

**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**

Friday 24th November 2023

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I'd like to update you on the progress with our new Sixth Form building. We have completed a pre-planning stage and have involved some students in the process of finalising the designs. We also held three separate public consultations on Wednesday this week to highlight the designs to local residents.

The finalised plans are in the process of being submitted to Leeds City Council's Planning Team and this should take place next week. If the building obtains planning approval we expect it to open in the Spring of 2025.

Best wishes,

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

Reminder – Training Day 3

A reminder to parents/carers that the school will be closed to students on Friday 1st December for Training Day 3. The school will open as usual on Monday 4th December 2023.

End of term arrangement

Friday 22nd December is our final day before we break up for the end of term and we will be holding a non-uniform day in aid of Save the Children and the Pudsey Community Project – Christmas jumpers are encouraged to get the festive season under way. Parentmail will be open on Monday 18th December for £1 payments for non-uniform day.

On the 22nd December, all students will make their way to Form at 12.20pm and will be dismissed at 12.30pm.

The school will re-open on Monday 8th January 2023 at the normal time.

Helen Frost
PA to the Headteacher and Communications/Office Manager

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Pudsey Community Project Youth and Children's Work

Please see the attached flyer, which outlines the opportunities for young people locally through the Pudsey Community Project. There are sessions across three weekdays for children from primary school up to Year 11.

If your child is interested, you can email youth@pudseycommunity.org.uk for more information or simply show up and register.

Thank you,

Mrs A Burgum
Assistant Headteacher

Matilda tickets

Tickets are selling fast. Don't miss out on getting yours.

Here's the link to buy them: <https://yourboxoffice.co.uk/pudsey-grangefield-school/999-roald-dahls-matilda-the-musical-jr>

Miss B Wray
Subject Leader of Performing Arts

YEAR 7

Library use

The number of Year 7 students we have coming to the Library and taking books out is absolutely fantastic, please be reminded of some important conduct when using the Library:

- The Library is a quiet space. We share the space with SEN and the Sixth Form study area, both of which also need quiet. There may sometimes be noise coming from other floors, but that is not an excuse to create noise in the Library.
- The library should be used for reading, homework and chess/scrabble only, which are all quiet activities. The computers are not to be used for playing games (unless it is chess/scrabble, as that is allowed in the Library).
- Phones should not be out at any point, unless to look up passwords for Classcharts/Educake etc.

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Upcoming Rewards Store

At the end of each term, the Rewards Store opens up where students can spend their hard earned net points from Class Charts. These 'net points' are each students' positive points minus their negative points. These can be spent on a host of different rewards including snacks, gift cards, school equipment and arts and crafts products. The Rewards Store will be open from Monday 4th December - Friday 8th December.

House Competitions

The attendance of Year 7 to house competitions continues to be at an amazing level. There are still some competitions coming up before the Christmas break that students can get involved with:

Netball - 28th & 29th November

Gaming - 28th & 29th November

Christmas Quiz - 5th December to 7th December

Mr Leigh
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

Parents Evening

Thank you to everybody who attended Parents Evening, it was great to see such a high uptake. I want to remind parents that if you were on a waiting list or asked for some feedback from teachers that they have 10 days to respond.

Equipment

I just wanted to remind parents that if students are missing equipment they can purchase from the Library or get the basics from their Form tutors in the morning. Some students are turning up to school without their bags.

All students should ensure that they have the following basic equipment for use in all lessons:

Student planner (provided by the school). Students should bring their planner to school with them every day

Pen and a spare (black or blue)

Red pen for 'reflection work'

Pencil

Rubber

15cm or 30cm ruler

Pencil sharpener

Protractor

A pair of compass

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Casio Scientific calculator

Glue stick

Dry-wipe pen

A suitable bag to carry equipment, books and PE kit. The bag should be big enough to hold an A4 file (e.g. a rucksack).

Year 7 and 8 Students to have a French dictionary

If you need any help with this please get in touch.

Mr Lucas
Year 8 Director of Studies

Miss Crossland
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Duke of Edinburgh

We have had a really good uptake of students interested in the D of E Award so far. I still have a number of enrolment forms available if students have not yet completed one and are interested. The Parent Information Evening will be held on 4th December for families who would like some more information.

Equipment

Students are able to ask Form tutors for any equipment they are missing on a daily basis. Checks are usually done in Form time, but we encourage students to ask their tutors if they are missing anything at the beginning of the day so they are prepared for the rest of their lessons. This includes pens, pencils, rulers, whiteboard pens and knowledge organisers. It is really important students are attending lessons with all their equipment so there are no barriers to learning or completing tasks.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 9 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

There has been a very positive effort from the students in Year 10 during assessment week. It is important to recognise and celebrate their hard work as this is essential for motivating them to continue putting in effort. I went around Form groups at the start of the week to emphasise the importance of reflection work and encouraged all students to seek feedback and use it for future improvement. This promotes a growth mindset, encouraging students to view challenges as opportunities for learning and development.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 10 Leader

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YEAR 11

Post 16 Options

All Year 11 students will receive information this week regarding their Post 16 Options discussion. They will receive this electronically and also a paper copy. It will detail who their discussion will be with, when it will take place and where. A copy of the provisional PGS Sixth Form timetable for September 2024 will also be made available to support discussions at home regarding subject choices.

A reminder that students who wish to return to PGS Sixth Form DO NOT need to complete any further applications. We will discuss their options and subject choices in person at their meeting.

If you have any questions regarding any aspect of this process, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Smith (l.smith@pudseygrammar.co.uk)

Mrs Smith
Post 16 Director of Studies

Trial Exams - Week 2

The Year 11s have impressed us with their punctuality, organisation, conduct and effort during the trial exams this week. It has been a massive effort from the students and we feel immensely proud of the attitudes the year group have demonstrated throughout the week. We have one more week of trial exams to take place next week, please continue to encourage the students.

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Important Dates

w/c 4th December – Year 12 & Year 13 Assessment #1 (Year 12 classroom based & Year 13 trial exams - hall)

25th January 2024 – Year 13 Parents Evening

w/c 11th March Year 12 & Year 13 Assessment Week #2 (classroom based)

18th April 2024 – Year 12 Parents Evening

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Parker Engineering Programme

On Wednesday 22nd November, five of our Year 12 students attended the Parkers Engineering Programme at the University of Huddersfield. The students thoroughly enjoyed the visit to THOMOs and found it to be a great opportunity to grow their scientific and engineering skills. There were other schools in attendance and our students enjoyed working with other like-minded students.

Year 13

Our current focus is firmly fixed on the Trial Exam week and on students wanting to apply to university. We are really pleased with the quantity of students who have completed their UCAS applications and who are now receiving invitations for interviews and/or offers. Those students still in the process of completing their UCAS application should continue to seek support from the Form tutor and Mrs Smith.

Students who are not intending to apply to university, should be creating/completing their CV and an accompanying statement (about themselves) ready for after the Christmas holiday when the opportunities of employment and apprenticeships increase for Post 18 school leavers. Below are some supporting websites that students should be familiarising themselves with now, looking for opportunities.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices/browse-apprenticeships#>

<https://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships>

Target Grades

Year 13 students received a revised copy of their TARGET grades this week. This was sent out electronically and is also available in P16 study to collect from Mrs Scott. Year 12 students will receive this information w/c Monday 27th November. A copy will be sent electronically and will also be available in P16 Study with Mrs Scott. If students have any questions regarding this information, please speak to Mrs Smith.

Follow us on Twitter/Instagram to keep up to date with our Sixth Form events and opportunities.

@PGSixthform

@pudseygrammarsixthform

Mrs Smith
Post 16 Director of Studies

Miss Nota
Attendance and Pastoral Support