



PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN
Thursday 27th November 2025

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

This is the longest term in the school calendar, and it is also the one where there are illnesses going round. It is important that students continue to attend as much as they can even if they are feeling slightly unwell. Good attendance not only ensures that a child's education continues uninterrupted but also ensures that they develop a more resilient mindset which will serve them extremely well throughout their lives.

Thank you as always for your support in this key area.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

Training Day 3 – Friday 28th November 2025

A reminder that the next Training Day will take place on Friday 28th November 2025 and the school will be closed to students. The school will re-open at the normal time on Monday 1st December 2025.

Ms Frost
PA to the Headteacher

Day to day reminders - standards in school

Scarves/blankets

Students should not wear scarves or blankets around the building - they should ensure that they stay in their bag unless they decide to go outside for break and lunch time.



Lesson reminders

Students should ensure that they continue to take the most direct route to lessons. It is extremely important that they arrive on time and ready to start the lesson, arriving late to lessons will be logged through Arbor with sanctions set if it is persistent.

Students should have all equipment listed in the school planner, please ensure that you check that your son/daughter still has the full set of equipment ready to use each day that they are in school. They should also have a school planner and knowledge organiser each day. If any equipment needs to be replaced it can be accessed and paid for through Parentmail and collected from the finance office on Floor 0

Mr McCroakam
Assistant Headteacher

YEAR 7

We are now halfway through our second longest term when the weather has started to turn, and illnesses started to strike. We have been really impressed by Year 7's resilience to this and their determination to keep coming into school. There are lots of prizes available for students that are linked to attendance and we want to see as many students get the prizes their efforts.

As always, it's great to see Year 7 really get stuck into all the extracurricular activities school has to offer. We had a gaming competition that a lot of students were very excited about, and the level of competition was high. There are lots of opportunities throughout the year for students to be involved in.

Mr Lucas
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss White
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

As we hit the mid point of the half term, I just wanted to congratulate Year 8 students for their conduct and overall effort over the last few weeks.

There are a couple of updates and reminders for parents and carers as we head towards the Christmas holiday.



Data

Year 8 data has now been collected and reviewed. Next week students will get a physical copy of their reports and parents and carers will have an electronic copy sent through to them.

If there are any questions around the reports, the letter that goes home alongside the report gives useful links to points of contact in school.

Library

A reminder that the library is open to Year 8 students at lunchtime Monday-Thursday. Thank you to all the Year 8 students that are currently using the space in a meaningful and polite manner.

Ski Club

Ski Club continues this half term for any Year 8 students that have signed up - well done to those who have been taking part for the progress they have made.

Scarves

As the temperature drops, we have seen more students wearing scarves to school. Wrapping up warm for the journey to and from school is advised but students must not wear scarves around the building - they should ensure that they stay in their bag unless they decide to go outside for break and lunch time

Lesson reminders

Students should ensure that they continue to take the most direct route to lessons, it is extremely important that they arrive on time and ready to start the lesson. Valuable content is often reviewed at the start of each lesson, so we do not want students to miss this input.

Equipment

Students should have all equipment listed in the school planner. Please ensure that you check that your son/daughter still has the full set of equipment ready to use each day that they are in school. They should also have a school planner and knowledge organiser each day. If any equipment needs to be replaced it can be accessed and paid for through Parentmail and collected from the finance office on Floor 0. If any families do need support, please do contact school and let us know so we can support.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 8 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 8 Leader



YEAR 9

Entrance Change Reminder

Thank you for your support with the very last-minute change to the student entrance last week. I want to praise all students for adapting so quickly. Please note that students will now enter via the main doors into the Street Canteen, rather than through Outdoor PE.

Trip to The Deep – Monday 1st December

On Monday, around 100 of our students will be visiting The Deep in Hull. We hope they have a fantastic and enjoyable day.

Attendance Sticker Checks

I have been reviewing student forms for any missing attendance stickers. If your child is missing a week, please let me know and I will ensure it is reprinted.

Equipment Check

Over the long weekend, I would really appreciate it if you could do a quick equipment check with your child to ensure they have the basics: a pen, red pen, pencil, and ruler.

Mrs Kaye
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mr Inman
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

Following feedback from staff, we are noticing that many Year 10 students are not prepared with the correct equipment for lessons. To support their learning and ensure they are ready for success, we kindly ask that you reinforce the importance of checking your child's school bag each day.

It is vital that students have the following items:

Red pens – essential for reflection work taking place this week after Assessment Week

Glue stick – for completing classwork and keeping notes organised

Correct maths equipment – including calculator, ruler, protractor, and compass.



Your support in ensuring these items are consistently brought to school will make a significant difference in the run up to the end of term.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Mrs Green
Year 10 Leader

YEAR 11

Trials Exams ✓

Well done to each and every student with their approach and efforts during the trial exams over the past two weeks. It has been an experience for students to know what it will be like in the summer. A reminder was given to students that Year 11 is a marathon and not a sprint so we continue chipping away at revision. Students are encouraged to keep on with their revision routines of little but often throughout the year. With this in mind, I have purchased a pack of flash cards for every student and they will receive this in Form time next week to use as they please.

Progress reports will be due to go out to students/parents before the Christmas break and will include the results from the trial exam period.

There will be more information coming out in regard to supporting students with planning their next steps, please see the letter that has gone home with students.

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Year 13 Trial Exam Week – REMINDER

Monday 1st December marks the beginning of the Year 13 Trial Exam Week, which will be held in the Main Hall. During this week, students will be on study leave and are only required to attend their scheduled exams or coursework sessions. These trial exams are particularly important, as the results contribute to UCAS applications and employment references. Any



student who has concerns or requires additional support is encouraged to speak with their Form Tutor or a member of the Sixth Form Team.

Year 12 Fortnightly Work Experience Update

Every year we are fortunate to work with a number of local and city-wide employers who are willing to exclusively support Pudsey Grammar Sixth Form students in collaboration with our work experience week programme. This year, we are sharing these opportunities with students via their Google Classroom forums. Students should then ask Form tutors to nominate them for the placement. Please see below for a small selection of our current opportunities - there are a further 20 opportunities available in the classroom for students to explore from social work to creative industries to engineering and more! Please encourage students to keep up to date with the careers classroom - updates will be posted fortnightly and placements are secured on a first come, first served basis.

**Leeds General Infirmary - Paediatric Surgery Placement

**Jet2 Leeds City Centre - One placement each in IT, Marketing and Legal (3 placements)

**Produmax Shipley - Engineering placement

**West SILC - Two SEND and psychology placements

**Major League Sports Academy Horsforth - Sport coaching placement

Leeds Direct Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair: Wednesday 11th February 2026

While we do not run this event as a visit like we do for the UCAS Discovery Fair for Year 12, we would highly recommend to any Year 12 and Year 13 students considering apprenticeships to attend this event next year! This is an afterschool event at Leeds Direct and if you bring along copies of your CV, this is the perfect chance to network and secure a relationship with your dream employer!!

Students are invited to attend the Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair on Wednesday 11th February 2026 at the First Direct arena in Leeds, with free tickets available for any time slot between 6pm and 7pm. This is one of the largest apprenticeship events in the region, featuring over 100 employers from a huge range of sectors, including business, construction, engineering, digital, creative design, accounting, health, law, education, finance, hospitality and many others. Students will be able to speak directly with employers, explore live apprenticeship vacancies, and learn about different pathways such as higher and degree apprenticeships. The event is open to everyone and is free to attend, offering a valuable opportunity to gather information, ask questions and find out what apprenticeships involve.



Book your tickets now to avoid disappointment!

<https://www.universe.com/events/leeds-apprenticeship-fair-pre-event-information-webinar-for-visitors-tickets-SF4037>

Mrs Smith
Assistant Director of Sixth Form

Miss Robinson
Careers and Progression Manager

Miss Mathie
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Mrs Scott
Supervised Study Co-Ordinator
