



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**
Friday 22nd March 2024

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

We welcomed 25 Headteachers and Senior Leaders from across the north of England to our Behaviour Hub Networking morning on Wednesday. We are the main lead school for this area alongside Dixons Trinity and Allerton High School. We work with five schools to improve their behaviour systems and culture. We also hosted a representative from the Department for Education who fund the programme. All of our visitors were extremely impressed with our school.

The programme is being wound down ahead of the forthcoming General Election but I do hope that, whatever Government is elected, this valuable programme of school to school support continues in some form, as having a good behaviour culture is essential for any successful school.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

Easter Holidays

The school will be closing for the Easter break on Thursday 28th March 2024 at 3.00pm and will re-open at the usual time on Monday 15th April 2024. We wish all our students, parents and carers an enjoyable and restful break.

Miss Frost
PA to the Headteacher & Communications/Office Manager

Calculators

We have noticed a recent rise in the number of students not having calculators. Scientific calculators are part of the basic equipment we expect all students to have. Calculators can be purchased online, through Parentmail and then collected from the Library. Students who qualify for Pupil Premium do not have to pay for calculators.

Ms Martin
Librarian



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Year 7, 8 and 9 History Club: Mind-Blowing Myth

Have you ever wondered about the fascinating stories that echo through time? How Gods walked amongst us? How Heroes slayed monsters that struck fear in to the hearts of men? How civilisations were destroyed in the blink of an eye? If so... Embark on a captivating journey though time with our History Club- where myths come alive!

Join fellow enthusiasts in unravelling the mysteries of ancient civilisations as we explore the myths and legends which have shaped cultures over eons. Immerse yourself in the tales of Gods, Heroes and Fantastical Creatures and unearth the hidden gems of History by indulging in thought provoking discussions around the significance of this mythology. Expand your knowledge, make new connections, and let the past ignite your imagination in the History Club, where myths and reality collide.

Are you ready to question reality? If so, then be at room 114 from 3pm-4pm fortnightly on Tuesdays, with our next session on 26th March delving into the story of Icarus and the Wings of Wax.

Please see Mr Alderson/Mr Garnett or email r.alderson@pudseygrammar.co.uk if you have any further queries.

Mr Alderson
Assistant Subject Leader of History & Social Sciences

Easter clear out of uniform

We are keen to get the pre-loved uniform shop well stocked and running again as soon as possible. We rely on the kind donations of our parents and carers to stock the uniform store.

As we approach the Easter break, you may be filtering out uniform that doesn't fit anymore. We would be grateful if you could please donate any good quality uniform that you no longer require. We are reaching out to all our parents and carers to ask for ongoing donations to help make this project a success.

Donations – We would ask that uniform and PE items (including football boots) be handed in to Reception.

We are working hard to reduce waste, promote the benefits of recycling unwanted clothing to help our environment and support families in our community during the cost of living crisis.

The initiative is non-profit for school and there is no cost to our parents/carers. Donated items will be laundered and placed on our website. Parents/carers can go onto the website and select the items they would like. Uniform can be collected from the school Reception. This helps us to ensure the key message of sustainability (avoiding good quality clothing going to landfill sites) can sit at the heart of the project.



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Uniform will be available to purchase on our uniform website, UniformD, at <https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/193> when we have sufficient stock.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Frost
PA to the Headteacher & Communications/Office Manager

YEAR 7

Form Time

I want to provide parents/carers with a little more information on what students are doing during Form time in Year 7.

We view the first 20 minutes of every day as an extremely important time for students, it helps ensure they are creating the right habits and gives a consistent link to the same member of staff every day. We often refer to Form tutors in Year 7 taking a similar role to that of their Year 6 teacher. Every morning tutors will complete several checks, these include: equipment, uniform, knowledge organisers and self-quizzing books. In addition, the Form will have a specific focus:

- Assembly
- Silent reading
- Attendance
- PSHE
- Extend your knowledge (topical discussion)

Year 7 boys football

The year 7 boys football team have been doing fantastically well in their first season at secondary school level. As a result of their hard work to finish 2nd in the league, the team have qualified for the quarter final of the Leeds League Championship. We want to wish the team luck when they come up against Boston Spa!

Mr Leigh
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

We would like to give a couple of reminders this week to keep the standards high going into the Easter holidays.



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Uniform

The uniform of the majority of students is at a high standard however, we are seeing an increasing number of students arriving at school without ties. Students are required to go to reception and borrow one for the day which will then result in a negative. If a student has lost a tie, a new one should be purchased through Parentmail and can be collected from the Finance Office. If you need any support with this please contact school.

Truancy

A small number of students are truanting lessons. Truancy includes walking away from lessons after being removed, walking out of lessons and not attending lessons. Students can not leave lesson without permission as this will result in a truancy. The punishment is isolation the next day and the student will need to hand in their mobile phone, to the Year Office during school hours, for the following five days. Please can you talk to your child about the importance of staying in lessons.

Mr Lucas
Year 8 Director of Studies

Miss Crosland
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Guided choices

The attendance at the Guided Choices evening was fantastic and it was great to see so many parents, carers and students there for the Subject Fair. As highlighted in the presentation, the next steps will be the Guided Choices form being sent to students. As soon as the form is open and ready for students to complete you will be notified. Please remember it is not a first come first served basis, if students need some time to reflect on their options they still have time as the deadline will be 28th March.

Please let me know (via email) if you have any further questions about the Guided Choices process.

Uniform

All students need to ensure they have correct uniform on a daily basis, this includes a blazer and correct school trousers, not leggings. Students are being asked to remove their coats as they enter the building in a morning, they should not be wearing their coats around the building throughout the school day.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 9 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 9 Leader



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YEAR 10

We have been informed of some instances where students in Year 10 have not been displaying the expected level of behaviour while walking to and from school. This behaviour not only reflects poorly on the individual student, but also on our school as a whole. We kindly remind all students to adhere to the following guidelines:-

- **Respect for Others:** Treat fellow pedestrians, residents, and motorists with respect and courtesy. This includes using appropriate language and refraining from any disruptive behaviour.
- **Uniform Standards:** Ensure that the school uniform is worn correctly and with pride. It serves as a representation of our school and should be worn appropriately at all times.
- **Safety First:** Prioritise safety while walking. Obey traffic rules, use designated zebra crossings, and remain vigilant of your surroundings. Avoid any actions that could endanger yourself or others.

We understand the importance of responsibility and accountability among our Year 10 students and therefore, we kindly request your support in reinforcing these expectations at home.

Should you have any concerns or observe any incidents of misconduct, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 10 Leader

YEAR 11

Year 11 History Intervention

The History Department will be running its next set of History Intervention sessions on Monday 25th March. The following two sessions will occur:-

Room 113 - 8 Mark Narrative Account- American West (Miss Burgum)
Room 114 - Crime and Punishment Whitechapel (Mr Alderson)

A timetable with an overview of all of these upcoming sessions, who will run them, their location and their focus can be found linked below. Printed versions of this timetable will also



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be displayed around the History Department and Year Office for students to refer to. Attendance to these sessions is not mandatory, but is highly encouraged to assist with students making additional progress in History.

Link to Intervention timetable overview:-

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1P0rS0xYbDsUyvyMOV6lq_u367vKzFbJRDvJaxCZ0Is/edit?usp=sharing

If you have any further questions or queries with regard to these interventions, please do feel free to contact me on r.alderson@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Year 11 Exams Success Evening

Parents and carers are invited to the Year 11 Exam Success Evening on Tuesday 26th March, 5:15pm- 6:30pm. There will be insightful talks from the English and Maths departments, as well as talks in relation to preparing for exams. On the evening, we will be providing resources to take away and there will be an opportunity to speak to the staff if you have any questions. Please make a note of this key date, book in and we hope to see you there.

Year 11 After School Tutorials

The after-school tutorials have been a huge success. We were very pleased to see so many students attending and engaging in the sessions. If students have not attended this week, please encourage them to take advantage of this opportunity.

- Monday - option subjects
- Tuesday – Maths
- Wednesday - Science
- Thursday - English
- Friday - option subjects

Please see the attached pdf document for the full timetable.

Equipment for exams and revision

Having the correct equipment is essential in ensuring that students are getting the most out of lessons, revision and after school tutorials. It would be worthwhile checking through all equipment over the weekend and topping up where required. For example, a scientific calculator would be required for two out of three of the Maths exams so students should be equipped appropriately. Please also note that only black pens are required to write with in exams. If there are any issues, please contact the Form tutor who will be happy to help.

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 11 Leader



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SIXTH FORM

Important Dates

Year 12

18th April – Year 12 Parents Evening
19th June - Year 12 UCAS Fair at Leeds Beckett University
w/c 1st July – Year 12 Trial Exam
Week 9th to 12th July - Year 12 Paris Trip
15th to 19th July - Work Placement (confirmed date)

Year 13

27th March - Year 13 Revision & Success Evening @ 6.00-7.00pm
Easter Holidays Coursework and Revision Sessions
24th May - Year 13 Final Assembly and Inflatables Event (confirmed date)
28th June – Year 13 Prom at Headingley Cricket Club

Year 12 & Year 13 Interview Skills Workshop

On Monday and Tuesday this week, our Year 12 and some Year 13 students, participated in a brilliant mock interview workshop hosted by staff members and student ambassadors from the University of Bradford. Feedback received from the University was nothing short of exceptional; they were blown away by the confidence and talent displayed by each and every one of our students. Their conversations with staff left a great impression, showcasing their readiness to navigate the professional world. I wanted to extend a further thank you to those students who went the extra mile, dressed in suits and professional attire. It was a brilliant and enriching experience for all involved – Miss Robinson.

Year 12 Work Placement Monday 15th - Friday 19th July

Why is work experience important? There is so much competition for university places, apprenticeships and jobs. Good grades are important but they are not the complete picture. This is an excellent opportunity for students to build some experience and demonstrate their personal qualities within the workplace. Students will gain transferable skills that they will take with them on their next steps. All Year 12 students are expected to find a work experience placement. If students are struggling to find one, they can receive support and guidance from Miss Kenny in the Sixth Form office. The process - Students must complete the relevant Work Experience form on Unifrog. Their chosen employer will then need to fill out their relevant section of the form which will be emailed to them directly. The employer must have public liability insurance and be able to provide these details on the form, otherwise the placement will be denied. Once the placement is confirmed students will need to arrange an initial meeting with the company to confirm start / finish times etc.



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We will officially launch Work Placement after the Easter Holiday and send home further information. If you have any questions at all regarding work experience, please contact Miss Kenny on e.kenny@pudseygrammar.co.uk

Year 13 Success Evening Wednesday 27th March - A Final Reminder

We will be holding a Year 13 Success Evening on Wednesday 27th March at 6:00pm. Please use the following link to book your place to attend this event. One booking admits 3 people (1 student and 2 adults). If you would like more than one parent/carer/family member to attend please email sixthform@pudseygrammar.co.uk to make them aware of how many individuals will be attending. <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/null/t-xmjexla>. Thank you to all the families who have already booked onto the event, we look forward to seeing you all next Wednesday.

Mrs Smith
Post 16 Director of Studies

Ms Nota
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson
Post 16 Administrator

Miss Kenny
Careers and Enrichment Lead