



Horsforth School

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Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

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Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been great to see our Year 7's going to Herd Farm this week. Their enthusiasm was infectious and the staff have given some glowing feedback on their positive attitude and resilience during the adventurous activities. Please pass on my praise, we are all really proud! Photos to follow next week.

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

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/145ed7X5pZQ4QFHMIeIVDElr8hJGn2pTG/view?usp=sharing>

Parental Engagement and Communication

At Horsforth we aim to establish a strong relationship of trust and transparency with Parent/Carers and aim to work in partnership with them to improve outcomes and ensure that they are kept regularly informed about these outcomes as well as about key decisions being made throughout the school year.

We aim to keep you regularly updated in a variety of formats including opportunities to come into school to discuss concerns or questions face to face. The dates for these parental engagement events can be found on the website calendar (please be aware these may be unavoidably subject to change) but a summary of what we offer can be found [here](#). Please note: On the document colour coding is as follows: Pink events are face to face, Blue are on-line and green are paper/email communications.

Attitude to Learning (ATL) and Progress Review Reports

All students from Years 7 to 13 should now have received a paper copy of their first Attitude to Learning report for the year. This year, we will also be emailing all progress reports home to parents/carers and you should have received the first one this week. Please note that based upon both parental and student feedback from last year the ATL descriptors have been slightly amended and can be found [here](#) or on the back of the report received on Wednesday. We continue to expect our students to achieve a minimum ATL score of 4 in all subjects but ask that they 'Strive for 5' at all times. Students who meet these expectations will be recognised and rewarded for their positive attitude, texts have gone home already to the top 20 students in Years 7-11, their names are displayed on the Superstar board in school and they will also receive special ATL superstar queue jump passes from their Year Coordinators in the coming week. Any students who display a less positive attitude will be supported to make the most out of every learning opportunity and in tutor times this week have included action planning activities to support students to do this.

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Catering Team Success

Huge congratulations to our wonderful Catering Team who were recently shortlisted for the Yorkshire and Humber LACA Awards of Excellence and on Saturday they won the School Catering Team of the Year!



Ski Trip 2025

We are pleased to share that a couple of places have become available on the 2025 Ski Trip. If your child is interested, please ask them to go and see Mr Bennett as soon as possible.

Skating Success

On Tuesday evening, India in Year 9 competed in a Spin, Spiral, Jump Figure Skating competition in Bradford coming 1st place winning a gold medal and trophy. Congratulations India!



Camps International: Borneo 2026

We are very excited to announce that we are partnering with Camps International, to offer students the opportunity to go on a life-changing, 4-week expedition to Borneo, during the summer of 2026. Students will work on a variety of meaningful and sustainable projects as well as undertaking a 4–5-day trek through the heart of the Jungle.

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Save the date to come along and find out more: Wednesday 6th November at 6:00pm in the Main Hall

During our Parents Presentation you and your son/daughter will be able to hear more about Camps, the expedition and fundraising, as well as how to join the team.

In the meantime, to get an insight into the expedition, you can see photos from previous teams on the Camps Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/campsint/>

As students are encouraged to raise the funds for this expedition themselves, why not get started straight away with some helpful tips and advice: <https://www.campsinternational.com/fundraising-for-your-expedition/>

We look forward to letting you know more about the expedition soon.



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 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.

Christmas Card Competition

It's that time of year again to think about our school Christmas card for 2024 so we are excited to announce that we are launching the annual Christmas Card Competition!

We encourage all students to get involved and send us their entries. These can be drawings, paintings, photography etc. Be as creative as you like. Please see below previous winners.

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Please send any entries to marketing@horsforthschool.org, or alternatively drop them off in reception. The deadline for entries is Monday 6th November. We will choose a winner on Friday 10th November and a prize will be awarded to the winning student. Good luck!



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/1FOLgr34HuE8uaGA3039kR6nC9gul_mU8iSspDuCE63Q/edit?usp=sharing

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.*

Come and Work at our School

[Take a look at our Vacancies webpage](#) to view the current roles we are recruiting. We are currently looking for a Teacher of Mandarin Chinese and a PE Cover Facilitator. You can always call the school for a chat about any of the jobs on offer on 0113 2265454. Please share with anyone you think might like to join our team.

Fixtures

Year 7 Football

Game One: The boys went into the game full of beans and excitement, only to have the carpet wiped from underneath their feet and to be two down in two minutes! We finally got back into the game with a tidy finish from George and we levelled with an absolute rocket of a free kick from Euan. A slow start certainly cost us, and we could not score the decisive goal to take all 3 points. Abbey Grange 2 - Horsforth 2.

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Game Two: The second game was much more like it and the deadly duo of Euan and Charlie linked up to play some fantastic football. The introduction of Aboudy gave us another attacking option and we rightfully came out 2-0 winners. It could have easily been 10, but their keeper, the post and the crossbar meant we somehow only scored 2! PHGS 0 - Horsforth 2.

Special mentions to Charlie, George, Alfie and Aboudy, but the Player of the Match was Euan who was exceptional throughout.

Year 7 National Cup

Year 7 are through to the next round of the National Cup with a comprehensive 2-0 victory over Garforth.

The first half was a cagey affair with limited opportunities and we went in all square. In the second half we went up a level and Charlie gave us the lead with a deserved goal. We continued to push for the 2nd and we rightfully put the tie to bed with Tom finishing off a well worked team goal.

The boys out worked, outclassed and put in a performance that saw Garforth have zero opportunities! Their listening skills were phenomenal for a team who have just come together. Everyone deserves a mention but special mentions go to the following...

Charlie - For showing intelligence throughout the game, scoring the opener and having another stunning performance.

Alfie - For his Duracell Bunny like energy on the right. He was class and humble as he asked "did I do alright sir?".

The Player of the Match was Tom, who marked their best player and did an absolute job on him.

Next up we have Halifax Grammar in the National Cup which will give the boys a chance to play Baby - Justin Bieber, Crazy Frog and I Predict a Riot again.

Year 9 Boys Football

Our Year 9s unfortunately lost to Ermysted Grammar 4-1 in the national cup. With the score at 1-1 with 10 minutes to go, George hit the inside of the post, the ball rolling across the line and was cleared by the Ermysted defender. They counter-attacked and scored to swing the game in their favour. With Horsforth pushing for an equaliser, they were picked off on the break by the pace of the Ermysted right winger.

Year 8 Boys Football

It was another solid outing for Year 8 last night. Beating Ralph Thoresby 3-0 in a very comfortable performance, in which Ralph Thoresby didn't get a shot on target.

It was a much sterner test against Ilkley Grammar School, with the boys drawing 2-2. The boys came up the West Yorkshire Champions and played so well against a very physical and strong team. Unfortunately, we conceded a last-minute stunner from Ilkley after a fantastic second half response from the Year 8 Team.

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Year 10 Girls Football

Our U15 Girls Football Team made an incredible start to the league this evening, winning 8-0 in their first cup game against Guiseley School! The girls played extremely well with confidence and pace with some cracking goals from Beatrice, Leah, Elvie, Era, Zoe and Laura. Superb work from Lily as Goalkeeper. Well done girls.

Hockey

The Year 7 and 8 Teams both played against Roundhay teams which were composed of Year 7 - 10 students.

The Year 7 girls played their first ever games unsurprisingly lost to both Roundhay sides but showed enormous potential and commitment in keeping it close.

The mixed Year 7 Team narrowly lost their games with Alex excelling.

The two mixed Year 8 Teams won 3 out of 4 of their games with many fine performances throughout.

Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Open Evenings

Thank you to everyone who has already booked a ticket for our sixth form open evening in November.

We've been overwhelmed with its popularity and tickets have now sold out.

We are really pleased to be able to offer a second open evening in January, [register your interest here](#) and **we will let you know when free tickets are available to book.**

Politics, Philosophy and Economics

Every fortnight our Year 13 students spend their form time discussing really important world issues. So, why are some countries rich and others poor, and how should the distribution of property be decided? Big topics expanding the minds of our future business leaders!

Student Leadership Team Elected

The Sixth Form have recently launched their Head student elections. Each year four students serve as Head and Deputy Head Students. The elected students work closely with the Sixth Form team, meeting with the Director of Sixth Form weekly, advocating for their peer's wishes, consulting on student voice initiatives, and acting as a representative of the student body. Students nominate themselves for the role with a detailed application before giving a presentation to their peers, expertly delivered during assembly.

Following this presentation, the Sixth Form students and staff cast their vote.

As a Sixth Form we would like to make a special mention for the students who nominated themselves for the roles and that they delivered an excellent presentation, impressing their peers and staff across the school. We are pleased to announce that all students involved will make up the Student Leadership Team but the winners of the democratic vote were:

Head Students: Evie and Darren

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Deputy Head Students: Charlie and Keiva



Criminology - Real Life Experience

Our criminology students were lucky enough to take part in a forensic science workshop. It started with a 999 call from the scene of an alleged murder, followed by an intensive investigation and mock crown court trial, to decide if the suspect was guilty or not! Thanks to Mrs Weightman for a great experience.



Thank you as always for your support,

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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