

Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

15th November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you to all our wonderful Sixth Formers who came along to help on our first Sixth Form Open Evening last night as subject ambassadors, guides or to support parents parking. It was packed and great to see so many of our Year 11 students as well as the lovely students from other schools. We will be running a second evening in January if you couldn't come to this one (details at the end of the letter).

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

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nYq3RI6GjDr0vgwXYUmclPj_iOjDPSVD/view?usp=sharing

Training Days

School will be closed to all students on Friday 22nd and Monday 25th November for training days.

Important Notice about Changes to Detentions

As you know we have updated our Positive Behaviour Policy for this year, making some significant changes to how we reward, monitor and sanction the behaviour of our students on class charts. We want to prepare students for their future where there are personal, professional and sometimes legal consequences to actions. Our policy is a vital part of this as well as ensuring the school is safe and learning is not disrupted.

As part of the process we have already altered the communication about detentions after school, using class charts instead of the planner.

To finalise improvements for this year, we are now going to make some changes to the actual detention in terms of work and alter the length of detentions.

Students will complete reflective behaviour work and academic work.

We feel that the focus needs to be on supporting students to think about their behaviours and to support them to close gaps in their learning during this time. Therefore, the detentions will finish slightly earlier.

Local schools have shorter detention times and we would like to be in line with this also.

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The new finish times from Monday 18th November will be:

- All detentions issued for being late will finish at 3.10pm
- Detentions issued for behaviour (Mon-Thurs) will finish at 3.35pm
- Headteacher detentions (Fridays) will finish at 4.05pm

This will be a trial until Christmas, and we will update you in January if this is to be made a permanent policy change.

Tramplining Success

We are thrilled to share that Joseph in Year 7 took part in the Yorkshire Trampoline and DMT Championships this week and was placed 1st in the Intermediate Boys Age 9-11 category. Well done Joseph!



CyberFirst Girls Competition

Every year, the NCSC (National Cyber Security Centre) runs the CyberFirst Girls Competition, aimed at inspiring girls interested in technology and cybersecurity. This annual competition encourages Year 8 girls to work in teams to solve a series of challenging tasks related to the world of cybersecurity, such as problem-solving, coding, and cryptography. It's a fantastic opportunity for participants to develop critical skills in STEM fields while gaining hands-on experience in tackling real-world tech challenges. By fostering teamwork, creativity, and innovation, the CyberFirst Girls Challenge helps inspire the next generation of female leaders in cyber technology and encourages them to explore career opportunities in this rapidly growing industry.

This fantastic opportunity has now been launched in school by Miss Turner who introduced the competition and highlighted the exciting opportunities it offers to develop skills in cybersecurity, problem-solving, and coding. Her passion for technology and innovation has already inspired some students to get involved and take on the challenge and so we're pleased to say we have 7 teams already signed up! We are excited to see how the girls embrace the challenge and put their skills to the test, as they work together to

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solve real-world tech problems. The competition runs from 18th Nov – 27th Nov – we will keep you posted!



BBC Bitesize Careers Visit

BBC Bitesize Careers Tour were in school this week in a bid to inspire our young people about their future job prospects, forming part of a wider remit of the BBC to inform, educate and entertain. As part of the event, BBC presenter, Alexinder Riyat introduced students to three panellists from a variety of job sectors in our local area: Joel Orme, TV Series Producer, Emma Lockard, Toy Tester and Researcher and Gabrielle Odetayo, Content Compliance Manager at BBC Children's and Education. Alexinder led the session and offered insights into his own career journey too. We hope this exciting event sparked your child's imagination with regards to what might be achievable for them in the future. Please do ask them about the event and whether or not they managed to catch the infamous BBC rugby ball!



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.*

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Fixtures

W/C 8th November

Rugby

Our Year 7 and 9 boys rugby team played so well on Thursday afternoon. It was a great effort from all. The Year 7s played their first game for school and beat Ilkley 25-20 in a great competitive game of rugby. The Year 9s unfortunately lost 20-14 but played a very pleasing physical game with Isaac and George dominating the physical battle.

Football

The Under 14 girls had another great run out to Ilkley Grammar for a league tournament. They played five games in total and won three, drew one and lost one. Great goals from Esme, Amber, Jaide and Lily. Fabulous work girls! The Player of the Tournament was Rose.

The Under 12 girls had a tough game in their 2nd round of the cup against Ilkley Grammar School. They were 0-0 at half time but grouped together and worked hard to increase the pace of their attacking play with Amber scoring a fantastic goal. There was some great defending from Rose and work ethic from Lily. The girls secured a 1-0 win.

They are slowly but surely becoming a strong, cohesive team! The Player of the Tournament was Amber.

W/C 15th November

Year 9 Rugby Yorkshire Cup

Our Year 9s played really well on Tuesday in Skipton, beating South Craven and Beckfoot, drawing with BBG Academy and losing 1 try to 0 in the last play against a very lucky Crossley Heath team. The boys were physical throughout and played some lovely rugby. Tries from Isaac (X3), Woody, George (X3), Alex, Jay and Zack.

Year 7 Netball

We had our second netball game against Prince Henrys on Wednesday. The team started off a little rusty. Some of the passes were inaccurate and although we were getting some fantastic interceptions, we then wasted a few opportunities. Some brilliant substitutions turned the game around and we were chasing Prince Henry's well. Unfortunately, we could not get the ball in the net so they pulled away slightly. Following a team talk we gained some resilience and took our time more.

The final quarter Horsforth played extremely well, but Prince Henrys were a little too far in front. Ruby got in some wonderful positions to shoot as goal shooter. Jen did not give up throughout the full game and demonstrated some outstanding defending.

A Team: 8-4. The Player's Player of the Match was Ruby and the Teacher's Player of the Match was Jen.

The B team played extremely well throughout. Hannah was full of energy and sprinted all around the court. Sam really fought for the ball and showed a real competitive edge.

B Team: 2-2. The Player's Player of the Match was Cara and the Teacher's Players of the Match were Sam and Hannah.

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Good luck to the team playing in the Leeds District trials at the weekend.



Year 7 Football

The Year 7 Football Team have had a very successful week, with three games and three wins.

On Wednesday, we played our 2nd Central Venue and came out with two wins. In our first game we played a strong Ilkley side and managed to scrape through with a 2-1 victory. Thomas and Charlie scored both our goals and Will had a solid game at the back. The Player of the Match was Alfie for his constant work rate and communication throughout! In our 2nd game we came out 3-0 winners with an intelligent performance over Ralph Thorsby. A worldie strike from Isaac gave us a deserved lead and further goals from Charlie and Joseph meant we never looked in trouble. The Player of the Match was Isaac, and not just for his strike, but his overall game in the middle of park. Class!

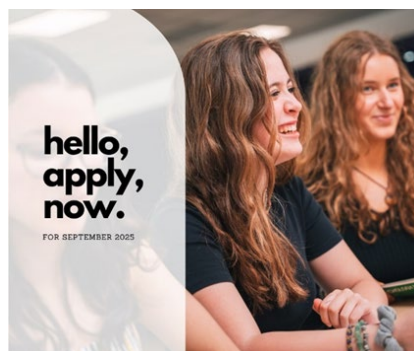
On Thursday, we overcame a well drilled North Halifax Grammar School with a 4-1 victory. Halifax played some neat football, but our class prevailed and an outstanding performance from Charlie meant we were victorious. Euan bagged himself a brace and Charlie and Joseph got 1 apiece. Special mentions go to Toby for some lovely distribution, Sam for slotting into the side nicely in his first game, but player of the match was undoubtedly Charlie who was phenomenal once again.

Next week we have Brigshaw in the Leeds Schools Cup.

Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Applications are Open!

Applications are now open to join the Sixth Form at Horsforth from September 2025. [Horsforth School Year 11 students should apply via our online portal.](#)



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Year 12 Netball

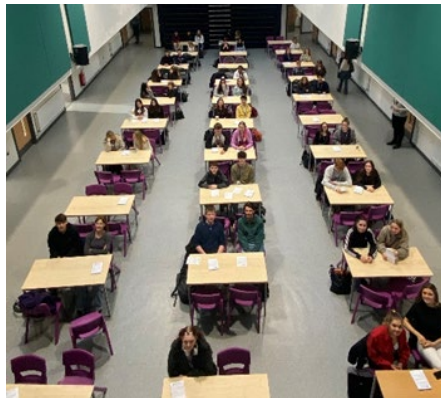
Great performance for our year 12 netballers on Tuesday. The girls put in fantastic effort, especially as most of the girls have never played together as a team before! Some great team work from Jenny and Alyse saw us creeping back a few goals in the second half of the game. Unfortunately, the opposition had some brilliant shooting and came out on top, but with a few great goals from Olivia and Emma and some cracking defending from Abi and Lizzie this helped us keep the goal difference down. Great effort and attitude from all!

January 23rd Open Evening

Our second and final open evening of this academic year will take place in January. [Register your interest here](#) and **we will let you know when free tickets are available to book.**

Paying it Forward

Our wonderful Year 12 students took time out from their studies on Wednesday to be subject ambassadors. They gave an insight into the subjects they love, to the Year 11s at Horsforth School. Thank you for being so fantastic!



Authentic Cooking

Last week three of our Spanish A Level students cooked up a storm in Food Tech, elaborating the traditional tortilla española recipe of eggs, potatoes and onions with the addition of sliced peppers and chorizo chunks. ¡Ñam, ñam, qué ricas!



Thank you as always for your support,

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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