

Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

28th April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you enjoy the Bank Holiday Monday coming and we have good weather.

As we have fewer days in school over the next few weeks it is even more important for students who are not in school on the strike days to access the remote learning and live remote lessons. Even if a teacher is absent, the learning on Century Tech is tailored to each student and is high quality so if I could ask for your support to ensure students engage with all work set. Students have been making great progress with Century Tech and the reports it gives us really show the impact so thank you for your support.

Strike Day Plans

A reminder of our plans for the strike day on Tuesday 2nd May.

	Tuesday 2 May
Year 7	Remote learning with live lessons if the teacher is present following the usual timetable. If the teacher is striking or absent then the remote learning set on the Google Classroom.
Year 8	Remote learning with live lessons if the teacher is present following the usual timetable. If the teacher is striking or absent then the remote learning set on the Google Classroom.
Year 9	Remote learning with live lessons if the teacher is present following the usual timetable. If the teacher is striking or absent then the remote learning set on the Google Classroom.
Year 10	Remote learning with live lessons if the teacher is present following the usual timetable. If the teacher is striking or absent then the remote learning set on the Google Classroom. Some students will be invited in to complete coursework.
Year 11	Attend school and report to the Sixth Form building (be onsite by 8:20)
Year 12	Students will come into school and attend lessons of staff who are present (a list will be posted on the Google Classroom)
Year 13	Attend school for lessons and revision sessions running (a list will be posted on the Google Classroom)

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Students must arrive before 8:20am (normal start time) through the back entrance to the school and will be learning and having lunch in the new Sixth Form campus.

Year 12 students should come in only for lessons they have been informed by Mr Watkins that are running.

Key Worker and Vulnerable Provision Strike Days 27th April and 2nd May

The provision will be available to invited vulnerable students only and to children of critical workers only (education, emergency response, health care and social services).

We have a limited number of places due to low staffing and we ask if children can work from home safely, they do so.

Students in the Critical Worker and Vulnerable provision will complete the same work as those at home which will be independent learning tasks set online. There will be no teaching on these days in school. Staff will supervise learning and ensure student safety at unstructured times. If you need a place as a critical worker, please complete the form below by Monday 24th April at noon when the form will close. Please note, once you complete the form, if you meet the criteria, your place is secure and we do not reply to give confirmation of the place.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfAnuanbrDIpubE363rwk2S4fzA9r4AGIFNwCLe70IbHSOEQA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Ofqual Student Guide 2023

Ofqual has published its [2023 Student Guide](#) on this year's approach to exams. It does not contain any new information that students do not already have but is a useful reminder in student friendly language.

Mental Health Update

We continue to work hard with our students around supporting their wellbeing and mental health. As part of this, I am pleased to make you aware that we had a guest speaker from KOOTH come to assemblies this week to talk about their free online support services for young people. This offers free confidential counselling for young people and they can access the site in school or at home.

To validate the work we have been doing, we are aiming to achieve Mindmate friendly status for the school which is an award marking our work and achievements in this area. On Thursday 4th May we will be inspected and we will update you on the outcome.

We have updated our mental health policy, which is on the website, but we have included a link here, should you wish to view this: <https://www.horsforthschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Mental-Health-and-Wellbeing-Policy.pdf>

Our team of student mental health ambassadors have been busy writing their own student friendly version of this policy which will be shared with all students.

SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) Parent/Carer Drop In

Linked to improving communication we really want to be able to support our students who need it the

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most even better.

Our SEND team in school works to support the education of students who need additional help and support in line with their needs in order to make progress.

Whether your child is currently on the SEND register or you are questioning whether they have a potential SEND and there is something you wish to discuss or ask for advice on, we would like to give you the opportunity to do so on a drop-in basis for a 10 to 15 minute consultation.

We hope this will give parents and carers an opportunity to speak to one of the team who can discuss possible support options with you in a timely manner.

This is new so please do bear with us. In order for us to plan for the event, please email sendadmin@horsforthschool.org if you wish to attend.

Some of our team will be available between 3.30 and 5pm on Wednesday 17th May in the library.

Please be aware that if we have a high volume of parents and carers wanting to attend we may have to offer an alternative date in addition to this. We will notify you if this is the case.

There is no need to make an appointment for a specific time, just let us know you're coming and drop in! There may be a slight wait but we will do our best to keep this short.

The Coronation

Students will have a dedicated PSHCE lesson learning about this event and how it links to the Fundamental British Values.

Year 7 Mandarin Excellence Trip

Our Year 7 students who are on the Mandarin Excellence Programme had a fantastic trip to Leeds University this week. They explored Chinese music with Transition and created their own Chinese songs. They also enjoyed their Chinese painting, Hanfu workshop and Kongfu Fan workshops with Leeds Confucius Institute. Joseph won the best painting prize, congratulations!



7T Bake Sale

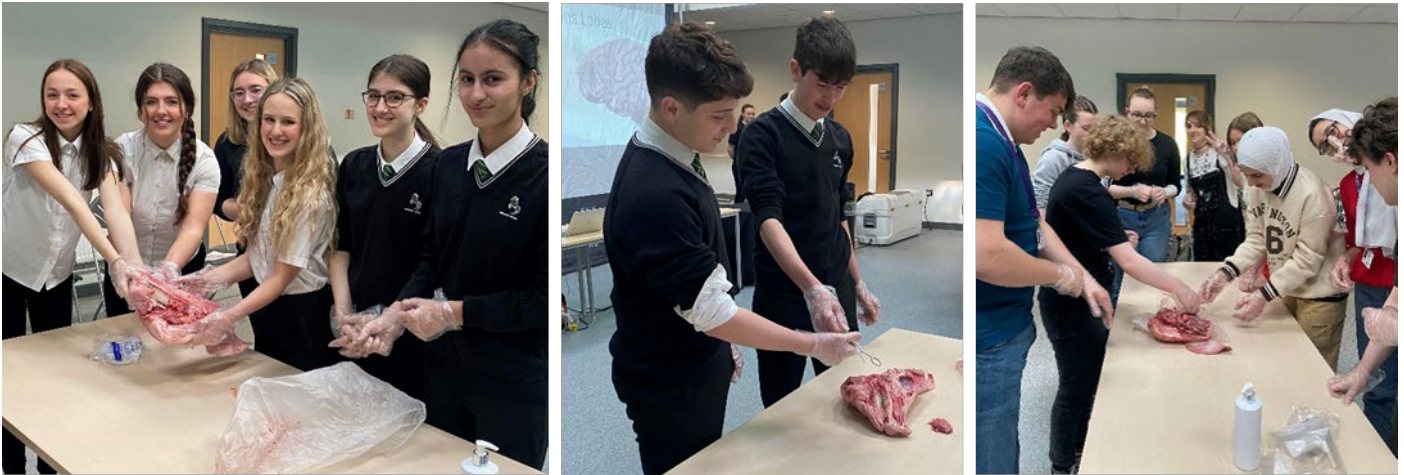
At their bake sale last Friday, Form group 7T raised £60.50! The money is going towards Cancer Research

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and the earthquake fund in Turkey. Thank you to Miss Tordoff for organising and well done 7T for the amazing effort.

The Post Mortem Live Anatomy Lab.

On Tuesday some of our Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 students were treated to a visit from The Post Mortem Live Anatomy Lab. They had a fantastic time honing their dissecting skills, thank you to Mrs Briggs for organising the experience!



Thinking about teaching?

There are still opportunities for you to train to be a teacher, with GORSE SCITT, from September 2023. GORSE SCITT is rated Outstanding by Ofsted and successfully supports and trains teachers across all subjects in the primary and secondary phases.

If you would like to find out more about what it is like to work in a school environment GORSE SCITT offers a School Experience Programme where you can shadow a teacher for the day or Taster Days where you can find out more about what the Initial Teacher Training course entails.

For further information please visit their website www.gorsescitt.org.uk or contact us by calling 0113 4871777 or by emailing us at info@gorsescitt.org.uk.

Extra-curricular Activities

It is great to see how many of our students have been involved in our fabulous extra-curricular programme over the past two terms but it is not too late for students who have yet to join in, to find a club they might be interested in and come along in the new term.

A reminder of what we offer can be found [here](#) and also on each of the year group tabs of the website under the 'Clubs, Trips and After-school activities' button. Here you can see exactly what is on offer for each year group. The list is constantly being updated and added to and several new activities are now on offer that students may want to get involved in.

We hope that every student manages to engage with the programme in some way before the end of the school year as it is a great way to meet new people, learn new skills and have fun whilst doing it.

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Extra-Curricular Golf

We had our first extra-curricular golf session on Wednesday night. The students we had really enjoyed it and the sixth form student leaders were fantastic, sharing their knowledge and expertise coaching! Students that helped were Josh, Sam and Joe. This is a great facility at school and we now have the equipment for lessons which will start after May half term.



Sports Fixtures

Year 8 cruised into the Semi Finals of the Leeds Cup with a complete performance over Garforth, a team which they had heavily to in the final last year. The score was 3-0 and to a man Horsforth were far the better side. Special mentions to Jake, Kupa and Leo but player of the match was Josh for a dominant display at the back. A very mature performance which Mr Jacques and Mr Maxwell have been waiting for, for some time!

Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Golf Academy Success - P18 USA Achievement

We are so proud and delighted for one of our original Golf Academy students, Zara Ali who as a result of her hard work and skill has been offered a full Scholarship at California State University Fullerton. This is an exceptional achievement for this young talented golfer to gain a placement at a top university and we will hopefully be seeing her play professionally in the future.



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Find Out What Goes on at the Sixth Form at Horsforth

Connect with us:



[Sixth Form at Horsforth](#)



[@sixthform_athorsforth](#)

I really appreciate your patience and understanding in what has been a disrupted and disjointed term so far. Disruption due to industrial action has been unavoidable and I do apologise if it has caused you difficulties.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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