

SCHOOL READY; WORK READY; LIFE READY



Dear Parent/Carers & Students

Welcome to our September newsletter!

Wow! What a fantastic start our students have made to the 2024/25 academic year. Our new Year 7 students have really impressed us with their conduct and enthusiasm for embracing the challenge of starting secondary school. Our Year 10 students have also made a positive start to their GCSE studies and new option subjects; walking around lessons and seeing their maturity, engagement and focus has been a real privilege. It was also our great pleasure to welcome 707 families into college for our annual Parent Information Evenings; we shared lots of information about the year ahead. If you were unable to attend the evening, please refer to the email we sent

with the information booklet with key dates and other important information. This year looks set to be a great success for all year groups!

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

On the 18th and 19th September, 36 Year 10 students completed the expedition stage of their bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. They set off from Horizon on Thursday morning, walking through Higham, Cawthorne, Cannon Hall and Silkstone, before arriving at the campsite. All students cooked their own evening meals, set up camp and rested their very sore feet ready for day 2! Friday involved students navigating a lovely walk along the TransPennine trail, taking in the Barnsley countryside, as they made their way back to school.

Each student was a fantastic ambassador for the school,

showing great resilience, teamwork and kindness to ensure each member of their group completed the 2 days. Student arrived back at Horizon with a smile on their face and a well-deserved sense of pride. A huge well done to all 36 students for completing their expedition.



ENRICHMENT

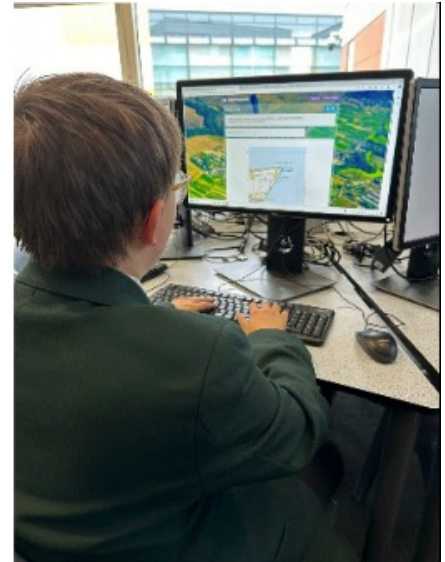
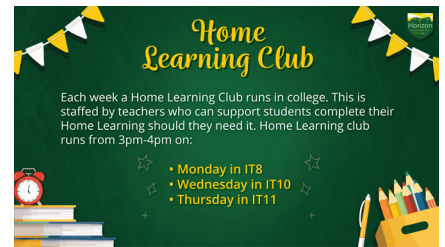
We are really excited to have started our enrichment offer for this academic year. We have over 35 clubs available for every year group, with a wide range of activities on offer, every night of the week. Every department in college is represented, from football practice to Dungeon & Dragons club, StreetKingz dance troop to Yarn craft club. We hope every student in college takes up our enrichment offer, giving them the opportunity to develop their talents and passion beyond the academic curriculum. You can find all the up-to-date enrichment timetables on our website.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL AND CASTLE – Y11

In September, our Y11 historians embarked on an educational trip to Durham Cathedral and Castle, exploring the rich history and stunning architecture of these iconic landmarks. The visit included guided tours, where the students learned about the cathedral's Norman origins, the castle's significance in medieval defense, and the fascinating stories that shaped these historic sites. A highlight of the day was viewing the Treasures of St. Cuthbert, including his relics and beautifully preserved artifacts, which offered insight into the spiritual and cultural legacy of the North-East. Throughout the trip, the students represented themselves and the college with maturity and enthusiasm, showing respect and engagement in every activity.

HOME LEARNING

Home Learning has got off to a flying start this academic year. Students are embedding their classroom-based learning at home using more online platforms this year. To support students further with their home learning, teachers are available from 3-4pm at Home Learning club which runs on a Monday (IT8), Wednesday (IT10) and Thursday (IT11). All information about Home Learning and how to log in at home can be found on the school website.



MUSIC CLUB

At the start of September, some of our Year 11 students attended the South Yorkshire Music Hub Conference to showcase their band, Blackened Veil. They started the day off with a performance of two songs, then spoke on the student panel about what opportunities they would like from the new South Yorkshire Music Hub. They also attended a songwriting workshop. They represented the school brilliantly and their performance

was fantastic! They received lots of compliments from music educators around South Yorkshire and even the South Yorkshire Mayor!



SWANAGE

Our annual residential to Swanage was once again a HUGE success. The students performed in all weathers from torrential rain to bright sunshine and were absolutely professional throughout. The students performed a whole host of themed morris and sword dance routines in a range of settings including the seafront and an Amphitheatre. We have received hundreds of positive emails from members of the general public complimenting not only the talent on display but the conduct and general enthusiasm and politeness of

students- what outstanding role models we have!

Students enjoyed some downtime with a glow party disco, a traditional campfire with marshmallows, smores and a live guitar singalong, and of course the amusements and plenty of ice-cream.

The weekend culminated in students gaining huge praise from the English Folk Dance and Song Society who now wish to work with students further, funding our Folk dance projects for the academic year. Well done to all students who were outstanding and a pleasure to take on the trip!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OCTOBER?

CORE VALUE
of the month is
RESPECT



RESPECT

We treat others the way we would like to be treated.
We celebrate that everyone is different, we are inclusive,
and we embrace diversity.

KEY DATES

Black History Month

Y7 Kingswood Trips throughout the month

3rd October – National Poetry Day

4th October – Y11 Paris trip

w/c 7th October – Oracy Week

w/c 7th October – Student Council Elections

15th October - Y11 Parents Evening

16th October – Y9 Restart a Heart

25th October – INSET day and half term commences

College re-opens to all students on Monday 4th November

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