



Horsforth School

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Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

29th November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to start by saying a massive well done to all our brilliantly talented students who are taking part in a performance over the next three weeks. Our amazing production is running from 10th to 12th of December (Wonderland) and our brilliant Christmas Concert is on the 16th of December. It's a huge thing to step on a stage in front of an audience and it shows real courage to do this even when you are nervous. Our character builders are really important at Horsforth School and doing this really demonstrates resilience, aspiration and participation!



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

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wTj71hZoQGE8OdCqyUI6BomgNYPAQODp/view?usp=sharing>

Horsforth Christmas Market

We are hosting a Christmas Market on Friday 13th December, during both lunches to raise money for the improvement of Horsforth School. Student parliament will decide how the proceeds are spent. Stalls include a bake sale, sweet stall, hot chocolate stall, guess the teacher game, lucky dip, design a bauble, book stall, Christmas games and more! **This event is cash only.**

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Small donations such as any unwanted student friendly books for the lucky dip and items for the bake sale would be greatly appreciated. Please bring donations to Resources by form time on Friday 13th December at the latest. If any non-bake sale items could be brought in before then this would be a great help.

Thank you for your continued support!

CASH ONLY!

Christmas MARKET

**FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER
BOTH LUNCHES!**

BAKE SALE, SWEET STALL, HOT CHOCOLATE, GUESS THE TEACHER, LUCKY DIP, DESIGN A BAUBLE, BOOK STALL, CHRISTMAS GAMES AND MORE!

HORSFORTH SCHOOL MAIN HALL

STUDENT PARLIAMENT WILL BE DECIDING HOW THE PROCEEDS ARE SPENT,
ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS THE IMPROVEMENT OF:

HORSFORTH SCHOOL
Opportunity and achievement for all

Year 11 A Christmas Carol Performance

On Tuesday, Year 11 students were treated to a live performance of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. The award-winning actor Craig Cowdroy delivered a remarkable one-man show, bringing to life all the characters from the classic tale. The performance was thoroughly enjoyed by students, who were

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immersed in Cowdroy's skilful portrayal and storytelling. It undoubtedly deepened their understanding of the text, which will be invaluable in supporting their GCSE English Literature preparation.



Trampolining Triumph

We're so proud to share that Year 7 student Joseph placed 1st at the regional schools trampolining competition. He will now represent Horsforth School at the British Schools Gymnastics Trampolining Northern Zonal competition in South Shields in January, where he will compete against all qualifying gymnasts in the schools from the North of England!



Student Parliament

A group of our Student Parliament took 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 the topic of crime prevention and rehabilitation and came up with some brilliant suggestions for decreasing rates of crime and promoting opportunities for education and reintegration! The ideas from all sessions are 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 two further sessions with the West Yorkshire Youth Commission in January and February.

Previously, they were visited by a team of volunteers from Leeds Schools of Sanctuary - a charity which strives to create welcoming, safe and inclusive communities for all but particularly those who have been displaced from their own community. The volunteers shared their aims in hoping Horsforth can become one of the schools of sanctuary and shared accounts of their own experiences. Our students then discussed ideas on how we can implement initiatives as a school to welcome those who are seeking sanctuary in school and the local community. It was a very humbling experience which has left the students motivated to get involved in helping with this amazing project!



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/1kr3tdnKUhOBtjmdyT_hrguBMzeoFcgxcAokkRYSIGvc/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.*

Free School Meals - are you eligible?

School meals are free for lots of families, check if you are eligible to apply!

A free school meal:

- Creates healthy eating habits
- Improves learning and behaviour
- Saves money and time
- Helps schools get extra funding

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Children may be eligible for free school meals if their parents or carers receive any of the following benefits:

- income support
- income based Job Seeker's Allowance
- income based Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with an annual income of less than £16,190
- the guaranteed element of the State Pension Credit
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Universal Credit with an annual income of less than £7,400

Apply here: www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-for-free-school-meals

Fixtures

Year 7 Football

Last night the Year 7s came out victorious in the National Cup with a united performance against Unity College, Burnley. The first half was a dominant display with Charlie giving us a deserved lead. As Unity fell out with each other, the lads stuck together and dominated the game. Some neat touches from Joseph and Isaac meant we looked like scoring on several occasions, but with Thomas and Euan out, we missed a killer instinct.

The team talk at half time might as well have been given in Latin however, as we let Unity back into the game. An onslaught took place for the next 10 minutes but Toby was outstanding in net, making five crucial saves to keep it at 1-1.

However, the lads stuck it out and a long ball from Toby was met by Charlie, who dinked the ball over their keeper to make it 2-1. Two minutes later Abudy popped up at the back post to make it 3-1 to send us into the next round.

A game which we did not deserve to win 3-1, but a game where the lads stuck it out and did not start pointing the finger when Unity were on top. The Player of the Match was Toby, who was the difference between the two sides.

Year 10 Rugby

Our Year 10s had a rugby tournament under the lights at Yarnbury yesterday. We played three games and improved in every match. The boys were great against some good teams, we won one, drew one and narrowly lost one. Some great performances from George and Dexter to name a few.

Year 8 and 9 Basketball

Year 8 and 9 had their first basketball matches for the school last night in the NW Leeds central venue competition against Guiseley, Ralph Thorsby and Lawnswood, with many of the boys playing in their first ever competitive basketball fixture.

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The boys played really well across all three matches which were played with a shortened 10 minute match against each team. In the first game Horsforth beat Lawnswood 4-0 in a scrappy game with Horsforth missing a lot of shots. In the second game the boys were much more clinical with Cillian scoring a three pointer in a 12-3 victory over Ralph Thorsby. This set up a decider against Guiseley in the final match who had also won both of their games. With Horsforth leading by two with 20s to go we missed an easy layup and Guiseley went down the other end and equalised sending the game into overtime. Horsforth again went ahead in overtime but looked to have thrown away their lead again with the last play of the game only for the star player from Guiseley to miss an unopposed layup, 12-10 Horsforth.

We have now qualified for the city finals which will be a real challenge for the boys against some really strong schools. Special mentions to Isaac in Year 8, Joseph in Year 7 and Charlie and Cillian in Year 9.

Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Our New Promotional Video

Here it is, [our latest promotional video for our sixth form](#), featuring our current students and our amazing campus facilities. If you are still undecided for September, give this a watch and share with anyone still considering their options.

Sixth Form Applications are Open!

Applications are open to join the Sixth Form at Horsforth from September 2025. [Horsforth School Year 11 students have been sent a link and registration details to their school email address, use this information to apply online here.](#)

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.**

Hidden Homeless Leeds

Each of our 16 form tutor groups are currently collecting essentials for the charity Hidden Homeless. We hope our donation boxes will make a difference to local people on the streets in the run up to Christmas, as the weather gets colder.

Hidden Homeless

Hidden Homeless is a local outreach charity which works alongside hostels to provide hot food and clothes to homeless people in the centre of Leeds.

We receive donations from Morrisons, Greggs and the public, but demand is constantly increasing.

Each form group will be given a donation box in the run-up to Christmas.

Your donations will be going to people who really need it. There aren't enough spaces in hostels to accommodate everyone, and as the weather gets colder it becomes harder for people on the streets to survive.

How you can help:

- Second-hand clothes
- Hats, gloves, scarves etc
- Toiletries (e.g. toothbrushes, toothpaste, sanitary products)
- Underwear
- Food - nothing that requires heating, or needs a can opener

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Meet the Employer

Our students are loving the 'Meet the Employer' events run by Miss Crawford. Yesterday, Schofield Sweeney took time to talk to our students about careers in law and their excellent apprenticeship programme.



Thank you as always for your support,

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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