



Aston Academy

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Dear Parents/Carers of Year 7,

A fantastic first half term

I begin with a note of sincere thanks to you all for sending your children into school each day in smart, correct uniform, fully equipped and prepared for learning. As a staff we have been so delighted with Year 7 in terms of their manners, attitude and kindness to each other. I hope that you see this reflected in the achievement points your child has built up over the course of what has been a very successful first half term.

Book swap

It's the perfect time of year to curl up with a good book and we strongly encourage all of our students to read as much as possible. It really is one of the highest-impact activities on learning that they can do - and encouragement from home is so important. We were delighted to see so many Y7 students come and browse the selection during lunchtime today and, weather permitting, the Book Swap will be available on the Head Yard twice weekly from now on. Over fifty books were borrowed - and the children are welcome to Read, Rate, Return - or, if they really love the book, they can pass it to a family member, a friend or keep it as a gift from us. All we ask is that they let us know so we can ensure the Book Swap stock is kept as vibrant and wide as possible. Special thanks to **Hydie** and **Jasmine** for running the stall today.

Y7 Information Evening

On **Monday 25th November** you will have the opportunity to come in to school in the evening to find out a little more about the Year 7 curriculum and meet your child's form tutor. I will be delighted to see as many of you as possible on that date. A letter will be sent out with details of how to book your slot at the beginning of week commencing Monday 4th November.

Y7 Skipping Challenge

Borg vs McEnroe, Venus vs Serena, Frazier vs Ali - every so often a titanic sporting rivalry emerges. This week has seen a thrilling battle of will played out on the Year 7 lunchtime yard: **James vs Cole**. With great humour, kindness and mutual support these two boys have set themselves apart as our champion rope-jumpers, with first-place changing hands many times over the course of October. Setting a new record and taking gold this week was **James**...until a last minute challenge from **Alice** won the day. I was so delighted to see the children cheering each other on and the applause for Alice's new record in today's assembly was thunderous. We encourage students to take time to play, socialise and exercise in the fresh air when they can - part of our commitment to their physical and mental wellbeing.



Resilience Pride Respect Ambition Responsibility

Be Exceptional

Kooth

Y7 enjoyed their visit from the free, online mental health support team **Kooth** today. The service offers free, anonymous online support and can be accessed at [Kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com)

Spreading the positive

We welcome your feedback - if you would like us to share with staff anything that you feel is going really well and would like to see more of, remember that you can share this with us [here](#)

Thanks again for your support in making Year 7 a year group to be proud of. With very best wishes for the half term break,

Mike Kilgannon
Assistant Vice Principal
Aston Academy