

**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**

Friday 13th September 2024

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Our first full week since the summer holidays has gone well with both students and staff getting back into our routines.

As you know, a key part of our new Behaviour system is the students' Attitude to Learning points. I am pleased to announce that our students have collectively achieved an impressive 151,671 positive Attitude To Learning (ATL) points this week. This remarkable accomplishment is a testament to their dedication, hard work, and commitment to their studies. We are incredibly proud of our students and their continued efforts to excel academically and personally.

Students achieve four ATL for every lesson they are in, if they meet our expectations. This means that attendance at school is extremely important if students want to maintain a high ATL score. We have organised a series of end of year rewards trips for next summer, but students will only be allowed to go if they have a high ATL score. Regular attendance also ensures that students do not miss out on valuable learning opportunities and are better prepared for their future endeavours. We encourage all parents to prioritise their child's attendance and to communicate with the school regarding any absences.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

Absence Reporting

Can we politely ask that medical/dental appointments are made outside of school hours wherever possible. Any appointments that are made for during the school day, will need to be supported with medical evidence such as a hospital letter, appointment card or prescription/prescribed medication. These should be emailed to us at attendance@pudseygrammar.co.uk. The Attendance Team should be informed in advance so that the absence can be recorded and authorised. Any absences without supporting evidence will not be authorised and could lead to your child's attendance being monitored.

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Unauthorised School Absence Monitoring – Years 7 – 11

The following changes came into force for Penalty Notice Fines from 19th August 2024 across the whole of England:

School MUST consider a penalty notice for 10 unauthorised absences (usually 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period of time (these sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of any unauthorised absences and can span different terms and school years).

Penalty Notices are issued per parent, per child.

For more information, please see the following link: www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-absence-fines.

We encourage regular attendance to school and we are here to support students and families with any barriers to attendance.

Attendance Team

PSHE Form Time Schedule

Each week, students in Years 7-11 participate in a 20-minute Form Time session focused on important global awareness topics. These sessions align with international awareness days and provide students with the opportunity to explore a range of social, mental health, and cultural issues. This term, the topics being covered include:

Suicide Awareness and Prevention Week (Mental Health)
International Equal Pay Day
World Alzheimer's Day
International Day of Sign Languages
UK National Inclusion Week / Hate Crime Awareness
Black History Month / International Day for the Eradication of Poverty / Anti-Slavery Day
Show Racism the Red Card

These sessions aim to foster understanding, empathy, and inclusivity among students.

Miss Legg
Leader of PSHE

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Arbor - Student Login Details

If students have forgotten their Arbor password, they can request a password reset. From the Arbor homepage, they can click on Forgot your password? and a link to reset the password will be sent to their Pudsey Grammar School email address.

Mrs Collinge
Data Manager

Exciting opportunity - School newspaper

We have an exciting opportunity for students of all years to become a key part in our new school newspaper, The Grammar Gazette. I will be holding a drop-in session for any student who is interested to attend on Wednesday 18th September in the Library, from 3-3.30pm.

If you or students have any questions, I will happily answer those for you.

Miss Salmon
Teacher of English

History Club – Years 7 – 10

Discover the past and unlock history's greatest stories at the History Club! Join us every Tuesday of Week A from 15.00-4:00pm in Room 114 for engaging discussions, fun activities, and a chance to dive deep into the events and people that shaped our world.

Mr Garnett
Teacher of History

Reading Cloud

Over the next few weeks, students in KS3 will be given their login details for Reading Cloud. Reading Cloud is our school's online library database. It allows students to see what books they have out, when their books are due, renew their library books, search for new books, reserve books, write book reviews (which gives them an ATL point) and much more! Students can access Reading Cloud either through the Student Intranet or through the school website (link below).

<https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/parent-information/school-library/>

After a hugely successful year last year, Book Club will be starting again on Monday 23rd September. We will be welcoming both existing and new members. Students will have the opportunity to meet like-minded book-lovers, share their recommendations and opinions

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and read books as a group. They will also have the chance to get involved in unique opportunities, such as the Pudsey Grammar School Book Awards.

Book Club will be running every Monday Week B 3.00pm-4.00pm in the library. Even if they have attended before, students must have parental permission to attend. All students who are wishing to attend must register their interest with Ms Martin who will then make sure a letter is sent home via Parentmail.

Miss Martin
School Librarian

Cambridge University 'Physics at Work' Exhibition – Year 10 and 11

The Year 10 and 11 Physics residential at Cambridge University is taking place on Tuesday 17th September. Our coach departs at 2.10pm and arrives back on Wednesday evening at approximately 7.30pm. A full itinerary for the visit has been sent home on Parentmail and students have been provided with a paper copy. As a reminder, students will be required to wear school uniform for the duration of the visit on Wednesday, but can bring casual clothes to change into on Tuesday evening. All bedding is provided. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me at r.hodge@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

Mr Hodge
Assistant Subject Leader of Science

Year 7

Essential Equipment

Planners and Knowledge Organisers are essential pieces of equipment that need to be brought to school every day. There is a sanction for students who do not come to school with their full equipment. If a student forgets their planner, they will be issued with a detention. Knowledge Organisers were given out in Form Time today, these are great resources for the students to access support with learning both in and out of school.

Parents Information Evening

On Thursday 26th September there will be an Information Evening from 5.00pm-6.00pm. There will a presentation and opportunity to meet your child's Form Tutor. We really look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 7 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 7 Leader

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YEAR 8

Year 8 have now completed their first full week and the majority have settled really well into the new school year. Their behaviour and attitude to learning has generally been positive.

Year 8 Parent Information Evening - 25th September 2022 – 5.00-6.00pm

I wanted to highlight this upcoming event. It will be fantastic to welcome you back to the school building and meet you for the first time since the Year 6 Parent Information Evening.

The PE extra-curricular timetable has started this week and is in full swing, please be reminded of the clubs each night:

Tuesday - Boys and girls football

Wednesday - Basket ball and badminton

Thursday - Netball Club

These clubs are a fantastic opportunity for students to take part in. They aid health and wellbeing by providing regular exercise. Consent on Parentmail must be given before the student can attend these clubs.

Mrs Kaye
Year 8 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Year 9 have continued to settle well this academic year and starting this academic year on a really positive note. We want to remind you that the school have tightened up the uniform and mobile phone policies and we would welcome your support with this.

Parent Information Evening

Year 9 Parent Information Evening for Year 9 will be on Tuesday 24th September. It is a great opportunity to meet Form Tutors, and ourselves as we go through what will be a very important year.

Mr Lucas
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mrs Green
Year 9 Leader

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YEAR 10

Prepared for learning

It is crucial for students to be fully prepared for their day of learning. Form tutors will do frequent checks on equipment and make logs where issues arise. Please check in with students to ensure that they are fully equipped and ready for the week ahead. The full list of equipment is in the following webpage.

Key equipment for a quick check:

- Planner
- Pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, red pen, whiteboard marker
- Knowledge organiser (distributed by Monday 16th September)

Students who are not equipped will get logged on Arbor but it will also slow down their progress in lessons, please do check these regularly.

If there are any issues with equipment, please contact the Form Tutor.

Year 10 Parent Information Evening

We are looking forward to meeting as many parents as possible for the Parent Information Evening on Thursday 19th September. Please can you confirm your attendance on the letter sent earlier or simply email to let Miss Exley or I know. The plan for the evening is as follows:

4.45pm - 5:00pm Refreshments

5.00pm - 5.25pm Presentation in the Main Hall from SLT and Director of Studies

5.35pm - 5.50pm Form Tutor session

6.00pm - 6.10pm Optional session for students considering Russell Group Universities

This evening will help families understand Key Stage 4, GCSEs and vocational subject expectations and requirements better, whilst also offering an opportunity to ask questions and to meet the Form Tutors, Year team and a member of SLT.

We hope to see you soon!

Mr Syed
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 10 Leader

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YEAR 11

Year 11 students have made an excellent start to the new academic year. The standard of uniform has been very good, and it's lovely to see students proudly wearing their house badges.

In addition, we've noticed a significant reduction in the number of detentions, which reflects the positive attitude and behavior students are demonstrating as they settle back into school routines.

Earlier this week, you should have received a letter regarding the Year 11 trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach. We are excited to offer this fun day out where students can enjoy time with their peers. However, it's important to note that there are clear behavior expectations in place that students must meet to be allowed on the trip. Students will need to meet our expectations regarding their average ATL (Attitude to Learning) scores, these will be reviewed by myself and Miss Birdsall. If we have any early concerns we will talk to students and expect to see an improvement. This ensures that we reward those who consistently do the right thing every day.

Miss Legg
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM

Year 12

We would like to invite the families of new Year 12 students to our Parent Information Evening. The event will take place on Tuesday 17th September at 5.00pm and the session will cover:

- *Our academic ambition
- *School expectations and routines
- *Extra-curricular opportunities
- *Study skills
- *Preparing for next steps into employment and university

You will also be given a chance to meet Form Tutors during the evening. These staff act as the principal point of contact to discuss learning, progress and next steps applications across the two years of Sixth Form study.

Please confirm your attendance by booking tickets using the link below. Up to two family members can attend the event, and students should also attend where possible.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/pudsey-grammar-school/year-12-parent-information-evening/e-rrodye>



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Year 13

We would like to invite the families of new Year 13 students to our Parent Information Evening. The event will take place on Monday 23rd September at 5.00pm.

We would like all parents to attend this in-person event so we can keep you up to date with the plan for Year 13, how we are working to support your child to achieve their potential and to share some practical tips on how best to support your child in the year ahead.

We run this event every year and it always proves very popular with parents. We aim to make the evening's messages short, practical and informative.

The evening will cover:

- *Our academic ambition
- *School expectations and routines
- *Revision strategies and study skills
- *Guidance for next steps applications including university and apprenticeships

Please confirm your attendance by booking tickets using the link below. Up to two family members can attend the event, and students should also attend where possible. <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/pudsey-grammar-school/year-13-parent-information-evening/e-xjxyod>.

If you are unable to attend your child's event due to existing commitments but would like a follow up conversation please email Mrs Smith (Post 16 Director of Studies) l.smith@pudseygrammar.co.uk.

****This Week's Opportunities****

Year 12 Students Studying EPQ

An important introductory talk will be held by Joe Stanley from the University of Leeds. During this session, EPQ trip letters will be handed out, so it is essential for all EPQ students to attend. Students will be notified by their tutor or Miss Robinson via school email if they are required to attend this session.

Date: Friday 20th September

Time: 8.30am – 9.30am

Location: Room 231

Craven College Open Events

Degrees & Higher Level Qualifications that they offer:

- *Air Transport Management BSc (Hons) (Top-up)



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- *Aviation Management & Operations FdSc
- *Aviation Management & Operations with Pilot Studies FdSc
- *Performing Arts (Acting) HNC
- *Performing Arts (Acting) HND
- *Young Children's Learning & Development BA (Hons) (Top-up)
- *Young Children's Learning & Development FdA

Craven College - Skipton - Open Event

Monday 7th October 2024

5.30pm – 7.30pm

REGISTER HERE: <https://www.craven-college.ac.uk/event/open-evening-skipton/>

Aviation Academy Open Event

Wednesday 09 October 2024

5.30 pm – 7.30 pm

REGISTER HERE: <https://www.craven-college.ac.uk/event/open-evening-aviation-academy-2/>

Aviation Academy Open Event

Thursday 10th October 2024

5.30pm – 7.30pm

REGISTER HERE: <https://www.craven-college.ac.uk/event/open-evening-aviation-academy-3/>

Mrs Smith
Post 16 Director of Studies

Miss Hart
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson
Post 16 Administrator

Miss Kenny
Careers and Enrichment Lead