



Horsforth School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

As we reach the end of a very busy half term, the enthusiasm and commitment shown by our students has been wonderful to see. We have had sporting successes across the school, and a brilliant achievement from one of our Year 12 students who made her England Under 17 Young Lionesses debut in Spain. Year 11 students have shown great focus and resilience during their mock exams this week, and Year 13 students are working hard as they prepare for theirs after the break. This term has also been full of opportunities, from Health, Safety and Wellbeing Week to art trips, careers events, university visits and our Sixth Form Open Evening. With so much happening, I think our students have definitely earned their week off, we hope everyone enjoys a well-earned rest over the half term holiday.

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

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vh_42cDimL7WORCMpK_Qp76fjMqiouW/view?usp=drive_link

Piano Masterclass

This week, some of our music students were treated to a Piano Masterclass with internationally renowned concert pianist, Mr Richard Meyrick. The session was a fantastic opportunity for all our pianists to learn some great tips on how to improve their technique and performance, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves!



Ramadan at Horsforth School

As Ramadan begins this month, we want all observing students to feel supported. Fasting students can let their Tutor know, the prayer room will be open at both lunch times, and PE and Music staff will be

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sensitive to students' needs. Absence for Eid can be requested by completing the [Exceptional Leave of Absence Form](#).

A fuller explanation of our Ramadan arrangements including guidance on fasting and PE was shared in last week's [letter](#) for anyone who would like more detail.

We wish all our Muslim families a peaceful Ramadan.

Celebrating Chinese New Year at Horsforth School: Welcoming the Year of the Horse

Chinese New Year is fast approaching, and this year it will be celebrated on 17th February, marking the start of the Year of the Horse. Here at Horsforth School, we are proud to be celebrating Chinese New Year for the seventh consecutive year. From the Year of the Rat to the Year of the Horse in 2026, this annual tradition has become a meaningful and vibrant part of our school calendar, bringing our community together to learn about and appreciate Chinese culture. To mark the occasion, our Mandarin pupils took part in a range of festive classroom activities this week including creating and displaying decorations around the school, helping to spread the spirit of Chinese New Year. We look forward to sharing in this celebration together and wishing everyone a happy, healthy, and prosperous Year of the Horse!



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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 SEND Learning Support Assistant, a Teacher of Geography, a Teacher of Food & Nutrition and an Examinations Officer. 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.

Sports Fixtures

Leeds Schools FA U14G Reach ESFA Semi-Final

Congratulations to Sofia, Allegra and Edith who progressed to the Semi-Final of the English Schools' Football Association (ESFA) Cup with their Leeds Schools FA U14 Girls team. The ESFA Cup is a prestigious national competition, with all Leeds schoolgirls invited to trial to represent the city so this is an amazing achievement. Their team faced Liverpool Schools FA at Walton Hall Park and after a tense 0–0 draw, the match went to penalties, with Leeds winning 4–1 in the shootout.

We're super proud of our girls: special mention to Edith who scored one of the penalties. The Semi-Final will take place on 28th February 2026. We wish the girls the very best of luck!



U13 Netball Tournament Semi-Finalists!

Last week the U13 Netball team travelled to Woodhouse Grove for their league tournament. The girls played exceptionally well and we reached the semi-finals. Our first game was against Woodhouse Grove B team. The girls had warmed up really well, expertly led by our Leeds Schools Netball player Iris. The girls worked as a team and we had plenty of shots. The final score was 5-2. Alice was the Player of the Game due to her excellent shooting accuracy.

We knew our second game would be exceptionally hard as we had to play Leeds Grammar School. The players were better than Miss Lancaster and it was a tough competition. Unfortunately, we lost 11-2 but at least we managed to get a couple of goals due to Hatty and Alice. Additionally, their team made the final (may have even won!) which made it less of a blow for us. Iris was the Player of the Game due to her outstanding interceptions and rebounds.

We knew we had to beat Boston Spa, our next game, as they had previously beat us in a fixture. We had to play for second to get through to the semi-finals. Due to the determination of the girls, we got an early lead, though Boston Spa came back after half-time fighting to win. It was neck and neck, and thankfully due

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to some brilliant defence by Megan and Iris we kept the goals out and Alice scored a winner! The final score was 5-4 with Alice as the Player of the Game again (on fire!).

We were confident with the next game against Woodhouse Grove C team as we knew we had beaten their B team earlier. We came away with a 7-2 win and Iris was nominated once more for her amazing energy in defence. Romy also had a stormer and was versatile enough to play several positions.

In the semi-final unfortunately we had to play the winner of the other group, Woodhouse Grove A team. Although we scored four goals, the team were exceptional and beat us. It was a shame we did not get to play Roundhay, who like us were second in the group and also lost in the semi-finals. That will be a brilliant match next time!

The girls represented the school really well and were a pleasure to take out of school for the afternoon. Of all the Leeds schools a semi-final place is brilliant work! The Player of the Tournament was Alice and the Teacher's Player of the Tournament was Iris.



U12 A Netball V Cardinal Heenan

The girls have been working extremely hard at training over the last few weeks. From the beginning of the game Sophia and Honey were unstoppable in defence and prevented Cardinal Heenan from making any successful shots. Their goal attack was a very good player, but she was unable to make an impact. Esta's energy was unbelievable and she was getting interceptions left, right and centre. Rosie was playing against a difficult opponent as she marked her very tightly. Rosie used lots of agility to get free in the tight space of the circle.

Due to fantastic passes from Manjot, Matilda and Esta we had some successful opportunities. As captain Rose was supporting this. Manjot used her stage two marking to put the opponents under pressure. Horsforth pulled away but I wanted the girls to double their successful shots!

The final score was 4-0 to Horsforth. The Player of the Game was Rose for her super shooting and

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Teacher's Player of the Game was Esta for consistently performing well (even playing two different positions). Well done to all the girls.



Year 10 Football

Our Year 10 team played their final central venue at Guiseley this week against Guiseley and Cardinal Heenan. They were missing four key players but were totally dominant against both teams, beating Guiseley 3-0 and Cardinal Heenan 2-0. George and Calvin scored two great goals, Jacob's passing was brilliant, Alfie and Freddie were tenacious in midfield and Mylo was a threat down the wing.

The Player of the Match was Blake. Fingers crossed the boys continue their great form in the knockout rounds of the competition as they are very likely now North West Leeds division champions.

U12 B Netball V Cardinal Heenan

The girls have worked tremendously hard in training over the last few weeks, braving the cold! From the very start, the girls were enthusiastic in the game, Pippa and Luna were incredible when intercepting the opposing teams' passes, making it difficult for Cardinal Heenan to score points and gain a flow in the game. Congratulations to Isla for winning Player of the Match and for very kindly stepping up to help Cardinal Heenan's team as they were one player down, showing great sportsmanship in the game!

Well done to Aria, Lily, Penny, Grace and Jess for assisting the team with interceptions and consistently putting in effort to get the ball up the court to the shooters. Really good teamwork within the attacking area with Duaa and Millie, faced with a tough defender, they managed to play to their strengths and scored a goal for Horsforth!

Unfortunately, the girls did not manage to win against Cardinal Heenan, with the final score as 4-1,

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however they should be so proud of how much progress they have made at training and how well they work as a team, really inspiring to see!



Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Mock Exams are Just Around the Corner

Wishing all our students the best with their revision over half term - we'll see you after the break. Here's a quick guide to help everyone stay organised.

Year 12 & 13 MOCK EXAMS

Start Time	Monday 23rd February	Tuesday 24th February	Wednesday 25th February	Thursday 26th February	Friday 27th February
08:30	Y13 Maths (2h) Y13 Sociology (2h)	Y12 Further Maths (1h 15) Y13 Further Maths (1h 30) Y13 English Literature (3h)	Y13 English Language (2h 30) Y13 Chemistry (2h 15) Y13 Sport (1h 45)	Y13 Physics (2h) Y13 Media (2h 15) Y13 French (2h 30)	Y13 Politics (2h)
12:50	Y13 Psychology (2h) Y13 RS (2h) Y13 Spanish (2h 30)	Y13 PE (2h) Y13 Music (2h 30) Y13 Economics (2h)	Y13 History (2h 30) Y13 Geography (2h 15) Y13 Computing (2h)	Y13 Biology (2h 15) Y13 Drama (2h 30)	Well done!

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Huge News from Spain!

Abbie in Year 12 made her England U17 Young Lionesses debut this week, coming off the bench in a 1-0 win over Mexico and assisting the winning goal! A proud moment for Abbie, her family and everyone here at our sixth form. Next up is the semi-final against Norway in the Mima Cup, good luck!



Bravo to Our Year 12 & 13 Stars

Congratulations to all our music students for a fantastic evening of solo and ensemble performances! Each student played a key role, creating a truly memorable showcase for their parents, carers, and specially invited guests.



Thank you, as always, for your support.

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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/1EwWpjz-4kfVPS68ewvCMYk0tKzqtTZ29OLWMIWUiplU/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

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>