

Horsforth School

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Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

27th October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you know, we had Ofsted visiting us last week. It was an ungraded inspection which means our 'grade' could not change in this inspection. It was an extremely positive experience and the inspectors gave us some wonderful feedback such as:

- "There is high ambition in the curriculum intent"
- "The impact of the curriculum is strong"
- "Teaching staff and leaders have strong subject knowledge"
- "Pupils are well behaved and courteous and they say that the teachers and the extracurricular offer are strengths."
- "Cases of bullying rarely occur and teachers deal with incidents quickly"
- "The Personal Development programme is extensive along with character development and a real strength"
- "Sixth Form students are an absolute credit to the school"
- "Staff said they are very proud to work at the school"

Thank you to all parents who replied to the Parent View and sent in messages of support, the Lead Inspector was extremely complimentary about how positive parents, students and staff were about the school.

The final letter will have to go through the Ofsted quality assurance procedures but I hope to be able to share that with you before Christmas.

Reading for Pleasure Bulletin

As part of promoting reading for pleasure, which is a key area of focus on our whole school literacy strategy, please find attached the bulletin.

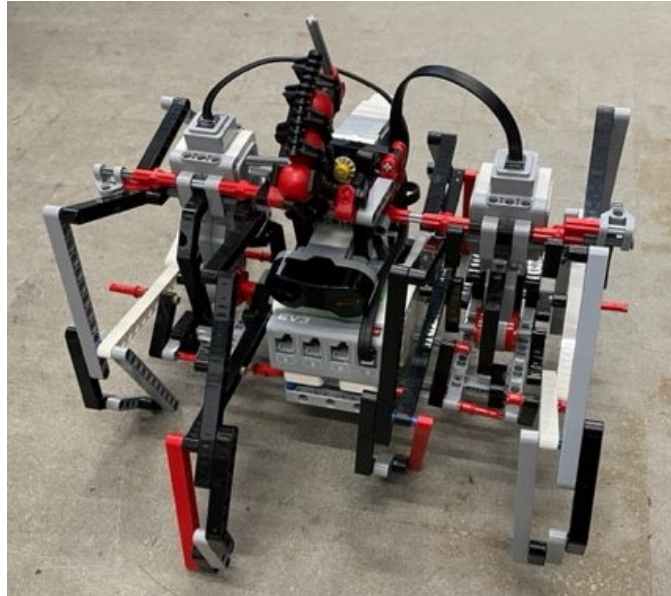
This contains an overview of important literacy focused events taking place, details on age-appropriate texts, and recommended reads for your child.

We will be publishing this bulletin every half-term alongside our newsletter to communicate exciting events in the world of literature and provide texts that can be promoted to support your child's engagement in reading!

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

Oliver's Robot!

I just wanted to share something I saw as I went into a Year 8 Form today. As part of Robotics Club, Oliver has designed and made a fully moving and remote controlled robot! It really was amazing to see and so I am sharing his creativity and ingenuity. Great things happen in our clubs and extracurricular activities.



Halloween Treats

Halloween has come early at Horsforth School. Students have enjoyed Ghostly Custards and Meringue, Krispy Ghosts and Pumpkins, Ghastly Good Oreo Cupcakes and Mummified Popcorn! Thank you to our Catering Team for the spooky treats.



Christmas Card Competition

The deadline for entries in our 2023 Christmas Card Competition is Tuesday 7th November. We will choose a winner on Friday 10th November and a prize will be awarded to the winning student. Please send any entries, which could be anything from drawings to photographs, to marketing@horsforthschool.org, or alternatively drop them off in reception. Good luck!

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

Sports Fixtures

Sixth Form Football

We beat Guiseley 3-1 with a great win this week! The Player of the Match was Ewan.

Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Deputy Head Student Elections

We already know who our Year 13 Head Students are, so voting is now underway to select our Year 12 deputy head students. This week our three candidates delivered their manifestos which included a lot of varied ideas ranging from suggestion boxes, coffee, cake and chat mornings to career carousels and removing single use plastic. Once all the votes are cast, the results will be announced after half-term. Good luck!

UKMT Senior Maths Challenge

The results from the 2023 Senior Maths Challenge are in and we are thrilled with them! 53 students from Year 12 and 13 were entered and despite the level of difficulty, 81% achieved an award which is a new school record. We had 8 gold awards, 12 silver and 23 bronze – our highest ever proportion of gold (15%) and silver (23%) awards. Patrick was awarded “Best in Year 13” and “Best in School” with Jamie awarded “Best in Year 12”. Patrick has been invited to compete at the British Maths Olympiad follow-up round (for the top 1000 students nationally) and Jamie, plus the 6 other gold award winners, have been invited to complete the Andrew Jobbings Senior Kangaroo (for the next top 6000 students nationally); 8 students qualifying for the follow up rounds is our 2nd highest ever.

Well done to everyone who took part and “all the best” to those completing the follow up rounds on Wednesday 15th November.

Going Global

Every November six Year 12 students are chosen to represent us at the ‘Japan Super Science Fair’ held in Kyoto. This fair is an annual event which involves 200 students from over 20 countries worldwide and these are our lucky students for this year. As well as presenting their project at the conference they will see the sights and experience the culture and hospitality of the families they will be staying with. We can’t wait to see what they get up to.



‘Opportunity and achievement for all’

Sixth Form at Horsforth Open Evening

We are pleased to let you know our first Sixth Form Open Evening for this year will take place on Thursday 16th November. [All the information about the evening is here](#), **you also need to register for a free ticket via the link on this page. (Please note: Current Year 11 Horsforth School students should register too.)**

We look forward to seeing you on the night.

As we come to the end of a very successful term I want to thank you, our staff and our students for their positivity and resilience. An 8 week term is always a long one but everyone has finished strongly!

Thank you, as always, for your support,

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher