



Horsforth School

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Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

25th October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

The final week of the half term has been really positive with lots going on in and out of class! I would like to thank all our teachers who contribute to our extra-curricular activities and say well done to all our students who take part with such enthusiasm. Going round school lessons are calm and purposeful and I look forward to an equally successful Christmas term.

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

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YuTgeh6l0rRqT8EQjODLVjBroydAGEwC/view?usp=sharing>

Parental Engagement and Communication

At Horsforth we aim to establish a strong relationship with Parent/Carers and aim to work in partnership with them to improve outcomes and ensure that they are kept regularly informed.

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.

Non-Uniform Day: Friday 15th November

We are marking national Children in Need Day by holding a non-uniform day on Friday 15th November. As a school, we feel that young people helping other young people is crucial.

Last year the charity helped 460,000 children and young people to overcome their challenges. This included supporting children & young people living in poverty, providing emergency support to families in crisis, providing comfort to children feeling sad, lost and alone, helping children overcome social injustice and supporting children to feel safe and secure again.

Each student who takes part in this day will be asked to donate £1.

Half of the money raised will go to the Children in Need Appeal.

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Half of the money raised will go to a charity voted by our students. The student parliament will choose charities linked to supporting or raising awareness of child trauma or poverty.



Candlelighters Fundraising

Following another incredibly successful Challenge 30 initiative in June, Becki Myers from Candlelighters came into school to speak with members of our Student Parliament about another outstanding fundraising effort and presented a cheque for £8571!

As a school we have now raised £19,833 since June 2023 - a phenomenal achievement and the most by any school for Candlelighters! This total pay is enough to pay for all of Candlelighters' children's talking therapies for a year, providing vital mental health support and a space for children to work through their feelings, worries and anxieties.

Thank you to all of the Horsforth community for your continued support with raising amazing amounts for a wonderful charity.



West Yorkshire Youth Commission

A group of our Student Parliament have taken part in a workshop with the West Yorkshire Youth Commission - a peer-led project that enables young people to get involved and have their say about urgent issues that affect their lives and help build a safer community.

The students discussed issues regarding staying safe, attitudes towards women in society, and advice on best practice approaches to reporting and support. They also filled in an ideas feedback form which is then collated with other schools' ideas on ways to improve the community.

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The students were focused, inquisitive ambassadors for the school, and will take part in three further sessions with the West Yorkshire Youth Commission between now and February.



Year 9 Leeds Rhinos Event

Students who had successfully earned their place at rugby coaching sessions and met key criteria for a rewards trip, attended Headingley Stadium for a tour of the amazing cricket and rugby facilities on Monday 21st October.

The students were excellent throughout and even got a chance to have a photo with Leeds Rhinos legend Willy Poaching who was there with the Samoa rugby league team!



Camps International: Borneo 2026

We are delighted to be working with Camps International, offering our students the opportunity to join us on a 4 Week expedition to Borneo in 2026.

Come along to our informal presentation evening where you can learn more and ask questions about this exciting opportunity. We expect the presentation to last around 45 minutes.

Save the date to come along and find out more: Wednesday 6th November at 6:00pm in the Main Hall. To ensure you receive an information pack, please confirm your attendance online via this link.

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<https://register.campsinternational.com>

Register below by scanning the QR code.



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-odpxhPOG8zIUwpletxJRyfSbz2tSY0A/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 Geography, a Teacher of English, a SEND Learning Support Assistant 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

Cross Country Results

We are really pleased to announce the amazing results from our first cross country event of the year. With Horsforth School having over 30 participants representing our school with great resilience and attitude. Other schools were in disbelief of the volume of runners we had. It truly was an incredible morning for the school. Despite the very muddy and hilly course some of the scores of our athletes are amazing.

Special mentions to the pupils below:

Under 13's Girls: Romy - 10th, Danielle - 12th, Mia - 14th, Grace - 17th

Under 13's Boys (93 runners): Timothy - 5th, Daisy - 27th, Rohan - 33rd

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Under 15's Boys: Alfie - 5th, Jake - 23rd

Overall fantastic contribution from the pupils with the next race weekend at Cardinal Heenan on the 9th of November.

Year 10 Netball

Throughout the game our Year 10s were trying their best, but making small errors and rushing their passes. This meant that GSAL were tying. In the final quarter with a spring in their step they finally pulled ahead. There was some fantastic play by Imogen, Fran and Alice in the centre court, getting the feeds in to Lily who was shooting extremely well. They deserved to win as they were so determined throughout. It was an 15-11 win.

Leeds trials are coming up on the 17th November so we are looking forward to some success at that like in our previous years.

The Player's Player of the Game was Alice who was sprinting all over the court, wonderful interceptions and tips, using quick turnovers to outwit the opposition. The Teacher's Player of the Game was Zoe who had high energy levels throughout, jumping high to get interceptions, reading the game well.



Year 11 Netball

The girls were a little slow to start and made a few errors meaning they were neck and neck with GSAL. As the game progressed, the girls dominated and GSAL were barely getting a look in. They were getting plenty of interceptions and shooting was outstanding. The connection the team has built up over the past five years was evident and the ball went quickly from Goalkeeper to Goal shooter with no problems. It was a 28-3 win. The Player's Player of the Game was Laynie with fantastic interceptions which put real pressure on the opposition throughout. The Teacher's Player of the Game was Alex who was getting in superb space, great speed into the D and had unmatched shooting accuracy.

Our Year 11 netballers have now won division one of the Leeds Schools Sports Association which is fantastic news. A clean sweep of matches! Results are already in due to the games being played early

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before GCSE preparation really kicks in. Year 11 have been a friendly and committed team throughout at Horsforth. Miss Lancaster and Miss Schofield will miss coaching them!



Year 10 Football

Year 10 ground out two solid performances in their CV2 with two wins over Ilkley Grammar and Abbey Grange.

In their first game, the boys struggled to adapt to the bobbly conditions of the pitch and couldn't play their usual passing game. A scrappy finish from Josh gave us a deserved lead. Solid performances from the back four of Leo, Charlie, Kupa and Josh meant a 1-0 lead never really looked in doubt.

In their second game, the boys had moments of brilliance and then lapses in concentration. Alfie started brightly and Ali slotted in nicely at central midfield. Another scrappy finish gave Ali a goal on debut and Sam sealed the victory with a fine save in the closing minutes.

Captain Bannan gave player of the match to Ali, who played with intelligence 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.**

Save the Date: 6th November (6:00pm, Main School Hall)

This week our Year 12 students have been told about an exciting opportunity to go to Borneo with Camps International in 2026.

If your son/daughter is keen to go on the expedition, come along to our parents' presentation for more information.

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To ensure you receive an information pack, please confirm your attendance online via this link (<https://register.campsinternational.com>) - School Code is 9551.



Japan Here They Come!

Every November six Year 12 students are chosen to represent us at the 'Japan Super Science Fair' held in Kyoto. These are our lucky students for this year, we can't wait to see what they get up to, happy travels!



Children In Need

As has become tradition over the past two years, we are excited to invite our Year 12 students to participate in a special event to support Children in Need. On 15th November, students are encouraged to come to Sixth Form in (appropriate!) fancy dress.

This fun and festive day not only brings joy and creativity to our school community but also helps raise funds for a fantastic cause. There will be a small reward for the best-dressed student/groups of students (previous winners being the Addams Family cast!), adding a bit of friendly competition to the day.

Sadly this event is only open to Year 12 students and not year 13 as they are on study leave for their mock exams. Thank you for your continued support.



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As we come to the end of the first half term I can reflect on some fantastic academic and sporting achievements. Students have overwhelmingly given, even at the end of an 8 week term, their personal best in lessons, thrown themselves into our extra-curricular activities and we are progressing in county and national level sports competitions. Please pass on my thanks for your children's efforts and we look forward to welcoming them back after the break.

Thank you as always for your support,

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher