

Horsforth School

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Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

8th July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are set for a mini heatwave next week so please send students in with sun cream, hats and plenty of water. Students will not need to wear their jumpers on the corridor next week (but they can if they wish) but please be aware students must still wear ties and have shirts tucked in. Can you also remind your son/daughter that they should not ask to leave class to fill their water bottle, there is plenty of time to do this at lesson changeover, break or lunch.

Year 12 Employability Week

It has been great to be able to support our Year 12 students to deepen their work experience during employability week so many positive messages from employers and students about their experiences. Students have enhanced their understanding of subjects they study by completing super-curricular activities and taking what they study in the classroom further. Well done to all of year 12 for fully embracing this wonderful opportunity.

Trips

It was great to see so many students setting off on trips over the last few weeks. Students have enjoyed going on various outings and residential such as the CCF Summer Camp, the Stephen Fry lecture, Oxford University college experience, the Year 12 higher education exhibition, Geography field trips, Thackray Medical Museum and even the Girls into Electronics event at Sheffield University. These are so important to deepen learning and really drive up subject enthusiasm!

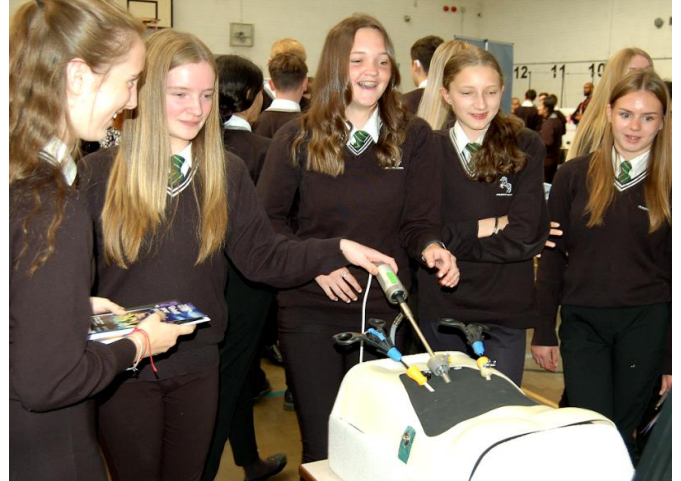
Character Badges for Years 7 and 8

We are delighted to have given out the final character award badges to years 7 and 8 this week. The final badge was for their participation in the wellbeing week and the letter to Mrs Nowell about what they had learnt. It is lovely to see so many of our students wearing these badges with pride. We really hope that the character programme has promoted new personal skills and personal development as a whole; and we look forward to rolling this out next year with these year groups. There will be special mentions in the upcoming celebration assemblies to all those students who have collected all 6 badges. Well done from all of us.

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

Horsforth School Careers Fair

We were delighted to be able to host our annual Careers Fair after a two-year break. It came back bigger and better than ever. Thank you to all the employers who were able to come and support this event. We had a mix of local and national employers as well as Colleges and Universities supporting the Fair. Students were able to talk to Channel 4, Sky, Ministry of Justice, NHS England, Surgical Innovations, Tudor International Freight, Dudley's, Leeds United and all the Leeds Universities. The stalls were interactive, students got a chance to ask questions and have a go. The feedback from employers and students was very positive. We hope students found the event useful in aiding them to start making decisions for their future career paths.



Rewards Week w/c 18th July

Week commencing 18th July is our celebration week for all students in years 7-10. Students will have their own rewards day at the theme parks or the fun-based school activities and on Friday 22nd, all students will end the year with an extended celebration assembly.

Students in years 7-9 will be going to Flamingo Land and students in Year 10 are going to Alton Towers. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate so many students who have brought their personal best to school this year and earned their places on the trips or fun activities in school. I wish them a safe, yet fun time and I hope the weather continues to be dry and fine for these days.

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

Important information about the trips will be emailed to all parents next week, so please do look out for this. Students will need to be here much earlier for the external trips and will be expected back much later than normal. It is essential you make sure your child has their asthma spray or other medical equipment with them for these trips and you must call reception this week if there is anything we need to know urgently about your child in terms of illness or medical concerns for the external trips.

Uniform

May I take this opportunity to remind you that all students must be dressed in the correct uniform.

Students must wear:

- shoes, not trainers
- formal school trousers, not leggings or skin-tight trousers and these must be full length and not three-quarter length or the Horsforth School skirt

Students are not allowed additional piercings, we only allow 2 small studs in the bottom ear lobe. Students will be required to remove any additional piercing(s).

Full uniform checks will be carried out in September and students will be withdrawn from classes if not in correct uniform. We absolutely do not want this to happen, but uniform sets an important standard across the school and is a vital part of a school's culture and ethos.

We appreciate some families might need support, please contact the school finance office or your child's PBO if this is the case, we do have a hardship fund and second-hand items. We are working with Horsforth Children's Services to set up a second-hand exchange and details will be shared soon.

Year 8 Ambassadors

We are delighted to announce that the new initiative to have students on a day's work experience within reception is a real success. Student feedback shows that they have grown in confidence, developed new skills, worked with a range of adults, visitors or peers and most of all have had a real sense of pride taking on this responsibility. We will continue this into next year. A special thank you to Mr Maxwell for his support and organisation of this initiative.

COVID and other illness

I do apologise that we will be unable to organise an event where parents can come and see the new building. I was hoping to be able to run the Headteachers Quiz one evening or a Wimbledon weekend but due to the upturn in COVID cases and other illnesses we are experiencing higher than usual staff absence. The school remains calm and purposeful but I would like to remind students that they can still wear masks if they wish and I strongly encourage all staff and students to wash/sanitise their hands regularly.

We are really looking forward to the rewards days in the final week of term but we will have to look at these in the light of staffing absence if there is a continued increase.

Just to remind you that students who test positive should **isolate for three days** after the positive result and can return to school then unless they continue to have symptoms. I would just remind you that the DfE have stated we are no longer allowed to issue test kits to students and have had to return our remaining kits. Cases in students are extremely low.

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

Sports Fixtures

Cricket

Year 8 beat Guiseley by 60 runs. Player of the match - Evan

As we move into the penultimate week of term the weather, student and staff mood and the school's future are very bright! Our new building is working well and, after the completion of the summer works, we will be well set up for the future.

Thank you, as always, for feedback and kind messages.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher