



25 October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As we reach the end of a very busy yet successful half term, I am writing to communicate key information regarding next half term.

Since September, we have seen year 7 grow, adapt and engage in their learning. Your child will have been given a report, however, at this stage this is focused on their attitude to learning, rather than a data entry point. Students have been assessed on their effort, resilience and independence in their learning. They have also been assessed on their ability to consolidate their learning and this has been done through their completion of homework. It has been amazing to see so many students start their journey at Heanor Gate with positive feedback from staff!

Double A Point Week

Last week saw our first double A point week which was centred around our Team Heanor Value of respect. Students who achieved the top A-points celebrated with a rewards breakfast with Mr Jones. It was amazing to see so many year 7 students being rewarded for being respectful to staff and students.

Attendance

As you are aware, good attendance is an essential part of helping your child to secure the very best results at school and, therefore, the very best opportunities later in life. Our mantra at Heanor Gate is "Aspire, Learn, Achieve", none of which can be accomplished without great attendance. Attendance forms a key part of our Team Heanor Value of organisation and its importance is something which is not lost on our students. We know that parental support is vital to achieving this excellent attendance and we also believe that outstanding attendance should be recognised and rewarded. This recognition took place as part of our celebration assemblies this week where students' attendance was celebrated alongside curriculum awards. Students who achieve 100% attendance next half term will be put in a prize draw in December to receive a substantial prize.

Equipment

Students are expected to come to school equipped each day. This includes a school bag, their books for lessons, blue or black pens, a red pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, scientific calculator and a reading book. These are all items essential to their school day. Please ensure that equipment is topped up over half term so that your child is ready to begin their second term.

Immersion Day

On Wednesday 13 November, Year 7 will take part in their first Immersion Day. This is a day where the normal timetable is collapsed and students will take part in different activities around careers. This will take place in school, requiring them to be in uniform and fully equipped.

Homework

There has been a whole school drive on consolidation since the beginning of the academic year and on the whole students have completed these tasks well. The homework calendar for next half term can be found below. We have been really impressed with how year 7 have organised their homework, met deadlines and sought help if they were unsure.

[Homework Calendar - Year 7 2024/25 Term 2 - Google Docs](#)

Year 7 Residential – July 2025

In July 2025, Year 7 students have the opportunity to go on a residential trip to the Peak district for a 2-night, 3 day stay. Students will have the opportunity to experience a variety of outdoor activities such as camping, bush craft, pioneering, orienteering, team building tasks, rock climbing, abseiling, bouldering, trekking and watersports.

This will be launched after half term, but please take the opportunity to speak to your child about this fantastic opportunity on offer and discuss if they would be interested in taking part. We look forward to many Year 7s enjoying this trip opportunity.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Barlow

Achievement Leader - Year 7



Mrs K Preece

Assistant Achievement Leader - Year 7