



**PARENT & CARER  
WEEKLY BULLETIN**  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

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## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

It was my pleasure to address our Year 13 students for the final time in the main hall earlier today. For most of the students, their journey began seven years ago in September 2019. I mentioned to the students that I was asked a question yesterday by a candidate we were interviewing for a job. We always give candidates the opportunity to ask a question at the end of their interviews and this particular candidate asked me, 'what would be your hopes for a student who has left your school at the end of Sixth Form?'

My response which I shared in the assembly today is that obviously as Headteacher, you hope that they achieve the results which allow them to go on to the next stage of their lives. However, for me school is more than that - I hope the Year 13 students leave us with two key points. The first is that they leave us with an independent mind. The world is a complex place so it is extremely important that young people gather information about it from a wide variety of places and then make up their own mind. The second aspect is that I would hope they leave with very fond memories of the school, whether that is the inspirational teaching and support staff we have or the friends they have made along the way. I finished by wishing them well in their exams.

I hope you manage to spend some time with your children over the half term break and we look forward to welcoming them back to school on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June at the usual time.

**Mark McKelvie**  
Headteacher

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## GENERAL NOTICES

### May Spring Bank Holiday

The school will close on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026 and re-open on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026 at the normal time.

Miss Frost  
PA to the Headteacher

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### Extra Curricular Activities

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	<b>Art Club</b> 3.00pm - 4.00pm Room: 031/033 Staff: Mrs Lewis	<b>Strategy Club</b> 3.00pm - 4.30pm Room: 213 Staff: Mr Pugh & Miss Ingle	<b>Vocal Group</b> 3.00pm - 4.30pm Room: Staff: Miss Boshier	
	<b>Rounders, Cricket, Athletics and Softball Clubs</b> 3.00pm - 3.45pm School Field Staff: All PE staff	<b>Debating Club</b> 3.00pm - 4.00pm Room 211 Staff: Mr Connor	<b>Art Club</b> 3.00pm - 4.00pm Room: 031/033 Staff: Miss Chappell	
	<b>History Club</b> 3.10pm - 4.00pm Room 114 Staff: Mr Alderson	<b>Art Club</b> 3.00pm - 4.00pm Room: 031/033 Staff: Mrs Newby	<b>Japanese Club Week A Only</b> 3.00pm - 4.30pm Room 011 Staff Mr Pugh & Miss Hornsby	
	<b>Craft Club</b> 3.00pm - 4.00pm Room: 007 Staff: Mrs Harrington			

### Leeds 400 Art Competition

How would you like Leeds to look in 400 years time? To celebrate the city of Leeds receiving its Royal Charter 400 years ago, Leeds Civic Trust are running an art competition to encourage students to imagine how Leeds might look in the future. For the chance of winning a £50 voucher, please scan or take a picture of your artwork to [office@leedscivictrust.org.uk](mailto:office@leedscivictrust.org.uk) with your name, age and a few sentences describing your artwork. Please no AI! Any further questions please ask Miss Chappell or email [e.chappell@pudseygrammar.co.uk](mailto:e.chappell@pudseygrammar.co.uk)

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1IAqc9oZUdA3J9a4g01RQPLI8A1ZR6vyK>

Miss Chappell  
Teacher of Art



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### Year 7

#### **Celebrating STEM Success in the Leaders Award Engineering Competition!**

We are incredibly proud to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our Pudsey Grammar School students in the national "If you were an engineer, what would you do?" Leaders Award competition.

Organised by Primary Engineer, this prestigious UK-wide STEM initiative challenges pupils to look at the world around them, identify a real-world problem, and design an innovative solution. Alongside their annotated design illustrations, students put their formal writing skills to the test by drafting a persuasive letter to professional engineers explaining why their invention should be built.

Every single entry was reviewed and graded by professional engineering partners, making these certificates a wonderful testament to our pupils' creativity and problem-solving skills. A huge congratulations to all of our talented participants who earned recognition this year.

Shortlisted entries are displayed in a public exhibition and will be taken to the next round where a working prototype of the winning entry will be made. Good luck to our four students who were shortlisted and a huge well done to everyone else.

Mr Hodge  
Teacher of Science

We are now at the end of a short but sharp half term where the year have experienced their first assessment week in school. We are impressed by how the year have adapted to the new demands on them. We want them to enjoy the half term and make use of the better weather forecast. We have a longer term coming up but with lots of exciting events planned such as PGL and rewards trips. We want the year group to carry on with their excellent standards throughout and keep up the momentum right until the very end.

Mr Lucas  
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss White  
Year 7 Leader

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### YEAR 8

As we approach the end of this half term, I would like to say a huge well done to all of our Year 8 students for the fantastic effort and maturity they showed during Assessment Week. The



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students approached their assessments with determination and resilience, and we are incredibly proud of the positive attitude they have demonstrated throughout the week.

We hope all families have a restful and enjoyable half term break. This is an important opportunity for students to relax, recharge, and spend time with family and friends before returning for their final term of the academic year.

We look forward to welcoming students back refreshed, focused, and ready for a successful final term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Mitchell  
Year 8 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank  
Year 8 Leader

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## **YEAR 9**

It has been a very busy half term for students as we have been working through the Guided Choices process. We are currently in the process of finalising class lists.

Looking ahead to next half term, students will begin with Assessment Week during the first week back. Teachers should already have informed students of the date of their assessments and the topics that will be covered. Students have also been reminded that if they are unsure about any details, they should speak directly with their class teacher as soon as possible.

There are also some exciting events coming up for students to look forward to, including the Flamingo Land rewards trip and Sports Day.

Thank you for your continued support, and we hope everyone enjoys a restful half term break.

Mrs Kaye  
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mr Inman  
Year 9 Leader

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## **YEAR 10**

### **UK Youth Rocketry Competition**

We are incredibly proud to share the achievements of our students who recently represented Pudsey Grammar School in the UK Youth Rocketry Competition (UKROC).



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This national event, held at Elvington Airfield, challenges youth teams to design, build, and launch fully functioning model rockets launching hundreds of metres into the air. Marking the school's first-ever entry into this demanding STEM competition, our pupils entirely devised, planned, and constructed a working rocket from scratch, complete with a functional recovery parachute system. Working with powerful, chemically fuelled rockets requires immense precision, engineering skill, and teamwork.

The team faced an action-packed and dramatic day at the airfield. After an initial mis launch, the students demonstrated fantastic resilience to prepare their rocket for a second attempt. The second launch was a spectacular success; however, upon recovery, a tiny hairline crack was discovered. Due to the competition's strict safety and structural rules, this meant the team narrowly missed out on qualifying for the next round. Despite not moving forward, the team's ability to troubleshoot under pressure and deliver a working rocket on their very first attempt is nothing short of outstanding.

We would like to congratulate and thank the students who took part for their exceptional performance, dedication, and months of hard work.

You have set a wonderful precedent for future rocketry teams at our school. Well done to you all!

Mr Hodge  
Teacher of Science

Mr Roome  
Design Technology Technician

As we move into a very busy half term, we would like to remind all students about the importance of excellent attendance, punctuality, and arriving to school on time each day. Form time and Tuesday morning assemblies are particularly important at the moment, as we are sharing key information, reminders, and guidance with students regarding upcoming events, examinations, and end-of-year expectations. Missing these sessions can mean students miss vital messages and support.

Over the half term holiday, we would also encourage all students to begin preparing for their end-of-year examinations. Students have already been provided with a pack of flash cards to help them get started with revision, and we would encourage them to use these regularly to build good revision habits early. We also strongly recommend purchasing revision guides to support independent study and revision at home. The link to our recommended revision guides can be found here: <https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/years-7-11/year-11/revision-guides/>.



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Important dates for your diary after half term:

- Geography Trip – 10<sup>th</sup> June (GCSE geography students only)
- End of year Exams – 15<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> June (Timetable attached)

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1G9YzQB25LwnKBAAtuyPTYT4FxVzdSFrl>

Miss Legg  
Year 10 Director of Studies

Mrs Green  
Year 10 Leader

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## **YEAR 11**

### **Half term support from Bradford College**

During half term, Bradford College will be running three days of drop-in support sessions designed to help students with applications and decision-making for their next steps who are still unsure or have been placed on waiting lists / unsuccessful. Due to high demand, many courses are already filling up, with some currently operating waiting lists. Students are therefore encouraged to attend as early as possible on these days to secure a place on their preferred course.

Drop-In Sessions  
Time: 9.00am – 1.00pm

Dates:  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup>

Support available includes:  
Application support  
Advice on choosing the right course  
Apprenticeship guidance

No appointment is necessary and students and parents/carers can simply drop in and speak with the college team.

### **Year 11 Update**

As we reach the half term break, we would like to take a moment to recognise and celebrate the incredible efforts of our Year 11 students over the past two weeks of examinations.



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We have been immensely proud of the maturity, resilience, conduct and ambition shown by the year group throughout this demanding period. Students have approached their exams with determination and positivity, and the feedback we have received from both students and staff has been extremely encouraging. Their commitment to revision and preparation has been excellent, and they should feel very proud of everything they have achieved so far.

Half term now provides an important opportunity for students to recharge, get organised, replenish equipment and, of course, continue preparing for the exams ahead. Striking the right balance between rest and productive revision will be key as we move into the final stage of the examination period.

Students are expected to attend lessons as normal up until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

Following this date, there will be a further two weeks of examinations. During this period, students are invited to attend school for scheduled revision sessions and examinations only. We continue to see an excellent turnout at these sessions, which reflects how much students value the expertise, guidance and support provided by their teachers.

On days where students do not have a revision session or examination, they are welcome to revise from home.

Should you have any questions regarding the arrangements from the week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> June, please do not hesitate to contact the Year Team or refer to the exam plan document using the link below.

We hope all students have a restful, enjoyable and productive half term break and return refreshed, focused and ready to give their very best in the remaining exams.

Good luck to all of our Year 11 students for the weeks ahead!

### **Year 11 Exam Plan**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Z7bAVrKFIMwo6YyxfvokPtMnrd9Rsh5QyOWa9fUMg/edit?usp=sharing>

### **Other Key Dates**

- ✦ Check Exam Plan
- ✦ Check Equipment
- ✦ Rest and Revision
- ✦ Lessons as normal until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June

### **Exams First Week Back - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June**

- ✦ Monday - AM PE
- ✦ Tuesday - AM Physics, PM Urdu, Arabic, Panjabi, Persian, Portuguese



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- ✦ Wednesday - AM Maths, PM Geography
- ✦ Thursday - AM History, PM French
- ✦ Friday - AM English Language

### **Upcoming Key Dates**

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

Mr Syed  
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Exley  
Year 11 Leader

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## **SIXTH FORM**

This has been a particularly demanding but rewarding half term for our students. Year 12 Trial Exam week, coursework deadlines and moderations, alongside the start of the summer exam season over the past two weeks, have kept everyone incredibly busy. All of our students (and staff) deserve a well-earned break this half term!

Today, we held our final assembly where we celebrated our Year 13 students, followed by a picnic and an afternoon enjoying inflatables in the sunshine. It was a lovely way to end the half term, and we would like to thank all the students who attended for making it such a fun and memorable occasion. We would also like to thank all our parents and carers who contributed to today's celebrations. We could not have done it without your support. We now look forward to the Awards Ceremony and Prom on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June, where we will share our final celebrations together.

After half term, a reminder that Year 13 students are only required to attend lessons where they still have remaining exams or coursework to complete. If students have lockers, they will need to empty them and return their key to the Finance Team. We also ask that students return any books or IT equipment, and download anything they may need from their Google Drive.

Year 12 students received their final Progress Report of the year this week. Tutors will have conversations with students regarding their progress when we return after the half term break, and we will be focusing on personal statements and UCAS applications before students head off to Paris and then Work Experience during July.



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**Important Dates**

**Year 12**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> - Year 12 Paris Trip  
w/c 13<sup>th</sup> July – Year 12 Work Experience

**Year 13**

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June – Year 13 Awards Ceremony & Prom  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August - A Level Results Day  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August - GCSE Results Day

Wishing all our students and their families a restful half term.

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

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