



# END OF TERM BULLETIN

## DECEMBER 2020

### Message from our Academy Head

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of term, I'd like to thank you all for your support and understanding at this challenging time.

You have been instrumental in supporting your child through this turbulent time in education and the ever-changing picture of the global pandemic. I feel truly inspired each day by our young people, our staff and our wider community, their courage and support for one another.

As the end of term is approaching, I would like to gently remind you of the need to keep your child at home should they feel ill. If they have any of the Covid symptoms (dry cough, fever, continuous cough) they must isolate and get a test straight away. When the school breaks up, should your child receive a positive Covid-19 result, this must be reported to the school immediately, using the contact form on the school website, which will be used up until Christmas Eve.

Please be aware that if a child tests positive during the first week of the Christmas holiday it could still result in a bubble having to self-isolate, depending on when the individual who tested positive first displayed symptoms. This reinforces the importance of staying alert to the continued risk of the virus leading up to half term.

School officially closes to students on Friday 18th December at 12.00pm, with the following staggered leaving times for students:

Year 11 11.40

Year 10 11.45

Year 9 11.50

Year 8 11.55

Year 7 12.00

Excellent attendance is important to ensure that students flourish academically, socially and emotionally and we appreciate your support in ensuring your child attends school in the lead up to the break.

It's Christmas jumper day at school on Friday. Students are to attend either in full uniform, or their uniform with a Christmas jumper. If your child wants to take part, they must bring £1 to school, unless £6.00 was paid at the beginning of the year for all non-uniform days. Christmas accessories can also be worn on this day and there will be prizes for the best Christmas jumper (staff and students).

There is a real buzz in school as we launch our new Student Leadership Team, with students applying for year group positions. Please do encourage your child to be courageous and to apply. I look forward to interviewing students in the New Year.

We will continue to deliver food parcels to families in need, until we break up on Friday 18th December. All students entitled to FSM (free school meals) will receive a two-week supermarket voucher emailed or posted to their home. If your child doesn't have FSM and you are experiencing financial difficulty at this time, please do get in touch before the break and we will do our best to support you. We have a bespoke email [meals@harrogatehighschool.co.uk](mailto:meals@harrogatehighschool.co.uk).

We encourage our staff to enjoy a well-deserved rest over the break and to enjoy time with their family, therefore all emails and phone calls will be responded to when we return on Monday 4th January.

Wishing you and your family a peaceful Christmas and good health and happiness in the new year.

Kind regards,

Charlotte Clarke.



## Online Parents' Evenings

With the current Covid situation preventing traditional parent consultation evenings taking place, the Trust invested in a new system, SchoolCloud, to enable important face to face discussions between parents and staff to take place. The system is user friendly and allows all parties to have a face-to-face conversation.

SchoolCloud are the market leaders for online room booking and Parent Evening software for schools and they take all necessary steps to ensure your data is handled and processed securely. They are fully registered in accordance with the Data Protection Act and are Cyber Essentials certified.

Year 7 and 9 parents experienced using the new system this half term, and we look forward to other years using it going forward. Dates for upcoming parents' consultations next half term are listed under the "Dates for you Diary" section of this newsletter.



## Homework

Next term we are launching a new homework strategy in school which will be run through ClassCharts.

Homework is a really important part of school life as it helps to cement the ideas and concepts discussed in class and reinforce the information learnt. Homework also encourages students to take initiative and responsibility for completing a task.

In fact, research shows that completing quality homework tasks to a high standard can improve progress in a subject by an extra 5 months!

So, next term we will be introducing a fixed homework timetable for all years. All homework will be set through ClassCharts so students will clearly be able to see what homework they have been set and when it needs to be submitted by.

In addition to this, through the ClassCharts system parents will be able to monitor their child's workload and ensure homework is carried out and submitted by the due date.

As we believe homework is so important we are offering a new incentive to students by issuing points.

There will be two buttons on ClassCharts linked to homework

- Homework completion = 1 point
- Excellent homework = 4 points

All students that receive excellent homework points are entered into a draw to win a prize at the end of term. Improve your learning, build on your knowledge and be more organised whilst having the opportunity to winning a prize!

We look forward to introducing this to students next term.



## Art Department

### Feeling festive in Art!

At the end of November the Art Department kicked off the Christmas season creatively by asking all students within KS3 to design and create the HHS Christmas card. They had lots of festive fun, with a wide variety of ideas, from penguins swinging from Christmas lights, reindeer antlers decorated with HHS baubles to festive dragons with wings made of holly. The imagination and enthusiasm for the competition has been fantastic.

Three designs were selected by the Senior Leadership Team and those have been shared with our allocated Trust School, Starbeck Community Primary.

- 1st place Grace C, Year 7 - reindeer
- 2nd place Isabella, Year 8 - penguin
- 3rd place Ruby G, Year 9 - Christmas scene

Well done to all the students who took part.



## PE Department

The energetic PE Department produced an advent calendar for our students in which a different staff member produced a 30 second physical activity challenge for students to do from behind their desk. The objective was to promote physical activity and wellbeing. The idea was that students tried to get a personal best and that they beat the teacher at the challenge!

If you would like to have a look and maybe have a go at the challenges yourself visit the link below.  
[www.harrogatessp.com/harrogate-high-advent-calendar/](http://www.harrogatessp.com/harrogate-high-advent-calendar/)

You could use these challenges to keep active over the festive period!

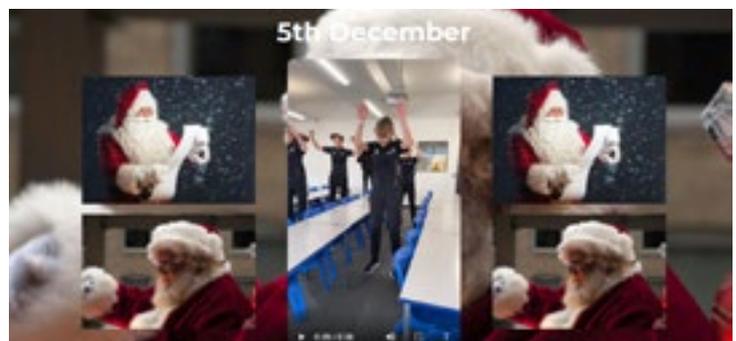


## Sports Leaders

Young Leaders from Harrogate High School have been working hard to create a series of active advent calendars for the local primary schools.

The daily challenges include fitness exercises for Key Stage 1 and a football skills calendar for Key Stage 2.

The Young Leaders involved were Max B, Freddie B, Tyler P, Laura H, Kitty H, Jess L, Coco and Ellie W.



### NYCC Sustainable Travel Team Calendar



We are delighted to announce that HHS student Elliot, Year 9, is a winner of the North Yorkshire County Council sustainable travel team calendar competition.

There were over 400 entries into the competition so a huge congratulations to Elliot!

The calendar will be printed and distributed around the County and all the winning designs will be framed to go up on the walls in County Hall.

Elliot won a £25 shopping voucher and a copy of the calendar and school will also receive a copy of the calendar in the New Year.

Well done Elliot!

### Former Student on TV over Christmas



We are excited to announce that former HHS student Luke Richardson finished ninth at the World's Strongest Man Competition!

This caps an exceptional year for Luke that has seen him go from novice to one of the most talked about strength athletes on the planet at the age of just 23.

Channel 5 is due to broadcast coverage of all three events over Christmas and New Year so please key an eye out for him.

### Celebration Breakfast

In order to recognise all the hard work of students across the school, the new achievement leaders for KS3 (Miss Bevan) and KS4 (Mrs Norman) organised a celebration breakfast. Over 50 students in each year were nominated by staff members, form tutors and their Student Support Officer, to receive a candy cane congratulating them on all their hard work. Invitations for the celebration breakfast were attached to candy canes, and those students who picked them out, brought a friend to enjoy some Christmas music, chocolate and a hot buffet breakfast.



## School Expectations

As we close in on a busy and productive term, we would like to remind parents/carers of the following to support your child when we return to school in January in ensuring your child is fully prepared for learning.

### Uniform

Every student is required to wear full school uniform including a HHS blazer, white school shirt, HHS tie, black trousers or skirt and black school shoes (no trainers/pumps allowed). Please see the photo for information.

### PE kit

When your child has practical PE, they are required to attend school wearing full HHS PE kit. This must be a HHS purple PE t-shirt and plain black tracksuit bottoms/shorts/leggings with trainers. A HHS PE hoody can be worn over the top. No other colour or non-HHS tops are permitted. Please see the photo for information.

### Equipment

Your child was provided with a fully equipped work pack at the start of the year and has been topped up recently. We are now requesting your support with any new or top ups of equipment from January onwards. This includes a black pen, pencil, ruler, glue stick, rubber and a white board pen (any colour).

### Face masks/coverings

Your child must wear a face covering while at school in all areas of the school except when in the classroom, eating or when outside. This is an expectation for all students unless exempt. Please ensure your child has a suitable covering each day they attend school. It is important as a school community we protect each other in these challenging times.

### Hair colour, facial piercings and false nails

Students hair must be of a natural colour, please use the Christmas period to comply with this rule if it needs to be altered. Students are not permitted to wear facial piercings. Any facial piercings visible, will be asked to be removed or covered. Students are not permitted to wear acrylic or false nails due to health and safety reasons.

### Mobile phones & headphones

Students are able to bring their phone to school, however once they get to school, the phone must be switched off and put in the bottom of their bag, as well as any headphones. If a student's phone is seen or heard at any point during the school day, the phone or headphones must be handed over immediately to the member of staff requesting it. The item will be placed in a Covid secure envelope and stored safely in Reception until the end of the school day for your child to collect it at 2:30pm.



## School Values

### Learning first ...

We will work together to raise the achievement of all students, thereby improving their life chances.

We believe that high quality teaching, learning and leadership are fundamental to our success.

By 'embedding ambition' in our students we will enable our young people to lead a balanced life as adults, capable of contributing positively to their community.



Courage



Aspiration



Respect



Equality



Self control

## Donations to School

*Thank You*

We are always so grateful to our community partners for supporting our school, students and school families.

This year Morrisons has been particularly generous, supporting us continually since the first lockdown. We would like to particularly mention our Local Champion, Andrea. Thank you so much for your ongoing support!



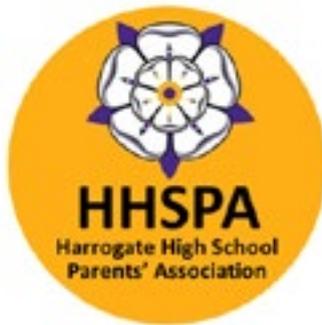
We are also grateful to the Lions for once again supplying us with Christmas hampers and food for our breakfast club. This has been a great support again this year.



This year we have also been supported by Rumblin'Tums who have supported students by supplying Christmas donations, winter coats and presents to some of our families.



And finally, we would like to thank our PTA for supporting our Praise and Reward Celebration by providing the prizes. This is a great end of term event that the students really enjoy and is a lovely positive way to celebrate success and finish term on a positive note.



## Uniform Donation

If you have any outgrown uniform, in good condition, we would be delighted if you would consider donating it back to school for our uniform store.

Please leave any donated uniform (washed please) in the box in the reception lobby. This will allow us to ensure the correct Covid regulations are adhered to.

## Classroom Libraries

We are keen to engender a love of reading here at Harrogate High School. We hope to create classroom libraries to use during form time. As school funds do not stretch to this, we have reached out to our community asking for books that children have outgrown - fiction or non fiction suitable for KS2 and KS3. We were grateful to find them a new home!

We have had support from the following local companies; Harrogate Spring Water, Raworths, Belzona and Bettys have kindly donated £500 towards this project which is wonderful!

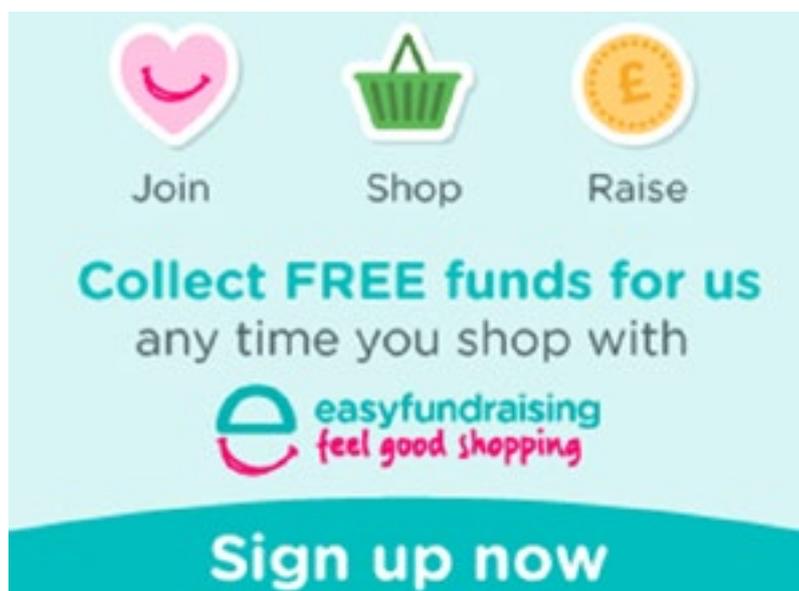
We look forward to populating the classrooms next term.



HARROGATE  
SPRING WATER



## Please don't forget to keep fundraising for FREE while you shop !



We would be really grateful if you could continue to help us raise funds for School (at no expense to you!) while you do your online shopping.

All you have to do is to sign up with Easyfundraising.com and register your chosen charity as Harrogate High School. As you make online purchases, donations will be made, FREE to School.

Please sign up and use this facility regularly if you can.



## Dates for Your Diary

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Term Starts           | 4th January 2021   |
| Year 9 Option evening | 18th January 2021  |
| Half Term             | 15th February 2021 |
| Back to school        | 22nd February 2021 |

### PARENTS EVENING DATES

|                                     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening | 11th February 2021 |
| Year 10 Parent Consultation Evening | 24th February 2021 |
| Year 8 Parent Consultation Evening  | 8th March 2021     |
| Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening  | 25th March 2021    |

## Reminder...

Students must come to school with their OWN MASK and wear it when they enter the building, in any communal area or corridor. Please reiterate the importance of this to your child.

No student should be in school if they or anyone else in their household(s) or support bubble

- has symptoms of coronavirus (Covid 19) or
- has tested positive for coronavirus (Covid 19)

In addition, no student should be in school if they have been in close contact with anyone else who has tested positive for coronavirus (Covid 19)

If you are unsure about any symptoms that your child or someone in your household is experiencing, do not send your child into school and contact NHS 111 for clarification.

You can access our full COVID-19 Risk Assessment on the website within the School Policies section.

<https://www.harrogatehighschool.co.uk/our-school/our-policies/>

For the Covid Contact form see

<https://www.harrogatehighschool.co.uk/parents-carers/coronavirus-update/>



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