

Horsforth School and the Sixth Form at Horsforth

DECEMBER 2023
NEWSLETTER

As our first full term of this academic year draws to a close, I would like to share some of the lovely things that have taken place.

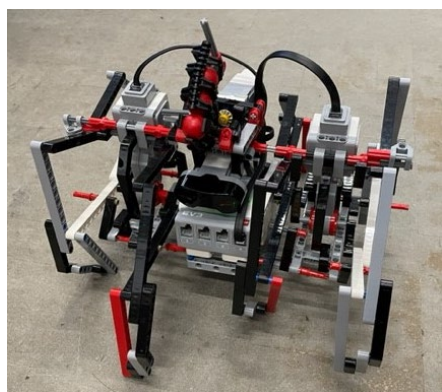
Student Successes

Some wonderful things have happened this term (and in the run up to this term!), or varying nature, which make me incredibly proud of our students. Here are some standout events:



- In the summer Caitlin was invited to attend the prestigious UKMT summer school, an event only attended by the Maths Challenge high achievers. She's now part of the mentoring scheme, well done!
- Following on from Caitlin's success, our sixth formers took part in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge with 81% achieving an award: a new record! Standout performances included Patrick who was awarded "Best in Year 13" and "Best in School" and Jamie awarded "Best in Year 12".

- In our after-school Robotics Club, Oliver in Year 8 made a fully moving and remote-controlled robot. Such dedication to something he enjoys!
- Our sixth form student leadership team was elected for this academic year. Tiff and Arian in Year 13 are our new Head Students and Lariab and Darren in Year 12 the deputies. They are already pressing ahead with their plans.
- This year our sixth form Diversity and Inclusion drive will be led by Aya and her deputy Lily, I can't wait to see what they achieve.
- Another of our sixth form students who is part of our Golf Academy, is off to study at Bluefield State University in the USA after A Levels next summer. Well done Josh, such an exciting time for you!



'Opportunity and achievement for all'



- From 400,000 students taking part in the Bebras Computing Challenge, nine of our students have been invited to compete in the Oxford University Computing Challenge next, congratulations and good luck!
- On a sporting front, highlights for me include our amazing cross-country team (Alfie, Timothy, James, Rhys, Alex, Jake, Alfie, Lucy, Danielle, Daphne and Rebecca) who have represented us with great determination.
- Football accomplishments include our Year 7 girls football team's great first win in the cup, our Year 9 football team progressing well in the cup rounds and our Year 11 football team who go from strength to strength. The talented team are progressing fantastically through the rounds of the national cup and the Leeds Cup. What momentum, keep going!
- Our Year 9 rugby team qualified for the next round of the Yorkshire Bowl Round Robin.
- India in Year 8 continues on her ice-skating journey with a silver medal at the London Opens.
- Lilia in Year 12 and Matilda in Year 8, both qualified for the national ballroom and Latin dance finals.
- Our Year 9 and 10 Cadet students attended the Black Rat cadet exercise and came second overall out of nearly 30 schools, well done!
- Finally, our student leadership team for Years 7 to 11 was elected. Congratulations to Head Student Abi and the deputies Anya and Elena, I'm excited to hear about your plans for the year!

We're Getting Christmassy



Our annual student Christmas card competition has been another success! There were some fantastic submissions but the winning entry went to Emilia in Year 7. Well done, the digital card will be sent out to wish schools across Leeds a very Merry Christmas.

And, like every other year, our school and sixth form Christmas trees look wonderful. Thanks to the Reception Team and our sixth form students for lovingly decorated them!



'Opportunity and achievement for all'

Summer Success



A little before the start of this school year, our students received their GCSE and A Level results.

Every year we are proud, but this was the first year where grades and exams were almost to pre-pandemic expectations and they did exceptionally well! In fact, we achieved the highest state school A Level results in Leeds for the second year running!

An incredibly proud moment for our students, their families and our staff, so well done!

Fundraising and Charity Events



Every year we raise money for Children in Need, and this year was no different. Our older students dressed in fancy dress and our younger ones had a non-uniform day. We raised nearly £1300, half the money was donated to Children in Need and half to Heartspoken.

Our sixth formers did a fantastic job for this year's Macmillan coffee morning...everything was snapped up!



And, still to come is our Festive Jumper Day to raise money for Save the Children...a lovely way to finish off the term!

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Trips, Visits and Clubs

Our calendar of trips, visits and clubs has been jampacked this term, here are just some of the highlights.



Christmas Production



Our school production has been another great success this year with 90 students taking part in Un-Tangled.

A yearly tradition, there was some amazing acting, behind the scenes technical work and a beautiful stage scene, which made for a thoroughly enjoyable performance.

Well done everyone!

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Open Evenings



We were blown away by the number of Year 6 and Year 11 families who came to our open evenings this term.

As always, this wouldn't have been possible without the support of our students who do an amazing job of showcasing what we can offer – we couldn't have done it without you, so thank you!



Final Sixth Form Open Evening

Year 11 families still have one more chance to come and look around our sixth form campus. We will open our doors on Thursday 25th January 2024. [Register for a free ticket here](#) and share with friends from other local schools who may wish to join us, thank you!

Ofsted Report



I wanted to end my newsletter about the positive Ofsted report we received this term.

There are so many wonderful quotes that recognise the fantastic work of our students and staff.

[You can access the report here.](#)

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On behalf of everyone at Horsforth School and the Sixth Form at Horsforth, I would like to thank you for your continued support this term, it means so much. Our best wishes to you and your family for a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Dr P C Bell
Headteacher

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