



Thursday 2nd April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the Easter break, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support during what has been a busy and successful term.

On Tuesday, I delivered an Easter assembly over Teams to Years 7, 8, 9 and 10, reflecting on the progress we have made as a school community. I shared with students how proud I am of the respect, honesty and kindness they have shown over the past twelve months since I joined the school. We celebrated the many students who have excellent attendance, positive attitudes and brilliant behaviour, including those who received the weekly Headteacher Award such as the “Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher” this week.

I also reiterated our expectations. While the vast majority of students do the right thing every day, a very small number have not shown the same respect for routines. I reminded students that if a member of staff asks them to do something, they must do so “first time, every time”. This is central to ensuring a calm, safe and productive learning environment. I also addressed the issue of a minority of students repeatedly leaving lessons unnecessarily to use the toilet. Unless there is a genuine emergency or medical issue, students must remain in lessons for the full 60 minutes to protect learning for all. They should use the toilets at appropriate times: before school, break, lunchtime and after school. Year groups have access to separate toilet facilities during these times, so there are no queues and everyone has plenty of time to use them.

The overall message from the assembly was that we are one school, one team, one community, with one shared standard, and that we continue to make strong progress together.

Celebrating a Busy Term

This term has seen several key events and achievements:

- Our prom fundraising bingo evening was a great success, with students representing the school brilliantly.
- We held Year 11, Year 10 and Year 8 Parents’ Evenings, all of which were very well attended.
- The Year 9 Options Evening provided the opportunity for students and parents to speak to staff about the GCSE options they will be studying in Years 10 and 11. We also held individual options meetings with parents/carers and a member of the Senior Leadership Team to help guide students towards the subjects that will provide them with the best opportunities as they move into further education and employment.
- We have hosted multiple outside agencies for creative subjects as well as organisations supporting careers information and guidance.
- We have competed in several sports fixtures too.

We have also received multiple compliments from the public regarding our students' behaviour in the community. Their conduct continues to reflect the values we are proud to uphold. That said, we continue to work with our students to ensure that they are showcasing Hawkey Values on the way to and from school.

Attendance: A Key Priority

Although our attendance remains close to the national figure, we are still missing around 8% of students each day, and this has a real impact on their progress. Every missed lesson matters. High attendance leads to higher rates of academic progress and stronger social development.

To support learning, students must be in front of the experts, their teachers, as consistently as possible. They should avoid leaving lessons unless absolutely necessary, and we thank you for reinforcing this message at home. If you need support with your child's attendance, please contact our Attendance Team, who will be happy to help.

Looking Ahead: Exams, Preparation and Key Events

The upcoming term is a crucial step in your child's education. All year groups will be covering course content that will prepare them for their summer assessments. Following the assessments, students are provided with question-level analysis which helps to plug any gaps in knowledge.

Year 11 will have the opportunity to showcase all of their learning as the GCSE exam series starts shortly after Easter, while Year 10 will also complete their mock exams as well as take part in their Work Experience Week.

Reset Assemblies After Easter

During the first week back, I will deliver assemblies to all students to reset expectations and ensure a focused start to the summer term. I will also hand out "Mr McKendrick" pens for attendance and launch our summer rewards programme, which students will be able to access by:

- Having high attendance to school during the final term
- Showing the Hawley Values of respect, honesty and kindness

The main message will be simple: We follow instructions "first time, every time". This is not negotiable as it supports a calm, safe and respectful learning environment for everyone.

Transition and Enrichment

We are looking forward to welcoming local Year 5 students for secondary experience days, providing them with a positive introduction to high school life.

Our Year 6 Transition Day will take place later in the year, and I am delighted to share that Year 7 is already full for September, with a waiting list. This reflects the continued confidence families have in our school.

We are also looking forward to our ski trip to Italy, leaving this Saturday. I know our students will represent us well, and we wish them and our staff a safe and enjoyable week.

A Personal Note

As I mark my first year as Headteacher in our fantastic school, I want to thank our students, staff and families for the commitment, determination and support that make this school such a special place. We have achieved a great deal together, and we are only just getting started.

I wish all families a restful and enjoyable Easter break, and we look forward to welcoming students back on **Monday 20th of April** for what will be an important and rewarding summer term.

Yours faithfully,



Mr P McKendrick

Headteacher

