



Horsforth School

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Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

16th September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Just to confirm the email sent this week, the school will be closed on Bank Holiday Monday 19th for the State Funeral of Queen Elizabeth II.

We have, as a school, been recognizing her dignified, stoic and inspirational life of service. Whether a Royalist or a Republican I hope we can all recognise her character and dignity. It's astounding to reflect on the fact that she has had 15 Prime Ministers, from Churchill to Truss and despite the fact she could not have agreed with them all she never once publicly questioned or undermined them once.

What Your Child Will Learn

If you do want to know what your son or daughter is studying by subject each term please look here:

Year 7: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/learning-journeys-year-7/>

Year 8: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/learning-journeys-year-8/>

Year 9: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/learning-journeys-year-9/>

Year 10: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/learning-journeys-year-10/>

Year 11: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/learning-journeys-year-11/>

I realise that teenagers are sometimes not the best at communicating so it might be helpful and our remote learning tab on the website is still really useful if they want to revise or just go over something from a lesson: <https://sites.google.com/horsforthschool.org/home-learning-portal/home>

Year 7 and 12 Information Evenings

It was wonderful to see so many parents at our information evenings last week where we outlined the key staff involved with each Year group, expectations and how you can support your child at home.

All of the resources from the Year 7 evening are on the website:

<https://www.horsforthschool.org/school/letters-home-year-7/>

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

Extra-Curricular Activities

Exams and lessons are important but so is developing social skills, making friends and getting involved in wider school life. I really encourage all students to take part in extracurricular activities, they are not just fun but valuable development opportunities.

Please see the link to our Extra Curricular Programme (which starts next week) and if I could ask you to discuss and really encourage your son/daughter to choose at least one club or activity to try or continue.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/13EenHfjvmKJcWV-aPWgUHfpBtzSqYhM0SeTnXbQSglKE/edit?usp=sharing>

Your Views on Horsforth School

I really value your views. I am keen to find out what we are doing well (to keep doing) or something you think should be improved.

I am tremendously proud of our students, staff and the school. I know that even this year with the highest attainment in Leeds we are not perfect so I would really appreciate it if you could take the time (a few minutes maximum) to respond to our survey.

It consists of two free text questions which you can skip:

1. A suggestion to improve the school would be:
2. A strength or something I like about the school is:

Followed by 15 multiple choice questions. It can be taken in under two minutes.

<https://forms.gle/9dsDGRubf7dxVndA9>

How We Learn

We have been using research and evidence-based practice to improve learning for the past few years (it is really working!). If you are interested in knowing more about this and a few strategies to support student revision, this is a really useful website with videos and explanations:

<https://www.learningscientists.org/videos>

Money Information Centre (MIC)

As the cost of living rises I understand there may be households who need debt or money advice. There are some useful numbers for key services in Leeds, offering free, confidential and impartial advice on energy bills and utilities by clicking [here](#).

Key Dates and the School Calendar

The school calendar for 2022-23 can now be seen on our school website or by clicking [here](#) - this includes details of all of the exciting trips, visits and events that will be taking place over the year and also details of key events such as parents' evenings. The dates of key events (such as training days, reports and year group specific activities) can also be found in the Key Dates document that will be shared with parents next week.

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

Leeds Children's Mayor

It would be wonderful to have the Leeds Children's Mayor coming from Horsforth. Lucy Peacock at Newlaithes school is standing so please pass on the opportunity to vote (you must be under 18) to anyone eligible. Her manifesto focus will be to raise awareness of the struggles faced by families and children due to the rising cost of living.

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/children-and-families/youth-democracy/childrens-mayor-election>

Sports Fixtures

We are kicking off the sports programme for this academic year and our Year 11 boys have triumphed at St Mary's Menston this week 3-2 in a thrilling match. The outstanding performer was Max who was the hat trick hero!

The first two weeks have been really positive and students and staff have come back with enthusiasm and energy. Walking around the school it is really great to see so many students giving their personal best every day.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to another very successful year.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

'Opportunity and achievement for all'