

SCHOOL READY; WORK READY; LIFE READY



Dear Families,

Welcome to our May newsletter. It has been another exceptionally busy month, with many varied opportunities for our students, and we are delighted to share these highlights with you.

As the half-term approaches, we would like to wish you a restful and enjoyable break. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Monday 1st June as we begin the final half-term of this academic year.

Duke of Edinburgh

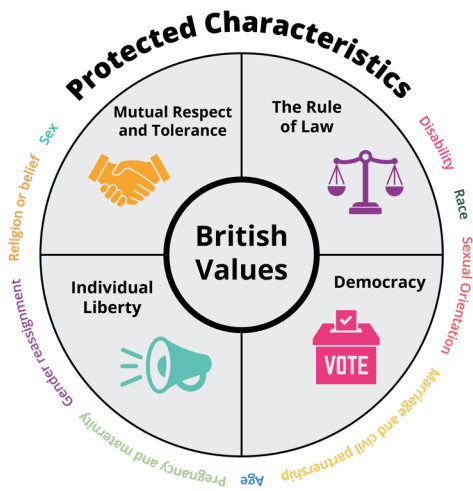
This year, over 100 students enrolled in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. In recent weeks, they have been preparing for their expedition by learning essential skills such as cooking on a Trangia, assembling a tent and campsite, reading a map, and understanding basic first aid. These skills were put into practice during the assessed Bronze expedition. Students worked in groups to navigate from Horizon to Broad Close Farm, using their map-reading skills to guide their teams through Higham and Cawthorne, past Cannon Hall Farm, before arriving in Silkstone to set up camp. They were assessed on their teamwork as they erected their tents and prepared their evening meals. There were

some fantastic menus on show, ranging from curry and pasta in sauce to chicken and avocado with sticky rice. The assessor was particularly impressed with the teamwork and effort students had put into both designing and preparing their meals.

On Day 2, students packed up after cooking breakfast before setting off along the Trans Pennine Trail, which led them back towards Wigfield Farm and on the final stretch back to school.

Every student did themselves and the college proud. They worked exceptionally well as a team, supporting and encouraging one another, and demonstrated impressive resilience throughout the expedition.



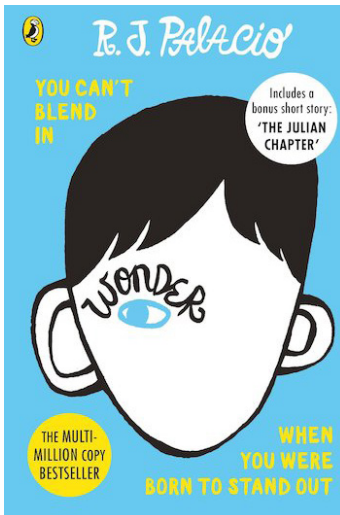


British Values and Protected Characteristics

Throughout May, we have placed a strong focus on promoting British Values and respect for Protected Characteristics across the school. During form time, Year 7 students have begun reading *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio, a powerful and engaging novel that provides rich opportunities to explore themes such as kindness, respect, tolerance and acceptance. These shared reading experiences are encouraging thoughtful discussions about diversity and the importance of treating others equally, while also helping to develop students'

confidence, empathy and enjoyment of literature.

Alongside this, all students have been actively exploring how we live and breathe British Values at Horizon Community College. Form groups successfully completed a quiz to demonstrate their understanding, and all students have also been invited to take part independently. We are excited to celebrate this learning further by awarding prizes to the first three students in each year group to achieve full marks.



Pre-loved uniform

As we reach the time of year when many students have outgrown their school uniform, families may be considering purchasing new items. We are therefore very proud to offer our well-established and much-valued pre-loved uniform shop to support our community.

The ongoing success of the pre-loved uniform shop depends entirely on generous donations from families. If you have any uniform items that are no longer needed but could benefit another family, these can be dropped off at the college reception. Items are then made available throughout the year for

a small donation, with all proceeds going to the LimbBo Foundation. This charity supports children with limb differences and their families, helping to ensure there are no barriers as children grow and develop.

We kindly encourage Year 11 families to consider donating their child's uniform once GCSE examinations have been completed.

If you would like to request any pre-loved uniform items for your child, please do not hesitate to contact the college by emailing info@horizoncc.co.uk. A member of the team will be happy to support you with availability and next steps.



Mental Health Awareness Week

This May, we proudly embraced the theme of action during Mental Health Awareness Week, with a range of activities designed to inspire and support our students.

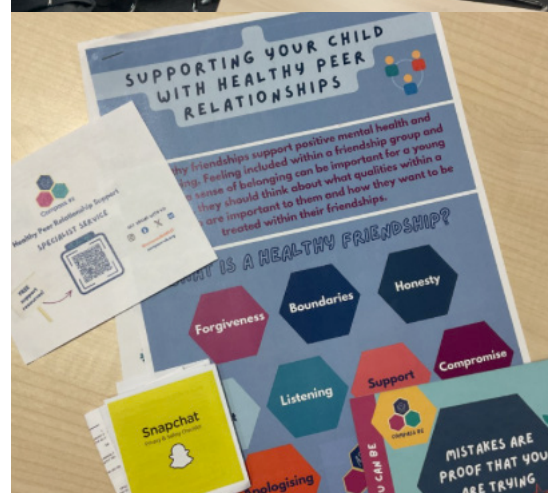
The BYouth team led the way by encouraging students to take positive action, helping to organise a fantastic day of charity darts competitions. Alongside this, they delivered engaging sessions highlighting the importance of mental health and how games can be a powerful tool for connection and engagement. Compass Be sessions also provided valuable opportunities for students to reflect on their

actions within relationships and consider their impact on others.

Student voice remained at the heart of the week, with pupils completing the wellbeing and safety survey to ensure their views and experiences continue to shape our school community.

Our canteen team joined in the effort by selling green buns to raise funds for the Mental Health Foundation - thank you to everyone who supported this initiative. We look forward to sharing the total raised soon!

A huge well done to all involved for taking meaningful action and making a positive difference.



Oxford University Visit

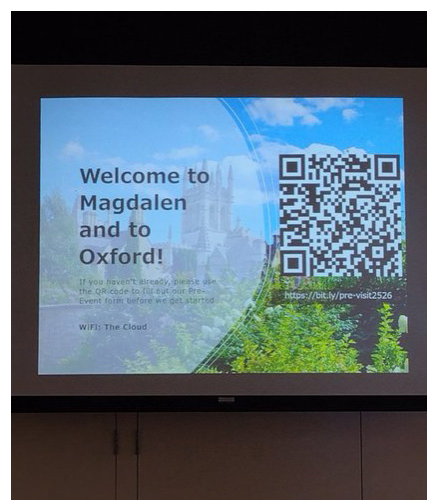
Year 10 History Prize students recently enjoyed an inspiring educational visit to Magdalen College, Oxford.

During the trip, students took part in an engaging academic taster session led by a university History lecturer, where they experienced the style and depth of learning at Oxford. They also had the opportunity to hear first-hand from current students, gaining valuable insight into university life and academic pathways.

Following a fascinating tour of the College grounds, the group visited the Ashmolean Museum, where they explored remarkable collections and even had the unique

opportunity to handle ancient artefacts while discussing their historical significance.

It was a truly memorable experience, providing students with both academic inspiration and a glimpse into future opportunities.



Darts Event

On the 11th May, with the support of the BYouth Team, over 60 students came together to raise more than £400 for Macmillan Cancer Support by taking part in an exciting darts marathon. Throughout the day, participants took turns scoring, working collectively from an ambitious starting total of 100,000 points down to zero by 3pm. In an incredible display of teamwork and

determination, they smashed their target well ahead of schedule - reaching zero by lunchtime! A huge well done to everyone involved for such a brilliant achievement.



Thackray Medical Museum

On Monday 18th May, our Year 10 GCSE historians enjoyed an engaging and memorable visit to the Thackray Medical Museum. During the trip, students took part in an interactive History of Surgery workshop, as well as a thought-provoking discussion exploring the lasting legacies of our medical past. Our students were exceptional ambassadors for the school,

demonstrating impressive knowledge, enthusiasm and insight from their GCSE study of Britain: Health and the People. Staff at the museum praised both their behaviour and their thoughtful contributions throughout the day.

A special well done goes to our brave volunteers who took centre stage in a dramatic re-enactment of an 18th-century amputation - bringing history vividly to life!

Year 11 Driving Experience

As part of our Year 11 attendance incentive, all students who achieved 100% attendance in March were entered into a prize draw to win a free driving lesson.

The sessions took place on site on 6th May, delivered in partnership with Young Driver. Successful students enjoyed an exciting 20-minute, hands-on driving experience with professional instructors, providing a

valuable opportunity to build confidence behind the wheel in a safe and supportive environment. The event was a great success, with students thoroughly enjoying the experience. It was fantastic to celebrate and reward their commitment to excellent attendance while also helping them develop key life skills and take an important step towards becoming more independent and life-ready.



Barnsley Schools Football Finals

What an incredible experience for four of our teams who competed in the Barnsley Schools Football Finals at Oakwell on Monday 18th May. It was a fantastic day of football, with matches running from 9am through to an exciting finale at 7pm.

Our Year 7 boys were first up, putting in a determined and spirited performance against a very strong Penistone side. Despite their effort and resilience, they were unable to break through and the match finished 5–0.

The U13 girls then delivered a thrilling game. Leading 1–0 for most of the match, they showed great organisation and composure under pressure. However, in the final five minutes, Kirk Balk equalised from the penalty spot before securing a last-minute winner, resulting in a narrow 2–1 defeat.

Arguably the most dramatic

match of the day came from our Year 8 boys. After going 1–0 down within the opening two minutes, the team showed tremendous character to fight back and take a 3–1 lead. Darton responded to level the game at 3–3, with both sides creating chances and both goalkeepers producing outstanding saves. The match went to penalties, where the tension continued as scores remained level after five kicks each. Holding their nerve, Horizon triumphed in sudden death—an unforgettable victory and a brilliant display of resilience and teamwork.

Our final match of the day saw the U15 girls take to the pitch against another strong Penistone side. It was a tightly contested game, largely battled in midfield. Penistone gained a narrow lead late in the first half and, as Horizon pushed for an equaliser, added a second goal late on to secure a 2–0 win.

All of our teams represented the school with pride, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the day. Competing at a

professional venue like Oakwell made the occasion even more special, and every player should be extremely proud of their efforts.



Sports Leaders

Some outstanding work has been carried out by our Sports Leaders this month, demonstrating excellent leadership, teamwork and communication skills throughout a range of sporting events.

Working alongside the Yorkshire Cricket Board, students have developed their umpiring knowledge and officiating skills while supporting primary cricket competitions. This has provided valuable experience

in leadership, responsibility, and decision making within a competitive sporting environment.

In addition, our Sports Leaders collaborated with the Worsbrough Common Primary Sports Leaders to deliver a multi-skills festival for 90 Year 3 pupils from Worsbrough Common, The Mill and Ward Green. The event was a great success, with students confidently leading activities, encouraging participation and creating a positive experience for all involved.

These opportunities continue to play an important role in developing our students' confidence, organisation, resilience, and ability to work effectively with younger pupils and the wider community.



Spotlight Drama

On 21st May the Horizon Theatre hosted "NIGHT IN THE SPOTLIGHT" - a one-night extravaganza presented by the dramatic talent of Horizon's very own in-house theatre company. Members of Spotlight who are in all year groups from 7 to 11, had been working very hard after school on a Monday evening for the past couple of months to

prepare this array of extracts from favourite musical shows, plays and TV programmes. It was a wonderful cabaret event with sections from a variety of well-known and loved pieces. The likes of Annie, Six, Legally Blonde, The Greatest Showman, and many more were enjoyed by the audience, including some self-devised sketches from the member's own imaginations. A huge congratulations to everyone involved.



Key dates in June

GCSE exams continue throughout June

Throughout June we will celebrate Pride Month

w/c 1st June

Year 10 Geography field trips

W/c 8th June

Year 7 Assessment Week

Year 10 Geography field trips

W/c 15th June

Year 10 Mocks commence

Tuesday 16th

– Year 8 Parents Evening

Refugee Week

Wednesday 17th

– National 'Thank a Teacher' Day

W/c 22nd June

Year 10 Mocks continue

Thursday 25th

– Y11 Prom

Friday 26th

– INSET day – college closed to all students



**JUNE
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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