



May 2024

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 English, Science, Geography and History.

## 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.

### [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 in the final week of half term where attendance, resilience and other contributions have been recognised by their Pastoral Year Leaders.

Additionally, on Friday 24 May in addition to pupils with 100% attendance, pupils were recognised for their tremendous demonstrations of resilience and were given the opportunity to take part in Nerf Wars. Pupils taking part in this were nominated by their class teachers for going above and beyond when displaying resilience this half term.

## 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 18 July 2024.

We would like to thank our pupils for responding positively to reminders about uniform expectations. It is hugely appreciated when pupils remove jewellery or adjust skirts before entering main site; this is often done in a respectful and mature manner.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind pupils of the importance of being punctual to the academy; it is expected that all pupils are in attendance by 8.30am to enjoy the curriculum that is then delivered during Form Time. There are some fantastic discussions that take place during Form Time, as well as important reminders for the week ahead; we strive for all of our pupils to be a part of this without interruptions from pupils arriving late.

## Y9 GCSE Pathways Process

Following a number of successful and highly attended events, our GCSE pathways process has now come to a close, with 89% of pupils getting their top 3 preferences for subjects they want to study at GCSE. Additionally, 96% of pupils that requested to change subjects were also successful in gaining another preference or change to their original subject choice.

I would like to say a huge thank you to parents and carers who supported the pathways process this year. Your support has a very positive impact in helping pupils to be as confident as they can in their choices, and taking this huge step towards being as successful as they can be.

### **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.

## **Leading Success**

### **Pupil Survey**

918 pupils at Horbury Academy participated in the Edurio learning and wellbeing survey, providing a wealth of information from a range of areas, for example learning and curriculum to extra-curricular activities and their well-being.

We are now beginning to carefully analyse and consider the results of the survey, so we understand the key themes and messages. It is also important that we reflect on how there may be different perspectives for pupils across different pupil groups.

Once the analysis is complete, we will begin to identify priorities and provide feedback. Feedback will be shared with pupils using a traffic light format, for example:

Green: Some actions could be actioned quickly and relatively easily,

Amber: Other actions may need greater consideration and a longer-term approach

Red: Some actions may not be possible. Where actions cannot take place, we will explain the reasons and process behind this decision.

- May – Analysis
- June – Planned Action
- July – Communicating Action

### **Parents' Forum**

We had another successful parents' forum meeting this term, the main agenda item discussed at the most recent parents' forum was inclusion.

If you are interested in joining our parents' forum for 2024-2025 please email [enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org](mailto:enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org)

### **Upcoming dates for your diary**

**Monday 3 June** – Academy reopens to all pupils

**Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 June** – Year 6 Taster Days

**Tuesday 25 June** – Year 6 Welcome Evening

**Thursday 27 June** – Year 11 Prom

**Wednesday 3 July** – Wimbledon Trip and Yr7 Stratford Trip

**Saturday 6 July** – Yr10 Barcelona Trip

**Wednesday 10 July** – Yr8 Coal Mining Museum (X)

**Thursday 11 July** – Yr8 Coal Mining Museum (Y)

**Friday 12 July** – Yr10 Mock Interview Day

**Friday 19 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 3 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:social_care_direct@wakefield.gov.uk). They will deal with your concerns and can offer advice and support on what to do.