sarah.sharpe@caisteracademy.org.uk.

Anti-Bullying Ambassador Training

We are extremely proud to announce that we will be hosting the regions Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Training delivered by the Princess Diana Trust on Tuesday 10 February. Fifty students will be taking part in the training, including the entire Student Leadership Team. Following the event, we will share photos and successes of the day via social media, and the Principal’s Roundup.

Further information regarding The Diana Award can be found [here](#).



Year 10 Parents' Evening

A reminder that our Year 10 parents' consultation evening will be taking place on Thursday 29 January. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to meet with class teachers and discuss all aspects of learning linked to your child's achievement. If you haven't done so already, bookings can be made via Arbor.

Options Programme

We are excited to announce that the Year 9 into 10 Options process will begin this half term for students currently in Year 9. We will be inviting all parents/carers of Year 9 students to Options Evening on Wednesday 11 February at 4.30pm. More information will be sent out shortly to both students and parents.

Inclusion Spotlight - Literacy & Numeracy: A Year of Transformational Progress

Last term, our literacy and numeracy intervention programmes have continued to make a remarkable difference to the progress and confidence of our students. Last term saw our intervention students improving their reading ages by an average of +7months and an average improvement of 75% from baseline scores for our numeracy intervention students. Across the school, targeted support, high quality resources, and skilfully delivered small group sessions have helped ensure every learner gets exactly what they need to thrive.

Attendance

We're pleased to see a slight improvement in attendance this week, and we'd like to thank all families for their continued efforts. As we remain in our Focus Fortnight to boost Caister Coins, we're encouraging everyone to keep this positive momentum going. Good attendance is essential—not only does it help students stay on track academically, but it also supports their confidence, wellbeing, and sense of routine. Let's continue working together to ensure every student is in school, on time, every day, so they can achieve their very best.

Thank you for your continued support, I look forward to writing to you again next week.

Yours faithfully

Helen Seath
Principal