



## Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

15<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Whilst the weather has been variable our students have been great. All years taking exams have really done themselves proud with their resilience and focus and the wider school has been calm and purposeful. It's rare I share a fixture result at the start but thanks to all staff and students who took part in the Year 13 - staff match on Wednesday, it was a rare win for the staff!

It's quite a short letter this weekend that focussed on online safety.

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

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GOxXNqQu6DcUo0pFODZKQkWOBNXfIYIY/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GOxXNqQu6DcUo0pFODZKQkWOBNXfIYIY/view?usp=drive_link)

### **Online Safety and Mobile Phone Apps**

As part of our safeguarding work, it is our duty to update and signpost parents to advice and support on various safeguarding issues. In this letter, we are choosing Online Safety.

Online safety covers phones, the internet, apps, live gaming and AI. All young people can be exposed to harmful content or conduct and unsafe contact whether it be intentionally or unintentionally.

We use PSHCE lessons and safety week to educate our young people about the risks online, but we also expect parents to support their children navigate this complex world. This may involve open communication, setting technical boundaries, and supervising activity or passwords. Key steps include using parental controls on devices/routers, creating safe, shared spaces for internet use, and discussing risks like cyberbullying or grooming. Regularly check privacy settings, encourage reporting of concerns, and keep devices out of bedrooms at night.

Key Online Safety Strategies for Parents:

- **Open Conversations:** Talk regularly about online activities, asking children what they play, who they talk to, and encouraging them to tell you if they see something upsetting.
- **Parental Controls:** Use tools provided by internet providers and app/game settings to filter inappropriate content.
- **Set Boundaries:** Establish rules on screen time and ensure tablets/phones are used in communal areas, especially for younger children.
- **Understand Platforms:** Research social media apps and games (like Roblox, Fortnite, Instagram) to understand their risks.
- **Encourage Privacy:** Teach children to keep personal information private and not to talk to strangers online.

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Our website has direct links and information for further information, and the below links contain further information especially for parents.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell  
Headteacher

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### **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-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.*

### **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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