



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**
Thursday 28th March 2024

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

After the Easter break, our Year 11 and 13 students will have only four weeks of school time left before the exams begin. This means that they need to use their time over the holiday wisely and effectively. We would encourage the students to use the online resources and revision guides that are available on the school website and the exam boards' websites.

If you are the parent or carer of a student who has exams this year, you can play a vital role in supporting your child's learning and motivation. Here are some tips on how you can help your child succeed in their exams:

- Ensure that your child has a suitable place to study at home, free from distractions and noise.
- Help your child to create a realistic and balanced revision timetable, covering all subjects and topics.
- Encourage your child to revise in short bursts of 20 to 30 minutes, followed by a break of 10 minutes.
- Review your child's progress and praise their efforts and achievements.
- Encourage your child to eat healthily, drink plenty of water, and get enough sleep.
- Limit your child's screen time and social media use, especially before bedtime.
- Encourage your child to do some physical activity and relaxation techniques to reduce stress and anxiety.
- Be positive and supportive, and avoid putting too much pressure or criticism on your child.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's exams, please do not hesitate to contact the school. We are here to help and support you and your child throughout this challenging but rewarding journey.

We are consulting parents and staff regarding proposed changes to the school day which, if adopted, would begin from September 2024. We will send this document out today and the deadline for any comments or submissions is Friday 26th of April.

Finally, a reminder that we finish for the Easter holiday today at 3pm. The school will reopen to all students on Monday 15th of April at the usual time. I hope you all have a good Easter holiday and I would also like to take this opportunity to wish our Muslim students and their families all the best for Eid which will take place on the 9th of April.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher



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GENERAL NOTICES

PE summer sports information

After the Easter holidays all students in KS3 and KS4 will be moving onto our summer sport PE curriculum. If students have lost any part of their Pudsey Grammar School PE kit it should be replaced for the summer term - (please see the link to this guidance on the school website below)

<https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/parent-information/uniform-and-equipment/>

We also advise that during the summer term that students bring with them water or dilute juice for all PE lessons, fizzy drinks and energy drinks will not be permitted. All students in KS3 who have PE period 1 on their timetable are advised to still bring with them their studded boots, this is because the school fields may still be slightly wet and wearing this type of footwear will reduce the chance of slipping early on in the day.

The PE department wish all students a restful Easter break.

Mr McCroakam
Subject Leader of PE

'Get Caught Reading' Raffle

Congratulations to the students who won a £5 WHSmith voucher for this half term's 'Get Caught Reading' raffle! Every time a student is seen to be reading quietly in the library, they are entered into the raffle. The more times they are seen reading, the higher the chances are that they'll win the raffle.

Ms Martin
Librarian

Online Safety

The online world is an essential part of our daily lives and learning how to use technology safely is an essential skill for young people. Apps and online gaming are extremely popular but risks are posed and it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers. Learning how to act safely when using the internet is an incredibly important part of safeguarding our children and your role as a parent/carer can make a significant difference.

In order to support families to protect our students online we are working with the National College to provide you with a monthly resource. This will act as a useful short guide covering a range of topics that you may want to engage your child with. **This month offers insight for 'Need to Know Sadfishing', Risks of oversharing and online grooming. How parents can become more aware to support their children in avoiding any problems.**



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We hope you find these useful each month across the academic year.

Mrs Burgum
Assistant Headteacher

YEAR 7

Year 7 have now made it through their second full term at PGS and are two thirds of the way through the school year. Students continue to make fantastic progress in lessons and are having a positive impact on the school community.

We hope that all of Year 7 have a restful break during the holidays and come back for term 3 with their continuing positive attitudes, ready to learn.

Mr Leigh
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

We would like to wish all of Year 8 a Happy Easter break and to use this time to rest and recuperate for the final term. We want to encourage the students to be active and to make the most of their free time and hopefully improved weather!

A reminder that when the students come back that it will be week A and that students will need their full equipment on the first day back, this includes a reading book.

Mr Lucas
Year 8 Director of Studies

Miss Crosland
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Guided Choices

This week I have been reminding students about the Guided Choices forms. The deadline for these forms is Thursday 28th March. If you have any issues accessing the Google form, please let me know and I can send you the link via email. I can also support students in school to complete their form here if needed. Thank you all for your support with this process so far.



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Uniform

Leggings are an increasing issue in the year group recently. Students are not permitted to wear leggings as part of their school uniform, they need to be wearing the correct school trousers and will be asked to borrow some from our main office if they attend school dressed incorrectly.

Easter Holidays

We hope all students have a restful holiday and look forward to seeing them for the start of the summer term in two weeks.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 9 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

Year 10's hard work and dedication has paid off with yet another successful term completed. We hope our students take the time to relax and recharge over Easter.

The final term (Summer Term) is crucial for Year 10 as they gear up for their trial exams in June. This is an important bench mark point and will provide them with more direction as they move into the final year of their GCSEs.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 10 Leader

YEAR 11

Exams

The exam season for Year 11 starts w/c 29th April with an IT exam on 2nd May. Before this point there are also exams in school for MFL speaking, Art and Photography.

w/c 6th May has more exams across the week - At this point students will attend their exams and their lessons will continue as normal

w/c 13th May - This is the first full week of exams - the timetable will run as normal around exams on Monday and Tuesday.



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Wednesday 15th May - No further Year 11 lessons - Start of Study leave

During study leave students attend their pre-exam sessions and their exams (these are either AM or PM and students should check their timetable carefully). We advise students to attend their revision sessions 3-4pm the night before their exam. (The revision schedule attached shows all of these sessions). When a student does not have an exam they should be at home revising. In between exams or revision sessions we suggest students get some fresh air, make sure they have eaten and are hydrated.

After May Half term we will also open our study facility to Year 11 students to allow them to stay in school and revise if they have a morning exam and want to work before a revision session.

Students who have any questions about exams, revision, the sessions or study leave should speak directly with Mr Syed or Mr Bassett.

Easter Revision

Thank you for attending the Exams Success Evening on Tuesday, it was a pleasure to meet you all again and discuss the summer exams. If you were unable to make the evening, we have posted the slides on the website below: <https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/years-7-11/year-11/exam-success-evening/> Please see the resources below as a reminder of the revision strategies that could be used at home.

Revision Clock - bit.ly/PGSrevisionclock

Mind Maps - bit.ly/PGSmindmaps

Flash Cards - bit.ly/PGSflashcards

Please do encourage students to build a revision routine at home, it is a great opportunity to personalise revision so let's make the next two weeks count!

Easter Revision Sessions

Over the Easter break we will be running some revision sessions to support students with a selection of subjects. Please check the timetable and I would like to encourage students to attend on the relevant days.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1G3hie1RNqa-w50RxdbgHGJJGZVImfyJ7>

Revision sessions over the exam period

Over the exam period, students should expect to attend pre-exam sessions which run immediately before the exam on the day and revision sessions after school to help prepare for the exams which will be on the following day. This will create opportunities to be in front of their teachers with some final advice and approaches for the exam as well as giving an opportunity to cover key areas and ask questions. Please check through the timetable and make note of the sessions which would apply to individual students in order to be fully



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prepared. Please see the attached document.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=13vEjKf6G-wWpp3awzMLZ8Ko3cAG6BL9r>

Year 11 History Easter Intervention

The History Department will be running an Easter Intervention session on Thursday 4th April from 10:00-11:00 at Pudsey Grammar School. This will be a Walking Talking Mock covering an entire American West paper. As students have not yet completed an American West paper before in its entirety, this will be an incredibly important and valuable session.

Students are encouraged to arrive from 9:50am onwards, at the Reception with their equipment ready to take part in the session. Wearing of uniform is not required. If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact Mr Alderson via email (r.alderson@pudseygrammar.co.uk)

Year 11 History Intervention

The History Department will be running its next set of History Intervention sessions on Monday 15th April. The following two sessions will occur:-

Room 113 - Paper 3 16 Marker Interpretations Question (Mr Bassett)

Room 114 - American West KTI + Homestead/Railroad (Miss Skitt)

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 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/1P0rS0xYbDs-UyyvMOV6lq_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.

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Important Dates

Year 12

18th April – Year 12 Parents Evening



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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

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
15th August - A Level Results Day

Year 13 History Interventions

As we approach the beginning of the exam period, the Department would like to make you aware of some of the opportunities available to our Year 13 students to aid their progress in History.

- Wednesday 3rd April 2024 (10:00-2:00pm) - All Year 13 Students are invited into school to work alongside staff members on their NEA. For further details, please see the email sent previously or contact the department.
- Tuesdays (3:00pm-4:00pm) - All Year 13 Students are invited to a Weimar and Nazi Germany Intervention to carry out exam practice around past paper questions. These questions will be completed under timed conditions and will be marked to provide students with clear feedback on how to improve their essay answers to further boost their progress.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please feel free to contact Mr. Alderson at r.alderson@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Year 13 Success Evening

It was brilliant to see so many students and their families at the Year 13 Information Evening on Wednesday. Thank you to everyone for attending, we hope you found the evening useful and supportive. We will be sending out the information discussed, and if there are any questions regarding the next few months please do not hesitate to contact the Sixth Form Team.

General enquiries sixthform@pudseygrammar.co.uk

Mrs Smith l.smith@pudseygrammar.co.uk

Ms Nota g.not@pudseygrammar.co.uk

Year 13 Yearbook & Photographs

Miss Robinson, Ms Nota, and the Student Council, are crafting this year's Year 13 Yearbook! Please can all students complete the form below to indicate their interest in purchasing a



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yearbook. Additionally, students can share their personal quote to accompany their photo via the same form <https://forms.gle/kLPB9721tFefJx5s6> On Friday 19th April, Mr. Baxter will be taking headshot photos for the Yearbook from period 3 to 5. Students are not allowed to leave lessons for this and should only attend the art/photography department for their photograph to be taken during free periods. If students do not have a free period that afternoon, please contact Miss Robinson beforehand for alternative options.

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

All Year 12 students have been sent information regarding work experience that will be taking place at the end of the summer term. If you have any questions at all regarding work experience, please contact Miss Kenny on e.kenny@pudseygrammar.co.uk

Opportunities

AON Management Consulting who specialise in Insurance, risk assessments, and HR, is hosting 3 insight days at their Leeds office during work experience week! Don't miss this chance to gain valuable industry exposure. Apply now through the attached link! <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=vN3PICcGskmteimuo66oMmaQsh-7BVBAkkQB7SfIK09UNThLWjVYVknPOTRIWjA0RUQ0RTVQSFFBni4u>

Accounts/Finance Apprenticeship Opportunities based in Pudsey! Apply now through the attached links: Apprentice Accountant based in Farsley, LS28

Employer: Titan Risk Management:

Salary: £22,500

Link: <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/1000237112>

Finance Apprentice based in Pudsey, LS28

Employer: Ligentia UK Ltd: Salary: £15,000

Link: <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/1000235745>

And finally, we appreciate that it has been an intense term, and we would like to thank all our students for their hard work and disciplined approach to their studies. We would like to wish everyone a restful few weeks off, returning ready for the academic challenges of the summer term.

Best wishes from the Sixth Form Team

Mrs Smith
Post 16 Director of Studies

Ms Nota
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson
Post 16 Administrator

Miss Kenny
Careers and Enrichment Lead