

PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

Friday 13th February 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

As we approach the half term break many of our students are preparing for their forthcoming exams. These weeks require focus, perseverance and determination. Revision practice and sometimes pushing through moments of self-doubt are all part of the journey towards success. We are proud of the maturity and commitment our students are showing as they prepare, and we encourage them to use the half term break as an opportunity to balance purposeful revision with well-earned rest.

With the Winter Olympics capturing attention at this time, we are reminded that success - whether in sport, in examinations or in life - is rarely instant. It is built on commitment, teamwork and the courage to keep going.

Thank you to parents/carers for your continued support during these busy winter months. We look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for the new half term ahead.

The school will close on Friday 13th February 2026 and re-open on Monday 23rd February 2026 at the normal time.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

Behaviour System - Important Update

We are writing to inform you of an important update to our school behaviour system, which will come into effect from Monday 23rd February 2026. We are pleased to share that, since the introduction of our new Behaviour policy, the number of lesson removals has already decreased significantly, and students are consistently working hard in lessons.

We remain committed to improving these high standards even further so that all students can continue to learn in a calm and focused environment. From this point forward, if a student is removed from two lessons in the same day, this will result in a 90-minute detention being issued for the following school day.

PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

Class teachers and subject areas will continue to contact parents directly to discuss any removals from their individual subjects, as part of our ongoing commitment to strong communication and support.

If a student fails to attend the 90-minute detention set for two removals in a day, this will escalate to a full day in isolation, and the original 90-minute detention will then be completed after the day in isolation until it is concluded.

This change has been introduced with two clear aims. Firstly, it is intended to further reduce the number of lesson removals by encouraging students to remain in class and engage positively with their learning. Secondly, it supports our commitment to setting and maintaining high standards of behaviour, conduct and focus across the school, ensuring that all students can learn in a calm and purposeful environment.

We firmly believe that students learn best when they are present in lessons, fully participating and taking responsibility for their actions. This adjustment to our behaviour system is designed to reinforce these expectations and to help students make better choices that support both their own learning and that of others.

Parental support is key to further improvements in standards and behaviour, and we wish students to take responsibility for this. We appreciate your continued partnership in reinforcing our expectations and helping your child understand the importance of positive behaviour and consistent attendance in lessons.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Daniel McCroakam
Assistant Headteacher

Support during Ramadan

As we approach the month of Ramadan, we would like to extend our warm wishes to all members of our school community who will be observing this important time.

We are committed to supporting our students throughout Ramadan and ensuring they feel comfortable and respected during the school day. To help with this, a supervised prayer space will be available for students to use at lunchtime for the duration of the month.

We are proud of our diverse and inclusive community and wish all families observing Ramadan a peaceful and meaningful month.

Mr Sammons
Assistant Headteacher

PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

National Year of Reading 2026

This year is the National Year of Reading. As part of this, we will be encouraging our students to read more widely with various activities throughout the year starting with World Book Day and assemblies planned for the first week back after February Half Term to promote this important skill.

World Book Day - Thursday 5th March 2006

It's World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. We are planning activities to help encourage 'Reading for Pleasure' which is the main theme for this year's World Book Day. Please could you encourage your child to take part in World Book Day by reading more widely than they would normally do. There are recommended book lists on the school website (under parent information/Literacy) for each year group that students can borrow from our library.

Mrs Gough
Teacher of English
& Literacy Lead

Year 7

We are now halfway through the first academic year at PGS. The students have coped brilliantly with awful weather conditions this term, coming in whatever the weather and keeping the standards really high. We want to wish everyone a restful break over half term, ready to keep the standards high for the rest of the year onwards.

Parents Evening

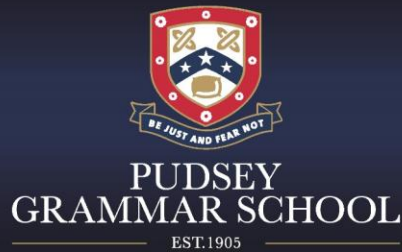
As our Parents Evening was disrupted last week due to the outages with the system, teachers whose meetings were disrupted are asked to contact parents/carers during the first week back after half term. As mentioned in Mr Bassett's letter home, you will receive a phone call or email. I would please ask for your patience as a number of teachers had many appointments disrupted and it will take time to contact those parents/carers.

Mr Lucas
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss White
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

As we reach the end of term, we would like to thank our Year 8 students and their families for their continued support. We hope everyone enjoys a well-earned rest over the holidays. This period also marks an important time for many families, with Shrove Tuesday and the beginning of Lent, as well as the start of Ramadan. We wish all those observing a peaceful



PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

and meaningful time. When students return to school next term, we will be starting with a clean slate, including a reset on behaviour expectations, to support a positive and focused start for everyone. We look forward to welcoming Year 8 back refreshed and ready to learn.

Miss Norris
Acting Year 8 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Year 9 Guided Choices Evening – Tuesday 18th March 2026 at 5.00pm

Parents and carers are invited to attend our Guided Choices Evening, where you and your child will have the opportunity to speak with Subject Leaders about GCSE option choices.

Reminder: School Uniform and Appearance

We would like to remind parents and carers that lash extensions are not permitted as part of the school's Uniform policy. Following the holidays, any students arriving at school with lash extensions will be asked to remove them and may be supported through the school's Behaviour policy if this is not followed. We appreciate your support in ensuring students return to school meeting uniform expectations.

I hope the children have a restful half-term break.

Mrs Kaye
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mr Inman
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

We hope all our Year 10 students return refreshed after the half term break. As we begin the new half term, we are encouraging all students to make a strong start by:

- Being punctual to all lessons
- Wearing correct uniform at all times
- Bringing all necessary equipment for learning

These expectations have been reinforced in form time messages this week. We appreciate your support in reminding your child that maintaining these standards helps them make the most of their learning and contributes to a positive school environment.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Mrs Green
Year 10 Leader

PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

YEAR 11

Year 11 History GCSE Revision Guidance

To support students with their revision in GCSE History, please see the resources below. These outline the content of the three examination papers, including key dates, timings, question structures, and recommended revision materials. A link to the Revision Resources available via the Student Intranet is also included as well as a link to the upcoming Intervention Dates over the February and Easter Half-Term.

Link to Exams

Overview: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/18HxalBZ3pGbsmVlhvliTXBL6d2lqPHwLITV0FhkHHso/edit?usp=sharing> / https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DHEIfUldPaVTyv6YG2D5bnHcDSViOhwsM-F_cqrkly/edit?usp=sharing

Link to Revision Resources for History: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B-r13x6AcHTVOWpfNkc2WINCTHM?resourcekey=0-QNwpRNhBrKZtepX-scyutA&usp=sharing>

Link to Intervention

Dates: <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1wg1bDAXS0cYXHviowJStKmPZN2fSDDACZI44pBbzjY0/edit?usp=sharing>

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me directly via email at r.alderson@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Mr Alderson
Subject Leader of History

Sixth Form Offer Letter Response Deadline

Sixth Form offer letters have now been issued.

Please be reminded that responses must be submitted via the QR code provided on the letter by Monday 23rd February 2026.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs Smith at l.smith@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Mrs Smith
Sixth Form Director of Studies

PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN


Key Dates & Notices


Half Term Revision

Please see the link below for the plan for the revision sessions being held over the half term break by their class teachers. Please encourage students to attend these sessions to benefit from the support that will be provided. Students will need to bring some lunch or will be able to leave school to get their own lunch.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TiSFUwanIJkaAN6z89iIOwuUuPVdqrjf/view>


Key Dates & Reminders

 Break for Spring half term - Friday 13th February


 Return to school - Monday 23rd February


 Sixth Form Offer Confirmation Letter Deadline - Monday 23rd February


 Health & Social NEA - 9th - 11th February

 Food NEA - 24th - 25th February

 Drama Exam - 5th March

 Core Trial Exams - 16th March - 26th March

 *Year 11 Exam Success Evening* (parents/carers invited to school) 24th March – 5.00pm – 6.00pm

 Break for Easter Holidays - Thursday 2nd April (Bank holiday on Friday 3rd April)

 Return to school - 20th April

 English Walking Talking Mock

Y Band - 21st April

X Band - 24th April

 ***GCSE EXAMS*** (some smaller exams may be sooner)

Monday 4th May - Friday 19th June

Please avoid booking any holidays during this period, please wait until all exams have been completed and events below. If in any doubt, please contact me to check dates.

PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

- ✦ Year 11 Leavers Assembly (final goodbyes in school) - Friday 19th June – 1.00pm – 3.30pm
- ✦ Year 11 into Year 12 Induction Days - 22nd - 23rd June
- ✦ Year 11 Prom! - Thursday 2nd July
- ✦ GCSE Results Day & Sixth Form Enrolment – Thursday 20th August, further details to follow

Gentle Tips

When you feel anxious

- Pause and breathe: breathe in slowly for 4, out for 6. Do this a few times.
- Remind yourself: feeling anxious does not mean you're failing.
- Ground yourself: name 3 things you can see, 2 things you can hear, 1 thing you can touch.
- It's okay to have bad days — they don't undo your progress.

Looking after yourself

- Sleep is important — a rested brain works better.
- Eat something, even if it's small.
- Move a little — stretching or a short walk can help calm your body.
- Take breaks without guilt — rest is not being lazy.
- Get some air - freshen your mind, body and soul with a nice walk outdoors.
- Avoid negative vibes.

Gentle reminders

- You are not alone — lots of students feel this way.
- Ask for help — teachers want to support you. Speak to Mr Syed and Miss Exley if you need us, we see the students every morning and are here for them.

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Year 13 History Revision Guidance

To support students with their revision in A-Level History, please see the resources below. These outline the content and structure of each examination paper, including key themes, assessment objectives, timings, question formats (including source analysis and essays), and recommended revision materials. A link to the Revision Resources available via the Student Intranet is also included, alongside details of upcoming Intervention Sessions over the February and Easter Half-Term.



PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

Link to Exams Overview:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1s2VCQ9aGnwsQN5E0L18LrWdlh2q84uKThOHoKJ8lq6w/edit?usp=sharing>

Link to Revision Resources for History:

<https://classroom.google.com/c/NjlxMzg3NTM2NzI3?cjc=o5d2xtf>

Link to Intervention Dates:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1wglbDAXS0cYXHviowJStKmPZN2fSDDACZI44pBbzjY0/edit?usp=sharing>

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me directly via email at r.alderson@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Mr Alderson

Subject Leader of History

February Half Term Revision for Year 12 & Year 13

During the half-term break, we will be running a series of revision and coursework sessions to support students in preparing for the summer examinations and completing key pieces of work. Please note the start and finish times for each session. Students are expected to leave the site during lunchtime.

If you would like further information, please contact us on sixthform@pudseygrammar.co.uk

	Mon 16th Feb	Tues 17th Feb	Wed 18th Feb	Thurs 19th Feb	Fri 20th Feb
10.00-12.00pm	Year 13 History NEA RAN/AGT Rm220 Year 13 Biology BLD Rm004	Year 13 Geography NEA MSR Rm220 Year 13 Chemistry physical LHN Rm007	Year 12 Media SSD Rm234	Year 13 Computing TPH Rm011 Year 13 Criminology Unit 2 revision & Unit 3 CW catch up session 135 Year 13 Chemistry Organic HMN Rm006	Year 13 Photography ECL Rm034 Year 13 History NEA RAN Rm220
LUNCH 12.00-1.00pm (NO Students in school)					
1.00-3.00pm	Year 13 History NEA RAN/AGT/OBT Rm113/114 Year 13 Biology HKE 004		Year 12 Media SSD Rm234	Year 13 Criminology Unit 2 revision & Unit 3 CW catch up session 135	Year 13 Photography ECL Rm034 Year 13 History NEA RAN Rm220

PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

Y13 Trial Exams Friday 6th to Friday 13th March

The Year 13 trial exam timetable was shared with students during assembly today.

- Paper copies are available from the **P16 Office** and the **P16 Study Area**.
- An electronic copy has been added to **Arbor** and emailed to students.
- All information is also displayed outside the **P16 Office**.

Students studying **History, Criminology, Psychology, GCSE English and GCSE Maths** must check which option group they are in to ensure they attend the correct exam slot. This information is displayed outside the P16 Office, and students can also confirm details with their subject teacher.

During exam week, **both Year 12 and Year 13** students will sit papers, including **Core Maths, GCSE English, GCSE Maths and GCSE Science**.

Year 13 Study Leave: Monday 9th March – Friday 13th March (students only attend timetabled exams or coursework sessions)

Friday 6th March: Normal school day for all students unless they are timetabled for an exam.

Year 12 students sitting **Core Maths, GCSE English, GCSE Maths and GCSE Science** will **not** have study leave.

If any student is unsure about their exam schedule or requirements, they should speak to the **P16 Office** in the first instance.

Dates for 2026

Year 12

Friday 6th March - PGS Careers Fair

Wednesday 1st April – Year 12 Parents Evening (online)

w/c Monday 27th – Year 12 Trial Exam Week (Sports/Main Hall tbc)

Tuesday 7th July to Friday 10th – Year 12 Paris Trip

w/c 13th July – Year 12 Work Experience

Y13

Friday 6th March - PGS Careers Fair

w/c Monday 9th March – Year 13 Trial Exam Week 2

Thursday 26th March – Year 13 Exam Success Evening

w/c Tuesday 5th May - Exam Season Commences

Thursday 25th June – Year 13 Awards Ceremony & Prom

Thursday 13th August - A Level Results Day

Thursday 20th August - GCSE Results Day



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PARENT & CARER WEEKLY BULLETIN

Best wishes for a lovely half term break

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
