



Horsforth School

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Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

27th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for the lovely feedback from our Year 9 Parents Evening on Thursday and our SEND drop in on Wednesday. It's great to see you again in person and connect personally, it was also great to hear so many positive things being said about our wonderful students.

Strike Action

I updated you on this last week and have shared a dedicated letter on our preparation. The largest teaching union, the NEU, has voted for strike action. This is a dispute with the government over pay and there are 4 days that are proposed to affect schools in our area:

- Wednesday 1st February
- Tuesday 28th February
- Wednesday 15th March
- Thursday 16th March

Over half of the teaching staff at Horsforth are members of the NEU and, as such, it means we will have to restrict attendance. Therefore, the school is only open on Wednesday 1st February to all students who are in Years 11, 12 and 13. In addition to this the school is open for children who are vulnerable or whose parents are Critical Workers. The Department for Education is asking schools to prioritise exam years hence Years 11 and 13 and we are open to Year 12 as they can work independently if their teacher is absent.

We will plan for the remaining three days of strikes after 1st February and I will update you as soon as I can.

For the purpose of the strike days we are classing children of critical workers as those whose parents work in frontline NHS, emergency services or education.

All years will have learning set on that day even if they are not in school and will be expected to complete it remotely. This will be set online but if you cannot access this then we can also provide paperwork. If this is the case **please complete this form by 7pm tonight:** <https://forms.gle/vx3kbhKursmmyFxy8>

The children of critical workers will complete this work in school, they will not receive any different learning to their peers and will only be in their usual classes if their year group is in normal lessons. If you

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would like your **child to be in the critical worker provision on the 1st February please complete this form by 7pm tonight:** <https://forms.gle/xZM2mnTcGCag4pmP7>

Students Currently Choosing Options

Students in several year groups are currently in the process of choosing subject options for the next academic year, whilst others are about to embark on this exciting process in the coming weeks. Year 11 students who have applied to come to our Sixth Form next year are all being interviewed over the coming weeks and are finalising their option choices during those meetings. They will hear in due course if they have been successful in securing a conditional offer for September but so far, we have been extremely impressed with the quality of their applications.

Year 9 are all busy choosing their final two GCSE options having attended the recent options evening and been involved in a week of support assemblies to help guide them. The deadline for their on-line option choices is Friday 10 February.

Year 8 are also about to embark upon their first options week and a separate letter to all Year 8 parents and carers should be arriving today with details of the options evening, the options process and the subjects on offer to Year 8 as they move into Year 9. If anyone requires any support with any of the options processes please email info@horsforthschool.org FAO Mrs Wright.

Vacancies

Two very exciting opportunities have arisen for a Teacher of Maths and a Teacher of Design to join Horsforth School.

If you are interested in these roles please click on this link <https://www.horsforthschool.org/vacancies/> or call 0113 2265454 for further details.

Sports Fixtures

Year 8 League Champions!

On Tuesday night our Year 8 Football Team enjoyed another successful night's football. Beating Benton Park 4-0 and Lawnswood 2-1, meaning with two games to spare we have won the North West Leeds League. An amazing achievement (once again) to have won leagues against some very competitive schools.

Players of the Matches:

Benton – Will

Lawnswood – Jake.

Boys' Football

Year 10 3 vs 0 Ilkley

Girls' Netball

U13 7 vs 2 Morley

U15 6 vs 5 Morley

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Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Visit from our MP

Our MP, Stuart Andrew, kindly came to discuss Parliament, our electoral system and current affairs with our A Level Politics class today. A lively discussion was had and a massive thank you to Stuart who was able to contextualise the curriculum and learning with real, lived examples.



Thank you, as always, for your support.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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