



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**
Friday 26th April 2024

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

It has been good getting back to normality after our Ofsted inspection last week. I have received the report in a draft format, but the approval process can be slow – hopefully it should be published within the next 2-3 weeks.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our consultation regarding changing the timings of the school day for the next academic year. All students and parents have been given the opportunity to respond. The staff consultation period has been extended until next Wednesday due to the time lost when the Ofsted inspectors were in. I should be able to announce the results in next Friday's bulletin.

As usual, the better weather and lighter nights coincide with exam season starting for our students! I had the privilege of looking round the GCSE and A level Art work last night with Ms Lewis. We have some excellent artists in the school and that is reflected in the high calibre of work that the students are producing. All other students also have end of year exams which take place at the following times:

Years 7 and 8 – week commencing 13th and 20th May
(English/maths/science exams in Sports Hall - all other assessments in classrooms)

Year 9 – week commencing 3rd June
(English/maths/science exams in Sports Hall - all other assessments in classrooms)

Year 10 – week commencing 17th and 24th June (Full set of trial exams in the Sports Hall)

Year 12 – week commencing 1st July

Please take a note of these dates and encourage your child to begin revising if they have not already done so. The assessments are used to decide initial class sets for the next academic year so it's important that the students treat the assessments seriously and do some focussed revision from this point onwards.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher



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GENERAL NOTICES

PE – Year 7-11

The summer PE extra curricular clubs are now up and running after school (3 pm - 4pm), please see the days and sports below if your son/daughter would like to attend:-

Tuesday - Rounders/Athletics (Boys and Girls)

Wednesday - Cricket (Boys and Girls)

Thursday - Netball

All clubs are turn up and play - students can pick and choose the clubs they attend each week - if they have any questions then please ask them to speak to a PE member of staff.

Mr McCroakam
Subject Leader of PE

Ski Club places available – Year 7 & 8

We are pleased to be able to offer more places on PGS Ski Club to our Year 7 and 8 students.

The sessions have currently been running once monthly since January at Snozone Yorkshire. All students will be coached and supported at a pace that suits them, led by expert, fully qualified coaches, in the safest and most enjoyable way to learn and practice skiing. Please take a look at the official PGS Ski Club Instagram for a flavour of what happens on the day @pgs_skiclub

The aim of this club is to make the experience of skiing more accessible to those students who are NOT attending the Ski Trip to Austria in February 2025. If your child has a place on the Ski Trip, they will be visiting Snozone Yorkshire in January 2025, which is why the club is only open to those who do not have a place on the trip.

We have places available in each group; costing £16.66 per student, per session or a discounted rate for PPA / CLA children. As we have 4 groups with places available, we will be running the groups every four months once your child has been given a group. For example,

If your child is in group 1, they next go in May 2024 then again in September 2024 and January 2025. If interested please look out for the Arbor message from school. Any questions please email n.baxter@pudseygrammar.co.uk #pudskibear

NO FEE SCHOOL UNIFORM - URGENT PLEA FOR UNWANTED, GOOD QUALITY UNIFORM & PE KIT

We are keen to get the uniform shop well stocked to enable our parents/carers to benefit from great quality uniform at no cost and encourage sustainability by limiting the amount of



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uniform going to landfill. We rely on the kind donations of our parents and carers to stock the uniform store.

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. 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.

Ms Frost
PA to the Headteacher – Mark McKelvie
& Communications/Office Manager

Non Uniform Day

We are holding a non-uniform day on Friday 3rd May 2024 to support Pudsey Community Project. They are a project within our local community who rely on donations and support to help the most vulnerable. As well as a £1 donation, we are asking students to bring in items of clothing that are pre loved from birth to 12/13 years old. We ask that these clothes are in good condition and it can also include school uniform. You can also donate non-perishable food items. There will be members of the Student Council collecting these items as students enter school.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 11 Leader



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Hot Water Bottles in School

There have been a number of instances recently where students have brought hot water bottles into school and asked staff members to refill them. Students should not bring hot water bottles into school due to the risk of burns/scalds should the hot water bottle fail or be sealed incorrectly.

We are looking into alternatives.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

Mrs Marsh
Lead First Aider

YEAR 7

Form Time reading

Since Easter, students have been working through a reading booklet during Form time which has included reading together as a Form. Reading with the Form tutor will motivate pupils to read gradually more demanding texts; pupils also experience the impact of fluent reading more, what it sounds like and how it makes them feel. It would be especially effective if this fantastic opportunity could be promoted at home to ensure students feel the full impact of reading.

Residential

If your child is due to be attending the Year 7 residential in July, please ensure that payments for this have been made to ensure that their place on the trip is secure. In time, students will receive more information about the residential, including a kit list, room allocations and itineraries.

Behaviour/expectations

As we begin the Summer term, students should be reminded of 'getting the small things right' in order to ensure they continue to make positive progress here at PGS:

- Turning up on time to Form and lessons
- Arriving to lessons ready to learn and engage
- Having all equipment every day, including planner, knowledge organiser and reading book
- Completing homework for deadlines that have been set
- Respecting others within the school community during lesson and social times

Mr Leigh
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 7 Leader



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YEAR 8

Revision

This half term there is going to be a big focus on students revising for assessments in May. Revision activities are going to be taking place in Form which will begin in a couple of weeks and subject teachers should be setting homework which is based on revision for these assessments. Please help your child with organisation and the importance of manageable revision.

Our assembly this week had a couple of key messages that we would like to stress to our students. Firstly, the use of positive language towards themselves and others, is hugely beneficial to students and will help their wellbeing and interactions with others. Secondly, trying to cultivate a love of reading. It is a message I have relayed before and I am hoping that it will start to get through to students. Developing this love of reading at this age will have benefits for students throughout their school life and beyond.

Mr Lucas
Year 8 Director of Studies

Mrs Mincher
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Rewards Trip

An expression of interest has been sent out regarding a rewards trip we will be running in June for Year 9 students. You will shortly receive an email with more information and the cost of the trip. This will be run as a rewards trip with criteria that students will need to meet for this half term, attendance and behaviour will be taken into consideration when allocating places.

Uniform

Leggings and jumpers/jackets are still being worn around the building which are not in line with the school's Uniform policy. Students will be asked to remove them and will be sanctioned for persistently not following the Uniform policy.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 9 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 9 Leader



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YEAR 10

Year 10 enjoyed a full day off timetable exploring 'who they are' with the Human Utopia team. Witnessing the students engage positively and gain valuable insights was truly inspiring. Many showed bravery by addressing peers and sharing personal experiences. Thought-provoking discussions centred on themes like self-love and its impact on relationships with themselves and others. It's heartening to see our students delve into essential topics like hope, confidence, happiness, relationships, and employability.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 10 Leader

YEAR 11

Exam and revision timetable - Routines

The day before an exam, students will be expected to attend a one hour revision session with their class teachers. This will always be 3-4pm. On the day of the exam, there will be a pre-exam session where students will get some final reminders and get to speak with their teachers before heading into the exam. Students should note the times of these sessions and ensure that they make a plan to attend these. Before study leave, staff will support the attendance of these. However, after study leave, students will be expected to attend independently, please discuss the exam and revision timetable at home.

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1IzpNI4dZOFZyzbDo8sRriP7iHRLub_Ib

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Syed on s.syed@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- Exam Technique Drop-in Session
Room 114- Elizabethan England KT1-KT3

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.



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Link to Intervention timetable overview:-

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1P0rS0xYbDsUyvyMOV61q_u367vKzFbJRDvJaxCZ0Is/e/dit?usp=sharing

Form photos and locker key

On Thursday, students will have the chance of getting together for a photograph with their Form tutors. On Friday, students will need to return their locker keys and receive their deposits.

Before the lockers keys are handed back, students have been asked to empty their lockers. Even if students intend to stay on in Sixth Form, lockers will still need to be emptied and locker keys returned. This is so that all lockers can be re-allocated.

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Important Dates

Year 12

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

Year 13

24th May – Year 13 Final Assembly and Inflatables Event
28th June – Year 13 Prom at Headingley Cricket Club
15th August - A Level Results Day

Year 12 & Year 13 Summer Exam Timetable

All students received a copy of the revision and pre exam timetable that accompanies the summer exam timetable. We have also sent a copy home for all parents/carers. It is the expectation that students attend all relevant sessions, therefore they should spend time looking through the timetable to ensure that they know when all additional sessions are taking place. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



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

All students are encouraged to source their own work experience placement. Students will need to log their placement information on the Unifrog platform. If students are struggling to access the platform, Miss Kenny in the Sixth Form office can assist. Parents & carers are also required to sign up to Unifrog as you will receive direct communication via email once your son/daughter has entered their work placement details. If you have not already signed up to the platform, please do so by clicking the following link:

<https://www.unifrog.org/code>

You will then need to enter the following sign up code: GRNDparentpudsey (case sensitive).

If you have any questions relating to work experience or Unifrog, please contact Miss Kenny on: e.kenny@pudseygrammar.co.uk

Year 13 Yearbook

Just a reminder to encourage Year 13 students to submit their photos and quotes for the yearbook. They can easily do so via the Google Form link provided below.

<https://forms.gle/ncj4nH4LtbWSC4Pw9>

Additionally, if they have any additional photos or contributions they would like to include, they can email them directly to Ms. Robinson at n.robinson@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Opportunity: CLIMB24 - Limited spaces available for Year 12 budding entrepreneurs!

Climb 24 provides a great opportunity to inspire and educate young people about entrepreneurship and innovation. A one-day event where students can have the opportunity to speak to an array of innovative entrepreneurs, through an exhibition-style event, they will have the opportunity to ask questions to the guest speakers and be part of the 'reverse dragons' den' experience, where they will be included in the panel to judge new and innovative pitches from upcoming entrepreneurs! The organisers will also be organising a 'challenge' which will aim to encourage students to speak to the employers (prizes available!), and all students attending will receive a goodie-bag. Highlight – the Head of Sony VR Tech will be visiting, and there is the potential for the students to speak with them! Climb24 is committed to increasing opportunities for our young people around West Yorkshire, and so this is a FREE event, and so it really is a very worthwhile opportunity and not one to be missed! When: 6th June at Leeds Docks.

If you're interested in attending this event, please contact Miss Kenny on e.kenny@pudseygrammar.co.uk

Opportunity: Turner and Townsend – Year 12/Year 13 Work Experience June 10th - 21st June

Turner & Townsend is a market leading construction consultancy firm, working on some of the most high-profile projects and programmes world-wide. They are searching for three



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candidates interested in the construction industry, for a two-week work experience placement. They will provide experience in the roles of project and cost managers, and the opportunity will help develop public speaking, financial analysis, project management and teamwork. Applicants will work within a team to analyse case study projects, deliver presentations to professionals within the region and get a feel for the work that project and cost managers do within the sector. This opportunity will be fully office based, located at the Turner & Townsend Leeds office Low Hall Road, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 4GH.

For more information or to apply please email please email
LeedsInfraWorkExperience@turntown.com

Mrs Smith
Post 16 Director of Studies

Ms Nota
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson
Post 16 Administrator

Miss Kenny
Careers and Enrichment Lead
