



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**
Friday 19th January 2024

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I was reminded earlier this week of the excellent opportunities we provide for our students. We are one of only 80 schools across England which teach Mandarin Chinese. We started the project five years ago and the first cohort are about to sit their GCSE Mandarin in May next year. The programme is designed to teach the subject to Year 7 and 8 students with a residential in China for two weeks at the end of Year 9. Unfortunately, due to the global pandemic, we have not had the opportunity to visit China. However, the visit is going ahead this summer in July. The British Council is organising it and this means we are participating in the largest co-ordinated foreign school trip in the world. 1000 students will be hosted in ten separate Chinese cities and will be taught about Chinese culture, history and get the opportunity to test their language skills throughout the two weeks. It will be the trip of a lifetime for the students.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

PE Kits

This is a reminder regarding expectations of PE kit that students should be wearing for their lessons. Since returning to school after the Christmas break, a number of students have brought black sports leggings or black tracksuit bottoms for PE. The School PE kit is navy blue, this includes sports leggings and tracksuit bottoms (examples of these can be found on the link here <https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/parent-information/uniform-and-equipment/>). PE staff have reminded students since we have returned, and we will now start issuing uniform sanctions if they do not wear the correct Pudsey Grammar School PE kit for lessons.

Students also need to have their outdoor PE kit for lessons if they are timetabled to be outside (the PGS hoodie or rugby top). Students can also wear a number of layers underneath this PE kit for lessons. We advise that students wear gloves and a woolly hat if possible to ensure they stay warm while they are outside taking part in their activity.

Mr McCroakam
Subject Leader of PE



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY RITUAL**

Children's Clothes Pop-Up event at Pudsey Community Project

This month's Children's Clothes Pop-Up event at Pudsey Community Project will be on Saturday 27th January, 2pm-5pm for SHOES and COATS. Kids are welcome to come and try on and all items are free - save money and help the planet by choosing to reuse! If you would like to give a donation towards the work of Pudsey Community Project, cash and food donations (for our food bank) are gratefully received.

If you have any clean shoes or coats with lots of wear left in them that you'd like to donate for the event, please drop them off any Mon-Sat 10-12noon or Wed 6-8pm. Our building is on the corner of Fartown and Carlisle Rd, LS28 8LP. We are accepting shoes for baby to adult size 7 and any sizes of coats including adults.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you there!

The Team at Reduce Reuse Kids Clothes

Lost Property – Friday 26th January 2024 at 3.10pm

Lost property will be available for parents/carers to look through and reclaim any lost items. Please report to Reception and a member of our Office Team will be available to support you. Any unclaimed items will be taken to the charity shop.

Helen Frost

PA to the Headteacher & Communications/Office Manager

YEAR 7

As we make our way through this half term, it is important that students are reminded of the following:

Equipment

Students should ensure that they bring to school every day a pencil case with all equipment, planner, Knowledge Organiser and reading book.

Uniform

Students should attend school in the correct uniform, this is: -

- Navy blue blazer with the school logo
- Navy blue with white stripe and school crest clip on tie
- Formal white shirt with collar (to be tucked inside trousers/skirt)
- Plain black or grey full length school trousers or tailored skirt.
- Plain black socks

PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

Behaviour around school

There are over 1000 students in the school and it can be quite busy during lesson changeover times. Students in Year 7 should ensure that they are as sensible as possible when moving between lessons, as well as before and after breaks and lunches.

It is also important for students in Year 7 to respect one another and their boundaries. We want to ensure that any potential issues between students are kept to a minimum. To achieve this, it is important for Year 7 students to treat others in their environment, how they would want to be treated.

Mr Leigh
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

Coats

It has been extremely cold this week and it has been great to see so many Year 8 students suitably prepared, wearing their coats and hats. We are having a number of issues with Year 8 continuing to wear their coats around the school building. The school is warm and there is no need to wear coats inside. We are keen to avoid negative points being issued and would appreciate any support in encouraging your child to maintain school policy.

Equipment

This week has seen a dramatic increase in the amount of students turning up without the correct equipment or no equipment at all. We do have some provisions to give out equipment but not to the scale that is happening at the moment. 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
- Casio Scientific calculator
- Glue stick
- Dry-wipe pen

PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

- 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).
- A French dictionary
- A reading book.

Equipment will be available to buy every morning before school, at break and at lunch time and will be checked every day by the Form Tutor.

Mr Lucas
Year 8 Director of Studies

Miss Crosland
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Uniform

There has been an increase in students wearing leggings to school instead of their school trousers. Most of the students are bringing their trousers in their bag, but waiting until being asked to change. Please can we remind everyone that leggings are not permitted as part of school uniform and students will be sanctioned for repeatedly not wearing correct uniform.

This is also the case for non Pudsey Grammar School jumpers. Students should not be wearing their own hoodies and jumpers underneath their blazers once they are in school. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 9 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

On Monday 22nd January, some Year 10 students will receive a new timetable reflecting changes to their maths and/or science set. These adjustments aim to reduce class sizes and enhance the overall learning environment without impacting the curriculum. If you have any questions or would like to discuss these changes further, please feel free to contact me at j.legg@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

We have observed a notable increase in Year 10 students leaving bags in lockers and attending lessons without the necessary books and equipment. This behaviour impacts learning and challenges our teachers. Kindly ensure your child brings their school bag daily. Additionally, a reminder that Air Pods are not permitted during lessons or in corridors.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 10 Leader

YEAR 11

February Trial Exams - 5 weeks to go

Year 11 will sit trial exams for the core lessons, as well as a small number of option subjects. There are now five weeks before the exams take place. Please continue to encourage students to revise at home, but also to take part in the after school drop in sessions and to make good use of the Supervised Study area after school Tuesday – Thursday.

Here is a reminder of some revision routines and techniques students have been using in school that may also help at home:

- Revision Clock <https://bit.ly/PGSrevisionclock>
- Mind Map <https://bit.ly/PGSmindmaps>
- Flash Cards <https://bit.ly/PGSflashcards>
- Setting Goals <https://bit.ly/PGSsettinggoals>
- Printable Revision Timetable to use at home <https://bit.ly/PGSrevisiontimetableprint>

Click or copy and paste the links above to be taken to the resources.

Equipment

Please can you review your child's equipment. Please check the following:

Pen and a spare (black)
Red pen for 'reflection work'
Pencil
Rubber
15cm or 30cm ruler
Pencil sharpener
Protractor
A pair of compass
Casio Scientific calculator **please double check this**
Glue stick
Dry-wipe pen
Knowledge Organiser
Planner

PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

If there are any issues with equipment, please contact the Form tutor in the first instance.

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Important Dates

25th January 2024 - Year 13 Parents Evening

31st January 2024 - UCAS Final Deadline Y13

W/c 11th March 2024 - Year 12 & Year 13 Assessment Week #2 (classroom based)

18th April 2024 - Year 12 Parents Evening

Year 13 Parents Evening

A reminder that we have Year 13 Parents Evening on Thursday 25th January. This will be a virtual event and information regarding the booking system has been sent out to parents and carers this week. The evening will involve discussions of current grades, next steps and practical advice for parents and carers on how current grades can be improved, including direction to revision resources that students and parents can access over the coming months. If there are any questions regarding any aspect of the process please do not hesitate to get in touch.

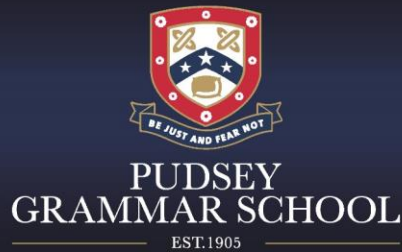
Year 13 Prom

Please remind your child to complete their prom 'expression of interest' form ASAP. This can be found on their Year 13 Google Classroom and should only take a few minutes. We would like to see as many of our Year 13 students attending this event as a celebration of their time at PGS. More information and details to follow.

Opportunities

****Leeds Futures - What is Leeds Futures?**

Leeds Futures is a national outreach programme designed for individual learners in Year 12. The programme consists of a mixture of (mainly) online and in-person activities throughout Year 12 until the point of submitting their UCAS application in Year 13. Leeds Futures is free of charge and priority is given to applicants who meet certain widening participation criteria. The programme provides students with the opportunity to learn more about a subject area they are interested in pursuing at university, whilst developing their study skills and careers awareness. Students attend a variety of subject-related activities alongside receiving advice and guidance on practical matters such as UCAS applications, accommodation choices and student finance.



PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

Find out more about Leeds Futures and how to apply. We run a range of Leeds Futures programmes in Arts and Humanities, Health Sciences, Social Sciences and STEM and full details can be found on the Leeds Futures website

<https://www.leeds.ac.uk/undergraduate-teachers-supporting-students/doc/leeds-futures>

**Ahead Partnership & PwC

You could start your career & go to university at the same time! Are you making some last-minute decisions before the UCAS deadline? Thinking about what to do after Sixth Form? Ahead Partnership brings you their partner, PwC's, brilliant opportunity to earn and learn at the same. On one of PwC's Flying Start degree programmes, you'll have the opportunity to go to university and start your career at the same time. You'll get to experience the full-time student lifestyle, but with integrated paid placements at PwC, you'll have some money to enjoy it too. What's more, you'll gain a degree, and hopefully impress them enough to secure a graduate job with them after you graduate. If you would like to have a chat about this opportunity, please feel free to speak to Miss Kenny in the Sixth Form office.

<https://www.pwc.co.uk/careers/early-careers/our-programmes/flying-start-degrees.html>

**The Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair returns to the First Direct Arena on Monday 5th February (1.00-7.00pm). Everyone is welcome and the event is free to attend. Please follow the link below to book onto the event. Due to the flexible timings of this event, we ask that students book to attend during their free time and not to miss lessons.

<https://www.firstdirectarena.com/events/detail/leeds-apprenticeship-recruitment-fair>

Mrs Smith
Post 16 Director of Studies

Ms Nota
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson
Post 16 Administrator

Miss Kenny
Careers & Enrichment Lead