



September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As we have now completed the first week of the 24/25 academic year, and following on from the learning@ presentations, I am writing to update you with some important information. If you haven't yet seen the Learning@ virtual presentation this can be viewed here:

 **Y8 Learning@ Virtual Event 2024.mp4**

We have been very pleased with how well our Year 8 students have returned to school. They continue to embrace the #TeamHeanor values, accruing an impressive 1378 A points as a year group in the first few days of term. We have been particularly pleased to hear positive feedback from members of staff on key areas, such as settling down to learning promptly and the high standard of uniform. Of course, these habits will remain a key target for Year 8 this year as they support our top priority of building independence.

Naturally there are areas which require improvement and I would like to share these with you now, as I know your support will make a huge difference.

Firstly, I would like to remind parents and carers that students are required to bring a reading book to school every day. If students do not have one of their own, I would direct them to the library where our new librarian will be more than happy to offer some guidance.

Secondly, another part of their essential equipment is a scientific calculator, which is important in several subjects, not just maths. By ensuring that your child has this every day you help eliminate any lost time in lessons when these must be lent out. The correct scientific calculators are available on ParentPay if you wish to purchase one.

The Year 8 tutor team remains unchanged from last year and Mrs Stewart and I continue in our roles supporting the year group and overseeing the tutor team. If you need to get in touch with school regarding your child, may I please remind you that the form tutor is the first point of contact. If you wish to meet with your child's tutor or ourselves, this should be organised in advance and following communication with the school. A list of the email addresses for the Year 8 team is below::

Name	Role	Contact email
Stuart Shaw	Y8 Achievement Leader	SShaw@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
Holly Stewart	Y8 Assistant Achievement Leader	HStewart@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
Amy Larcombe	Tutor 8AHL	ALarcombe@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
Ellie Payne	Tutor 8ERP	EPayne@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
Grace Gallagher	Tutor 8GEG	GGallagher@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
John Cooper	Tutor 8JCR	JCooper@heanorgatespencer.org.uk

Macey Barlow	Tutor 8MAB	MBarlow@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
Mark Tilling	Tutor 8MKT	MTilling@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
Simon Nadin	Tutor 8SMN	SNadin@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
Tim Flint	Tutor 8TF	TFlint@heanorgatespencer.org.uk

As we move through the academic year, we will communicate at regular points. This communication will take place through Synergy so it is important that you have signed up to this service. In addition to this, please turn on notifications within the application.

Your child's homework for each half term will be shared with you at the beginning of each term. The calendar for this half term can be found below and, as detailed within the learning@ event, there will be an increase in homework during the consolidation weeks as your child prepares for their assessments. Below is an outline of the homework calendar for Y8 for this term:

Homework Calendar - Year 8 2024/25

Please note that the first consolidation week for Year 8 is the week commencing 14 October and the first assessment week will follow this in the week commencing 21 October.

We are looking forward to continuing to work with you this year to ensure that your child reaches their full potential. I am sure you will join me in praising your child when they do well this year and equally encouraging them to step up in any areas where they may fall short.

Yours sincerely



Mr S Shaw
Achievement Leader - Year 8