

## Horsforth School

Lee Lane East Horsforth  
Leeds LS18 5RF

Tel: 0113 226 5454

Fax: 0113 226 5401

Email: [info@horsforthschool.org](mailto:info@horsforthschool.org)

Website: [www.horsforthschool.org](http://www.horsforthschool.org)

Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you to all students who came and helped on our Open Evening. Seeing our students enthusiasm, excellent manners and being such great ambassadors for the school fills us all with pride so please pass that on if they gave up their evening for the school. A special thank you to Beth and Louis who gave their experience in Year 7 as part of my parents' talk, they were definitely the best bit!

As always, the link to the podcast version is here:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XSnT2p\\_yXKWxKGkUn2DZ-74kTJOO\\_eF-/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XSnT2p_yXKWxKGkUn2DZ-74kTJOO_eF-/view?usp=sharing)

### **Traffic Congestion**

I would like to ask for your support in managing congestion at the front and back of school during poor weather. Local residents have raised concerns about the volume of traffic and parking during the drop off and pick up times. I am grateful to students who walk and would ask that, where possible, students still do this if it rains as Lee Lane East and Church Lane do become very congested so either dropping off a bit earlier or students walking would be a huge help.

As always, if we could not stop on the yellow zig-zag lines please that would be a huge help. Thank you in advance for your support.

### **Parent Survey**

Your views are important to us so if you have 1 minute to answer our parent survey I would really appreciate it. There are two free text (optional) questions (A suggestion to improve the school would be, and, A strength or something I like about the school is) and then 15 multiple choice questions.

It does ask for your email in case we need to ask you about a suggestion but just taking 30 seconds to answer the multiple choice ones will really help us. Thank you!

Link to the survey: <https://forms.gle/cXsfizP8ZVRS5igq5>

### **Pupils medically unable to do PE**

Could I please ask that you write a note in your child's planner whenever you are asking for them to be excused from PE. Many parents/carers email school to excuse their child, this can be problematic for a department that can be teaching 5 practical lessons in a row. On many occasions staff do not have the

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opportunity to read emails during the day and as a result messages can be missed. Many students will tell us their parents/carers have emailed in but I am sure you will understand it isn't possible to accept this information from the student, unfortunately, some students use this as an excuse to circumvent the rules and avoid taking part.

You do not need to do this if your child has a pre-existing medical condition where you have already provided evidence or they have recently had an injury and a risk assessment has been carried out for them by the School.

### **Student Injuries or Accidents outside of School**

If your child has an accident or sustains an injury outside of school that makes it difficult for them to navigate school safely or where they may need some support in lessons as a result of an injury please contact school before your child comes to school to enable us to complete a risk assessment and put any adjustments in place to support your child's safety and their learning.

### **Athletics Success**

This week Jacob in Year 8 attended his first athletics meet for his new club which specialises in all disabilities including Neurodiversity. The meet was in Suffolk and in four events he got 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th and is thrilled with his medals. Well done Jacob!



### **DofE Practice Expedition**

Our second group of Year 10 students undertook their Bronze DofE practice expedition at the weekend. It involved an extremely chilly night of camping however they all did brilliantly! Assessed expeditions are taking place this weekend – wishing them the best of luck and we hope the weather will be kind to them!

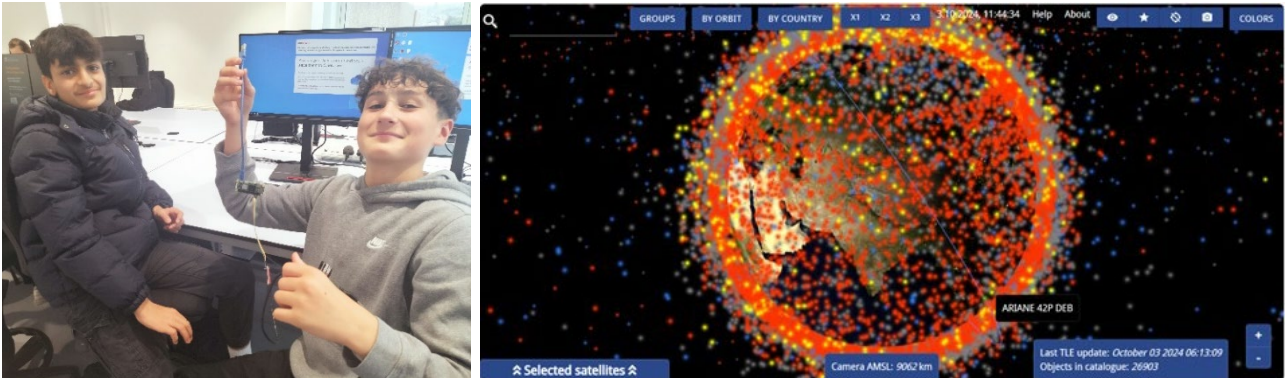


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## Year 10 Science

A group of Year 10 Science students visited the Bradford-Renduchintala Centre for Space AI where students were provided with an insight into the construction and programming of microsatellites. They also explored a nifty website which tracks all satellites currently in orbit around the Earth. Why not also take a look by clicking on this link: <https://whatsin.space/>



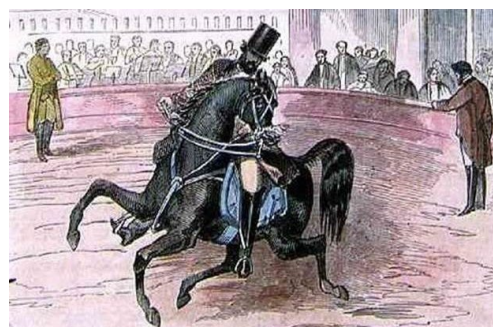
## Year 11 Photography

On Tuesday 1st October, Mr Questa and Miss Nicholson took a small group of Year 11 GCSE Photography students into Leeds. They visited Leeds Art Gallery to see the exhibition 'Nothing Lasts Forever' by documentary photographer Peter Mitchell. They also photographed buildings old and new around the city centre and documented the traditional Leeds City Market. It was fascinating to see how the city has changed over the last 50 years.



## Black History Month

This week marked the beginning of Black History Month. Students have had special assemblies all week where they heard about the story of Pablo Fanque; a Leeds based circus owner and performer from the 19th Century. Most famous for his amazing equestrian routines, he was also the inspiration for the Beatles song 'for the benefit of Mr Kite.'



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## Costume Making

A plea from Mrs Kendal to any of our talented parents out there who might be able to help with costume or prop making for our forthcoming December production of Alice in Wonderland! Please let us know by emailing [info@horsforthschool.org](mailto:info@horsforthschool.org) for the attention of Mrs Kendal.

## Queries about Class Charts Behaviour Points

We would like to remind you that a generic behaviour point will be given for poor behaviour in a lesson which is low level and therefore affecting the quality of teaching and learning of a student (s) such as:

- Defiance (basic refusal to follow instructions or rudeness)
- Disruption (talking, silly behaviour, out of seat etc.)
- Where a student is deliberately off task
- Insufficient work

A simple behaviour point is awarded on class charts for any of the above and there is no explanation note. Explanation or notes are only given for behaviours higher than this requiring a phase 5 sanction or above.

Students are issued instant **detentions** for the following reasons:

- Out of bounds (when students are not where they are supposed to be at any time during the school day)
- Phone confiscation
- If more than one student is in a toilet cubicle at the same time
- Talking during a fire drill
- When student receives 5 negative points in a week

We would politely ask that you do not contact the school asking for an explanation for basic negative behaviour points or detentions for the above reasons. It does mean we have less capacity in school to support students.

## School Dinner Menu

Please click on the link below to view the food on offer for the coming week.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YU51y5GO-H6-odpxhPOG8zlUwpletxJRyfSbz2tSY0A/edit>

1. *Please note menus may be subject to change due to product availability.*
2. *Please note some of the products we serve may contain peanuts, tree nuts, soy, milk, eggs and wheat. While we take steps to minimise the risk of cross-contamination, we cannot guarantee that any of our products are safe to consume for people with peanut, tree nut, soy, milk, egg or wheat allergies.*
3. *Please note we will make every reasonable effort to ensure that the information provided is accurate; however, due to the very nature of food production there can be variations in each meal. As a school we are not able to provide 100% accurate information on the food we serve.*

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## **Fixtures**

### Year 9 Football

It has been a mixed week for our Year 9 Football Team. After coming from 0-3 down to win the City Cup against Abbey Grange on Monday, they were beaten 3-1 and 2-1 by Abbey Grange and Prince Henry's respectively on Tuesday night. Both Horsforth goals came from Jacob, who was in goal again on Friday in our debut in the National cup against Cockburn. They knocked us out of the Leeds Championship last season on penalties, bagging two as Horsforth avenged their quarter final defeat with a 6-4 win. Special mentions to Woody who was solid at the back, and Lucas with two goals against Cockburn.

### Year 8 Football

We are pleased to announce that the Year 8 boys Football Team started the way they left last year. They won both games against Prince Henry's Grammar School 1-0 and Abbey Grange 4-0. It was the first time they played 11 a side for school and they played ever so well, moving the ball around from back to front with such confidence and ease. The opposition didn't register a shot on target throughout both games.

It was an excellent start to the season and will hopefully bring lots more success. Both opposing managers sang the praises of the team and how well they played in both games.

The Player of the Match vs PHGS was Leo and the Player of the Match vs Abbey Grange was Nico.

### Netball

Our Year 7 team had their first game of the year and our students represented Horsforth extremely well. We had plenty of subs but everyone tried their absolute best. It was great to see some capable goal shooters already! A big thank you to Alex and Emily in Year 11 for supporting the Year 7 sessions, their hard work is definitely paying off. The Player's Player of the Game was Samantha who was moving into space and shooting really well. The Teacher's Player of the Game was Hattie. 10-2 win to Horsforth!

Our Year 10 team lost unfortunately, but they kept trying until the end of the game and we saw some super performances. The Player's Player of the Game was Alice for her outstanding interceptions and high energy levels. The Teacher's Player of the Game was Imogen for her perfect passes. Morley's Teacher's Player was Lily for her fantastic support to her teammates.

### Under 16s Team

The U16 netball team faced Roundhay School this week with fantastic determination. They were neck and neck with Roundhay throughout the first three quarters but held their own towards the end with a strong defence and tactical attacking play. The girls pulled through and secured a 16-11 win. On and off the court they showed great team encouragement and spirit - well done Year 11!

### Under 14s Team

The U14's also faced a fierce Roundhay team for their first game of the season. It was an unfortunate loss for the Year 9's as the strong, fast attacking play from Roundhay set the pace of the game forcing the team into errors - giving them few opportunities to score themselves.

Nevertheless, the girls worked incredibly hard and created some good passages of play through the mid court. The score was 26-1.

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## Year 11 Netball Results

St Marys A - 5 V 26 Horsforth. The Player of the Match was Lois.

St Marys B - 1 V 22 Horsforth. The Player of the Match was Emily.

Rodillian - 7 V 16 Horsforth. The Player of the Match was Emily.

It was a fantastic evening all round! The team worked brilliantly together and showed great commitment, communication and positivity during all their matches. They played with such maturity and such a high level of skill that they were an absolute joy to watch.

## ***Sixth Form at Horsforth News***

### Sixth Form Open Evening Thursday 14th November 2024

We are pleased to let you know that our next [sixth form](#) open evening will take place on:

**Thursday 14th November 2024 from 5:00pm >> [Register for your free tickets here](#)**

### Why Join our Sixth Form?

This is a very exciting time to consider joining the Sixth Form at Horsforth:

#### *Fantastic Results*

We achieved the highest state school A Level results in Leeds in 2022, 2023 and 2024 (in 2024, 38% of all A Level grades awarded were at A\*-A); and with over 100 enrichment opportunities and the support of our dedicated sixth form team, we feel we offer something unique.

#### *Modern Facilities*

In September 2022 we opened our new campus, a space for our Year 12 and 13 students to learn. The facilities include an auditorium, classrooms and state of the art science labs and IT facilities along with Common Grounds, a place to relax or study, with barista station, booths, sofas and work stations.

#### *On the Night*

You will be able to hear a talk\* from our Sixth Form Team at 5:30pm, 6:30pm and 7:30pm. Chat to Curriculum Leaders about the courses on offer, meet current sixth form students, talk to our dedicated sixth form team and look around our campus. Our evening will end at 8:00pm.

*\*The free tickets you purchase do not guarantee admission to a talk. These talks are always very popular and seats are allocated on a first come basis. We recommend you are seated early in the auditorium for the talk you wish to attend. Once the auditorium is full, the doors will close.*

We thank you in advance for considering the Sixth Form at Horsforth and we look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form Open Evening.

### Sporting Success

Fergus in Year 13 had a massive win at the weekend at the Muay Thai Hitman Event in Manchester. He beat his opponent who was unbeaten for about 5 years to reach the final in March, good luck from us!

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## Out and About

On Monday our Year 13 religious studies students went on a visit to Beth Hamidrash Hagadol Synagogue in Leeds. The educational visit was to broaden their knowledge on Judaism which forms part of their A Level.



Thank you as always for your support,

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell  
Headteacher

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