

Horsforth School

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23rd January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

It was lovely to see so many of our Year 11's again at our second Sixth Form Open Evening last night braving the weather but also so many students new to Horsforth. Please check our social media if you missed it but please skip past my very first Tick Tock which I was talked into by three very persuasive Sixth Formers.

Whilst this will only affect some students, I would like to share with our current students that Mrs Yeadon, the Headteacher at West End Primary School is leaving at Easter and I wanted to invite former students to send through messages and/or photos which could be put into a memory book for her leaving present. Please send anything through to westendschool@Westendprimary.org.uk

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

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_kKSeU-VKg_CQTMNtdulpqKiF85eHT5e/view?usp=sharing

Thinking of Training to be a Teacher?

If you or anyone you know are considering training to be teacher, please click on the link for information with regards to GORSE SCITT events where you can find out more about teacher training programmes, bursaries available and the application process: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Gorse-Scitt-Spring-Information-Evenings.pdf>

Health, Wellbeing and Safety Week

Our annual Health, Wellbeing and Safety Week takes place w/c 26th January. This is a focussed week where we further extend our comprehensive personal development offer for our students, promoting skills for now and into adult life, and to support their wellbeing.

Over the course of the last week, Year 11 students have accessed a range of information and support on revision strategies and organisation in the lead up to their next mock exam period in the final week of this half term. Mr Maxwell has also delivered assemblies to all year groups on the importance of healthy choices to all year groups, sharing information on the importance of making positive choices with diet, exercise and mental health.

During next week students in Years 7-10 will have a range of opportunities to take part in an array of activities that improve their health, wellbeing, and understanding of staying safe. With their peers this

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week, students will take part in an active tutor time session around the importance of keeping good physical and mental health with practical tips for both. Furthermore, students have the chance to sign up for a range of activities which promote health and wellbeing. Different staff will be offering a range of activities that students can sign up to: yoga, crafts, creative writing, PT sessions in our fitness suite, birdwatching and even karaoke to name but a few! We hope to see as many of our students as possible taking advantage of these to support improving their wellbeing and further building on positive relationships between staff and students.

On Monday, 26th January, students in Years 8, 9, and 10 will each access a one-hour session called Red Flags on healthy relationships, delivered by external provider Soundproof Box to promote the importance of safe, positive choices in relationships.

Also, Year 9 students will take part in a workshop run by the Leeds United Foundation on looking after your own Mental Wellbeing and mental resilience across Tuesday 27th and Thursday 28th. Year 7 will watch the SMASHED drama performance which educates pupils on Safe alcohol education on Thursday 28th.

All of Year 7 to 10 will hear from KOOTH on Friday 29th January about how their services can support young people with their Mental Health and Wellbeing. We also have the MindMate and Teen Connect charities in school at lunchtimes sharing information about their services.

Online safety remains a key ongoing focus to support your children and as such we do remind parents to make sure they are monitoring their child's phone usage, use of apps, internet and social media. Unfortunately, it is not uncommon for some of our students to have fallen foul of online issues.

Please find out how a 48-hour detox can be completed at home using the following link:

<https://www.gohenry.com/uk/blog/family/10-digital-detox-tips-for-teens-and-the-rest-of-the-family>

Year 7-11 Rewards Breakfast

Last week, we were delighted to reward our students with an extended form time and free breakfast as a celebration of their fantastic efforts last half term. Achieving zero negatives and attendance of 96% or higher is no small feat, and our students truly rose to the challenge! A huge well done to everyone who earned this reward — keep up the excellent work, and we hope you enjoyed your well-deserved treat! These students were also rewarded with a free lunch for smashing their ATL challenge. Well done all!



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Drama Workshop

Drama students had the exciting opportunity to work with Alex from Thunder Road Theatre Company, creating their own horror theatre. It was a great day exploring new techniques and working with puppets. We are looking forward to his next show already!



Duke of Edinburgh Success

Year 10 students that have completed their Duke of Edinburgh challenge were presented with their certificates today. We're sure you'll agree what a fantastic achievement this is - well done everyone!



Looking for the Perfect Venue? Hire Our Facilities!

Planning a birthday party, community event, fitness session, or weekend gathering? Our facilities are available for evening and weekend bookings, offering flexible spaces to suit a wide range of activities. Our Sports Hall is ideal for children's birthday parties, sports clubs, group activities, and more.

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New availability in our Auditorium! Now open for Sunday afternoon bookings. The perfect space for performances, presentations, rehearsals, workshops, or large community events.

Booking is quick and easy:

Visit: <https://schoolhire.co.uk/leeds/horsforth>

Email: lettings@horsforthschool.org

Secure your space today. We'd love to host your next event!



Sports Fixtures

Year 9 Rugby Yorkshire Cup Semi Finals

The Year 9s lost their semi-final 30-12 to a very well organised Ilkley team who simply managed the game better. The boys put in 100% effort and were really physical in the contact areas, but it simply wasn't enough. It is a great achievement to get to the semi-final when you have only five regular club rugby players compared to Ilkley who have over 14 regular club players. Some great individual performance from Archie, Alex and Joe but all the boys put a shift in.

Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Thank You for Attending our Open Evening

Thank you to all Year 11 students and their families who attended our Open Evening last night. It was great to welcome you and share what we have to offer. We appreciate your time and questions, and we look forward to welcoming you in September.

From Classroom to Kitchen: A Level Spanish Goes Delicious

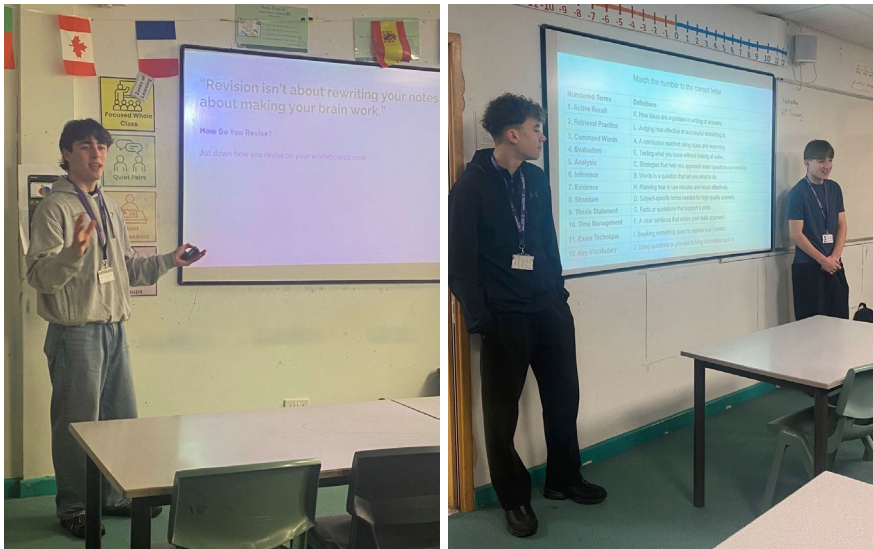
Our Spanish A Level students cooked up an authentic storm after lessons had finished to take home for dinner! Elaborating the traditional tortilla española recipe of eggs, potatoes and onions with their chosen ingredients. The results looked delicious!



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Great Role Models

Well done to our sixth formers who stood up in front of full classrooms of Year 11 students yesterday morning, to share their study and revision tips as part of their Revision Week.



Thank you, as always, for your support.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

School Dinner Menu for the Week Ahead

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

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YU51y5GO-H6-odpxhPOG8zUwpletxJRYfSbz2tSY0A/edit?usp=sharing>

- Please note menus may be subject to change due to product availability.*
- 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.*
- 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

Your child may be eligible for free school meals. It's quick and easy to apply. To find out more, please visit <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-for-free-school-meals>

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