



## Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

It was good to meet and talk with those parents who came to our Parent/Carer drop in, thank you for your suggestions, thoughts and kind words.

During this time of year, when there are seasonal coughs and colds, it has been great to see students still giving their best in every lesson even if their teacher is absent. As I pop into lessons the climate for learning is great and our students, based on the mock results, are making great progress.

Apologies for another reminder, it will be the last, but as we head into December I am monitoring the weather (online and on duty) so our snow and emergency closure information follows.

### **Snow and Emergency Closure**

If there is snow forecast we will start assessing site safety and how safely students and staff can get to school from 4:30am. We will always try and let you know any decisions as soon as we can but it can be challenging if snow falls heavily at the wrong time.

Whilst most students can walk to school almost all staff have to travel further so it can sometimes be that staff will not be able to get in. I will usually go for a delayed opening for the snow ploughs and gritters to ensure staff can arrive (unless the site cannot be cleared and it is unsafe) and we will inform you via text message or the SIMS app as well as putting a message on our website, if we have to do this or, heaven forbid, close.

If we do close then students will be set remote learning online so students should check they can login to Century Tech, Sparx Maths and subject specific software.

### **UnTangled**

Our Christmas production is taking place on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> December. Tickets are being sold on the Leadership corridor at break time and prices are £7 and £5 concession.



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## Christmas Card Competition

Thank you to the students who entered our Christmas Card Competition this year. Please see below our winning entry submitted by Emilia in Year 7, and our three runners up: Sophie from Year 7, Anna from Year 7 and Amy from Year 9. Congratulations Emilia and well done to the other artists!



## Bebras Computing Challenge Congratulations

Over 400,000 students from around the UK took part in the Bebras Computing Challenge last week and 206 of them were from our school (Year 8 and Year 10). The next stage of this challenge is the Oxford University Computing Challenge which is only available to students who achieved a top 10% score in this challenge. Nine Horsforth School students have been invited to compete in the Oxford challenge, so congratulations go to Amber, Ewan, Izzy, Jacob, Joshua, Emmy, Anastasis, Marley and Max. The Oxford University Computing Challenge will take place in mid- January, so good luck and keep doing what you are doing!



## Vacancies

Very exciting opportunities have arisen for an Exam Invigilator, Admin Assistant (KS3) and an Evening Facilities and Lettings Officer, 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.

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## Ice Skating Success

At the weekend, Year 8 student India competed with her team in the London Opens for Synchronised Skating. She came 2nd gaining a Silver Medal. Congratulations India!



## SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Parent/Carer Drop In

Our SEND team in school work 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 10-15 minute consultation with a member of the team. We trialled this last year and it seemed to work well in the main. This is linked to our continuing drive to improve communication and to supporting even further, our students who need it the most.

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. Some of our team will be available between 3.30 and 5pm on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** in the library.

This is still relatively new so please do bear with us whilst we work out how this works best. In order for us to plan for the event, please can you email [sendadmin@horsforthschool.org](mailto:sendadmin@horsforthschool.org) if you wish to attend. 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 as this is a 'drop in' but we will do our best to keep this as short as possible.

## Fixtures

### Monday:

Our Year 11 Football Team are through to the next round of the Leeds Cup with a far from convincing performance over Ilkley Grammar. Goals from Dan and Emre saw us race into a 2-0 lead. However, credit to Ilkley who brought it back to 2-2, taking the tie to penalties.

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We eventually came out on top 4-3 in the penalty shootout and a special mention has to go to Harry who produced a ridiculous save to allow Tom to score the winning penalty. Other noticeable performances came, once again, from Eddie and Luke.

### Tuesday:

Our Year 9 Football Team won 5-1 last night in the next round of the cup against Temple Moor Academy with Jake scoring three goals. The boys represented the school really well both on and off the field.

Our Year 10 Football Team beat Benton Park in a convincing 3-1 win with a depleted side. Well done to all boys involved, great attitude and performance. All goals were from Jimmy. The Player of the Match was Jimmy.

### Cross Country

It was race three at Prince Henry's Grammar School. All pupils represented the school and showed great determination and resilience in freezing conditions.

Under 13's Boys Positions: Alfie - 3<sup>rd</sup>, James - 9<sup>th</sup>, Timothy - 12<sup>th</sup>, Jake - 22<sup>nd</sup>, Alfie - 26<sup>th</sup>.

Under 13's Girls Positions: Lucy - 10<sup>th</sup>, Danielle - 11<sup>th</sup>.

Under 15s Girls Position: Daphne - 7<sup>th</sup>, Rebecca - 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Connect with Us**

We love to share good news stories about our students. So, if your son or daughter is in Years 7 to 11, connect with us to see some of the trips, events and activities they will experience this year.



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### ***Sixth Form at Horsforth News***

#### Our Head Students Aspirations

This week we shared a lovely video of both Tiff and Arian, our Head students. It was great to hear why they wanted to be our Head Students, what they have done so far and what they plan to do. [You can watch them on Instagram here.](#)

#### Sixth Form Applications Are Open

Applications to join our sixth form from September 2024 are now open. Parents of our Year 11 students have been emailed all the details this week, so be sure to fill in the form as soon as possible.

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Couldn't Make our November Open Evening?

Don't worry, we have another opportunity to come and look around our sixth form campus on 25th January 2024. [All the details about what to expect on the evening are here >> plus how to register for a free ticket.](#)

Thank you, as always, for your support, patience and understanding.

Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell  
Headteacher