



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**
Friday 12th December 2025

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Last night, I had the privilege of attending the Music and Drama department's production which was called A Night of Stage and Screen. The performances of the students that ranged from Year 7 to Year 13 were excellent and covered songs and drama from a wide range of films, musicals and stage productions. I'm extremely proud of the opportunities that we give our students to perform in front of live audiences as the confidence that they gain as a result will stand them in good stead for the rest of their lives, whatever their chosen career. I'd like to say a massive thank you to all staff who supported the event last night, without their help it would not have been possible. In particular, I would like to thank our fantastic music and drama staff, Mr Loughlin, Miss Boshier and last but not least Mrs O'Gorman who organised and co-ordinated the whole event.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

End of Term Arrangements

A reminder that Friday 19th December is our Christmas Jumper day (non-uniform day). Please make your £1 via Parentmail. Proceeds will be shared between Save the Children and Pudsey Community Project.

The school will close on Friday 19th December 2025 at 12.00pm. For students who are entitled to receive a free school meal, a grab bag will be available for them on the Street as they leave the building.

The school will re-open on Monday 5th January 2026 at the normal time.

Ms Frost

PA to the Headteacher



Year 9 Guided Choices Evening - Change of Date

We have moved our Year 9 Guided Choices event from Thursday 19th March to Wednesday 18th March to avoid a likely clash with Eid al-Fitr, an important celebration for many of our students and families. Eid al-Fitr marks the end of Ramadan and is expected to fall on 19th March. By moving the event we aim to ensure that all members of our school community are able to attend the evening. The evening will be from 5pm -7pm. Thank you for your understanding.

Mr Tierney
Deputy Headteacher

Knowing our Students Questionnaire - Thank you

Thank you so much to the hundreds of you that took the time to complete our recent parent questionnaire.

Gathering more valuable information on your child/children adds to a multitude of strategies we can use to ensure we always place the building of positive relationships at the heart of what we do.

Congratulations to the parent winner of the £25 shopping voucher, we hope you enjoy spending this.

Thank you again,

Mrs Burgum
Assistant Headteacher

Years 9, 10, 12 & 13 – Duke of Edinburgh Parent Meeting

The parent meeting for the DofE has been re-arranged for Tuesday 6th January 2026 between 5pm and 6pm. This will be an opportunity for parents to hear about the DofE programme and ask any questions. If you have any questions in the interim, please do get in touch with me at s.swithenbank@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 8 Leader



Plastic Containers

The spare plastic container cupboards in Food are very full, and we are running out of space to store containers which are left behind. If your child has done Food this term as part of their KS3 rotation (between September - December) or does GCSE Food or Hospitality and has left any plastic containers behind, please can you ensure that these are collected from either Food room (134 or 136) by Wednesday 17th December. After this date any plastic containers which are still left will be donated to charity.

Miss Wilkinson
Teacher of Food Technology

Sponsorship Request

We are hoping to develop a horticulture area adjacent to our new Future Foundations modular building. The area is being designed to provide students with meaningful, hands-on learning experiences that promote personal development, resilience, and a range of transferable life skills. To support the first stage of this initiative, we are seeking sponsorship for five raised garden beds, each costing approximately £500-£700, as well as for a polytunnel to facilitate year-round horticultural activity, at an estimated cost of £2,000. We would be grateful if parents and carers could inform us of any companies or organisations that may be willing to sponsor one of these resources and collaborate with us in creating a high-quality, sustainable learning environment for our students. Your support would make a valuable and lasting contribution to the success of this project and to the wider school community. If anyone is interested in offering sponsorship or requires any further information please email. c.allman@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Mrs Allman
Finance/Premises Manager

Double Attendance Points and Prize Draws

This term we launched the weekly 100% Attendance Points. It has been very successful with around 900 students per week in Year 7 to 11 having full attendance and getting attendance points. Students are either exchanging their points for small prizes or saving them up for bigger prizes. For the weeks beginning 15th December (next week) and the week beginning 5th January (first week after Christmas), students who have full attendance will get double attendance points for each of those two weeks. If students have 100% attendance for both weeks, they will also be entered into a prize draw with 1st Prize £50, 2nd Prize £25 and 3rd Prize £10 vouchers. The draw will take place on Monday 12th January with the names of the winners displayed on the TVs around the school from Tuesday 13th January.

Mr Tierney
Deputy Headteacher



YEAR 7

We are close to the end of a very long first term for Year 7 and once again we are really impressed by the attitude shown by students every day. We hope that they feel settled in their new environment and are looking forward to the rest of the year. Our last week of term may differ from primary schools as we will be working as normal throughout the week so students should be prepared for all lessons like any other week. We do have a Christmas jumper day next Friday so if you would like your child to wear one, please make sure you pay the charitable donation on Parentmail.

We had the Careers panel from West Yorkshire Bus Alliance come in to deliver a workshop with the year group this week. We hope the students enjoyed the experience and learnt about the various opportunities as well as all the services buses and transport provide.

Mr Lucas
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss White
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

As we approach the final week of term, we would like to remind all students and families of the importance of strong attendance. Every day in school makes a real difference, and we are encouraging all Year 8 students to finish the term positively and return in January with the same commitment. High attendance in the first week back is especially important to help students settle quickly into their learning routines. Additionally, next week and the first week back, if students have 100% attendance they will be entered into a prize draw with the top prize of a £50 voucher. 100% attendance in these weeks will also receive double attendance points which can be spent on our range of attendance prizes including sweets, vouchers and games.

This week, Year 8 took part in a highly successful careers session with the West Yorkshire Bus Alliance. Students engaged brilliantly and gained valuable insight into the different roles and pathways available within the transport sector. It was fantastic to see so many of them asking thoughtful questions and showing genuine interest in their future opportunities.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 8 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 8 Leader



YEAR 9

As we approach the end of term, it is natural for students to feel tired. However, it is important that they continue to behave appropriately and uphold our school values: Respect, Resilience, Ambition, Compassion, and Integrity. These values guide everything we do and help create a positive learning environment for everyone.

Mrs Kaye
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mr Inman
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

We are pleased to share that Year 10 have shown a strong boost in attendance over the past week, with Mrs Snaith's form once again taking the top spot. It's fantastic to see students showing such commitment as we move toward the end of term.

To continue encouraging excellent attendance, students will receive double attendance points for each 100% week achieved next week and during the first week back after Christmas.

Students who achieve 100% attendance in both weeks will also be entered into a random prize draw, with the following rewards available:

£50 voucher first prize

£25 voucher second prize

£10 voucher third prize

Attendance in Year 10 is especially important, as it goes hand in hand with students arriving promptly to lessons. The more time students spend in the classroom, the stronger their understanding becomes and this directly leads to better exams results in Year 11.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Mrs Green
Year 10 Leader



YEAR 11

Maintaining Routines

As we approach the final week before the Christmas break, your support is greatly appreciated in keeping our Year 11 students motivated and focused. Encouraging regular attendance, helping them stay equipped for each day, and maintaining the positive revision habits they've already built will make a real difference to their progress. Consider keeping routines consistent, ensuring they have a quiet space to study, and celebrating the small wins that keep them confident. A good night's sleep, a packed bag, and a gentle reminder of their long-term goals can all help students finish the term strong and step into the new year feeling prepared. We are looking forward to celebrating the countless successes with our year group in our celebration assembly on Monday.

Progress Reports are planned to go out next week and will include results from the trial exams. Students will be provided with a hard copy to take home, and an electronic copy will be sent in the normal way. If you have any questions about a specific subject area, please contact the subject leader. If you have any questions that involve a number of subjects, please contact me at s.syed@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Please note that Miss Exley has returned on a full-time basis so please direct any pastoral matters directly to her at n.exley@pudseygrammar.co.uk. We thank Miss Duffy for supporting the year group in her temporary role.

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Duffy
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Year 13 Students UCAS Drop-in Sessions

Tuesday 16th, Wednesday 17th & Thursday 18th December @ 3pm – 4.30pm in the Post-16 Library Area. Please come along if you need any assistance with your application.
Final UCAS Deadline Wednesday 14th January.

Student Communication

Please encourage your child to regularly check Arbor, their emails, and the Year 12/Year 13 Google Classrooms. We send and post lots of important messages daily for students, and it is vital that they are checking these platforms. They should also be checking the Careers Google Classroom, where Miss Robinson posts exciting opportunities for all students.



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Year 12 & Year 13 Student Absence

A reminder that a report of absence (illness) must be submitted by parents/carers to be recorded on Arbor. This can be sent by an email to either...

Sixth Form Team (Miss Mathie) sixthform@pudseygrammar.co.uk

Attendance Team attendance@pudseygrammar.co.uk

We are unable to authorise absence (illness) submitted by students. If a student becomes unwell throughout the day, they must speak to Miss Mathie before they leave the school premises.

Students can continue to arrange an absence for pre-arranged appointments if they can provide evidence (letter/email/screenshot) to Miss Mathie.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

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