

Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH/JFI

28th March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been a successful end to the term and looking back on our academic, extracurricular and sporting achievements I am filled with pride. Students have, by and large, brought their personal best to every lesson and the climate in the school is positive and purposeful. I have some key messages in my final letter of the term linked to mobile phone and online safety so please consider these, we want everyone to stay safe over the break.

As usual, the link to the Podcast version is here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Rz8IcmP9By1BDlweKLNuCqjivShvyE3k/view?usp=sharing>

End of Term Newsletter

Please find the link to our termly newsletter which showcases some amazing sporting, academic and creative achievements! Well done all. <https://www.horsforthschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Headteacher-Newsletter-March-2024.pdf>

Online Safety and Mobile Phone Use Updates

Unfortunately, this term, the Safeguarding Team at school have had to manage several incidents of students using their phones to either take and share inappropriate/indecent images of themselves or others. This has occurred from Years 7-11.

These incidents have taken place out of school, but have come back into school via gossip and rumours.

School staff have a duty to safeguard and intervene with such incidents; these are criminal acts and can carry untold consequences for our young people. The school has a duty to notify the police for such incidents and carry out appropriate interventions as well as sanctions.

We do ask that all parents check their child's phone for potentially harmful and illegal material. The police have advised that anything harmful is deleted but ideally, to enforce a factory reset on the phones which will clear potential illegal material. We also need to highlight that if parents are the registered user of their child's phone they are also liable for any illegal content on the phone, so we really do urge a factory reset.

The NSPCC has also launched a new report and remove tool, for more information – please use the link:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-reporting/report-remove/>

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We teach and educate all year groups about the dangers of sexting and the law around this. There are plenty of online safety tips on the school's website under the safeguarding section for advice and tips for parents on this matter.

<https://www.horsforthschool.org/useful-information/safeguarding-student-and-parent-information/>

TikTok

Please can we ask that parents particularly of Year 7 and 8 students are vigilant and monitor their children's social media content/messages and images. It has come to light that Year 7 have a shared TikTok account for sharing gossip, pictures and secrets. This has inevitably caused some distress within Year 7 so we urge that all students come off this account, delete it and any other such accounts.

If you are worried about your child's use of social media, contact school pastoralhub@horsforthschool.org or call on 0113 2265454. If you are worried that your child has possibly been a victim of online abuse or you're worried about somebody else you can also report this to CEOP online at www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre.

Children's Centre What's on Guide Apr-June 24

Please see attached a copy of the Children's Centre 'What's on Guide Apr-June 24'.

Urban Field Trip

Last week our Year 11 Geography students went into Leeds to conduct an urban field trip, looking at the sustainable regeneration of the city centre.

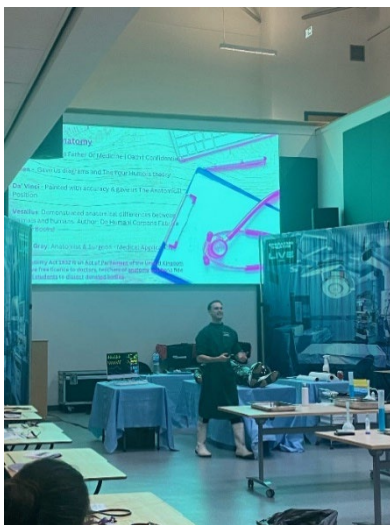


Operating Theatre Live

Yesterday our Year 10 and 11 biology students got some real hands-on experience, when Operating Theatre Live visited and everyone put their dissecting skills to the test.

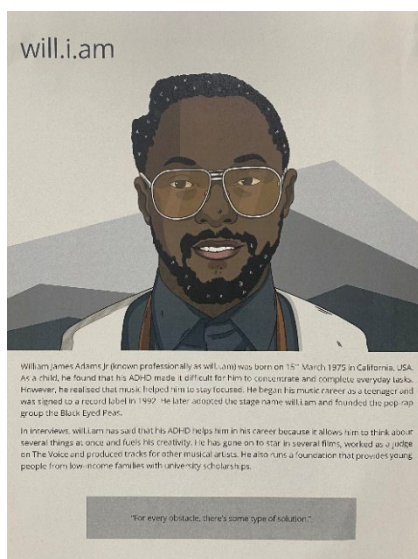
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Thank you to Mrs Briggs for organising the experience!



Neurodiversity Celebration Week

This week we have been celebrating neurodiversity in our school. As well as daily themed assemblies, today there was a rainbow themed bake sale to raise money for sensory equipment; teachers displayed posters on their doors of neurodiverse people, who are inspirational to them and the start of a complete masterpiece was created by our Year 7 and 8 students.



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School Dinner Menu

Please click on the link below to view the food on offer for the coming week.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Bhjfs_sr3inq4rOOaUiluHqcu60nwYkBDGjZ2xZschk/edit?usp=sharing

1. Please note menus may be subject to change due to product availability.
2. Please note some of the products we serve may contain peanuts, tree nuts, soy, milk, eggs and wheat. While we take steps to minimise the risk of cross-contamination, we cannot guarantee that any of our products are safe to consume for people with peanut, tree nut, soy, milk, egg or wheat allergies.
3. Please note we will make every reasonable effort to ensure that the information provided is accurate; however, due to the very nature of food production there can be variations in each meal. As a school we are not able to provide 100% accurate information on the food we serve.

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 us as a Pastoral and Behaviour Officer, a KS4 Administration Assistant, a Receptionist and Emergency First Aider and a Design Technician. You can always call the school for a chat about any of the jobs on offer on 0113 2265454. Please share with anyone you think might like to join our team.

Leeds City Council Travel Survey

What travel and safety issues do you face in your local area? Now's your chance to have your say!

Leeds City Council want to hear from residents in Adel and Wharfedale, Guiseley and Rawdon, Horsforth,

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Otley and Yeadon on any issues related to travel in your community. This could be about how you access public transport facilities, whether you feel unsafe walking, wheeling or cycling, the attractiveness of a street, or where traffic and speeding are causing issues.

The consultation is live until Sunday 7 April 2024 and it's easy to have your say – drop a pin on the maps where you're experiencing issues and fill in the survey. This will help prioritise improvements, when funding becomes available. To find out more and take part visit <https://bit.ly/3VdEGdw>

Fixtures

Year 7 Girls Football

Unfortunately we lost 7-4 in the end. We began the game well going 2-0 up but a strong Farnley team fought back and led 5-3 with 15 minutes remaining. We did pull back to 5-4, but chasing the game left us exposed to ruthless counter attacking which ultimately was our undoing. Goals from Sophie, Allegra and Harriet. The Player of the match was Tilly.

Sixth Form at Horsforth News

Operating Theatre Live

Our Year 12 biology students also took part in this practical experience. The day out of the classroom was great to strengthen all the theory they have been learning.



Thank you for your patience, support and understanding. As we come to the end of a positive term and we look to the future our Year 11 and 13 students are gearing up for exams, we have had record applications for our Sixth Form and we look forward to next term when we enjoy some of your annual events such as rewards days, Challenge 30 and sports day. Thank you again and I hope you have a lovely restful break.

Yours faithfully,

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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