



May 2023

Wakefield Road, Horbury, Wakefield
West Yorkshire
WF4 5HE

Dear Parent/Carer

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End of Summer Half Term Letter

Principal: Mrs N Waker

As the summer appears to be arriving at the end of this half term, I wanted to celebrate some great achievements over the recent weeks. In addition to providing some updates and information for our return after the break for our final half term of this academic year.

Year 11 GCSEs are in full swing with pupils fully engaged in their exams and final revision interventions. There are a number of half term sessions planned for pupils for that final push towards the remaining exams on return in June, including Maths, Science, Geography and History.

In order to further support our Year 11 pupils with a quiet start to their afternoon examinations, from Monday 5 June 2023 Year 11 pupils will move to first lunch, with all Year 10 pupils moving to last lunch. All breaks remain the same, this means that Year 10 will have first break but last lunch.

Supporting Success

We are excited to be able to share with you the next edition of Horbury Academy's End of Term Newsletter, which celebrates achievements and successes from the Summer Term so far, both within the academy and wider individual achievements. Including the pupils' amazing efforts raising money for Wakefield Hospice.

[Summer Term Newsletter](#)

Recognition events

This half term our character virtue spotlight was 'Resilience'. Pupils have been awarded stamps in their planners and MCAS messages home for displaying this virtue during lessons and around the academy. All pupils have attended a recognition assembly on in the final week of half term where attendance, resilience and other contributions have been recognised by their Pastoral Year Leaders.

Additionally, on Friday 26 May approximately 200 pupils from years 7, 8, 9 and 10 were recognised for their tremendous demonstrations of resilience and have been given the opportunity to throw a wet sponge at a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Pupils taking part in this were nominated by their class teachers for going above and beyond when displaying resilience this half term. Any pupils with 100% attendance this year will also be able to access the event.

Enrichment Opportunities

All of the current trips and enrichment opportunities planned across many different subject areas have been very popular as we have started to re-instate trips fully again this year. The enrichment opportunities will once again grow next year, with plans of securing more tickets for the most popular trips, in addition to exploring a greater variety.

We plan to communicate with parents and pupils again to outline a proposed offering for each individual year group to allow for financial planning. Please look out for this letter which will be sent via MCAS.

Borrowed Uniform

We understand pupil circumstances can change in a short space of time; we therefore have a limited supply of uniform available in the academy that we are able to loan to pupils. To enable us to continue to offer this provision to all pupils, loaned items should be returned to the academy as soon as possible. Therefore, if you are in possession of any loaned items, please can these be returned to the academy by no later than 21 July 2023.

Parent and Carer events

It has also been a pleasure to welcome so many families into the academy for a number of different events throughout this half term. We had some lovely feedback from parents and carers following the recent Year 10 Supporting Success evening, with 100% of parents finding the evening useful.

'All were excellent in their own way, and all provided good information'

'I felt all the teachers were friendly and knowledgeable.'

'All the subject teachers were helpful'

Securing Success

Curriculum

The development of a broad and balanced curriculum remains a key focus for us after the positive comments that we received from Ofsted Inspectors in our last inspection:

"Leaders have developed an ambitious curriculum for all pupils. Curriculum plans identify the precise knowledge that is most important for pupils to learn and remember."

We are ambitious in our work to further develop the curriculum and continue to review the provision for our pupils.

As part of this development, we have been working to improve the curriculum aspect of the website, to ensure that parents and pupils have the opportunities to view the curriculum and be able to gain valuable information about the topics that will be covered within each subject area. Should you wish to view the curriculum offer for each subject area, it can be found by clicking the following link:

<https://www.horburycurriculum.org/>

Developing a curriculum that our pupils are engaged and enthused by is a priority and pupil feedback has been part of the development process to ensure a high-quality offering.

Leading Success

Parents' Forum

We had another successful parents' forum meeting this term. During the meeting an update was given on how the academy website had been developed following feedback from parents and carers at the last Parents' Forum and we hope that parents, carers and pupils have noticed these changes when accessing our website.

The main agenda item discussed at the most recent parents' forum was rewards, recognition and consequences where parents were consulted on these areas and gave their views and suggestions.

If you are interested in joining our parents' forum for 2023-2024 please email enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org

Upcoming dates for your diary

Monday 5 June – Academy reopens to all pupils

Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 June – Year 6 Taster Days

Tuesday 27 June – Year 6 Welcome Evening

Wednesday 28 June – Year 11 Prom

Monday 3 July – Yr10 Mock Interview Day

Tuesday 11 July – Wimbledon Trip

Friday 21 July – Academy closes at the end of the day to all pupils for summer

Finally, I wish all pupils, parents and carers a very happy and enjoyable half term break. I look forward to welcoming our pupils back to the academy on Monday 5 June.

Best wishes



Mrs N Walker
Principal

Useful Numbers for Families over Half Term

Child line

Support and advice for children online and over the phone. 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk.

Change, Grow, Live

An under 18s substance and alcohol misuse service providing free and confidential service to young people, families, friends and significant others that are residents in the Wakefield District. 01924 438383.

Citizen's Advice

An independent, local charity which offers free, confidential and impartial advice to the citizens of the Wakefield District for a wide range of issues e.g. housing, debt, family, employment... For telephone advice or for an appointment please call the advice line 0800 144 8848 – Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm.

Kooth

Free, safe and anonymous online mental health support for young people <https://kooth.com/>.

Star Bereavement & Support Service

Emotional and practical support to children and young people aged 4 – 18 who live in the Wakefield District and have suffered bereavement or significant loss. 01924 787384 or 07881750094 claire@starwakefield.org.uk or via Facebook (Star Bereavement)

The resource food bank (Christ Church Ossett)

This operates on a referral basis from Job Centres, Social Services, Local Authority Crisis Units, Schools and Children's Centres, Homeless Shelters and Benefit Centres, Refuges and Vulnerable adult organisations. For further information contact 01924 263311 or christchurchsouthossett@gmail.com.

Worried About a Child?

If you have concerns about a child's safety or well-being you should contact Social Care Direct free on 0345 8503 503 or email social_care_direct@wakefield.gov.uk. They will deal with your concerns and can offer advice and support on what to do.