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Friday 15 November 2024

#### **Dear Parent**

# Autumn Term 2 - Principal's Roundup 2

Another busy and successful week here at Caister Academy.

Please see highlights from the week below:

- A group of Year 7 students took part in a 'Make It Count session' delivered by the University
  of East Anglia. Students were faced with some challenging thinking but were extremely
  focused. Mrs Baldwin couldn't wait to share their success with staff.
- Year 8 science students have been praised for their hard work and enthusiasm this week.
   Miss Mijatovic was blown away by their knowledge of Charles Darwin.
- Year 9 catering students impressed Miss Brooks with their baking skills. Students were tasked with baking focaccia bread and creating artistic designs. The overall favourite design was a Christmas tree. Only 41 sleeps to go....
- Year 10 music students were invited to watch the BBC Orchestra rehearse at the Hippodrome Circus. The conductor chatted to students about the orchestra and his role. Students especially enjoyed the Dam Busters theme with the loud percussion and brass sections. This was a fantastic opportunity and thoroughly enjoyed by both staff and students.
- Well done to our best attending form groups so far this term:
  - First place 10SAL (96.9%)
  - Second place 7SBU (96.7%)
  - Third place 9VBE (96.5%)
- And to the form groups with the highest rewards this week:
  - First place 7VRO
  - Second place 9RWD
  - o Third place 10SAL

### Principal's Learner of the Week

Congratulations to John Barnes, Senior Year, who won Principal's Learner of the week. John was chosen for his hard work in organising, and leading the cadets to lay the wreathes for Remembrance Day. He is also exemplary in lessons and tries his hardest at all his subjects.

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#### Children in Need

A massive thank you to Miss Jackman, staff, and students for their amazing baked donations. The bake sale was a great success. I would also like to thank our catering provider, Caterlink for donating 100 cakes to this worthwhile cause. In addition to this they also donated 20 cookies when we ran out of cake!

# **Lego Therapy**

As part for our interventions offer for students, we have introduced Lego therapy sessions. Lego therapy is an innovative and engaging approach to help school students develop essential social skills. Through structured group play, students take on roles such as engineer, supplier, and builder, fostering teamwork, communication, and problem-solving abilities.

This therapeutic method not only enhances social interactions and reduces anxiety but also boosts confidence and helps children form meaningful friendships. By integrating Lego therapy into the school environment, we can create a supportive space where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

## Family Hub Survey 2024 - Green Space Activities

We have recently been contacted by Great Yarmouth Family Hubs, who are collecting ideas of free weekend activities for families with children aged between 5-12. These free activities would be based in both Gorleston and Caister in the first instance. Please find a link below to a very short survey to gather interest. Deadline for completion is Saturday 20 December.

# **Green Space Activities**

#### **Year 9 Parents Evening**

A reminder that Year 9 Parents Evening will be taking place on Thursday 21 November. Appointments are between 4.00pm and 7.00pm and can be booked via the <u>Parent Portal</u>.

With students choosing their KS4 options later in the year, this will be a valuable chance to discuss possible careers and the subjects that would best support this. We look forward to welcoming you to the academy.

# **Senior Year Mock Examinations**

Well done to all Senior Year students on completing their first week of mock examinations. Students have worked incredibly hard, and all staff are extremely proud of them. A reminder that all students must have the correct equipment. Please see further guidance with regards to equipment on page 5 of the Academy Uniform, Jewellery and Equipment Guidance.

## Reminders for next week and beyond:

- Thursday 21 November Year 9 Parents Evening
- Friday 22 November Year 7, 8 & 9 CET Orchestra/Choir at Abbeyfield Academy
- Monday 25 November Year 9 Netball Tournament
- Tuesday 26 November Year 7 & 8 BAE Systems Science Show



- Wednesday 27 November Year 7, 8 & 9 Warner Brothers Studios Trip
- Tuesday 3 December Year 8 & 9 Greenwich Observatory Trip
- Wednesday 4 December Shakespeare Performance at Abbeyfield
- Friday 6 December EMC Inter School Maths Competition

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