

SCHOOL READY; WORK READY; LIFE READY



Dear Parent/Carers & Students

Welcome to our November Newsletter!

It has been an exciting month for personal development at Horizon with a wide range of whole college activities taking place from trips to Iceland to our annual careers fair.

Over the next few pages, we have brought together a snippet of what has been happening around Horizon; we hope you enjoy the read!



Remembrance

In the week prior to Remembrance Sunday, the college united to mark Remembrance Day through Year group assemblies giving students the opportunity to explore the significance of the poppy and the importance of remembering those who served.

On Remembrance Day, Mrs Huddart led the entire college for a two-minute silence, joining the nation in reflection and remembrance.

The college heart-space became an art gallery of student illustrations of Barnsley's fallen war heroes. This was part of the forthcoming celebrations to mark 100-year anniversary of the war memorial in front of Barnsley town hall. We were incredibly proud of the

standard of all the artwork created, and special mention to two students, Sadie and Isla whose artwork reached 1st and 2nd place in the War Memorial Centenary Competition. The Mayor sent the following statement to be shared with all students who took part in the competition:

"I was absolutely delighted to be asked to judge the War Memorial Centenary Art Competition. The creativity and talent was truly inspiring, and with so many amazing entries, choosing the winners was incredibly difficult. It's clear that a great deal of passion and effort went into every piece, and I encourage all the young artists to keep up the fantastic work. Your imagination and dedication are a credit to you."

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this day so meaningful. Lest we forget.

Careers Fair

On Wednesday 22nd October, the careers team hosted a Careers Fair for students in Y9, Y10 and Y11 and their parents and carers. A wide range of representatives from businesses, colleges, and training providers such as Berneslai Homes, Jet 2, Barnsley College, Penistone 6th Form College, Greenhead College, AMRC

Training Centre, and the University Huddersfield were amongst those who were in attendance. More than 200 families attended, and the information and support provided on the evening will be invaluable as our students begin to consider their future option choices.

If you ever have any questions for our careers team, please do get in touch
careers@horizoncc.co.uk



Iceland

Iceland Adventure: Students Experience Fire, Ice, and the Northern Lights

During the October half-term, a group of Y10 students jetted off to Iceland for a once-in-a-lifetime geographical and cultural adventure. After a smooth flight from Manchester, they arrived in Reykjavík and settled into Hotel Cabin, ready for three unforgettable days.

Golden Circle Wonders
Day one began with the famous Golden Circle Tour, visiting Kerid Crater, Gullfoss Waterfall, the Geysir geothermal area, and Thingvellir National Park. Students were amazed by Iceland's natural beauty, especially the power of Gullfoss. The day ended with a relaxing dip in the Secret Lagoon, dinner at the Hamburger Factory, and even a glimpse of the Northern Lights on the walk home.

South Shore Adventure
The next day's South Shore Tour included Seljalandsfoss and Skógafoss waterfalls, the retreating Sólheimajökull

Glacier, and Vík's Black Sand Beach. At the Lava Centre, students explored Iceland's volcanic history before heading to Hotel Örk. Although the Northern Lights didn't appear, swimming in the outdoor pool as snow fell made for a magical evening.

Reykjanes Peninsula Wonders
The final day began with pastries from a local bakery before exploring the Reykjanes Peninsula. Highlights included the Bridge Between Continents, bubbling geothermal pools, and an earthquake simulator at the Earthquake Exhibition. Students also saw recent lava fields and took home cooled lava souvenirs. The trip ended perfectly with a visit to the Blue Lagoon before heading home the next day - tired, happy, and full of memories to last a lifetime.



Everybody Dance – York

Students in the Y10 BTEC class and our Y9 Dance Option groups were selected to perform at York Theatre Royal as part of the “Everybody Dance” festival.

Students had to choreograph a response to the stimulus home- our Y10 BTEC group performed a piece based on a Japanese animation and our Y9 dancers chose to explore immigration as a starting point. During the day students got to take in the breathtaking beauty of the theatre and had the opportunity to do several workshops, a professional tech

rehearsal on the stage and a performance to a sold-out audience.

Students represented themselves and the college incredibly well and we are very proud of their performances! friendships.



Dance – Leeds (Y10 BTEC)

Students in the Y10 BTEC class were selected to be part of the INSPIRE programme with the Northern School of Contemporary Dance. NSCD is a leading conservatoire for Contemporary Dance and offers a range of degrees and pathways into the world of professional dance.

Students worked hard in late night intensive rehearsals leading up to the performance where they worked with Alumni NSCD students to create a piece of dance.

On the day students travelled to NSCD in Leeds and were able to look around all of the spaces including wonderful dance studios, teaching

spaces and the Riley Theatre. The building is a converted synagogue so incredibly unique and interesting.

Students got the opportunity to learn repertoire from a COLLIDE dance piece created and toured by NSCD in a morning workshop. They also experienced a full professional tech run on stage and enjoyed a sharing afternoon which included a careers talk about courses that NSCD offer, a sharing of work where our students performed their work, and two incredible performances from COLLIDE dance which left us all totally inspired.

Students were then able to celebrate their successes enjoying some shopping in the Trinity Centre and a meal in the Trinity Kitchen.



BBC Children in Need

BBC Children In Need was held on Friday 15th November and was a great opportunity to allow the whole college to take part in a charity event.

We had loose change buckets

on the student gates and buns and cookies for sale in the dining hall throughout the day.

The whole day was a great success and as a college community we were very proud to support this national event. A huge thank you to everyone involved.



National Anti-Bullying Week

From 10th–14th November, we marked Anti-Bullying Week across college. Students were reminded of the importance of kindness, respect and this year's theme: Power for Good. A featured video on HCC News and an email to all students provided additional information and guidance.

Throughout the week, a wide range of activities took place, including:

- Student Pledges promoting kindness and positive behaviour.
- A visit from Barnsley FC, who promoted and demonstrated everyday acts of kindness.
- Activities linked to Anti-Racism Week, supporting respect and inclusion.
- A “Kind Words” activity led by our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.
- A Thrive Group visit to Base 71, focused on building positive peer relationships.

- Mental health support sessions delivered by Ahead of the Game.
- Votes for Schools sessions exploring anti-bullying themes.
- Participation in the Ambassador training programme at Normanton School, strengthening student leadership.

The week highlighted the importance of kindness, the Power for Good, and our shared commitment to respect for all.



National Space Centre

Our first of two Y8 trips to the National Space Centre was an exciting and inspiring experience. Students had time to explore and engage with interactive exhibits with the highlight of the day being the Planetarium show, where we watched a stunning journey through the solar system on a giant domed screen. The tour of the night sky took them through the constellations, planets, satellites, and beyond our own solar system.

Students also engaged with the Mars Rover exhibit, where we discovered how these incredible machines are designed to explore the Martian surface and collect important scientific data. By the end of the visit, we left with a deeper understanding of space and a lot of enthusiasm for future discoveries.



Anne Frank Ambassadors

We were delighted to welcome back the Anne Frank Trust in the penultimate week of November for a powerful and inspiring two days of training with 20 Y9 students. The group worked hard to deepen their understanding of Anne Frank's life, the historical context of her diary, and the importance of standing up against prejudice and discrimination.

Students took part in thought-provoking discussions and activities designed to build their knowledge, confidence, and leadership skills. Armed with what they learned,

the group then set about planning and creating a short educational video to share Anne's story in a meaningful way with the rest of the year group.

The workshop not only strengthened students' historical awareness, but also encouraged them to reflect on the relevance of Anne's experiences in today's world - promoting empathy, respect, and the importance of challenging injustice.

We look forward to sharing the students' finished video soon and celebrating the hard work and dedication they demonstrated throughout this inspiring session.



PE Spotlight

PE Enrichment and Activities Growing Strong

Our PE enrichment clubs are thriving, with more students than ever before joining clubs that feed their interests. Football, Netball, Basketball, Fitness Suite, Rugby, Trampolining and Indoor Cricket all kicked off the term with impressive participation. These activities give students a chance to explore new passions, build leadership skills, and make lasting friendships.

Sports Teams Making Us Proud

Across all sports, what has truly stood out this month, was the dedication shown by participants, coaches, and supporters. Each team has grown - both in skill and in spirit- and the Horizon community is excited to see how they continue to excel in the coming months.

With more tournaments and matches ahead, there's plenty of opportunity for even more achievements. This season's sports teams have shown incredible teamwork. Whether they win or lose, our participants are demonstrating sportsmanship, perseverance, and school pride.



Barnsley Music Service - Winter Celebration

This month we were thrilled to take four singers and the band Pub Grub to the stage at the Civic for Barnsley Music Service's Winter Concert. They performed brilliantly and were excellent representatives of our school. The event also gave us a fantastic opportunity to promote our upcoming Battle of the Bands, returning in March 2026. We were proud to see so many of our students showcasing their talents not

only in our groups, but also in other ensembles, including the Barnsley Town Concert Band. Well done to everyone involved for their outstanding performances!



Key dates in December

10th December

- Y8 Complimentary Christmas Dinner

11th December

- Y9 Complimentary Christmas Dinner

10th & 11th December

- Christmas Markets & School production High School Musical

12th December

- Y7 Silent Disco after school (more information to follow)

16th December

- Y11 Complimentary Christmas Dinner

17th December

- Y10 Complimentary Christmas Dinner
- Y11 Mock Exam Results

18th December

- Christmas Jumper Day

19th December

- College closed for the Christmas Holidays

Tues 6th January

- College reopens to all students

**DECEMBER
CORE VALUE
of the month is
KINDNESS**



KINDNESS

We are thoughtful and considerate to others.
We are caring, supportive, friendly and generous in all we do.

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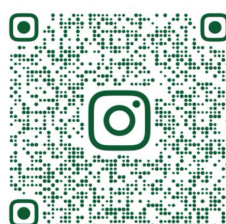
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