



24th October 2025

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Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of our first half term of the academic year, I wanted to take a moment to thank you and our students for what has been a fantastic start to the academic year. Even though we are coming to the end of a long half term, we have not slowed the pace!

Firstly, we had a hugely successful Year 6 Open Evening, where it was a real pleasure to welcome prospective students and families into our school to show them all that we have to offer. The turnout was excellent, and the enthusiasm from everyone made the evening truly special. Don't forget that our Sixth Form Open Evening is on Tuesday 11th November 6-8pm and you can still register your attendance if you have a child in Year 11 by clicking on this [link](#). We look forward to seeing you there.

Our students have also enjoyed some enriching experiences beyond the classroom. For example, Year 11 visited Hornsea to carry out important fieldwork for their GCSE Geography studies, while our Sixth Form had a memorable trip to see *SIX* at the Grand Opera House - a wonderful opportunity to combine learning with culture. In addition, Year 9 took part in the Restart a Heart workshop, gaining vital life-saving skills that could make a real difference in an emergency. These practical experiences are invaluable and reflect our commitment to preparing students for life beyond school.

Sport has been another highlight this term, with notable achievements from our teams. For example, the Year 7 boys' football team have made a real impression by winning all 5 of their opening games. All of our teams have shown great determination and teamwork, and we are proud of their efforts and successes, as well as how brilliantly they represent Huntington school.

Thank you for your continued support in making these opportunities possible. We look forward to building on this strong start as we move into the next half term.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable break,

Matt Smith



Headteacher

Dates for the Diary

Our quick reference guide on key dates is available to view on our Website via the link below:

[Huntington School Calendar](#)

Please note these dates are subject to change.

Dates to note for October and November are as follows:

NOVEMBER

Mon 3rd: School opens after half term

Tues 11th: Sixth Form Open Evening

Thurs 13th: Y11 Core Mock exams begin

Thurs 20th: Y13 Parents' Evening (in person)

DECEMBER

Thurs 4th: Battle of the Bands

Thurs 11th: Year 11 Parents' Evening (in person)

Tues 16th: Christmas pantomime public performance

Fri 19th: School closes for Christmas at 12.15

Flu Vaccines

Vaccination UK will be returning on **7th November** to provide flu vaccinations to students in years 7 to 11 who were missed when they attended on 10th October.

For your child to receive their nasal flu vaccination in school, please complete a **YES** consent form using the **link below**. **The nasal spray is quick, painless and is the most effective option for under 18s.**

If your child **cannot** have the nasal spray, the injectable flu vaccine is available, and you will be able to choose that method on the consent form.

If you **DO NOT** wish for your child to have a flu vaccination, please complete a **NO** consent via the same link.

[Vaccination UK Immunisation](#)

Thank you.

Medication in School

If a student requires medication in school we ask that parents bring it in to either Main or Student reception and fill in a green form. Please make sure the medication is in the original box as we cannot accept medication without the relevant dosage information. The medication will then be kept locked in our First Aid Room until needed.

Start Safe Stay Safe app

A new app, *Start Safe, Stay Safe*, has been launched to improve street safety in York and North Yorkshire. It offers a straightforward and confidential way for members of the public to report street, town and city centre incidents by way of photo, video and audio capture. It also enables authorities to quickly identify patterns of abuse and criminal behaviour and help them to respond more effectively. The app has been designed to help more people in York and North Yorkshire report street harassment and feel safer in public spaces.

You can download the app by using the QR codes on the flyer, or by searching *Start Safe, Stay Safe* wherever you download your apps.



Attendance Update

It has been great to see so many students picking up their 100% weekly attendance merits this week – 1,140, to be precise! For families new to the school, our 100% weekly attendance merit is worth 5 point on Classcharts and recognises a full week of being in school. We thought long and hard about rewarding attendance – we know that we can all get ill every now and then. We also know that some of our students have regular appointments that can't be missed. However, we also wanted to recognise students that do strive to be in school as much as possible. Therefore, we don't issue half-termly or termly awards at Huntington School; weekly awards give students a more regular opportunity to achieve this recognition. Our merits are usually uploaded onto Classcharts on a Monday for the previous week.

Thank you for your continued support.

Antibullying Week 2025

This year we celebrating antibullying week by encouraging all staff and students to **wear odd socks on Monday 10th November**.

The theme of antibullying week this year is "power for good"; with this in mind, we are running an internal competition that we would like ALL parents, staff and pupils to get involved in. We would like you to use your power to vote for a pupil and staff member who deserves recognition for their kindness. These acts of kindness may take place either in or out of school.

Your votes can be submitted using this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/ALTVfmKOND>



HUNTINGTON SCHOOL

KINDNESS AWARDS

USING YOUR POWER FOR GOOD,
VOTE FOR
A PUPIL AND STAFF MEMBER,
WHO DESERVE RECOGNITION
FOR THEIR KINDNESS

POWER FOR GOOD

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2025

POWER FOR GOOD

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

Monday 10th to
Friday 14th November

ODD SOCKS DAY 2025
Monday 10th November

#OddSocksDay #PowerForGood

Parent Information Workshops and Huntington School Community Events

At Huntington School, we're proud of the vibrant community made up of our staff, students, and their families. This year, we're keen to create more opportunities for connection and shared experiences. Please see below for two ways we can achieve this together.



The poster features a blue header with an icon of three people sitting at a table, the text 'Information workshops', the time '3.45-4.45pm', and the Huntington School crest. Below the header are six colored boxes, each representing a workshop with its date, title, and a brief description.

Information workshops
3.45-4.45pm
Huntington School

22/10/2025 - Online safety & social media awareness
Learn how to help your child navigate the digital world safely, from managing screen time to understanding privacy settings. This session explores the risks and rewards of social media and how to foster healthy online habits.

17/11/2025 - Understanding teenage brain development
Discover what's really going on in the teenage brain and how it affects decision-making, emotions, and behaviour. This workshop offers insights into supporting your teen through this critical stage of growth.

15/01/2026 - Teen mental health: spotting the signs
Gain practical tools to recognize early signs of mental health challenges in teenagers, including anxiety, depression, and stress. Learn how to start supportive conversations and where to seek help if needed.

02/03/2026 - Post 16 pathways explained
Explore the options available to students after GCSEs, including A-levels, T-levels, apprenticeships, and vocational routes. This session helps parents guide their teens in making informed choices for their future.

27/04/2026 - Post 18 pathways explained
Understand the full range of opportunities after sixth form or college, from university and gap years to employment and training. This workshop breaks down the pros and cons of each path to support your child's next steps.

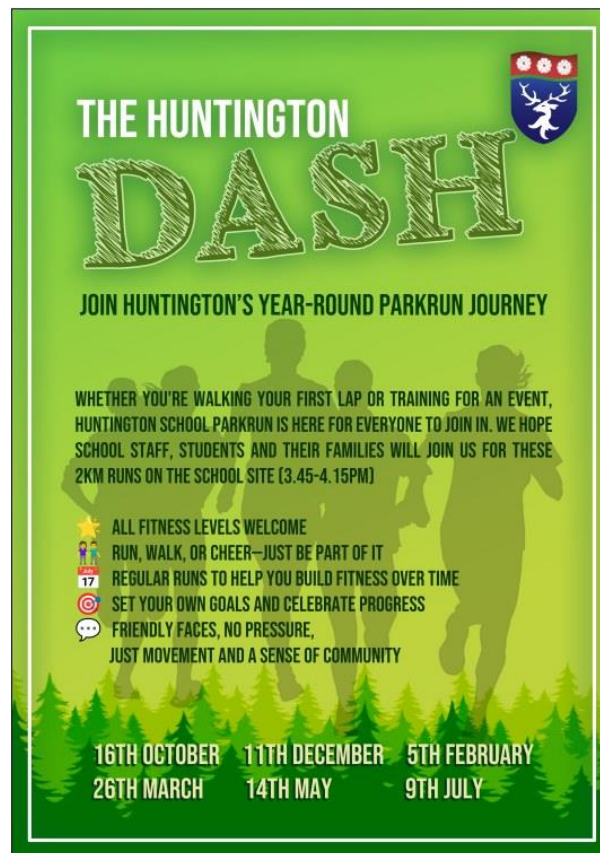
11/06/2026 - Summer support for York families
Explore childcare, wellbeing, and activity opportunities available this summer through York's Family Information Service and partners.

Just a reminder of the information sessions we'll be running throughout the year. These will take place from **3:45 to 4:45pm**, and we invite you to join us at **Student Reception**. Each session will be recorded for those unable to attend in person, and children are very welcome if that makes it easier for you to come along.

This week we had the first of our sessions, Online Safety and Social Media Awareness, led by Mrs Naish and Mrs McAtominey, which was well attended and well received - parents and students were really engaged and enthusiastic about what they learnt. A huge thank you to those of you who attended! We even had some treats, baked by the ERP students.

If you would like to watch the video of the presentation, please contact b.prihar@huntington-ed.org.uk.

We look forward to seeing more of you at our next workshop, Understanding teenage brain development, on Monday 17th November.



We were also excited to launch **The Huntington Dash** last week — our school park run that brings together students, staff, parents and carers for fitness and fun. A huge thank you to everyone who took part, whether by running, helping to organise, or supporting as umpires. A special congratulations goes to Mr Crimes, who was the clear winner – by quite a margin!

The Huntington Dash will continue to take place across the school year so whether you're a seasoned runner or just fancy a jog with friends, we'd love for you to be part of it - maybe you even can beat Mr Crimes!



GHCQ National Language Competition: Year 9



GCHQ, one of the UK's intelligence agencies, is running its annual National Language Competition (NLC) from 17th-21st November 2025. **All Year 9 students are welcome to take part**, in teams of up to four. Over the course of five days, teams will compete to score points by tackling a variety of fun, immersive, language-themed challenges of varying difficulty levels hosted on a virtual platform. Huntington School students have very much enjoyed taking part in previous years, and some of our teams have done very well! Could 2025 be the year we get to take a winning team to GCHQ's Headquarters in Cheltenham, to be presented with their trophy? Students can sign up with their language teacher or Mrs Sketchley.

Side by Side Primary Transition Music Event

On Wednesday 22nd October, Huntington's Little Band and Sixth Form Panto Band were joined by musicians from Robert Wilkinson, Stockton on the Forest and Haxby Road primaries for an exciting afternoon of ensemble music-making.

Primary students were treated to a stellar performance from Little Band of Mr Sandman and Jailhouse Rock. They then got their instruments out, took their places in the band, and joined Little Band to rehearse and perform Jailhouse Rock - complete with superstar soloist Zachary Rose (Year 9).

The music was challenging, but every single student worked their socks off to get the notes and rhythms right - and the final performance sounded phenomenal! Well done everyone and thank you for being so encouraging to the younger students. They were buzzing in the positive feedback they gave!









Maths Past Paper Club Update



Looking to boost your confidence with GCSE Maths? Come along to the **Maths Past Paper Club**, held every Thursday lunchtime in R2-07 and R2-08. This club is designed especially for Year 11 students who want to get hands-on experience with exam-style questions in a relaxed and supportive environment. Whether you're aiming for a top grade or just want to improve your understanding, you'll have the chance to work through past papers, ask for help when needed, and learn alongside your peers.

Following last year's fantastic turnout, this year's club is already off to a strong start, with over 40 students attending regularly. As we move closer to mock exams and the final GCSE season, we expect even more of our brilliant cohort to join in. It's a great way to stay motivated, build exam technique, and make the most of your lunchtime. No need to sign up—just bring your enthusiasm and some lunch!!



GCSE and A-Level Art

Year 10 have made a great start to their Art GCSE, developing skills whilst observing birds and reptiles, and Year 12 have started oil painting.. have a look at their wonderful pieces here.

It has been a great start to the course for both year groups and we can't wait to see what you do next.

Year 10















Year 12









Football and Rugby Success

Year 7 Boys' Football

Congratulations to the Year 7 boys' football team who continued their winning start to the season with a nail-biting result in the second round of the English Schools FA National Cup on Wednesday - they won 4-3 on penalties after a 3-3 draw.

The boys have also beaten Goole Academy, Manor School, Vale of York and Joseph Rowntree School in an impressive first half term. Well done and keep working hard!



Year 8 Boys' Rugby

Well done to the Year 8 rugby team who have finished as runners up in the York and District 9 a side festival, winning 4 from 5 matches. Some super rugby on show throughout. We had three Year 7s stepping up a year to represent the team, which was great to see. A big shout out to Arthur Bewlay (Y8) for the 10 tries he scored in the tournament and for Jamie Benson (Y7) - my man of the tournament. It was, however, a super team effort with so many outstanding performances. The whole squad played brilliantly. For some of the boys this would have been their very first taste of inter-school rugby!

Year 7 and 8 rugby training continues to take place on Wednesdays after school. All students are very welcome to attend.



Parent Carer Forum York SEND Newsletter

Please see the latest newsletter from the Parent Carer Forum. It is a whopper this edition with lots happening in SEND Central and activities for the half term. More information and contact details can be found on the newsletter.



York's Aesthetica Film Festival

FILM FESTIVAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR LEARNERS...

York's Aesthetica Film Festival is taking place 5th-9th November and some of our Media Studies students will be participating in the event in several ways. However, they do offer an exciting and vibrant programme designed to **inspire children of all ages through film, creativity and play** and so there are opportunities for **your learner(s)** to get involved too...

Aesthetica 2025 is a unique opportunity for children and families to **explore storytelling, animation, games, VR, workshops, music**, and much more, **right here in York**. From creative workshops to family-friendly film screenings and interactive VR experiences, the festival is packed with inspiring activities that encourage young people to **discover new skills, build confidence, and ignite their imagination**.

Here is a **digital copy of the flyer**, which maps out the range of fantastic events and activities available to families and young

people: https://issuu.com/aesthetica_magazine/docs/families_at_aesthetica_film_festival?r=sZDI1Mzg1ODgxMjM

Families are at the Heart of Aesthetica. Here are a Top 5 Recommendations:

1. **Family Friendly Film Screenings:** Aesthetica 2025 offers specially curated **U** and **PG** films designed to engage and inspire audiences of all ages. For York families, this is a chance to enjoy worldclass film experiences together in their own city.
2. **Filmmaking, Game Coding and Stop-Motion Animation Workshops:** They believe in nurturing children's creativity. This year, they are offering 7-14 year-olds the opportunity to develop, direct and make their own stop-motion animations, games and live action films. Workshops are led by experts at **Hijinx**, **ComputerXplorers** and **Pauline Quirke Academy**.
3. **VR & Games Lab:** With projects that are suitable for **U** and **PG** audiences, these interactive labs will transport you into the heart of the story, immersing audiences of all ages. This unique environment allows parents to see firsthand how interactive technologies can inspire learning, play, and creativity in their children.
4. **UNESCO City of Media Arts EXPO:** Returning for the second year, the EXPO, **running 6-8 November at the Guildhall**, showcases 40 exhibiting businesses, from **VFX** and **graphic design** to **interactive storytelling** and **digital technology**. Parents can explore the pathways and opportunities available in media arts with their children, opening conversations about future ambitions and dreams.
5. **Experience the first year of the Fringe!** Throughout the festival, families can enjoy Fringe activities, from comedy and art exhibitions to immersive theatre experiences, offering unique opportunities to engage, be inspired and celebrate creativity in every form. **Enjoy free and ticketed events, bringing creativity to every corner of York.**

Flick through the full programme here:

https://issuu.com/aesthetica_magazine/docs/aesthetica_short_film_festival_programme_2025?fr=sODQzNzg1ODgxMjM

Single Screening Passes start from £6 for Children: www.asff.co.uk/tickets/

We hope that if your child wishes to, that they can enjoy this amazing opportunity!

Mr. Elwell



FILMS | GAMES | WORKSHOPS
5-9 NOVEMBER 2025



Y11 Geography Trips to Hornsea

The Geography Department took 150 Y11 GCSE students to Hornsea, across Wednesday and Thursday last week, to complete important fieldwork related to coastal defences and coastal erosion. Students were very engaged and had a great time sketching defences, measuring groynes and enjoying some traditional seaside fish and chips and an ice cream or two.





Out of Hours Concerns

SAFEGUARDING AND OUT OF HOURS CONCERNS

If you are concerned about a young person you must contact M.A.S.H (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub Team) which is the single point of contact for all concerns about children. If there are immediate concerns about the safety of a child, you should contact North Yorkshire Police on 999.

Contact MASH Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.00pm:

- telephone - 01904 551900
- email - mash@york.gov.uk

Contact MASH Early Help Team to make an early help referral or access advice:

Outside office hours, at weekends and on public holidays, contact the emergency duty team

- telephone - 01609 780780
- email - edt@northyorks.gov.uk

Contact Us

Year 7

Mr Kettlewell (Head of Year)

r.kettlewell@huntington-ed.org.uk

Miss Melsom (Student Support Leader)

k.melsom@huntington-ed.org.uk

Year 8

Mrs Hadcroft (Head of Year)

ce.hadcroft@huntington-ed.org.uk

Miss O'Loughlin (Student Support Leader)

e.oloughlin@huntington-ed.org.uk

Year 9

Miss Roworth (Acting Head of Year)

s.roworth@huntington-ed.org.uk

Miss Tomlinson (Student Support Leader)

hf.tomlinson@huntington-ed.org.uk

Year 10

Miss Young (Head of Year)

a.young@huntington-ed.org.uk

Mrs Booth (Student Support Leader)

l.booth@huntington-ed.org.uk

Year 11

Miss Townsend (Head of Year)

e.townsend@huntington-ed.org.uk

Miss Giblin (Student Support Leader)

t.giblin@huntington-ed.org.uk

Year 12

Mrs Wilson (Head of Year)

r.wilson@huntington-ed.org.uk

Mrs Blunt (Student Support Leader)

a.blunt@huntington-ed.org.uk

Year 13

Mrs Hopson (Head of Year)

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Mrs Blunt (Student Support Leader)

a.blunt@huntington-ed.org.uk

Aspirations Teaching and Learning Manager: **Mr S Daniel** (s.daniel@huntington-ed.org.uk)

Mrs Naish Deputy Headteacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead

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Mr Lowe Assistant Headteacher, Special Educational Needs & Disabilities
Coordinator (SENDSCO)

w.lowe@huntington-ed.org.uk

Mrs Brown Assistant Headteacher KS3 (Years 7, 8 & 9)

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Mr Paley Assistant Headteacher KS4 (Years 10 & 11)

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Mr Richards Director of Sixth Form

h.richards@huntington-ed.org.uk

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