

## Message from Mr Maltby

5<sup>th</sup> November 2021



Good afternoon,

This week's national news has been dominated by the COP26 conference in Glasgow. The state of our global environment really matters to so many of our students and I am delighted with the progress of Holbrook's Eco-Warrior Group. Since they were established last half term, they have significantly improved the recycling that takes place at the school - they are now routinely recycling over sixty plastic bottles a week alongside ensuring half a large container of paper is now being recycled on a weekly basis. They are also leading on the Academy's response to an external audit of our carbon emissions I initiated in the last academic year. This plan will ensure we reduce our emission levels whilst also off-setting our current emission rate by investing in re-forestation projects. All the monies raised through non-uniform days this academic year will go toward our aspiration to make Holbrook Academy a carbon-neutral school and our Eco-group will lead on this important campaign.

Our local environment really matters too. I am delighted that sixteen students have volunteered to litter-pick and enhance The Cut footpath on a weekly basis as part of being a good neighbour. This enrichment activity, which began this week, is not a sanction but rather a proactive engagement with our community to care for our shared environment. Last half-term also culminated with our student Equality Group collecting an astounding amount of food for a local food bank in Ipswich; my thanks to everyone who supported with this important initiative.

The character of our students really matters to me; alongside their relationship with their community, both locally and nationally. We are about to launch our new GradU8 programme with our Year 8 students which will promote the Holbrook characteristics alongside any altruistic actions which help to serve others and the local community. It is vitally important that these qualities are acknowledged, encouraged and celebrated amongst the young people in our community.

Finally, on this important theme the school timetable will be changed during the day on Thursday to ensure the school will fall silent at 11am on the 11th November. This year we encouraging students to write personal messages of remembrance on a poppy which will then be displayed collectively in our school reception area. We are a community that will remember.

I wish you all a very good weekend.

Tom Maltby  
Headteacher