



Horsforth School

Lee Lane East Horsforth

Leeds LS18 5RF

Tel: 0113 226 5454

Fax: 0113 226 5401

Email: info@horsforthschool.org

Website: www.horsforthschool.org

Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

30th September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Last night our doors opened once again for the highly popular Open Evening event for prospective Year 6 students and their families. We saw record numbers visit and the feedback was overwhelmingly popular. I want to thank all of the students who came back to support in subject areas or support as tour guides and greeters. Our students made us proud and represented the School exceptionally well, please pass on my thanks to them if your child helped on the night and a special thanks to William and Will for helping with my speeches!



I do plan to record my speech as some parents were not able to get to a talk as we were full to capacity. I do apologise to anyone who couldn't get in.

Welcome - New Parent Trustee

Please join me in welcoming new Parent Trustee, Martin Hicks to the board. His business and governance experience is greatly welcomed and I would like to thank him for agreeing to support the School in this extremely valuable and important role.

Dance Success!

Massive well done to Lilia in Year 11. She competed in a regional qualifier competition in ballroom dancing, dancing all five ballroom dances: waltz, tango, Viennese waltz, foxtrot and quickstep.

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

Not only did Lilia qualify to dance in the national finals in Blackpool next April, she won the competition and is now North East regional ballroom champion!

Lilia's younger sister Matilda in Year 7 also competed, qualifying for the finals in Blackpool and placing 3rd in yesterday's regional final. Amazing!



Character Rewards

On Monday and Tuesday this week, I had the privilege of handing out certificates and badges to all of year 8 and year 9 for their participation in last year's character programme. It was lovely to see so many students still wearing last year's badges with pride and for us to give them the recognition they deserve. All students were given an extended break time to say thank you and well done. The atmosphere in the assembly hall was superb and we hope many of our lower school students participate this year in the same way as demonstrated last year.

Below are some of our Year 9 students on the day with their certificates.



Mental Health Support

The mental health and wellbeing of our young people continues to be a priority. We had a very successful health and safety week in June where students learnt about the importance of self -help, self-care and resilience. They were given a variety of tools to use if they feel their mood or emotions changing more than usual or if they feel overwhelmed, generally stressed or anxious.

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

We will continue to promote positive mental health and ways to look after our wellbeing this term. We will be using world mental health day on the 10th October to launch the new planner pages which are designed to support our students. Please do take a look at these pages, (page 8 onwards) and use these with your children if you have concerns. We will be basing a form activity around these pages.

There is a wealth of information online and some great services such as free online counselling that young people can utilise from home, confidentially and for free. We highly recommend Kooth. The www.Kooth.com service offers free, online, same day, BACP-accredited support and counselling for 10-18 year olds, as well as a range of activities and resources designed to support mental and emotional wellbeing. There aren't any thresholds or criteria to meet, and no waiting lists. We do allow students to have Kooth appointments during school time. Young people sign themselves up on the Kooth.com website.

Mrs Nowell has sent out a separate email with further details about Kooth and other avenues of support, please do take time to read this if it is relevant for you or your family right now.

Horsforth Student Completes 3 Peaks Challenge for Charity



... remembering Tracy; <https://lnkd.in/d/T6eKcEM>

Henry, Sam and Lee knocked off the 3 Peaks Challenge on Friday ... Running for Tracy, we've now raised over £3000 for Maggie's Cancer Care and did her proud.

Total of 40 kms in 7.5 hours up and over Pen y Ghent, Whernside and Ingleborough, each over 2000ft high. Henry took leave from school and despite the rigors reckoned it was better than school. His legs ran out after 27km and 2 mountains.

Henry joined a very competent support crew in the car providing food and water on wheels. Fantastic effort rewarded by ales and great food at the pub in Settle.

Lost Property

From Friday 30th September students will be able to look for any items they have lost in the main school hall. All lost property will be put in there for 3 weeks after which time it will be given to charity.

Please help us by ensuring that your child's name is in all of their uniform and coats so that we can reunite them easily.

'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/13EenHfjvmKJcW-aPWgUHfpBtzSqYhM0SeTnXbQSglKE/edit?usp=sharing>

Sports Fixtures

Year 11 Netball

Horsforth 5 - 9 Abbey Grange

Horsforth 5 – 22 Guiseley

Hannah – player of the tournament

Sophie – teachers' player of the tournament

Year 8 Football

Horsforth 2-0 St Mary's, Menston - Josh player of the match

Horsforth 2-1 Prince Henry's GS - Joshua player of the match

Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Thank you to all of the Sixth Form students who supported us at our annual Open Evening. We are so proud of the A Level Science students who led most of the experiments and are delighted to be able to offer these opportunities to our students who are thinking about next steps.



'Opportunity and achievement for all'

Sixth Form students also stepped up in other departments such as Art where there was an impressive display of work and Music where some of our most talented students performed for delighted students and their parents.



Sixth Form at Horsforth Charity Drive

Our Sixth Form Students have led a charity initiative in school joining forces with Yorkshire based charities, Sporting Heritage **CIC** and **Action for Sport** asking people to donate their unwanted football boots, trainers and sports kit

Thank you for your overwhelming support with this charity event. You donated over 400 items of clothing that will go to children and young adults around the country to allow them to participate in sport. You have also generously donated pre-owned PE kit that some of our students need, which is amazing.



Sixth Form at Horsforth - Future Leaders

Some of our Year 13 students have recently put themselves forward for the position of Head Student. The candidates have given impressive speeches to their Peers and Teachers today during assembly. Videos of the speeches will also be shared with all staff and voting to determine the winner of this prestigious role will commence next week. Watch this space!

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

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>

Follow Us on Our Social Media:

You can keep up to date with school events by following us on social media.

Main School: Instagram: @horsforthschool, Facebook: Horsforth School, Twitter: @HorsforthSchool

Sixth Form: Instagram: @sixthform_athorsforth, Facebook: Sixth Form at Horsforth

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'