

**PARENT & CARER  
WEEKLY BULLETIN**  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024

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## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

We are finally at the end of the longest half term of the academic year. Our Year 11 and 13 students are a quarter of the way towards their exams and I know they will be focusing on beginning their revision. To support them, our teaching staff are putting on after school tutorial sessions for Year 11 students in GCSE English, maths and science along with all A level and BTEC courses for Year 13 students. These sessions are designed to allow students to get extra help with areas they are finding difficult. I would strongly encourage any Year 11 or 13 students to take full advantage of this free tuition as it will make a massive difference in their final exam grades.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the past eight weeks. We have achieved a great deal and I look forward to working with our students over the next half term when we return on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

Best wishes,

**Mark McKelvie**  
Headteacher

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## GENERAL NOTICES

### **Reminder – half term break**

A reminder to parents and carers that the school will close on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024 for the half term break. We will re-open on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at the usual time.

Helen Frost  
PA to the Headteacher

### **Whiteboard pens**

With half term approaching this would be a good time to check your child's equipment and replenish any missing items.

Many teachers use whiteboards in their lessons. Please make sure that your child has at least two whiteboard pens, to enable them to actively take part in these tasks.

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Thank you for your support with this.

Miss Wray  
Teaching & Learning

### **PE kit reminder half term 2**

After October half term please ensure that your son/daughter has the correct PE kit for the change in weather. If students have the school PE hoodie or school rugby top they should ensure that they wear this item of clothing for all PE lessons outside. Students are also permitted to wear other items of warm clothing under their PE kit, which can be any colour as long as the school PE kit is the final layer of clothing. We also advise that students have hats and gloves for lessons outside, these do not need to be navy in colour.

As a reminder students will not be allowed to wear coats over the top of their PE kit and will be sanctioned accordingly.

### **Change of sports**

After half term students will be changing sports, please ensure that they bring studded boots and trainers to their first lesson back after October half term. They should meet PE staff in the school sports hall where they will be told which sport they will be moving on to.

We hope students have a restful half term.

Mr McCroakam  
Subject Leader of PE

### **Poppy Appeal**

From Monday 4th November students will be able to purchase a poppy during Form time or at social times. Members of the Student Council will be coming around Forms each day.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Swithenbank  
Assistant Headteacher

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## **Year 7**

### **Great Start**

I just want to say a massive well done to all of Year 7 for their amazing start at PGS. We have been so impressed with how well students have adjusted to their secondary school experience and it has been a great half term getting to know them all better.

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### **Residential**

Just a reminder that there are still places available on the school residential. The trip will run in July and will be at PGL at Newby Wiske Hall.

This is such a great experience for students with lots of great activities to try. Please let me know if you have any questions about the trip.

We hope everyone has a lovely, restful half term.

Mrs Mitchell  
Year 7 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank  
Year 7 Leader

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## **YEAR 8**

Well done to Year 8 students this half term. They are now fully used to their 6 period day and the students are accessing their homework through Arbor. If there are any students that are still having difficulties with accessing Arbor please email me.

The students have been sitting assessment in lesson through this half-term. We are going to be collecting data from teachers in November, hopefully you should receive your first progress report in December. I will make you aware of when you are to be emailed them.

I hope your child has an enjoyable and relaxing half-term break. I look forward to seeing them all again on Monday 4th November.

Mrs Kaye  
Year 8 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie  
Year 8 Leader

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## **YEAR 9**

It has been a very long and half term but one we think Year 9 have made great progress in. The attitude and effort put in by the vast majority of the year has been great to see. We want everyone to enjoy the week's rest and get out doing different activities they like. It is vitally important as we do have another big term leading up to Christmas, and we want to see the students refreshed and ready to go. A reminder that it will be week A/1 when we return.

Mr Lucas  
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mrs Green  
Year 9 Leader

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### **YEAR 10**

#### **Year 10 Assessment Week**

As we head into the October half term, it would be worthwhile looking at a ways to embed a routine of revision into the day to support effective revision and high quality homework. Students are recommended to do at around 2 hours a day during the week.

During the second week back from the break (WC 11th November), students in Year 10 will be sitting assessments in their classes and these will give us our first picture of their progress in key stage 4. During assembly and Form time, we reminded students of two techniques that they can use to support their independent revision - mind mapping and flash cards. I have copied resources on how to use the techniques in the links below for you.

[bit.ly/PGSmindmaps](https://bit.ly/PGSmindmaps)

[bit.ly/PGSflashcards](https://bit.ly/PGSflashcards)

A reminder for students to photograph their revision and email it directly to me for a chance to win a box of chocolates as a way to recognise their efforts.

#### **Year 10 Revision Resources**

Students can visit the school intranet and access revision resources for their subjects throughout Year 10. Look for Revision Resources after signing into the intranet. The resources are also accessible through the website below:

<https://www.pudseygrammar.co.uk/year-7-11/year-10/revision-resources/>

Mr Syed  
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Exley  
Year 10 Leader

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### **YEAR 11**

We are incredibly proud of how well Year 11 have worked throughout this long half term, especially during assessment week. After the half-term break, you will receive your child's progress report, which will include their Attitude to Learning (ATL) scores and current grades.

In addition, after the break, students will complete a brief survey during Form time regarding

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their post-16 options. While the survey will only take a few minutes, we encourage you to discuss potential options with your child over the break to help them prepare.

Miss Legg  
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall  
Year 11 Leader

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## **SIXTH FORM**

### **Important Dates**

Year 13

w/c Monday 18th November Trial Exam Week #1 (dance studio)

w/c Monday 9th December Data Capture #2 Followed by Parents Evening Thursday 9th January

### **Year 13 Trial Exam Week Monday 18th November**

Year 13 students have received a copy of the Trial Exam Timetable today (and it has been sent home via email to all parents/carers).

### **Year 13 Tutorials**

This year, we are offering tutorials to all students in Year 13. These will take place after school between 3.00 and 3.50pm. All students are welcome to attend these sessions which will focus on skills development, coursework and revision. Tutorials start w/c Monday 4th November. A full timetable can be found displayed in the Post 16 areas and on the Year 13 google classroom.

For some students who require particular support with their courses, sessions will be compulsory. Students with compulsory tutorials have been sent a letter home this week and can find their compulsory sessions assigned to their Arbor timetable. Others are invited to drop in to receive help and support at the allocated time. If attendance has been requested at the sessions, you will see this pop up as an extra period on student timetables in Arbor. Alternatively, you'll be able to find out which sessions teachers have requested your child to attend by asking your child to drop in to the year office, ask teachers, or via the postal invite sent earlier this week.

### **GCSE English and Maths Exam Dates**

Tuesday 5th November English Language Paper 1 9.00am

Wednesday 6th November Maths Paper 1 (Non Calc) 9.00am

Thursday 7th November English Language Paper 2 9.00am

Friday 8th November Maths Paper 2 (Calculator) 9.00am

Monday 11th November Maths Paper 3 (Calculator) 9.00am



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### Opportunities

BBC Apprenticeships Now Open!

Applications are open from October to January (with varying deadlines) in the following career paths:

- \*Business & Accountancy
- \*Solicitor
- \*Digital, Technology & Data
- \*Journalism
- \*Operations & Engineering
- \*Production (live from 10th Dec)

These apprenticeships range from Level 3-7, so depending on your grades and subject choice, you could meet entry requirements for Levels 3 to 6! Though these are national apprenticeships (mainly in London, Manchester, Cardiff), minimal opportunities are available in Leeds. Level 5 or 6 apprenticeships may allow you to stay in student accommodation. Apply now via the BBC Early Careers website. For support, see Miss Robinson.

Well done to all students for completing this epic 8 week half term! We hope that all students have an enjoyable break, and return refreshed and ready to work.

Mrs Smith  
Post 16 Director of Studies

Miss Hart  
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson  
Post 16 Administrator

Miss Kenny  
Careers and Enrichment Lead