



Horsforth School

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Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

19th January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you to everyone who has replied to the parent forum survey, we want to listen to parents to gather your views and will be running some Parent Forums in 2024.

This has come from your feedback in parent surveys that we are good at giving information but you would value some opportunities to discuss certain issues in person.

If you have time to help us decide how to structure them and what to hold them on please fill in this short form: <https://forms.gle/JB1TmuXL6tpzZ7J16>. This form will close on Monday 22nd so if you have not replied and wish to please do so before the end of school Monday.

Careers at Horsforth School

To continue to enhance our careers provisions for students, we are always keen to hear your feedback and how you would like to be involved in supporting students' exposure to different career opportunities. As part of our improved Careers Website offer, there is now a section where you can go to ask questions, provide your views on the careers offer at Horsforth School or even offer your services to discuss job opportunities and your career pathway to inspire our students!

Please use the link provided or this can be accessed through the specific Careers section of the Horsforth School website. <https://sites.google.com/horsforthschool.org/horsforth-school-careers/parents-portal/parentcarer-contact-form?authuser=0>

Lateness to School and Class – **NEW PROCEDURES AND POLICY CHANGE**

This is a reminder that our new changes that we told you about before Christmas and last week will come into effect on **22nd January**. We informed students w/c 8th January so they have plenty of warnings to get things right ahead of changes.

I am sure you agree that punctuality is an important skill, but is essential in school for safeguarding purposes. Lateness to school is damaging to the functioning of each classroom, it interrupts activities, learning, assemblies and erodes staff capacity. Students who are late:

- Miss vital whole school information that is shared at the beginning of form time.
- Miss out on vital learning from our literacy and character initiatives.
- Are ill-prepared for the day.

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It may seem like the odd 5 or 10 minutes of lateness isn't really that much, but for the typical school day of 6.5 hours, a student who is only 10 minutes late every day will miss **30 hours** of school time that year.

Being late to school is breaking a basic requirement of students who attend Horsforth School. It is disruptive. Punctuality forms part of the school rules, the home-school agreement, attendance policy and behaviour policy. Students, who are not on school site by 8.20am, become a safeguarding concern. This means neither school nor parents know where they are and this could indicate that the student is unsafe. Students who are late to class:

- Miss vital bell tasks, starter activities, lesson objectives and the fundamentals to a lesson.
- Disrupt the teacher and the flow of teaching.
- Disrupt the learning of the rest of the class.

We understand that lateness to school is sometimes unavoidable and there are exemplary incidents or circumstances and our policy allows for this. Students are allowed to be late to school twice in a half term without consequence.

However, we cannot continue with the current situation so there will now be consequences for lateness to class other than comments for repeat offenders and an escalation of sanctions for repeat lateness to school. **Please see attached the changes to procedures which come into effect on Monday (22nd January).** Of course, we will offer support for yourselves or your child if you think your child needs this, we ask you contact us ahead of the 22nd January if this is the case. We ask that you contact your child's Pastoral Officer or the Attendance Team at info@horsforthschool.org.

Year 11 Poetry Live Trip

Yesterday our Year 11 students visited St George's Hall to hear from poets from the GCSE poetry anthology. The poets talked about their poems and explained how students can secure marks on the poetry section of their exam. Thank you to Mrs Stokes for organising the trip!



Student Wellbeing

We are thrilled to share that there is now a Student Wellbeing reading section in the Library which is available to all students. Thank you to Miss Smith for arranging the area!



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Engineering Talk

Massive thanks to Engineering Company, Sulzer for coming in to speak to our Year 10 and 11 students about Engineering apprenticeship opportunities.



Year 11 Revision Week Resources

This week we followed the journey of Year 11 Revision Week on **Instagram**. We posted daily updates, so make sure you are following us to access the resources. If you don't already, please click on the link: <https://www.instagram.com/horsforthschool/> to stay updated.

Come and Work at our School

[Take a look at our Vacancies webpage](#) to view the current roles we are recruiting. At the moment we are looking for someone to join our Sixth Form team as a Study and Support and Attendance Officer. You can always call the school for a chat about any of the jobs on offer on 0113 2265454. And please share with anyone you think might like to join our team.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Please remind your sons/daughters that there are always new and exciting activities being added to our extra-curricular programme (which can be found [here](#)) and that it is never too late to join a club or activity in school - new recruits are always welcome and it is an excellent way to meet new friends and experience a different aspect of school life. The drama department, for example, the drama department are running two additional after-school activities this term for anyone who wants to get involved:

- Wednesdays is Year 7 Drama club in Drama Studio 1
- Friday is Year 9 Shakespeare festival rehearsals in the Hall
- GCSE exam rehearsal slots are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays

In addition, our Mental Health ambassadors are delivering a series of drama sessions Thursdays after school for Year 8 in DS2. For more information, students should speak to their drama teachers.

Sports Fixtures

Year 7 Football Results

Year 7 Football Team kept up their unbeaten league record with a 4-1 win against Benton & 3-0 win against Lawnswood. The boys played some super 1 and 2 touch football to carve open chance, after chance. It could have easily been a cricket score. The Players of the Match were Lucas and Noah.

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Under 15s Netball

This week our under 15s Netball players beat Leeds Grammar School 32 – 1. The Teacher's Player of the Match was Reyhan, and the Player's Player of the Match was Eloise. Congratulations girls!



Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Final Sixth Form Open Evening – 25th January

There's less than a week to go to our final open evening of this academic year. Year 11 students wanting to join the Sixth Form at Horsforth from September should [register for a free ticket on Eventbrite](#).

Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair

Returns to the Leeds first direct arena on Monday 5th February. The event is an opportunity to find out more about apprenticeships and speak to employers. Book your free ticket here: <https://bit.ly/LARF24>



Monday Morning Cosmology

Our auditorium was jam packed on Monday as our sixth formers listened to a talk from John whose hobby

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is Cosmology. They left with a deeper understanding of our Universe, how it has come to be as we see it and where it might end. The students really enjoyed it!



Carnegie Sport Experience Day

This week our Year 12 PE students had a fantastic trip to Leeds Beckett University. The information shared with them about post-18 pathways and potential undergraduate courses they could take was invaluable.



Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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