



HALF TERM BULLETIN

AUTUMN TERM 2021

A message from our Head of School

As I reflect on the last few months in my privileged time as acting Head, I am proud of all we have achieved at Harrogate High, particularly this term. Despite the ongoing challenges the pandemic presents, students have shown amazing courage and never fail to cheer up my day with their humour and willingness to engage in conversation. We have seen some real focus from our Year 10 and 11 students, who are approaching their studies with commitment, often attending extra after-school study sessions. Equally, our new Year 7 students have really settled into school and now it seems they are seasoned Harrogate High community members! All year groups have been working hard to achieve praise credits, with many earning the right to take part in the rewards events at the end of each half-term. (We are particularly looking forward to the staff pantomime!) I am especially proud of our newly formed Student Leadership Team and Student Voice Form Reps., who have had their first couple of meetings and an induction assembly this half-term. We are looking forward to seeing great things emerge from this student body over the coming months!



I have been impressed by the numbers re-engaging in clubs and enrichment activities. It was incredibly emotional watching Year 8 students (some of whom had never before played an instrument) perform in our first concert for around two years at the start of this month. Year 10 students did us proud in a Speaker's Trust workshop organised by Mrs Avery, Head of English, delivering presentations eloquently and showing great oracy skills, with six of them going through to a competition with the potential to represent Yorkshire. Our Year 9 boys' football team had a great win against King James in the Harrogate and Craven Cup in November, working brilliantly as a team: one of many sporting successes this term. I also had the pleasure of attending the Drama department's performance of 'All the World's a Stage' in October, which was funny, clever, and inspiring.

I should additionally acknowledge the commitment of the new Parents' Forum, who have met twice this term to hear about aspects of school life and school improvement and have taken time out of their evenings to give us valuable feedback on these areas. This will feed into our future plans, as will the parent feedback we have received on communication this term. We always welcome new members at the Parents' Forum, so please do let us know if you would like to become a member.

As the Christmas break approaches, I would like to wish all our families a peaceful and happy festive fortnight. I sincerely hope that we can all enjoy family time over this period without the stringent restrictions we endured last year. However, we are mindful of keeping all in our school community safe, so we continue to ask for your support in sending your children to school with a face covering (unless exempt) for busy, communal areas. This is particularly important with the recent discovery of the more transmissible Omicron variant of COVID-19. Please continue to use the home testing kits over the break (we have lots available for your child to collect from the school office if needed) and the night before students return to school, reporting your results in the usual way. More information will be shared separately regarding the on-site testing the government have again asked us to provide in January. With our new Head of Academy Mr Gill taking up post in January, I will resume my substantive role of Deputy Headteacher, working closely with Mr Gill and the rest of the senior leadership team to ensure that Harrogate High School goes from strength to strength. Thank you for all your support over the last two terms and have a Happy Christmas.

Mrs L Greenwood

Head of School

Student Leadership



Student Leaders 2021-2022

YEAR 7



Rosie



Jonny



Summer



Chloe



Daisuca

YEAR 8



Phoebe



Frankie



Freddie



Safiye



Zoe

YEAR 10



Cormen



Innes



Leah Louise



Lucy



Stan

YEAR 11



Harry



Hana



Tyler



Sophia



Chloe

We are delighted to have appointed a team of 25 students as our new Student Leadership Team. This team was selected through an application and interview process to create a student working party, to ensure that student voice can be channelled through these representatives.

The objective of the Students Leadership Team is to empower students to work in partnership with staff towards shared goals and enable ideas and creativity to flourish through a variety of inspiring, challenging and valued school projects which will impact positively on learning, teaching and well-being for both students and staff at Harrogate High School.

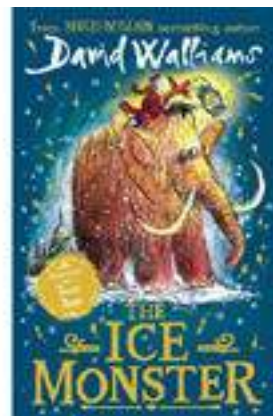
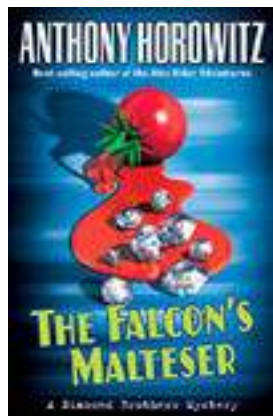
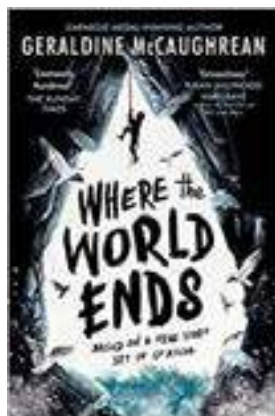
Look out for their ideas and campaigns launching next term!

In September, we were thrilled to launch our Drop Everything And Read Programme (DEAR) with our Year 7 and Year 8 students. Through DEAR we aim to instil a love of reading in our students, to empower and build their reading confidence, and to equip them with the literacy skills they need to support their learning in school and beyond.



Every week, our Year 7 students have been engaging with excerpts from books within the genre of comedy such as “The Ice Monster” by David Walliams and “The Falcon’s Malteser” by Anthony Horowitz. Our Year 8 students have been exploring adventure texts such as “Where the World Ends” by Geraldine McCaughrean and “The Colour of the Sun” by David Almond. It has been wonderful to see so many of our students enjoying reading with their peers and teachers and borrowing the books they have enjoyed from School Library which relaunched this September following its renovation over the summer holidays earlier this year.

A big thank you to all the staff in the Literacy team who have worked tirelessly and enthusiastically to launch DEAR and develop the Library this year. We are looking forward to reading together with our students again in the Spring term with our new collection of explorer and crime DEAR reading books and we cannot wait to hear what our students have been reading at home over the Christmas break!



New School Caterers

We are pleased to announce that we will have a new catering supplier starting in the new year. Aspens are a well regarded catering company and will bring an exciting and varied selection menu to Harrogate High School.

Aspens kindly came into school to meet with the Student Leadership Team to discuss their proposals and proposed menus. Students made comments about existing provisions and gave constructive feedback. Aspens have incorporated these comments into their menus and look forward to starting in January.

Please see an introduction to the company in the article below.





Introducing our new website

We are delighted to share our brand new Aspens Services website with you! We have a new brand identity, lots of movement in the design, a new colour palette and an improved customer experience. This new look and feel is all interspersed with our vision and values. Every person who visits the site will know who we are, what we stand for and why they should be one of our customers. Take a look and see what you think!

www.aspens-services.co.uk

Different look, same address, same values, same people and same commitment to catering for your needs. We hope that you like it as much as we do!



The launch of this new site comes with the launch of doing things a little differently - for the better.

Our new website is stage one of our IT upgrade for our stakeholders. We are also in the process of enhancing the Aspens App.

In order to make these changes, with minimum disruption to users, we would like to update the catering information you have on your school site with new information, images and the latest menu cycle. This will replace the current Aspens link you may have and access to the current Aspens App.

The following pages are an example of ideally how we would like our update to look like. We will provide you with the copy and images to help shape your catering page.



We are **always** in the mood for good food!

We are Aspens Services, a market leading contract catering company and we specialise in school food.

We only work in the education sector so we know what our customers want. Mixing this knowledge with an understanding of what's hot in the food world sparks creativity and excitement in our chefs. Our kitchens provide delicious home cooked food each day and cater for individual dietary requirements.

We don't just provide food, we play our part to educate children and raise awareness about nutrition, food and where it comes from, so that they can make informed and mindful choices. Feeding our future. Please see more at www.aspens-services.co.uk



Featuring global cuisines, customised offers and food on the move to suit different price and time requirements.

We push the boundaries here with really interesting dishes that grab a lot of attention in the world of food. We understand that tastes are expanding and students are keen for the chance of new food experiences. We also don't forget that familiarity and comfort are what so many want, so we have plenty of choices to fit the bill. With important learning to be done, we make sure that we are feeding healthy minds as well bodies.

Streateries is our main secondary meal offer. With food drawing on Asian, African, Caribbean and more traditional fare, the menu includes street food dishes and handheld versions with vegetarian and vegan choices and sides available.

Our Deli Kitchen builds on the popularity of our standard hot and cold deli offers to provide more substantial meals at our grab and go counter.

Menu

The menu rotates on a three-week basis and refreshes for Autumn/Winter and Spring/Summer seasons. Here's the current menu:

Click here to view the current menu:

www.harrogatehighschool.co.uk/parents-carers/school-dining

Special diets

Special diets are an integral part of our catering provision, whether as a result of an ethical or religious belief or a food intolerance or allergy. To register this as a requirement please complete and return the special diets form to the school as soon as possible.

Free School Meals

You may be entitled to them - please check at this website:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Joining our team

It takes some pretty special people to make sure that we give our school children and young adults great food every day. We are keen to add to our teams with talented people and so if you are looking for an opportunity to challenge yourself and learn new skills, let us know.

To find out more, please visit our website.

Making **great school food memories!**



In and Around our Community

Walk to School Day

We were delighted that that so many of our students supported the Walk to School Days that were organised by Zero Carbon Harrogate this term.

So many students stepped up and participated that we were awarded their Zero Hero Award! We had the highest number of students walking, cycling or scooting to school of all the secondary schools in Harrogate.

#ClimateCrisis #ZeroHeros



CPR Training

Less than one in 10 people in the UK survive a cardiac arrest but thousands more lives could be saved if witnesses start CPR immediately.

We are therefore so grateful that all our Year 7 students took part in the Restart a Heart training event. It is reassuring to know that our students have the knowledge that could make a difference to someone now they are aware of this vital life-saving CPR.

Thanks to Yorkshire Ambulance Service for this training event.



Kit Out the Nation

We were really grateful to Harrogate Town AFC Community Foundation for donating lots of sports kit to Harrogate High School as part of the "Kit out the Nation" Campaign.

BBC Radio York came to school to interview staff and students about this great campaign and to discuss the positive impact it will have at school.



Uniform

It is imperative that all students have the correct uniform when returning to school in January.

Please make sure your child has all the correct clothing and equipment. If you need to buy new items, Rawcliffes is open 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday. Please note their Christmas opening times below.

Uniform Shop Christmas Opening Times

CLOSED 14th Dec TO 28th Dec
OPEN 29th Dec AND 30th Dec
CLOSED 31st Dec TO 2nd Jan 2022
Back to normal hours 3rd Jan 2022.

Any online orders will be processed on the 29th and 30th and the store will be open for click & collect on these dates. Any orders for delivery will also be processed on the 29th and 30th Dec.

Music News

The Music Department are incredibly happy to be back making Music after over a year away. Since the start of the new academic year, all our enrichment ensembles have been rehearsing after school every night. These include Orchestra on a Monday, Choir on a Tuesday, School of Rock on a Wednesday and Guitar Ensemble and Jazz Band on a Friday. It has been great to see so many students join us. Our instrumental tutors have seen a huge take up of lessons over the last half term and the numbers of students learning musical instruments is once again very healthy.

In November we held our first BBC Ten Pieces Orchestra workshop, which had been a resounding success prior to the pandemic. We used students that already learn a musical instrument, alongside students who have never learnt an orchestral instrument before. All students learnt to play "In the Hall of the Mountain King" by Grieg. Many will recognise this familiar piece as the theme tune for Alton Towers. Over the three hour project, students were taught how to play two or three notes on the instrument, how to read the score, count in time and perform the correct rhythms. It was fantastic to see students teaching and mentoring beginners and they all made us ever so proud. Although our new starters may not have had as many notes, they had to be on their toes counting all their rests to ensure they came in at the right places. We look forward to continuing this initiative in the next half term where we will look at "The Ride of the Valkyries." What an experience this has been for the young students to perform in such a large ensemble!

The Year 8 Concert took place at the beginning of December, and it was an absolute pleasure to see so many students involved this year. We couldn't be any prouder of these students as for some this would have been their first ever time performing on an instrument piece and even on a stage. To top it all off, this was after such a long time of not being able to make music. We heard a great mixture of pieces from "Havana", "A Million Dreams" and "Hold Back the River." Well done

to all the Year 8 students who performed a solo as well - what talent we have! What was very noticeable in this concert was the quality of the vocal work especially from the new Year 7 Boys. We hope that they will continue to develop through the Music Department and the enrichment activities that we offer.

Our main event of this term had to be our Christmas Concert. What a night of celebration this was! It was lovely to see parents and family who had come together to celebrate all the hard work that students had put in over the term. Numbers were reduced due to the covid restrictions; however the atmosphere was no different to other years. Performances included several solos and duets from some of our talented instrumentalists. We heard from ensembles such as School of Rock, Guitar group, Orchestra and our School Choir. The night was just wonderful and really got us ready and in the Christmas spirit.

We look forward to the new term with (all being well) our Year 7 Concert on Thursday 27th January and our next Orchestral Workshop.



2021 Christmas Concert



Performing Arts News

All The World's A Stage

Students from years 8 to 11 performed "All The World's A Stage," a mixture of famous speeches from Shakespeare plays and a shortened version of Romeo and Juliet.

Students only had 5 weeks to rehearse and did a fantastic job! Mrs Hastings is so proud of every cast member who showed great commitment, passion and talent.

Well done to all involved!

Mrs Hastings also organised a Year 7 trip to the Pantomime.

Harrogate Theatre really put on a wonderful performance of Cinderella and it was so lovely to be able to go to the theatre once again!



Attendance

We are delighted to be launching our Parent Drop In and coffee mornings starting in the new year.

These will be held at 8:30am – 9:45am on the first Wednesday of the month.

We are also looking forward to a further challenge where we will explore barriers to coming into school and work with some students at improving their attendance.



Looking for Someone to Talk to or for Advice?



PARENT DROP IN

Please book in for a drop in every Friday during term time 11am-12:30pm with George Dickinson Family Support and Wellbeing.

The list of topics to offer support varies, but an example includes:

- Sleep issues
- Concerns over gaming
- Managing conflict with my teenager
- Signposting to services to help with financial issues
- Worries about low mood, anxiety and other wellbeing concerns
- Managing stress
- Internet bullying
- Understanding my child's anger
- Someone to talk to about supporting my teenager



HARROGATE HIGH SCHOOL

www.harrogatehighschool.co.uk | 01423 548800 | admin@harrogatehighschool.co.uk

Sports News

The Year 8 girls took part in a U13 football tournament, held at St John Fisher school. For some of the girls, this was the first game they had ever played against another school. Although some of the girls were very nervous, they got off to a good start. They played 6 matches against some really strong teams. Isobel Lebbon was fierce up front and got her break against Rossett in the first game, pulled the ball back in off the line and scored..... only for the goal to be disallowed as the ball was just out unfortunately. The girls kept a clean sheet right up until the final whistle, when Rossett scored a winning goal.

During the next few games, the girls held their own but unfortunately just lost by a couple of goals, which didn't fully represent the game - the result could have gone either way. We then took a win against St John Fisher, where Isobel L scored two amazing goals. The girls played exceptionally well and came 5th position in the tournament. They demonstrated true grit, determination and resilience throughout every game. They also had a lot of fun meeting the Harrogate players and their mascot. Well done to all the players.

The U13 football team played in the county cup against St John Fisher. They were a little nervous again to start as it was their first time they had all played together as a team. St John Fisher came out strong in the first half and put away four goals. Despite these first few goals going in, the Harrogate High girls didn't drop their heads, they kept going. At half time, we made a few changes and it made all the difference. Kizzy N was amazing in goal and made some great saves. So much so, that St John Fisher didn't put another goal away all half. So well done to all the girls who played. You represented the school and did us proud!



Louisa D, Charlotte S, Issy H, Kizzy N, Mila K, Emily J and Isobel L



A team of Harrogate High School's outstanding Sports Leaders and Football Activators have recently led a range of sporting events for local primary schools. These events are part of wider programme of events led by Harrogate School Sports Partnership.

The events have included:

- Boys' football tournament
- Girls' football tournament
- Disney Inspired Active Play Through Story Telling event
- Parasports festival

Teachers from the Primary Schools commented on the outstanding enthusiasm and professionalism shown by all our young leaders.

Congratulations go to Erin M, Sophie N, Elizabeth L, Dion L, Joe W, Izzy S, Kitty H, Kodi B, Charlotte S, Laura H, Louisa D, Jessica N, Ellie W, Carmen R, Ruby A, Coco H, Chloe H, Jessica W and Frankie K.



Make sure you are Ready 4 Learning in 2022



Ready 4 Learning

Are you R4L?

- 2 x Pen (blue or black)
- 2 x Pencil
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Calculator
- DEAR reading book (Year 7 & 8)
- + Anything appropriate for specific subjects (e.g. full and correct PE kit for PE)



R4L

Learning First...

Dates for your Diary

Return to School (Covid testing may affect this - please see separate communication)	4th January 2022
Year 10	Mock RE Exam
Year 11	Mock Exams 10th to 14th Jan
Year 11	BTEC Travel and Tourism Exam
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Thursday 10th February
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 16th February
Half Term	21st to 25th February



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Northern Star
Academies Trust