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Friday 9 January 2026

Dear Parent

Spring Term – Principal’s Roundup - 1

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy new year. It has been fantastic to welcome students back into school this week and see them engaging so well with their learning. Uniform has been exceptionally good for which I thank you.

It has been a great start to the new year here at Caister Academy.

Well done to our best attending form groups so far:

- First place – 7KLO (97.3%)
- Second place – 11SWA (96.6%)
- Third place – 11SMA (95%)

And to the form groups with the highest rewards this week:

- First place – 9RHA
- Second place – 7ATM
- Third place – 7LGO

Reminders for next week and beyond:

- Monday 12 January 2026 to Thursday 29 January 2026 – Senior Year Mock Examinations
- Thursday 29 January – Year 10 Parents’ Evening
- Wednesday 11 February – Year 9 Options Evening
- Friday 13 February – End of Spring Term 1 - School closes for half term.

Year 10 Parents’ Evening

We look forward to welcoming Year 10 parents to our parents' consultation evening 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. Details on how to book appointments will be emailed on Tuesday 13 January and bookings go 'live' on Thursday 15 January at 7.00pm.

Attendance

Attendance has remained steady despite the exceptional weather conditions, which is fantastic to see. There's plenty to look forward to this half term, including our upcoming Boost Weeks where students can earn extra Caister Coins, and a special Valentine's reward to keep motivation high. Let's keep the momentum going!



Student Illness

At this time of year, we know that many students are suffering with coughs, colds, and viruses, and we understand that it can sometimes be tricky deciding whether to keep your child off school when they are unwell. Please find some useful information with regards to government guidelines via the following link [Is my child too ill for school?](#). If your child does feel too unwell for school, please contact us in the usual way to explain your child's absence. However, if your child needs to leave medication with us to support them in attending, this can be signed in at main reception and will be stored with our attendance office.

Senior Year Mock Examinations

We wish 'good luck' to all Senior Year students who will be starting their mock examinations next week. Please find a copy of the mock examination schedule enclosed for information. Students are asked to register in the dining hall at 8.00am each morning.

Top tips for revision:

1. Break revision into short bursts, 25 minutes revision then break.
2. Active revision (doing something with the revision) is most beneficial e.g. flash cards, mind maps or teaching the topic to someone else.
3. Focus on understanding not memorising.
4. Space out your revision (revising the same topic multiple times over weeks is far more effective than cramming).
5. Removing distractions (when revising remove distractions that could prevent effective revision).

Useful revision platforms:

1. Seneca <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>
2. Sparx for mathematics and science <https://sparxmaths.com/> and <https://sparxscience.com/>
3. BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zg4dmbk#zw3cwsq>
4. YouTube Mr Bruff English Language and Literature support <https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff>

If your child does not have access to a device, or is struggling to access the above revision platforms, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Sharpe, Assistant Principal, sarah.sharpe@caisteracademy.org.uk or Mr Tom Osben, Head of Year 10 and Senior Year, tom.osben@caisteracademy.org.uk.

Mathematics Revision for Senior Year

Before Christmas, all students received a masterclass on mathematics revision by their teachers. This revision includes using specialised parts of SPARX mathematics to access bespoke revision, unique to them. To revise for mathematics, students need to complete questions within the revision platform on SPARX, supported by their unique revision guide - issued to them to support with answering questions. Furthermore, students can access their previously completed assessment results for previous mocks and fix up incorrect questions - directly closing gaps on inaccuracies from the last cycle. Please encourage your child/children to be engaging with this at home on a regular basis, to help them put their best foot forward in a critical subject.



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

Yours faithfully



Helen Seath
Principal

Enc. Senior Year Mock Examination Timetable