



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**
Friday 16th May 2024

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

We are proud to support Pudsey Carnival which takes place at Queens Park from 12 – 4.30pm tomorrow, Saturday 18th of May. Pudsey Carnival is an annual event that showcases the cultural and artistic diversity of Pudsey and its surrounding areas. It features a parade, live music, food stalls, games, workshops, and exhibitions from various local groups and organisations. It is organised by the Pudsey Carnival Committee, a voluntary group of residents and community leaders, with support from the Pudsey Town Council and local businesses. It is open to everyone and free to attend.

If you go, please come along and say hello to our staff!

Here's the website for further details:

<https://www.pudsey-carnival.co.uk/>

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

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 boundaries around gaming and explores the benefits of boundaries for teenagers when gaming (89% of teenagers play online games, 22% of those talk to gamers online)**

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

Mrs Burgum
Assistant Headteacher



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YEAR 7

Year 7 Parents Evening

Year 7 Parents Evening is next Thursday 23rd May. You should by now have received, via email, details and instructions of how to access School Cloud. The format of the evening is where you can book 5 minute interview slots, and up to 9 appointments.

If you are having any technical difficulties whilst booking appointments and would like some support, please contact us. If you don't have computer access at home, please also get in touch as we have a solution for this so that you can still participate. Please email me at: j.leigh@pudseygrammar.co.uk

End of Year Assessments

The end of year assessments for Year 7 are also upon us and these will take place next week, students have been learning different revision techniques during Form time in the build up to the assessments and the students seem fully prepared for the assessments. It is important that students are reminded about behaviour expectations during these assessments as they are completed under exam conditions.

Mr Leigh
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

In Hall Assessments

As mentioned in previous weeks, students are to sit in hall assessments next week. They are a valuable experience both in terms of revision and sitting the assessment. A lot of students will be worried about the concept of sitting in the Hall and I want to reassure Year 8 and not let the panic overcome them. All we can ask is that students try their best and do what is asked of them. As the whole year will be in together behaviour is very important. It will be treated similar to a GCSE exam and any disturbance will be dealt with severely.

Uniform

We have changed the uniform to reflect the summer months so blazers are not mandatory this term. Students do however have to wear their ties and shirts tucked in. A large number of students are arriving at school with no tie. If a tie goes missing or is damaged, it needs replacing. Shirts also need to be tucked in at all times. Negative points will be given to students with incorrect uniform and detentions can occur very quickly. Please remind your child about these standards.



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Skirts and leggings are also becoming an issue. Skirts need to be tailored and knee length. We have found that some girls are rolling their skirts up and readjusting the height of skirt after being told about it. If this is persistent, students will need to change into school trousers or sit in isolation.

Equipment

Being organised is vital for making good progress. This term we have seen a big increase in the amount of students turning up to school missing equipment and even without a bag. Students will always need a bag. This stops learning in the classroom and creates unnecessary issues. Please check in with your child that they have the full equipment. The full list is available on the school website and replacement equipment can be bought through the school library.

Year 8 lunch time change

Please be aware that now Year 11 have gone onto study leave, we have made the decision to move Year 8 lunch time to 1:30pm. Students in Year 8 will now have their lunch after their period 4 lesson rather than their period 3 lesson. Students were made aware of this in assembly this week, and the change will come into effect on Monday 20th May.

Mr Lucas
Year 8 Director of Studies

Mrs Mincher
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Flamingo Land

The deadline for payment is Sunday 2nd June. Details about further payments and more information about the trip will follow once numbers have been finalised. If you have any questions in the meantime please send an email to myself or Miss Exley. We are really looking forward to this opportunity with the Year 9 students, it will be a well-deserved reward.

Revision - End of year Assessments

Year 9 will be sitting their end of year assessments on the 6th and 7th June. These assessments will be in the main hall under exam conditions for core subjects, other subjects will conduct their assessments in lesson time. Students will be covering revision techniques in Form time and should be setting some time aside each week as part of their homework to revise for these assessments.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 9 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 9 Leader



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YEAR 10

In Form time, our students have begun crafting revision timetables in preparation for their end-of-year assessments at the end of June. It's been advised that they break down their revision sessions into 30-minute blocks, aiming to complete at least three different blocks every evening. As part of their assessments, all students will be tackling three science exams, two math's papers, two English papers, in addition to their chosen subjects.

We strongly advocate for our students to take advantage of supervised study sessions after school. These sessions offer a conducive and quiet environment for our Year 10 students to concentrate and work efficiently. We ask that you reinforce the importance of personal responsibility in revision efforts and to monitor their progress whenever possible.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 10 Leader

YEAR 11

Exam Routines

Well done for the incredible effort from our Year 11s throughout their exams so far! They have shown great resilience and effort. I was proud to hear so many lovely words in regard to the conduct of the students! Please can I remind families that students should be attending exams in school uniform and equipped correctly. This includes having their own plain water bottles and full equipment for the exams. Thank you for your continued support.

Exam and Revision Timetable

Please see the exam and revision timetable link below:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1E78XllcO8SZrGYPHgusUdhk090jIIPyq/view?usp=sharing>

Students should familiarise themselves with the timings for the exams, pre-exam sessions and revision sessions. These have been well attended and is the best way to prepare for exams on the day. Please note that W/C 27th June will be the 1 week half term break with exams continuing from Monday 3rd June with Maths in the morning for all students. Students should be prepared with the correct equipment including a scientific calculator.

Wellbeing during exam period and beyond

The exam period is a stressful period for students and families. Please do get in touch if you have any questions or concerns. I have attached a link to the BBC website, it has a great section for parents of students sitting exams:



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<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zq8xtrd>

I have pasted an extract below for your convenience:-

"Dr Radha's tips: Listen to them. Your child will be experiencing all kinds of emotion. Be the kind of person who can sit and listen without judgement whenever they need to talk. Exam time is stressful, so reassure them - let your child know that no matter what happens they will be OK. Remind them that they have a support system who will always be there to help and advise them. Manage your own expectations. It's natural to have expectations and hopes for how your child will do in exams. What's important is not to project your fears, worries, and ambitions onto them."

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 Prize Giving & Prom at Headingley Cricket Club
15th August - A Level Results Day

Year 13 - End of Year Arrangements

Friday 24th May Year 13 Final Assembly and Inflatables Event
Students are required to attend timetabled lessons P1 and P2 on Friday, with the exception of P16 Study (which will be closed). At 12.00pm we request all Year 13 students to make their way to the Main Hall for their final assembly, followed by activities on the field between 1.00-3.00pm.

Friday 28th June Year 13 Prize Giving & Prom at Headingley Cricket Club

Letters were sent out on Thursday 16th May detailing our Year 13 Prize Giving & Prom event, to be held at the end of June. Please complete payment and the consent form (found on Parentmail) by Friday 7th June 2024. This is a very special occasion to celebrate the achievements of all our students, to recognise their hard work and dedication and we look forward to seeing as many students, parents and carers joining us as possible.



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UCAS Parent/Carer Guide 2024-25

This week we have launched the UCAS process with Year 12, with the support of Sophie Craven from the University of Huddersfield. All students have been provided with a booklet that explains the application process that we will be working through after the half term break.

Everything you need to support your child with their higher education choices can be found here:

UCAS Parent/Carer Guide: <https://www.ucas.com/file/836141/download?token=zZ3xQW58>

UCAS Parent/Carer Newsletter sign up: <https://www.ucas.com/parents-signup>

Clearing Guide: <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/clearing-and-results-day/what-clearing>

Student Finance Information: <https://www.ucas.com/sfe>

Opportunities PWC Virtual Work Experience Programme:

The PWC Virtual Insight Programme (running 29 - 31 July 2024) provides opportunities to gain lots of valuable skills and explore career interests and options with PwC. You may be interested in doing an apprenticeship, going to university, or a combination of both. Through the interactive sessions, you'll get to experience different business areas such as Audit, Consulting, Tax, Technology and Operate to find out what it means to be an expert in that area. You can also take part in a variety of skills sessions which will build your personal and professional skills, preparing you for future applications and for the workplace.

Link to apply:

https://www.pwc.co.uk/careers/early-careers/our-programmes/insight-weeks.html?utm_source=uk_rec_recruiter_comms&utm_medium=ct3-dm2-at-1-pl200-&utm_campaign=email-vip-aheadpartnership-fy24

Kennedy's Law -Virtual Work Experience:

Interested in a career in Law? The aim of the virtual work experience programme is to widen access to legal work experience to a diverse range of students and provide a unique insight into law and Kennedys. For further information, please visit:

<https://kennedyslaw.com/en/careers-at-kennedys/early-careers/virtual-work-experience/>

University of Leeds - Undergraduate Day!

Save the date! Friday 14th June - 9am-5pm Join the University of Leeds for their Undergraduate Open Days on Friday 14th and Saturday 15th June for the first step in your journey to university. An excellent opportunity to learn more about courses, get the opportunity to explore the campus and find out what your life at Leeds could be like. For further information, please visit:

<https://www.leeds.ac.uk/study/events/event/351/undergraduate-open-day>



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University of Law Business Virtual Work Experience

Wednesday 29th May, 10am - 3:30pm, taking place on Zoom The university of Law's Business School will be running interactive workshops and mock lectures on all things business, marketing and ESG. Open to all students in Year 10, 11, 12 & 13 looking to get into Business careers. UBS and KPMG will also be joining this event to share insights to the corporate world as well as taking students through business simulations. Application Link and more information on this opportunity is here:-

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ULawBusinessVWEX>

Mrs Smith
Post 16 Director of Studies

Ms Nota
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson
Post 16 Administrator

Miss Kenny
Careers and Enrichment Lead
