



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN
Friday 15th March 2024**

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Next week, we have our Year 9 GCSE Subject Choice Evening. It is an excellent opportunity for parents and students to gain insights into the various GCSE subjects available, understand their implications for future academic and career paths, and receive guidance on making informed decisions.

We understand that choosing GCSE subjects can be a significant decision for both students and parents, and we are committed to providing the necessary support and guidance to ensure informed choices. We are looking forward to welcoming our Year 9 students and their parents into the building on Tuesday 19th of March from 5pm until 7pm.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 Knowledge Organiser Quiz homework

All your subjects will be setting you knowledge organiser quiz homework. These are short quizzes of 15 multiple choice questions. Please complete them with your knowledge organiser closed. Good luck!

Miss Wray
Subject Leader of Performing Arts

Schneider Electric Open Evening Event on Tuesday 26th March 2024

Schneider Electric Leeds is organising an **Open Evening Event on Tuesday 26th March 2024** between **5pm and 7pm** for potential apprentices. Attached is the QR code for registration, all registered students will be contacted by the Schneider team in Leeds and briefed about the open evening event.

This event will be a great opportunity for students who are looking forward to pursuing an apprenticeship at Schneider Leeds. The open evening will include a **smart factory/shop floor tour** and also the leaders from management team will deliver a short presentation about the business and various opportunities that Schneider provides to apprentices.

Below is the link where you can find all open apprenticeships, and students can feel free to explore and apply directly for any apprenticeship opportunity they are interested in, any time.



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<https://peoplefirst.getmyfirstjob.co.uk/>

Miss Kenny
Careers Advisor & Enrichment Lead

Pop-Up Clothes Event - this Saturday 16th March at Pudsey Community Project

Pudsey Community Project are holding a pop-up clothes event for 3-12yr olds this Saturday, 16th March from 2-5pm at their building on the corner of Fartown and Carlisle Road (LS28 8LP). Save money and help the planet by reusing children's clothes - we'd appreciate any small cash/card donations or non-perishable food for our food bank if you're able to give a little to support our charity.

Thank you once again for your support
Pudsey Community Project

Newly elected Parent Governor

A space had become available on our Governing Body and we went out to parent election to secure a new Parent Governor. Thank you to parents/carers who placed a vote. We are pleased to announce that Adam Karnacz has been elected and will join the Governing Body at the next full Governors meeting on Wednesday 27th March 2024. We would like to take the opportunity to wish Adam every success in his new post.

David Webster
Chair of Governors

YEAR 7

In Year 7, we want to ensure that students are continuing to make good progress. Last week, I led an assembly to Year 7 students where I discussed how we can exceed here at PGS and it begins with 'getting the small things right'. Students should remember:-

- Arrive to Form and lessons on time.
- Ensure that you have all equipment.
- Ensure that you have the correct uniform, every day.
- Be ready to engage and learn when entering the classroom.
- Ensure that homework is completed by deadlines that have been set.
- Be respectful of others within the school community.
- Be sensible and mature during social times.
- Be mindful of the language you are using when talking to others.



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Student Survey

Next week during Form time, Year 7 students will have the opportunity to participate in the Student Survey that is completed each year. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to give feedback on how their first year at PGS has been. This is also a chance for the school to get an idea of the experiences that Year 7 students have had during the first two terms.

Mr Leigh
Year 7 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

Literacy

Building on the back of the World Book Day events last week, we would like to make a real push with literacy and try and encourage a love of reading within Year 8. If we manage to do this at a young age, it can bring huge benefits to students not just academically, but also in later life. Any support from home will be much appreciated, such as asking what students are reading and encouraging reading multiple genres of books to try and find a passion.

Equipment

We want to keep the standards for equipment high throughout the rest of the term. Students need to bring this with them every day so they are ready to learn. Any missing equipment can be purchased through the library while any missing basics can be given by their Form tutors. Please check the school website for a list of equipment that is needed. A reading book is required as part of the basic equipment.

Mr Lucas
Year 8 Director of Studies

Miss Crosland
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Guided Choices

Students will be having an assembly on Monday 18th March informing them of the guided choices process. Form tutors will also be in this assembly, and they will be able to provide support to students throughout the process. The Information Evening/Subject Fair is on Tuesday 19th March 5-7pm. This will include a presentation for parents and students about the process and then allow time for you to visit all the different subject areas. We look forward to seeing you all next week.



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MFL

Some students attended a small assembly about choosing a Modern Foreign Language (MFL) at GCSE. If your child was not part of the assembly but wishes to choose MFL at GCSE, then please encourage them to speak to their class teacher and visit that subject on the night to get some information about the subjects.

Assembly

This week, Miss Exley addressed the year group in assembly regarding uniform standards. A reminder that fitted skirts are not part of the Uniform policy, facial piercings are not allowed and students should be bringing a blazer to school every day and wearing it around the building.

Year 9 Immunisations - Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio (Td/IPV), Meningococcal ACWY

The School Immunisations Team will be visiting school on Thursday 28th March to deliver the Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio (Td/IPV), Meningococcal ACWY immunisations to Year 9 students. If you have not already done so, please complete the form by clicking the following link:-

<https://www.leedsimmunisations.co.uk>

The code for Pudsey Grammar is EE108079.

IMPORTANT: If you do not wish your child to receive the vaccinations, you are still required to complete the "refusal section" on the form so that the nursing team understand your wishes. If we do not receive a consent or refusal form, your child will be given an opportunity to consent for themselves on the day after being assessed by a nurse as Gillick competent to do so.

Please see the attached letter for more information.

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1kmA_3M_z3fo3qy57nW5NIXtq_HDSTpGZ

Mrs Mitchell
Year 9 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

Mobile Phones

This is a polite reminder that student's phones are their responsibility to look after and use appropriately during school times. We do allow students to use their phones at social times.



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They should not be out whilst students are moving between lessons or going to the toilet. If a student is on their phone they will be asked to hand it over to a member of staff. This applies to air pods/ headphones too.

Vaping

Vaping has become increasingly prevalent among teenagers, and its harmful effects on their health cannot be overstated. From nicotine addiction to respiratory problems, the risks associated with vaping are serious. It is illegal to buy or sell vaping products to individuals under the age of 18. We urge you to have open conversations with your child about the dangers of vaping and to emphasise the importance of making healthy choices. Any student with a vape in school will have it confiscated.

Miss Legg
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 10 Leader

YEAR 11

Exam Success Evening

Parents and carers are invited to the Year 11 Exam Success Evening on 26th March, 5:15pm-6:30pm. There will be insightful talks from the English and Maths departments, as well as talks in relation to preparing for exams. On the evening, we will be providing resources to take away and there will be an opportunity to speak to the staff if you have any questions. Please make a note of this key date and we hope to see you there.

Year 11 After School Tutorials

The after-school tutorials have been a huge success. I was very pleased to see so many students attending and engaging in the sessions. If students have not attended this week, please encourage them to take advantage of this opportunity.

Monday - option subjects
Tuesday - Maths
Wednesday - Science
Thursday - English
Friday - option subjects

Please see the attached pdf document for the full timetable.

Five school weeks until the GCSE exams begin

With only five school weeks to go until the GCSE exams begin, please can we remind everyone to check over equipment and uniform. Details of what is needed can be found on the school website below:



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<https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/parent-information/uniform-and-equipment/>

Having the correct equipment is essential in ensuring that students are getting the most out of lessons, revision and after school tutorials. It would be worthwhile checking through all equipment over the weekend and topping up where required. For example, a scientific calculator would be required for two out of three of the Maths exams so students should be equipped appropriately and that only black pens are required to write with in exams. If there are any issues, please contact the Form tutor who will be happy to help.

Year 11 History Intervention

The History Department will be running its next set of History Intervention sessions on Monday 18th March. The following two sessions will occur:-

Room 113 - 8 Mark Importance Question- American West (Mr Bassett)

Room 114 - Crime and Punishment 1700AD- Present (Miss Skitt)

A timetable with an overview of all of these upcoming sessions, who will run them, their location and their focus can be found linked below. Printed versions of this timetable will also be displayed around the History Department and Year Office for students to refer to. Attendance to these sessions is not mandatory, but is highly encouraged to assist with students making additional progress in History.

Link to Intervention timetable overview:-

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1P0rS0xYbDsUyvyMOV61q_u367vKzFbJRDvJaxCZ0Is/edit?usp=sharing

If you have any further questions or queries with regard to these interventions, please do feel free to contact me on r.alderson@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

GCSE Drama Exam

Year 11 GCSE Drama students have their visiting examiner exam on Wednesday 20th March. Students are to go to Form, get their mark and go straight to the Drama Studio. This exam is worth 30% of their overall grade. Please wish them luck!

Mr Syed
Year 11 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 11 Leader



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SIXTH FORM

Important Dates

Year 12

W/c 18th March – Year 12 & Year 13 Interview Skills Workshop

18th April – Year 12 Parents Evening - further details to follow

19th June - Year 12 UCAS Fair at Leeds Beckett University

9th to 12th July – Year 12 Paris Trip

Year 13

W/c 18th March - Year 12 & Year 13 Interview Skills Workshop

22nd March - Year 13 Student Finance with Sophie Craven (University of Huddersfield)

27th March - Year 13 Revision & Success Evening @ 6.00-7.00pm

Easter Holidays Coursework and Revision Sessions

10th May – Year 13 Final Assembly and Inflatables Event

28th June - Year 13 Prom at Headingley Cricket Club

A huge well done to all students who have completed assessments and essential elements of coursework this week. We can see how hard students are working and the effort they are putting in across all subject areas. Progress Update 2 will be available for Year 13 parents/students before the Easter break (sent out electronically) and after the Easter break for Year 12 parents/students (in time for Parents Evening on Thursday 18th April).

Year 12 & Year 13 Interview Skills Workshop

The Mock Interview Workshop day, facilitated by the University of Bradford staff, is scheduled for Monday 18th March and Tuesday 19th March. Students involved will have received a letter outlining the time, date and rooming of their interview. This valuable experience will provide students with insights into real interview scenarios, helping them build confidence for university, apprenticeship, and employment opportunities. Students are expected to attend dressed in smart attire, as if attending a genuine interview. Should you have any concerns or queries regarding this event, please feel free to reach out to us via email at sixthform@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Y13 Success Evening Wednesday 27th March - Reminder

We will be holding a Year 13 Success Evening on Wednesday 27th March at 6:00pm. The evening will include further information about exams, support and next steps as we draw closer to the examinations. We would like both parents and students to attend to ensure that everyone has everything they need to achieve as well as possible in their forthcoming Post 16 qualifications. Please use the following link to book your place to attend this event. One booking admits 3 people (1 student and 2 adults).



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If you would like more than one parent/carer/family member to attend please email sixthform@pudseygrammar.co.uk to make them aware of how many individuals will be attending. <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/null/t-xmjexla>.

Thank you to the families who have already booked onto the event.

Year 12 & Year 13 Summer Examinations

A reminder that students should have checked through their 'Statement of Entries' and 'Exam Timetable' to ensure that both are correct. Those students who were not able to attend assembly last Friday should have collected their copies from the Post 16 Office.

Mrs Smith
Post 16 Director of Studies

Ms Nota
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson
Post 16 Administrator

Miss Kenny
Careers and Enrichment Lead
