

Academy News

13th October 2023



Good afternoon,

I had the privilege of co-hosting an event at Ipswich High School last night to introduce a range of careers and pathways that our pupils have ahead of them. Turnout was excellent and I saw some fantastically mature students taking meaningful steps towards their desired careers. I would like to thank three of our prefects and Mr Simon Rogers, our Careers Lead, for their work on this event. Of course, my thanks also to the staff at IHS for their work and hospitality.

Earlier in the week, we have hosted assemblies for older students from PC Jarrett focussing on the vulnerabilities in our Communities around County Lines and coercion of young people into illegal acts.

I am pleased to announce that the new Holbrook Academy 'Rewards Store' is now live on your child's ClassCharts app. If you scroll to the right on the headings found within the app, you will find a heading titled 'rewards'. Under this heading you will find an overview of the number of spendable points, along with the current 35 different rewards available to purchase. Please note that some of these items have an order frequency (displayed in each of the item descriptions), so please bear this in mind when purchasing a reward from the rewards store. Orders will need to be placed before Friday of each week, however, when an order is placed, your child's Head of Year will come to their form room and personally deliver the item (providing we have stock). I am really pleased that we are now in a position to offer your child tangible rewards for their good behaviour alongside 'The Standards' awards at the end of each term.

To raise funds for the upcoming visit of Destiny Africa Choir, and the Kampala Children's Centres, as mentioned in a previous Academy News, there will be a Non-Uniform day for all students on Thursday 19th October. It is entirely optional but any students that choose to come in appropriate non-uniform should make a donation of £1, although more is welcome. Please note that any student who arrives at the Academy with inappropriate clothing (clothing designed to reveal much of the midriff, or short/'hot-pant' style shorts) will be removed from circulation until a more suitable garment is delivered by parents/carers to the school. Whilst we encourage individuality and diversity in all of our students, Holbrook Academy remains a committed school for young people from ages 11-16, so we insist that our students' clothing choices are appropriate for these ages.

Further details about the Destiny Africa Choir concerts will be shared in due course.

For the parents and carers of Year 7 and 8 students.

We have the opportunity to run an onsite group for the parents/carers of Year 7 and 8 students to work with a Family Support Worker from the Child First Charity. We have not had the opportunity to offer this in the past and are very pleased we can do so this year. We would need 8-12 people to sign up in order to run it. It will be during the day and is likely to start after half-term. If you are interested please email: office@holbrookacademy.org

The 8 week programme takes place once a week and is called 'Step by Step - Raising teenagers can be hard'. Please do not feel you are on your own. It can be great to have the support of other parents/carers.

Finally, just a reminder that the Academy has Professional Development day next Friday - the school is closed to students.

George Anstee-Parry
Acting Headteacher

Calendar / Upcoming Events

17th October - Year 7 Early Settling In Evening with Form Tutors

19th October - Civvies Day for Destiny Africa

20th October - PD Day

14th/15th November - Destiny Africa Choir Concerts

Safeguarding Information

During school hours, please contact Mrs Watson (Designated Safeguarding Lead) or Miss Crabtree (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead) - 01473 328317

At all other times, please contact Customer First : 0808 800 4005 or

If you believe there is an emergency and a child is at risk of **immediate harm** please call the Police on **999**.

Useful Information

Links to support services:-

Childline: 0800 1111

The Wellbeing Hub 'Teen Tips' Log in information was provided to parents/carers on 26th May. Please contact the office if you would like the information sent to you directly.

Online bullying www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

Kooth - Online counselling service and peer to peer support for young people aged 11-25: www.kooth.com

Emotional Wellbeing Gateway website (Suffolk Infolink Directory) – Information, advice and guidance on common mental health issues. Access to mental health services like the Emotional Wellbeing Hub
www.emotionalwellbeinggateway.org.uk

The Source website for young people – Sources of information and advice important to young people in Suffolk, including emotional wellbeing support: www.thesource.me.uk/wellbeing

Mental Health Crisis – Call 111, option 2

Sexual Assault: Call NSPCC 0800 136 663
or help@nspcc.org.uk