



HALF TERM BULLETIN

SPRING 2021

Goodbye and best wishes to Mrs Clarke



A message from Jenn Plews, CEO of Northern Star Academies Trust.

“We wish Mrs Clarke all the very best as she takes up special leave to care for a family member.

I'd like to honour her unwavering commitment and dedication to the young people and staff of Harrogate High School. We will miss her energy, dynamism and passion for education and very much look forward to welcoming her back in 12 months' time.”



Headteacher Award



Mrs Clarke has selected Year 11 student Martha Baynes for this year's Headteacher Award.

Martha has shown an exemplary attitude to learning throughout her time at Harrogate High School.

Congratulations Martha!

Executive Headteacher



From Easter I will be joining Harrogate High School as Executive Headteacher so I thought it would be good to write a short introduction as I begin in post. I am currently Headteacher at Skipton Girl's High School, after returning to Yorkshire where I grew up after a number of years 'down South'. Prior to this I held two Deputy Headteacher posts at comprehensive schools in the Bath/ Bristol area. I have taught Psychology and Science for over 22 years and was able to complete a Masters in Neuroscience and Education at Bristol University in 2017.

Outside of my professional life I am married with a 2 year old son who keeps us very busy and entertained but who, sadly, is showing no interest in supporting Bradford City (sorry to all you Harrogate Town fans!)

I've been really fortunate over the last couple of years to work closely with Harrogate High School and Mrs Clarke, in particular, through our Trust partnership. I'm delighted to be able to lead, with Mrs Greenwood and the staff body, the continued development of the school to ensure every student receives the best possible academic and personal development. I will be splitting my time equally across the two secondary schools so students and parents will see me out and about in school after the Easter break.

Please do stop and say hello! I am very much looking forward to meeting students, parents and the wider school community over the coming weeks.

Acting Head Mrs Greenwood



I wanted to take this opportunity to let all of our school community know how much I am looking forward to my new role as Acting Head of School over the coming year, and to working with Mr Turner and all of our staff to ensure the school continues to move forward on its journey. Since I arrived in September, I have loved getting to know all our students, staff and some of our lovely families. HHS is a special place, and I am really pleased to be able to step into this role and support Mrs Clarke in taking her year of special leave.

On that note, I know all students and families will want to join with me in thanking Mrs Clarke for her hard work and tenacity in leading the school to this point. She is, I am sure you would agree, a fantastic role model to us all, a wonderful source of positivity and warmth, and we will miss her smiling presence and great leadership in school over the coming months. Mrs Clarke, we send you all our good wishes and HHS love for the next year and we very much look forward to your return after Easter 2022!

At the end of this eventful and, at times, challenging, term, I also wanted to congratulate all of our students on transitioning successfully back into school life after another period of home learning for most of our young people and staff. Equally, I must congratulate all our staff for providing such great continuity via remote online learning: our staff adapted quickly and extremely effectively to teaching online and this shows how amazing they are. The recent parent/student feedback on remote learning indicated an overwhelmingly positive response to online teaching.

Finally, I would like to thank all parents and carers for their support with remote learning – you have done a marvellous job! It has been wonderful to see everyone back in school and regain a sense of normality whilst feeling the buzz of everyday school life.

To that end, I wish all of our families a happy and safe Easter break and we look forward to seeing you back for the summer term very soon!

Attendance

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

We are launching a 100% attendance challenge for HT5 for all students. Given the importance of having excellent attendance and given the time we have been working remotely, it is essential that students are in the classroom learning with their expert teacher. Parents will be informed about this by letter and we will be promoting in form time.

We are launching the SLT/SSO attendance champions challenge to support students to raise their attendance as much as possible. The SLT year group lead and SSO for each year will work with 12 students to support them to raise their attendance across the half term.








We will be launching the Lions Attendance raffle when we return after the Easter break. Every two weeks, every student with 100% attendance for the previous two weeks will be placed in a prize draw. Names will be selected at random, and they will receive a small reward in recognition. We will promote this to parents and praise on social media.

Attendance Reminders






1. Parents should report any absence to the school via the absence line on **01423 554087** before **8.30am**.
2. Parents should contact the school for **each day** a pupil will not be attending school.
3. If the school are not notified of the absence, parents will be contacted through our **Truancy text** messaging service **at or before 9.30am**.
4. If school is not notified of the reason for the absence it will be recorded as **unauthorised absence**, and this adversely impacts a pupils' attendance.
5. We will **request medical evidence** if a child's absence is **3 or more consecutive days**.
6. We will request a **specialist letter** when there is an absence of more than **2 weeks**.
7. Term time leave will only be granted by the headteacher in **exceptional circumstance**.
8. Where possible **all appointments should be made outside of the school day**.



UNAUTHORISED

-  Students who are absent from school without reason.
-  Truancy before or during the school day.
-  Arrival at school after registration has closed (after 9.00am).
-  Absence due to shopping, looking after other children or birthdays.
-  Mild student illness such as cold, period pains, headaches.

AUTHORISED

-  An absence for sickness for which the school has granted leave.
-  Medical or dental appointments which unavoidably fall during school time.
-  Religious or cultural observances.
-  An absence due to a family emergency.
-  Sporting events, music assessments and competitions (Headteacher's approval is required).

School Expectations regarding uniform after Easter

Uniform Requirements

We have been really pleased with how students have settled back into routines and focussed learning after returning from lockdown. We want to continue to ensure that our expectations of students are as high as possible, standards are high across school, and this is reflected in the uniform your child wears to school.

Whilst we have made adjustments to support parents/carers with purchasing uniform, after Easter every student in school must wear the full and correct uniform which includes the following items:

Compulsory School Uniform

- HHS Jacket
- HHS Trousers or skirt
- HHS clip on tie
- Long or short sleeved HHS shirt
- Plain black socks
- Plain black leather shoes - no high heels, trainers (inc leather Nike shoes), boots, pumps, or other fabric shoes will be allowed

Optional School Uniform

- HHS V neck jumper



If your child has a medical reason for requiring adapted footwear, please provide a medical note which can be given to their Student Support Officer.

PE Kit

Students are required to attend school wearing PE kit for days their child has practical PE. The PE expectations are below:

Compulsory items for PE

- Black and purple HHS top
- Either black HHS leggings/black shorts or HHS tracksuit bottoms/joggers
- Black sports socks
- Trainers (no pumps)

Optional

- HHS sports under layer
- HHS sports hoody

Recommended Protective Equipment

Protective equipment is advised whilst students are taking part in rugby, football or hockey to reduce the chance of injury.

- Gum shield and shin pads
- Football/rugby boots



Dance

- Black HHS leggings/black shorts
- HHS black and purple t- shirt

Optional

- Black leotard
- Black dance shoes or thin-soled black pumps (No slipper socks)

Rawcliffes in Harrogate have an online shop for specific HHS items. Please visit their website for details at: www.rawcliffes.co.uk

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us on admin@harrogatehighschool.co.uk

Enrichment Opportunities

Performing Arts



We were so disappointed that we were unable to perform our school production last year as we went into lockdown 10 days before opening night. However, we are really looking forward to showing off the talent we have at HHS this year!

So, in anticipation, we are hoping to start an after school performing arts club to prepare for rehearsals starting in September. This is a chance to develop the skills needed for putting on a school production next academic year.

If interested please email Mrs Hastings. She would love to see you!
SHA@harrogatehighschool.co.uk

PE Department



Year 7 Girls' Football



Year 7 Boys' Football

Home Testing Reminder

Tests to be carried out on Sundays and Wednesdays including the holidays.

To have been issued with a test kit you will have had to consent to home testing via this link. If you have not yet consented, but wish to take part in the home testing after Easter, please complete the consent form by clicking on the below link.

[Harrogate High School - COVID LFD Home Testing Opt-In Form for Students \(office.com\)](https://www.harrogatehighschool.co.uk/office/COVID-LFD-Home-Testing-Opt-In-Form-for-Students)

A Quick Guide to COVID Home Testing for Students



If you have COVID symptoms, please do not come into school, book a PCR test at a test site. Contact school. Test kits provided at school are only for use by the student. To obtain kits for other members of the household visit the [.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) website.

Key Points for Home Testing

- 1 **Test twice a week** - On a Sunday and Wednesday evening, including in the holidays.



- 2 **Use the Instructions Leaflet provided separately.** This replaces the leaflet which is contained in the test kit box.



- 3 **Check the contents as soon as you have opened the test kit.** If there is an issue with the test kit, for example something is missing, please report it by calling 119 and please also contact the COVID Coordinator by emailing admin@harrogatehighschool.co.uk



- 4 **Check your results at 30 minutes.**



- 5 **Reporting the Result.** - Test results (whether positive, negative or void) need to be reported to:

Positive results - isolate immediately, book a PCR test. Household and support bubble members need to isolate too.

Negative results - maintain HAND – FACE – SPACE – you could still be carrying the virus.

If the result of the test is unclear (void) you will need to do another test.

If an accident or injury happens whilst using the test kit, please seek medical care by calling 111 (or 999 if it is an emergency). Please also report what happened using this website: <https://coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk>

NHS TEST & TRACE SITE
www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result



SCHOOL

<https://forms.office.com/r/pmchabr5YU>

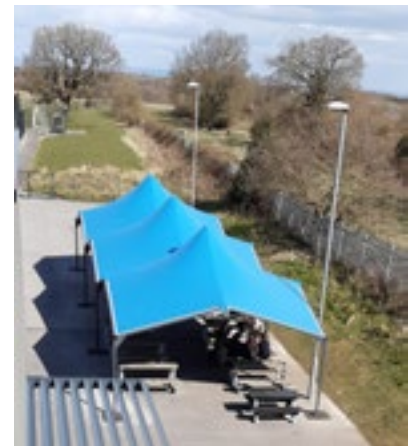


New Canopy



We are really pleased with our new playground canopy for students to utilise during breaks and lunchtimes.

It not only provides shelter from the rain but is also a great area for students to socialise with their friends.



Thank you to our PTA

We would like to thank our PTA for continuing to support school. This term they have kindly supplied the awards for the Praise and Reward Ceremony. This event is a great way for us to celebrate work undertaken by students and acknowledge some of the students who have made exceptional strides and shown a determination and resilience to continue to learn through lockdown.



Wishing you all a Happy Easter

Dates for Your Diary

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| Summer Term Starts | Monday 12th April 2021 |
| Yr 8 Immunisations | Thursday 15th and Friday 16th April |
| Training Day CLOSED TO STUDENTS | 23rd April 2021 |
| Yr 9 Immunisations | Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th May |
| Break up for Half Term | 28th May 2021 |



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