

**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**
Friday 5th September 2025

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

It was lovely to welcome all the students back into school this week. I delivered assemblies to all the students, and I highlighted that it is the school's 120th anniversary as we were founded on the 1st August 1905. I highlighted that the world has changed massively in this time, and we should all be proud of the consistently high education that the school has provided to the young people of Pudsey across the generations.

I also mentioned a usual quirk which must be a record of a school – we have only had six Headteachers in 120 years!

I also emphasised the importance of students maintaining good attendance and used data from our most recent Year 11 results. Students whose attendance was over 95% got the grades which allowed them a free choice of courses into our Sixth Form, whereas students whose attendance was less than 90% got grades which would mean they would struggle to get into college and would have to resit their GCSE maths and English.

To support good attendance, we have changed our rewards to make them focussed on weekly attendance. Students will get a point for each week of 100% attendance that they have. They will then be able to exchange the points for various treats. In addition, students can save up their points for a larger treat or vouchers.

Attendance this week has been good. We are looking forward to working with parents and students in the year ahead to ensure that all students attend and take advantage of the excellent education that we offer our students.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

Guidance for contacting the Main School Office

Please be aware that the main school office experiences a high volume of calls and student enquiries between 8.00am and 9.00am each day. During this period, the main office is only able to assist parents and carers who have pre-arranged appointments with members of staff. If you do need to speak with a member of school staff and do not have a pre-booked appointment, please send your enquiry by email to the relevant member of staff in

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accordance with our Home School Communications Policy – <https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/key-information/school-policies/>. This process helps us ensure that urgent matters and student needs can be managed efficiently, and all parental queries are dealt with as promptly as possible outside peak times.

In line with our Home School Communications policy, we aim to acknowledge all emails within 24 hours, and to respond in full (unless the case is complex) or arrange a meeting or phone call if appropriate within 48 hours.

Please also check our website as there is lots of information on there to answer most queries.

We appreciate your co-operation in following these guidelines to support our staff and ensure effective communication throughout the school community.

Lost Property - Thursday 11th September 2025 3:10pm

Lost property will be available for parents/carers to look through and reclaim any lost items. Please report to Reception and a member of our Office Team will be available to support you. Any unclaimed items will be passed to Pudsey Community Project.

Miss Powell
Office Supervisor

History Department – Homework Update KS3/KS4 (Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11)

The History Department is excited to announce a change to the way homework will be set this academic year for KS3/KS4 students. Homework will now be issued digitally, replacing the previous printed booklets.

Students will complete all homework tasks in full in their exercise books. The digital Homework Booklets are accessible via Arbor through a link. This approach not only makes homework easier to set and submit but also supports our ongoing commitment to sustainability by reducing paper usage.

For your convenience, the links to the Homework Booklets have been shared below, along with links to the answer booklets to support marking and review.

If any student is struggling with a homework task in any way, shape, or form, they should speak to their teacher or to Mr Alderson for guidance.

We hope this digital approach will streamline homework tasks for both staff, guardians and students while contributing to a more eco-friendly school environment.



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Link to Homework Booklets:

Year 7

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1_PPGBblvDwn1vXKRyDgw0f8DTtUt2UVsaWOBJ4mBQmE/edit?usp=sharing

Year 8

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1QLGuDotwcLBUMmmgUWmxCB7wtzAjkMwbZoUxqmxH_OU/edit?usp=sharing

Year 9

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1aMdTUHc8fd-UfrwpNPYw732lOx7hk9Nd_WWzcsrwcGU/edit?usp=sharing

Year 10/11

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1xeOezoRyv_XnGuCtLbtPxcZvdFxFxWOW8GKz2tgNlvnB4/edit?usp=sharing

Link to R4R Answer Booklets:

Year 7

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1siY2A04SAAqpJeVRgelBPPU6VfXs2PUDvoynkD7Q_D0/edit?usp=sharing

Year 8

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1zN6XXror4e-xwgZqLJQTbkxvWdnNMFXTV3TneYoW_Yc/edit?usp=sharing

Year 9

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1wdDtd4bxMLnK5o9QzNwFyjuJuqPXNIAAtPKJdQuspVXU/edit?usp=sharing>

Year 10/11

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1cnSuMo5Wfj5DzPZyQBNFv41XeeyXZ6H5gAVxxVa_oTI/edit?usp=sharing

History Revision Resources – KS4 and KS5 (Years 10, 11, 12 & 13)

Though we are still at the beginning of the year, I would like to emphasise how students in History at both KS4 and KS5 can begin shaping their own revision to secure success in both trial and final examinations.

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The History Department has ensured that all key resources are available digitally. These include (but are not limited to):

Lessons
Homework Booklets
Textbooks
Revision Guides
Past Papers
Exam Modelling Videos
Summary Documents (Subject Knowledge and Exam Technique)
Mind Maps
Knowledge Organisers
Knowledge Quizzes

All of these have been designed to support students in building confidence, consolidating knowledge, and developing strong exam skills.

KS4 Students – Resources are available via the Revision Resources tile on the Student Intranet. Access will be demonstrated directly in lessons.

Link to Resources: <https://tinyurl.com/KS4HistoryResourcesPGS>

KS5 Students – Resources are located on the History A-Level Resources Google Classroom. Access will also be shown in lessons.

Link to Resources: <https://tinyurl.com/KS5HistoryResourcesPGS>

With consistent effort in class, combined with regular use of these materials outside of lessons, I am confident that our students will achieve excellent outcomes in History.

If you have any questions, or experience difficulties accessing resources, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Alderson
Subject Leader of History

Year 7

It has been a week of great significance in the lives of our Year 7 students, and we are very proud of how they have settled in this first week. From the moment they arrived, Year 7 students have impressed us with their approach to learning, behaviour, standard of uniform

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and positive energy. Starting secondary school can be daunting, but hopefully this week has settled any nerves, and our Year 7 students are excited about the year ahead.

Uniform and Equipment

We have been really impressed by the uniform the Year 7 are wearing. It is a big change from primary school but they look very smart in their blazers and ties. Please refer to the school website if you need any guidance. The equipment is also at a very high standard. Form Tutors will check that Year 7 students have the correct equipment and contact home if further support is needed in terms of what your child needs to be successful in their learning.

Please check the website for the full list

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

Parents Information Evening

You should have received a letter about our Parents Information Evening which is taking place on Thursday 25th September. It is a great opportunity to come back into the school and meet your child's Form Tutor for the first time. We are keen to have open lines of communication between yourselves and the Form Tutor so they can help support your child on a daily basis and swiftly deal with any issues should they arise. We would be grateful if you could please confirm/decline the invitation to the Parents Information Evening.

Mr Lucas
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

Welcome back

It has been a great first week back for our new Year 8 students.

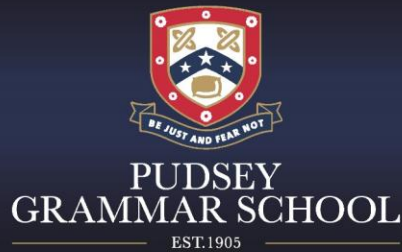
I would like to start by thanking parents and carers for supporting students to get school ready - uniform and equipment has been to a high standard this week. Students are looking very smart and fully equipped for lessons.

Parent Information Evening

The Year 8 Parent Information Evening will take place on Wednesday 24th September. The format will follow the same as the event you attended last year and will give you opportunity to come into school and meet with the Year team and your child's Form Tutor.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 8 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 8 Leader



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YEAR 9

The Year 9 students have arrived back to school this week looking extremely smart and fully equipped to learn. They have had a fantastic start to the new academic year.

Please see important dates for the year.

Year 9 Parent Information Evening - Tuesday 23rd September 2025

Year 9 Virtual Parents Evening - Thursday 12th March 2026

Year 9 Options Evening - Thursday 19th March 2026

Mrs Kaye
Year 9 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

It's been fantastic to welcome students back for the new academic year. Year 10 have made a strong start, and many have left a brilliant first impression on their new teachers.

As students begin their GCSE option subjects, we understand that some may wish to reconsider their choices. If this is the case, students have been advised to email me directly with a brief explanation. This approach encourages personal responsibility and allows for meaningful conversations about their decisions.

Important Note on Subject Changes: To support our Data team, who are currently processing a high volume of information, we've temporarily paused subject change requests. This means that any submitted requests will not be actioned immediately. We kindly ask all students to give their chosen subjects a genuine try before seeking a change, sometimes a little patience and perseverance can make all the difference.

Let's keep up the great momentum, we're excited to see what you achieve this term!

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Mrs Green
Year 10 Leader

YEAR 11

Start of Year Reminders

Firstly, I hope everyone has had a lovely summer.

Please be reminded that this year, Miss Exley and I will continue as the Year team so do

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contact us should the need arise. Should you have any minor or general enquiries, please contact the Form Tutor in the first instance.

We are keen to make every lesson in Year 11 count so please do support in ensuring that students are fully equipped in order to allow lessons to run smoothly and reduce any disruptions - whiteboard pens, glue sticks and scientific calculators should be checked upon in particular. Form Tutors will be conducting regular checks in Form time and contact home if there are issues.

Key Dates:

- ✦ Parent Information Evening - 17th September (5.00pm-6.00pm)
- ✦ Assessment Week - WC 20th October (classroom based)
- ✦ First progress reports around 13th November
- ✦ Parents Evening (virtual) - 4th December
- ✦ Year 11 Trial Exams - WC 12th and 19th January (exam hall)
- ✦ Year 11 Photos - 11th March
- ✦ Exam Success Evening - 20th March

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Important Dates

Tuesday 16th September – Year 12 Parent Information Evening @ 5.00pm
Monday 22nd September – Year 13 Parent Information Evening @ 5.00pm

Welcome back to our Year 13 students and a warm welcome to all our Year 12 students, particularly those who are new to Pudsey Grammar School. It has been brilliant to see everyone in assemblies this week and returning to their academic studies. Thank you to everyone for their patience, we hope we have now resolved all IT difficulties, IDs, lanyards and timetabling queries!

The following information has been sent out to parents/carers and students in Year 12 and Year 13 via email.

Post-16 Learner Agreement

Please see below our Learner Agreement which all students attending Pudsey Grammar Sixth Form are required to agree to. Please note that sections of the form should be completed by parents/carers.

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<https://forms.gle/NsDbq9p5mA9JbFYw8>

We kindly ask that this form is completed by Monday 8th September.

16-19 Bursary Fund

We would also like to highlight the 16–19 Bursary Fund. This provides financial support to help students overcome specific financial barriers so they can remain in education.

More information about the Bursary along with the application form can be found on our website using the link below:

<https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/sixth-form/bursary-16-19-application/>

Applications should be completed by Friday 12th September.

Year 12 students: If you believe your child is eligible, please complete the online application form on our website.

(Please note, if you previously applied before the 1st September, you would need to complete the new 25/26 application form).

Year 13 students: If you were eligible last year, you do need to re-apply for the support, or if your circumstances have changed please complete the online application form on our website.

Please be aware that support is subject to students meeting the standards outlined in our Attendance Policy and Learner Agreement. If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to contact the Finance Office.

Have a great weekend.

Mrs Smith
Assistant Director of Sixth Form

Miss Robinson
Careers and Enrichment Lead

Miss Hart
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Mrs Scott
Supervised Study Co-Ordinator