

**PARENT & CARER  
WEEKLY BULLETIN**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

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## **HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE**

This year marks the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the school's founding. The school took its first register on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1905 and all of the students' dates of birth were around 1894! One unusual aspect of the school is that I am only the sixth Headteacher it has had in the past 120 years which must be a record for a secondary school.

We have such a rich history in our school, and I am beginning to plan to mark this historic occasion in the new term. I met with Damon Sugden of Pudsey and District Civic Society earlier this week to discuss how we can work together to preserve the story of our school's past for future generations.

I will keep you informed of the plans over this term.

**Mark McKelvie**  
**Headteacher**

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## **GENERAL NOTICES**

### **May half term break**

The school will close on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025 for the May half term break and re-open at the normal time on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025.

Ms Frost  
PA to the Headteacher

### **Mental Health Awareness Week**

This week at Pudsey Grammar School, we are marking, Mental Health Awareness Week with activities designed to support and educate our students on the importance of looking after their mental wellbeing. All year groups have taken part in assemblies focusing on this year's theme of 'Community', and students have explored mental health topics in their PSHE lessons and Form Time. A central message we are promoting is the '5 Steps to Wellbeing', with a particular focus this half term on the step 'Give' —highlighting the value of kindness, helping others, and contributing to our school and local communities. These small acts can make a big difference in improving mental wellbeing for both the giver and receiver. For more information about this, we encourage you to visit **\*\*Mind's website\*\*** at

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<https://www.mind.org.uk/workplace/mental-health-at-work/five-ways-to-wellbeing>

Mrs Williams  
Director of Safeguarding

### **Arbor Parent App Guide for Parents/Carers**

The Arbor Parent App provides a convenient and intuitive way to access day-to-day school information at the touch of a button.

Key features include your child's:

- Timetable
- Homework
- ATL points (Attitude to Learning points). **The app is great to track if your child is on target to reach those all-important ATL points and be eligible for end of year rewards.**
- Behaviour record, including detentions
- Attendance. You can also log absences using the app.
- View your child's profile and update key information.

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome and you can download the Parent App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone or tablet.

### **Need help using Arbor?**

Contact the school office if you have any questions about using the Parent App or the Parent Portal.

Here are some tips if you're having trouble logging in:

- Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. You can ask us to check the email address linked to your account
- Reset your password from the login page
- If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the password link will have expired. You can ask us to send a new one.
- Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice, for instance on another guardian's profile
- Enter the birthday of one of your children to log in
- Only relatives who are primary guardians of a child can access the Parent Portal or App

**Important** - To keep in touch with us you must keep logged in to Arbor In App to allow push notifications to come through to your screen.

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iOS users will be prompted to receive push notifications when you download the app, ensure you select 'allow'.

**You must enable push notifications to receive a notification when you have a new in-app message.** If you do not enable this, you will not be alerted to a new message and may miss important information.

Ms Frost  
PA to the Headteacher

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### **Year 7**

#### **Residential Information**

The link for the residential meeting is working on the school website now. The link can be found here - <https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/year-7-11/year-7/useful-documents/>

Children will be told their rooms and working groups after the half term.

#### **End of Year Assessments**

Year 7 students have worked really well in their assessments this week, they have approached them with a great attitude and impressive maturity.

Mrs Mitchell  
Year 7 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank  
Year 7 Leader

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### **YEAR 8**

#### **Palo Alto Capture the Flag**

Now that Pudsey Grammar School has been recognised as a Silver Award CyberFirst School, one of the first in Yorkshire, there are a range of fantastic opportunities that will be opening up for our students. The next event will be happening on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, where a group of 27 students in Year 8 have been invited to take part in an online competition against other schools in the North of England.

Hosted by the multinational Cyber Security firm "Palo Alto", who work closely with the UK Government and the National Cyber Security Centre, the students will be working in groups of 3 in a race to complete a series of challenges relating to counter hacking, including: penetration testing, data encryption, password protection, firewalls and data interception.

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Students who have been invited will find the event listed on their Arbor timetables and will be excused from lessons to attend the competition during the school day. There is just one of many events that will be hosted at Pudsey Grammar over the upcoming months and we are excited to see how well our students do.

Mr Pugh  
Teacher of Computing

Last week, I shared a list of the core subjects along with their assessment criteria. Please find below a list of topics from the other subjects, including what students will be assessed on.

English - Descriptive writing based on Myths and Legends.

Maths - Students will be assessed on the content covered this year; ratio, multiplicative change, fractions, graphs, data, probability, equations and inequalities, sequences, indices, percentages, standard form, angles, area, transformations, averages.

Science - Solutions, acids and alkalis, respiration, reactivity, microbes, light and sound.

Art - Hundertwasser response.

History - The British Empire  
The Transatlantic Slave Trade  
The First World War  
The Suffrage Movement  
Life in Nazi Germany

Geography - Development, Asia, Hazards (earthquakes and volcanoes), Climate Change.

Design technology - Students will be assessed on everything that they have learned this year in Food, Textiles and Product design. Health and safety, understanding materials, uses, where they come from and the manufacturing processes.

Drama - Performing a script from Blood Brothers.

IT - Hardware, software, cyber security, email, touch typing, IT basics and health and safety.

Music - Creating lyrics and performing a piece of musical theatre.

RE – Buddhism.

Mrs Kaye  
Year 8 Director of Studies

Miss Lavan  
Year 8 Leader



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### YEAR 9

#### Assessments

Year 9 students will be starting their revision in lessons now to gear up for their summative assessments taking place the first week back. We want students to feel confident going into them and be ready to try their best to get the best grade they can in every subject. This is a vital experience for the students.

#### Flamingo Land

We're all really excited for the end of year rewards trip to Flamingo Land as a year group. The vast majority of the year have enough points and it will be a great day out. There are some students who are still asking me how to pay. The deadline has passed but if your child has enough points please contact Finance at [finance@pudseygrammar.co.uk](mailto:finance@pudseygrammar.co.uk) who will be able to send a link to make the payment. To check your child's ATL points you can use the Arbor app. Please see the General Notices section for more information.

Mr Lucas  
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mrs Green  
Year 9 Leader

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### YEAR 10

#### Year 10 Assessment Week

Please continue discussing revision and preparation for the Year 10 end of year assessments. These assessments are an important milestone in the Key Stage 5 journey and will be used to inform plans for next year. Students should be building a revision routine at home using the revision resources:

Key Stage 4 Revision Resources

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| ✦ Flash Cards        | <a href="https://bit.ly/PGS26flashcards">https://bit.ly/PGS26flashcards</a>               |
| ✦ Mind Maps          | <a href="https://bit.ly/PGS26mindmaps">https://bit.ly/PGS26mindmaps</a>                   |
| ✦ Revision Clocks    | <a href="https://bit.ly/PGS26revisionclock">https://bit.ly/PGS26revisionclock</a>         |
| ✦ Revision Timetable | <a href="https://bit.ly/PGS26revisiontimetable">https://bit.ly/PGS26revisiontimetable</a> |

Mr Syed  
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Exley  
Year 10 Leader

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### YEAR 11

Year 11 have made a fantastic start to study leave. We are incredibly impressed with the routines many of them are establishing to support their revision and exam preparation.

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### **Uniform and Attendance Expectations**

A reminder that when students come into school to sit an exam, they must be in full school uniform.

If students are coming in to revise in the Study Hall, they are welcome to wear their own clothes, but must collect a lanyard from Reception on arrival for safeguarding purposes.

### **Equipment and Personal Belongings**

Please ensure your child brings the essential equipment for each exam, including:

Black pens  
Pencils  
Ruler  
Calculator (where required)

Students should continue to bring their school bag each day. This will be used to store any items that are not permitted in the exam hall, including:

Mobile phones  
Food and drink (except water in a clear bottle)  
Watches  
Revision notes or planners

All such items must be left in the designated bag room before entering the exam hall.

### **Prom Tickets**

Prom tickets are now available to purchase via ParentMail. Tickets will appear in your basket when you log into your account.

### **Yearbook Orders**

If you would like to order a copy of the Year 11 Yearbook, you can do so via the following link:  
<https://allyearbooks.co.uk/buy/23752>

### **Revision and Pre-Exam Sessions**

We strongly encourage attendance at all staff-led revision and pre-exam sessions. These take place the day before, and on the morning or afternoon of each exam, and offer valuable last-minute support and guidance.

Miss Legg  
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall  
Year 11 Leader



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### **SIXTH FORM**

A huge well done to Year 13 students for settling into the exam season so calmly and maturely. We wish them the very best of luck over the coming weeks – their focus and resilience have been excellent.

#### **Key Updates**

##### **✦ Year 13 Final Assembly - Friday 23rd May**

Includes a celebratory send-off and inflatable activities.  
This will mark the beginning of their stand-down.

##### **✦ Year 12 Updates**

Friday 16th May: Project Trust Assembly – introducing exciting gap year opportunities.

Tuesday 4th June: Paris Trip Parents' Meeting – more details to follow.

Wednesday 19th June: UCAS Fair Trip – please ensure tickets are booked and QR codes saved.

Week of 30th June: Year 12 Exams – a full timetable will be shared shortly.

Tuesday 8th July: Paris Trip departs.

Week of 14th July: Work Experience Week – all placements must be logged on Unifrog.

Thank you for your continued support at this important time of year. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with any questions.

Mrs Lea  
Acting Post 16 Director of Studies

Miss Hart  
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson  
Careers and Enrichment Lead

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