

Our Ref: KIN

Date: March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the final couple of weeks of this busy term, we still have several things to be looking forward to and are particularly excited about Charity Week which starts next week. I have also been particularly impressed with how maturely our Year 9 students have approached the options process for Year 10, as well as how positive our students were on the recent Year 8 Geography trip to Ouseburn.

Charity Week Saturday 29th March to Friday 4th April

As you will have seen from the communication sent in the last newsletter and the information sent out by Mrs Jones, we have our charity week next week. Our focus is on giving time and our students have been challenged to give their time at home and in their community and keep a record of this in their planners. Throughout the week, students will be volunteering in our local primary schools and bringing in food to donate to Newcastle Foodbank. We will also have our community litter pick on Saturday 29th at the Galafield between 11am-1pm, as well as bake sales throughout the week. The week will culminate in our charity walk on Friday which our staff and students have been in training for. Last year, our charity week was a real success and is part of our aim to encourage our students to think about how they can support others, particularly by giving up their time, around them.

Year 8 and Year 10 data

We sent out Year 10 data last week in preparation for the face-to-face Parents' Evening. Information has been sent about this, however, I would really like to encourage you to attend to be able to discuss your child's progress and to understand how you can best support them in the run up to the mock examinations in June. Students should attend these meetings too. We are also in the process of sending out our latest Year 8 data and encourage you to look carefully through this and discuss it with your child.

Katie Innes Principal

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Academy Advisor Parent/Carer Representative Vacancy

Please see the attached letter and nomination form to join the school's Academy Advisory Group (like a school governor role). This is a great opportunity for any parents/carers who wish to involve themselves in the school. It may be that you have been part of the school community for a couple of years, or it may be that you are new to the school as your child has just joined us. Previous experience is not needed, but a commitment to attending the four meetings each year and willingness to support a couple of opportunities across the year is essential.

Attendance – message from Miss Davidson

At Callerton Academy we strongly believe that missing school is missing out. We really appreciate the hard work of our parents and carers in supporting our students to consistently attend school. We have recently partnered with a charity to complete some student voice about our young people's attitudes towards attendance and it was so encouraging to find that our students' drivers to attend school were higher than the national average. We will be looking to do more work with this charity and will be contacting you separately with more information soon. Please continue to check your child's planner every week to see what their current attendance is. If their attendance does not decrease, they are able to add their name to the prize draw each Thursday to increase their chances of being chosen for the end of term reward.

School lunches

Newcastle City Council provide school meals to all schools within the Gosforth Group. Newcastle City Council have recently announced that they intend to increase the cost of school meal provision to £3.00 per meal from 1st April 2025. This will mean that school meals within the Gosforth Group will increase from £2.60 to £3.00 after the Easter break on 28th April 2025. This change does not impact free school meal provision

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Healthy Start

We have been encouraged to share the following information by Newcastle City Council to ensure that parents and carers with younger children are informed. If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk. If you're eligible, you'll be sent a Healthy Start card with money on it that you can use in some UK shops. We'll add your benefit onto this card every 4 weeks.

You can use your card to buy:

- plain liquid cow's milk
- fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables
- fresh, dried, and tinned pulses
- infant formula milk based on cow's milk

You can also use your card to collect:

- Healthy Start vitamins – these support you during pregnancy and breastfeeding
- vitamin drops for babies and young children – these are suitable from birth to 4 years old

To find out more information and to apply, visit <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/> . Find lots more information about Children and Families Newcastle including everything from pregnancy to school age children, visit <https://www.childrenandfamiliesnewcastle.org.uk/welcome-your-family-hub>

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Road Safety

We were contacted by a concerned member of the public about some of our students crossing the road unsafely. Please can I encourage you to speak to your child about safely crossing the road and using designated pedestrian crossings where possible. We have relayed this message to students as well but would appreciate your support in doing the same.

Thank you for your continued support. I will write to you before the end of this term to share about some of the other exciting activities happening in the final few weeks.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs K. Innes

Principal

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