



HALF TERM BULLETIN

AUTUMN 2020

A message from our Academy Head

As we come to the end of our first half-term, I would like to share with you just how wonderful it has been to have our staff and students back in school this half term. The school is once again filled with laughter and smiles.

We are incredibly proud of our students. Despite the new procedures, ongoing uncertainties and the temporary postponement of extra-curricular clubs and trips, our students have been engaged and committed to their learning and have overcome adversity with courage and resilience.

Our teaching and support staff have been remarkable. Teachers have worked very hard to plan and adapt their delivery of lessons to ensure social distancing and have further developed their digital skills through live teaching and pre-recorded lessons. Though challenging, they have risen to the challenge and I am grateful for their positivity, adaptability and determination to provide the highest standard of education and pastoral care for our students. We remain outward looking and keep up to date with the most recent DFE and government advice and legislation and will endeavour to keep you informed of any future developments.

The support from our parents/carers and community has been heart-warming and your kind comments have been gratefully received. You have done your utmost to support your child throughout lockdown and in supporting them to return positively to school and for this we are extremely grateful.

We end the final week with a non-uniform day for our students and are proud of their wonderful fundraising efforts. Students in Years 7-10 took part in a fun run for Harrogate Hospital, raising an outstanding £2248.

As the weather gets colder, please ensure your child comes to school with a winter, waterproof jacket to keep them warm and also a school bag that can hold an A4 folder. Please also ensure that your child has face masks and hand sanitiser for the half term ahead.

Our students' safety is of the utmost importance, so it is essential that students wear a bike helmet should they cycle to and from school.

Warm wishes to you all at this time.
Charlotte Clarke,
Academy Head



Attendance

School Every Day Counts - School and future success starts with good attendance

Our Vision

We encourage each and every student to strive for 100% attendance and excellent punctuality.

Why are attendance and punctuality so important?

Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Harrogate High School seeks to ensure that all its students receive a full-time education which maximizes opportunities for each student to realise their true potential both socially and academically.

Over a period of five school years, a student with 90% attendance will have missed half of a whole year of schooling. Similarly, students with poor punctuality miss valuable lesson time and, if it happens regularly, progress will be jeopardised. The infographic which can be seen below can act as a useful stimulus for explaining the importance of attendance with your child. This visual can be seen throughout the school and is referred to by members of staff when discussing the importance of your child's attendance and punctuality. Making reference to key figures such as: 5 minutes late to lesson over a year can result in 3 days loss of learning, helps young people realise the impact of poor punctuality.



Defintion of Attendance

The table below sets out our definitions of attendance. We expect outstanding attendance for all, however we do recognise that there are times when students we will be absent from school. If attendance drops below 97% the school will contact parents immediately to put a plan in place to make improvements. As a school we work relentlessly to support our students and families.

Outstanding	98 - 100%
Good (no more than 5 days off per year)	97- 97.9%
Cause for concern	95- 96.9%
Cause for serious concern	<94.9%
Persistent Absentee – possible legal action	<90%

Achieving excellent attendance is essential to achieving success and as such, we seek to work closely with parents, students and staff to ensure this can be realised. You may ask, 'what can I do to help?'

What can i do to help?



As a parent or carer you can help by:

- ensuring your child understands the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality
- taking an interest in their education – asking about school work and encouraging them to get involved in school activities
- discussing any problems they may have at school and inform their Student Support Officer to pass on concerns quickly
- not allowing them take time off school for minor ailments – particularly those which would not prevent you from going to work
- arranging appointments after school hours, at week ends or during school holidays will help to prevent disruption to your child's education and to the school
- being open and willing to work with us to improve your child's attendance



As a student, you can improve your attendance by:

- speaking to a trusted adult about the reasons why you might not want to come to school
- trying hard every morning to get up and get to school, unless you are really unwell
- getting an early night, feeling tired on a morning can make getting up for school harder
- make sure you get to school on time every day

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like any more information, support or guidance.

Contact the Attendance Team:

Attendance Manager

Mrs L Reid - lreid@harrogatehighschool.co.uk or call: 01423 554087/ 07960597111

Family Support Worker

Mrs Georgina Dickinson - gdickinson@harrogatehighschool.co.uk or call: 01423 554087

Contact your child's Student Support Officer:

Miss A Pattinson - apattinson@harrogatehighschool.co.uk (Year 11)

Mr M Nicholson - mnicholson@harrogatehighschool.co.uk (Year 10)

Mrs Tracey McWilliams - TRM@harrogatehighschool.co.uk (Year 9)

Miss G Smith - gsmith@harrogatehighschool.co.uk (Year 8)

Mr S Bull - sbull@harrogatehighschool.co.uk (Year 7)

School Success

Mental and Wellbeing Award

The vision for Wellbeing and Mental Health at Harrogate High School has always been for a whole school community where first-class emotional wellbeing and mental health are at the heart of the culture and ethos of the school. We believe that this will enable students, with the support of their teachers, to build confidence and flourish. Our focus on wellbeing has only been sharpened by the coronavirus crisis and we have adapted our practices as a community to support the wellbeing of all.

Throughout the pandemic, we have striven as a whole staff body to continue to place the wellbeing of all members of our school community at the heart of what we do. Children from across the UK have had their lives altered by the virus, struggling with worsening existing mental health conditions and loneliness. We have used our social media channels to promote different foci through 'Wellbeing Wednesday', with topics as wide ranging as sleep, breathing exercises and the benefits of gardening. The PE department had an amazing response from so many young people, with high engagement in their weekly challenges and online sports day.

We recognise that the pandemic has been a challenging time for all, but we are so proud of the courage, a key value in our Harrogate High School CARES values, that our young people have shown and continue to show. We opened the year with a half day wellbeing day in which all students reflected on their sleep routine, learning habits and coping strategies for change.

So, what is wellbeing? Essentially wellbeing is the state of being happy, healthy and comfortable. Student wellbeing is at the heart of what we do and we recognise that better wellbeing is linked to better attainment and opportunities to become a flourishing member of society.

For our members of staff, we advocate collegiate support and learning opportunities for all, promote and support everyone's emotional wellbeing and mental health, so that staff are happy together and ready to facilitate learning, imagination and discovery.

Through modelling of our CARES values and the explicit focus on wellbeing during wellbeing Wednesday in form time, we reg-

ularly and relentlessly are putting wellbeing at the top of the agenda. We use the 6 ways to wellbeing as a practical tool to get students to consider hands-on ways they can do one thing to support their own mental wellbeing. We have continued the work started in lockdown on Wellbeing Wednesday – so keep an eye on the school social media for hints and tips on wellbeing every Wednesday.

As a part of our drive and commitment to create an open culture and conversation about mental health, we have been using the Wellbeing Award for Schools (WAS) as a diagnostic tool to review and continue to develop our provision within this area. We are constantly reflective, open to feedback, outwards looking and striving to improve the wellbeing of all members of our school's community.

We were delighted to receive accreditation of the WAS award as an endorsement of the shift in culture that we've achieved collaboratively and look forward to improving and developing our seminal work moving forwards. The whole school community has come together to uplift and support each other throughout and continuing through this difficult period and it is a pleasure to see this work being put front and centre of the whole school agenda.

If you are any member of your family is struggling with their wellbeing, please have a look at and use the resources below as a source of support.

<https://www.harrogatehighschool.co.uk/parents-carers/mental-health-and-wellbeing/>



Student Success - Arkwright Award



We are delighted to announce that Ryan Huntley has been successful in winning an Arkwright Engineering Scholarship which will support him through the two years of his A Level qualifications and beyond. He will be sponsored by a commercial engineering company which can provide valuable mentoring and work experience, guiding him through his studies and early career.

Ryan was awarded the scholarship through a rigorous selection process in which he demonstrated his keen eye for engineering design and passion for creating bespoke bike components. We are very proud of what Ryan has achieved and wish him all the best with his future in engineering.

His family said "Ryan is absolutely overjoyed with his achievement and is now excitedly planning what he wants to do for his project. He would like to thank all the teachers at Harrogate High School for their support and encouragement during his time there, and is especially grateful to Mr Carne for introducing him to the scholarship and helping him with his application."

School Success - FA Girls' Football

The PE department along with Harrogate Sports Partnership are delighted to announce we have successfully gained the FA Girls' Football Hub Status for North Yorkshire. This means we are supported and funded by the FA to allow all girls to have an opportunity to play football in their curriculum time and through enrichment clubs.

The application was led by Debbie Speed (Harrogate Sports Partnership Manager) and Janine Norman (KS3 Head of PE).

"We are incredibly proud of this status and the benefits that all girls will gain in their curriculum time and enrichment opportunities be it recreational or competitive. There is a huge amount of planning and collaboration to be done but we can't wait to start launching to not only HHS but to all schools in the area."



GIRLS' FOOTBALL
SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS
Supported by **BARCLAYS**



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School Success - Good Luck Karting, Rhys Newburn!

After a hugely successful 2019 karting season, Rhys is in the midst of competing against some of the best drivers in the world in 2020.

Rhys has taken part in major championships: the British Kart Championships as an IAME Junior X30 driver and the world's most competitive championship, the FIA IAME European Championships. This will see Rhys competing in events in the UK, Belgium, France, Italy and Spain (covid restrictions depending).

Rhys represented the UK at the Nations Cup in Italy, as well as competing in several regional championships across the UK. Rhys receives expert coaching from Terry Fullerton, a previous winner of the Karting World Championship and former teammate to the late great Ayrton Senna.

He raced in the British Karting Grand Prix earlier this year finishing a respectable 16th after a puncture in qualifying left him starting the race in 35th.

We hope he continues to rise up the rankings and wish Rhys all the best.

We will all follow his progress with great interest!



Parent Involvement in School

Parents' Forum

We welcome new members to join our Parents' Forum group.

The Parents' Forum is a partnership between parents and the school. It is a valuable way to share ideas, views and to make suggestions for improvement.

The aims of the forum will be to:

- work together to improve the education provided for our children
- share information, knowledge and skills
- meet in a mutually supportive environment
- further improve communications between parent/carers and staff/governors

The group meet on a regular basis to discuss matters arising. Our next meeting will be held online.

If you would like to join our Parents' Forum, please email admin@harrogatehighschool.co.uk for more information.

Parent Teacher Association

Our PTA is a great support fundraising and helping out with school events. If you would like to get involved please contact @HHSParentsAssociation on facebook.



Fundraising for Charity

Sponsored Run

To show support and thanks to the NHS and our local Harrogate Hospital for their unstinting work during these uncertain and unprecedented times of Covid, the PE Department organised a 3k sponsored run and invited students from Yrs 7 to 10 to take part and raise funds.

The run took place after school and 120 students and staff took part, all socially distanced in their year bubbles.



We are delighted to announce £2248.25 was raised! With Gift Aid this amounts to an incredible £2647.50

Sammy Lambert, Business Development, Charity and Volunteer Manager from Harrogate Hospital & Community Charity said "We are delighted that students from Harrogate High School have supported our charity and we hope they enjoyed taking part in the run. Every bit of support we have is really appreciated and can really help us to improve the care and support for patients and their families."

The sponsorship link is still open so if you would like to contribute please visit <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/HHSSponsoredRun>





Fundraising for School

Fundraising for FREE if you are moving home?

LINLEY & SIMPSON

Proud to be supporting...

Harrogate High School

Sell or let your home through Linley & Simpson and we will donate...

£250* Harrogate High School.

Please fill in form below and take in to your local branch...

Are you considering moving house or renting accommodation ?

If you are looking to buy, sell or let a property please consider using the agents Linley and Simpson as we have signed up to their 'Give Back Scheme.'

Complete one of their forms in the first instance and if the sale or let goes through successfully, Linley and Simpson will kindly donate £250 to Harrogate High School.

All funds raised will go towards projects to enhance the wellbeing of all students.

Thank you for your support!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Branches across North & West Yorkshire.
Visit www.linleyandsimpson.co.uk to find your nearest branch.

*Linley & Simpson will donate £250 to Harrogate High School for each successful new managed Landlord instruction or new vendor lead that comes as a direct result of this flyer. Contribution to be made at tenant move in for letting properties or completion for sales instructions. Standard business T&C's apply.

Fundraising for FREE while you shop



The graphic features three icons at the top: a pink heart with a smile, a green shopping basket, and a gold coin with a pound symbol. Below these are the words 'Join', 'Shop', and 'Raise'. The main text reads 'Collect FREE funds for us any time you shop with' followed by the Easyfundraising logo and tagline 'feel good shopping'. At the bottom, a teal banner says 'Sign up now'.

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

All you have to do is to sign up with Easyfundraising.com and register your chosen charity as Harrogate High School.

As you shop online use Easyfundraising.com as your starter website, then go to your usual high street retailer sites.

As you make online purchases, donations will be made, FREE to School.

Please sign up and use this facility if you can.

Dates for Your Diary

Half Term Starts	Monday 2 November 2020
Yr 11 Parents Information Evening	Tuesday 17th November via Teams
Break for Christmas	Friday 18th December 2020 finish at noon.
Spring Term 2021	Monday 4th January 2021
Further parents' evenings to be confirmed.	

Next Term

We will continue to support the NYCC campaign - "Stronger Together" next term with the focus moving from Thanks and Remembrance, "to Build Stronger Communities."

We will be asking school students "Can you help?" Staff and students may bring in cans or tins of food to donate and these will then be packaged up and distributed to our disadvantaged school families before Christmas time.

We are fortunate to have such a strong school family network at Harrogate High School and it is so important we come together, particularly in these uncertain times, and support those who are less fortunate.

More details will follow next term but thank you in advance for help and support with this campaign.



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