

**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**
Friday 6th February 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

This week we were pleased to welcome Leeds Rhinos into school to deliver Ahead of the Game sessions to all of our Year 9 students.

Ahead of the Game is a mental fitness programme developed by Movember and delivered in partnership with Leeds Rhinos. It originally began as a research programme and is recognised as one of the only one of its kind in the world that has been shown to be effective.

The sessions focus on building students' understanding of mental health and wellbeing. Evidence from the programme shows that young people who take part develop:

- a greater understanding of the importance of mental health
- increased confidence in recognising the signs and symptoms of mental health difficulties in themselves and others.
- greater confidence in seeking help when they need it.

We are proud to offer our students opportunities like this that support not only their academic progress but also their personal development and wellbeing.

For more information on this programme visit <https://aheadofthegame.movember.com/>

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

February Half Term Break

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

Miss Frost
PA to the Headteacher

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Out of Lesson

We would like to share an important reminder regarding our school procedures around students leaving lessons during the school day.

To ensure learning time is protected and students remain safe, please note the following expectations:

- Students may only leave a lesson with a signed planner or daily planner, students are not allowed to leave any lesson without a planner.
- Students will not be permitted to leave lessons to go to the toilet immediately after break or lunchtime unless they hold a toilet pass agreed by school.
- Staff will use their professional judgement when a student asks to leave, with the clear aim of keeping students in lessons and off the corridors wherever possible.
- If a student is refused permission and chooses to leave the lesson anyway, this will be treated as lesson truancy and sanctioned accordingly by on-call staff.

We appreciate your support in reinforcing these expectations with your child.

Attendance in lessons is vital for progress. Even short periods of missed learning can quickly lead to significant gaps in knowledge, making it harder for students to succeed. By staying in class, students give themselves the best opportunity to learn, grow, and achieve their full potential.

Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting high standards of learning and behaviour.

Mr McCroakam
Assistant Headteacher
Ethos and Culture

Students Contacting Home – Illness

We are writing to remind you of an important matter regarding student welfare and communication during the school day.

Students Feeling Unwell – First Aid Procedures

Recently, we have seen a significant increase in students contacting home directly when they feel unwell, rather than following the correct procedure within school.

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Please can we remind families that:

Students must go to their lesson if they feel unwell. If they have a medical emergency (please see the list of symptoms below) their teacher will request for first aid assistance to come to the classroom:

- Serious accidents (severe bleeding, serious burn/scald, significant trauma following a fall, sports injury or playground accident, suspected fracture or dislocation)
- Seizure
- Diabetic alert (low/high blood sugars)
- Asthma attack/breathing difficulties
- Nosebleed
- Has vomited
- Fainting
- Banged head during lesson/loss of consciousness
- Severe allergic reaction
- Chest pain or suspected cardiac event

If a student generally feels unwell, headache, feels sick, dizzy or minor cuts they should speak to their Year Leader at break or lunch time. If the Year Leader agrees that the student requires further first aid support, they will be sent to Student Reception. A member of the team will contact parents/carers to discuss if the student needs to be collected or sent home.

If a student contacts home without seeing First Aid/Student Reception, we cannot authorise parents/carers arriving to collect them, as the correct process has not been followed. We have also had cases where students have contacted people who are not listed as emergency contacts on Arbor. This creates a safeguarding risk, and in these situations we cannot allow the student to leave school under any circumstances.

Please ensure your child understands that only adults listed on Arbor may collect them from school.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep all students safe and ensuring that school procedures run smoothly. If you need to update emergency contact details on Arbor, please contact the school office.

Mr McCroakam

Assistant Headteacher - Ethos and Culture

Punctuality Reminder

We would like to remind parents and carers of the importance of punctuality each morning. School doors open at 8.20am, and students are expected to be in form for registration by 8.30am. Arriving late may affect a student's attendance record and could be recorded as an



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unauthorised absence. Please also note that medical appointments during form time and period 1 will also impact attendance.

Minor Illnesses

We would like to remind parents and carers of the importance of regular school attendance. Children are expected to attend school even if they have mild symptoms such as a cough, cold, runny or blocked nose, sore throat, sneezing, or a mild raised temperature. If they are genuinely too unwell to attend school, we will contact home.

If you are unsure, your local pharmacy can help with symptoms including:

- a cough
- colds: runny or blocked nose
- sore throat
- sneezing
- mild raised temperature / fever
- aches and pains
- congestion

Under the Pharmacy First scheme, pharmacists can also treat or prescribe for conditions such as:

- earache (1-17 years)
- sore throat (5 years and over)
- sinusitis (12 years and over)
- impetigo, infected insect bites, and shingles

Absences should only be reported if your child is not well enough to attend school. You can notify us of an absence in one of the following ways:

- Via the Arbor app
- By calling the Attendance Team on 0113 386 9122 or email: attendance@pudseygrammar.co.uk
- For any Sixth Form absences, contact sixthform@pudseygrammar.co.uk

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child's education is not disrupted.

Mrs Bennett
Attendance Team

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Year 7

Parents Evening

Thank you everyone who joined us for Parents Evening last night. We had a very high turnout and I hope you found the evening informative and helpful. With the high turnout it meant that lots of teachers were fully booked and if you failed to get an appointment you will be added to a waiting list where teachers will get back to you when they can with a progress update for your child. Please be aware that the teachers who were full, will likely have more than one class so they will email you when they have chance.

Mr Lucas
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss White
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

Progress reports for Year 8 pupils have now been emailed to parents and carers this week. A printed copy will also be issued to students by the end of the week.

The report provides an overview of your child's current progress, effort and attitude to learning across their subjects. We encourage you to take time to read through the report with your child and discuss any strengths to celebrate as well as areas for improvement.

If you have any questions or concerns after reading the report, please do not hesitate to contact me so that we can work together to support your child's progress. My email address is e.norris@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Norris
Acting Year 8 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Leeds Rhinos visited this week to deliver mental health awareness sessions to our students. The sessions were engaging and well received, with students thoroughly enjoying the experience and taking a great deal away from the discussions around mental health, wellbeing, and resilience.

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Important - Guided choices evening - 18th March 2026

From next week, I will begin talking to students about their options for GCSEs. These sessions will focus on the content of each subject, how the courses are assessed, and what students can expect from different pathways, helping them to make informed choices about their next steps.

Mrs Kaye
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mr Inman
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

This week, students have completed their in-class assessments. The results will be marked and fed back to students before the end of term. Please ensure your child has a red pen to complete any reflection work on their assessments. These results will also inform their next progress report, which will be sent home after the half term.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Mrs Green
Year 10 Leader

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. Also 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>

Link to Revision Resources for History:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/OB-r13x6AcHTVOWpfNkc2WINCTHM?resourcekey=0-QNwpRNhBrKZtepX-scyutA&usp=sharing>

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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

Year 11 Key Dates & Reminders

✦ After School Interventions - 15.10pm – 15.45pm
Tuesdays – English
Wednesdays – Maths
Thursdays – Science

*Please really push for high attendance to these sessions, they are so powerful and valuable and any encouragement you can give from home will greatly benefit you child.

✦ English Walking Talking Mocks
Y Band - 10th February

✦ Music PSA Exam
12th February

✦ *RESCHEDULED PARENTS EVENING*
12th February – 4.30pm – 6.15pm

*Please contact school if you are having issues booking the Parents Evening via School Cloud. Please see the email that went out for further information

📅 Break for Spring half term - Friday 13th February

📅 Return to school - Monday 23rd February

✦ Sixth Form Offer Confirmation Letter Deadline
Monday 23rd February

*If you have any questions around Sixth Form places, please contact Mrs Smith who is the Director of Studies for Sixth Form on l.smith@pudseygrammar.co.uk.



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✦ 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.

✦ 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 June

✦ GCSE Results Day & Sixth Form Enrolment – Thursday 20th August, further details to follow.

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🌴 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.

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 session 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/1TiSFUwanIJkaAN6z89iOWuUuPVdqrjf/view?usp=sharing>

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

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.



PUDSEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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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

Opportunities

Year 12 Paid Job Opportunity

A paid job opportunity is available exclusively to Year 12 students. Successful applicants will be responsible for the upkeep of display boards around the school. Students should check the **Year 12 Google Classroom** for the full job specification and further details (application forms are available to collect from the office). All application forms must be fully completed, including references, in line with our safer recruitment procedures, and returned to the **HR office by Friday 13th February**.

Multiple posts may be available, depending on the calibre of applicants. For any further questions, please get in touch.

Volunteering Opportunity to enhance your CV and UCAS statements!

Students aged 16 and over are invited to apply for 2026 volunteering opportunities with ASAS, an OFSTED-registered charity supporting children and young people with disabilities across the Leeds area. Applications are now open for volunteers to support the Easter and Summer play schemes, offering a fantastic chance to gain valuable work experience while making a

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real difference in the local community. Volunteers are essential to ASAS, helping them provide play schemes, residentials, activity days and short breaks for children and families who rely on this support. No previous experience is required, as full training is provided, along with opportunities to develop a wide range of skills across different roles. ASAS has previously welcomed students from Pudsey Grammar and is keen to build on this partnership. Further information is available on the Careers Google Classroom, and anyone interested is encouraged to get in touch with any questions.

Year 13 Leavers Hoodies

This year we are offering Leavers' Hoodies that are now available to purchase via the link below. These will be available to order until **10pm on Wednesday 25th March**. Hoodies will be handed out to students during the Leavers Assembly to wear on inflatable days if they choose to. The hoodies are fully customisable and are an optional purchase to celebrate the end of the year.

<https://www.hoodiehut.co.uk/leavers-hoodies/pudsey-grammar-school-2026/>

Year 13 Class of 2026 Yearbook

Additionally, the Class of 2026 Yearbook is now available to purchase via the link below and will be distributed to students on Results Day. These will be available to order from the link below until **10pm on Wednesday 25th March**. If you/your child will not be available on Results Day, yearbooks can be collected from Main Reception from September 2026, alongside A-Level certificates. Please ensure your child has submitted their leavers photos via the Allyearbook link sent earlier this month to their school email.

<https://allyearbooks.co.uk/buy/24608>

Dates for 2026

Monday 9th February – Year 12 Assessment Week
 Wednesday 11th February - Leeds Apprenticeship Fair
 Friday 6th March - PGS Careers Fair
 Monday 9th March – Year 13 Trial Exam Week
 Thursday 26th March – Year 13 Exam Success Evening

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