



**PARENT & CARER  
WEEKLY BULLETIN**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

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## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Thank you for your generosity in contributing to our Children in Need/Pudsey Community Project non-uniform charity day today. I will let you know the grand total raised once we have all of the money in. A reminder if you haven't yet paid that you should do this via the Parentmail app.

I would like to emphasise the importance of focusing on the small details that significantly contribute to our students' preparedness and overall success. Together, our attention to these aspects can create a positive learning environment for all children.

Ensuring that all students adhere to the school's dress code is paramount. A uniform not only fosters a sense of belonging but also minimises distractions, allowing students to focus more on their studies. Please take a moment each day to check that your child's uniform complies with our guidelines, including appropriate footwear and accessories.

Another key aspect is having the necessary equipment for learning. We kindly ask that you ensure your child has all required materials, such as textbooks, notebooks, stationery, and any other specific items they are required to bring. If there is any hardship with providing equipment please contact your child's Year Leader.

**Mark McKelvie**  
Headteacher

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## GENERAL NOTICES

### EAL Book Club

We will be holding our EAL Book Club again this year to support our students who speak English as an Additional Language (EAL). If your child speaks (or is exposed to) another language at home and would like some support with their reading, they are welcome to join our EAL book club. Letters have already been sent via Parentmail to select parents/carers. If you have not received a letter but want your child to attend, please email Ms Martin for more details at [h.martin@pudseygrammar.co.uk](mailto:h.martin@pudseygrammar.co.uk). Further details will be sent via Parentmail.

Ms Martin  
School Librarian

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### **Absence Reporting**

Can we politely ask that any medical/dental appointments are made for outside 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. This information should be emailed directly to the Attendance Team at [attendance@pudseygrammar.co.uk](mailto:attendance@pudseygrammar.co.uk). The Attendance Team should be informed in advance so that the absence can be recorded and authorised.

For general illness, absences can be recorded via the [attendance@pudseygrammar.co.uk](mailto:attendance@pudseygrammar.co.uk) email address and through the Arbor app.

Any absences without supporting evidence will not be authorised and could lead to your child's attendance being monitored.

Attendance Team

### **Duke of Edinburgh Award 2024/2025 (Years 9, 10 and 12)**

The Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award program for the 2024/2025 school year is underway! Year 9 students will have the opportunity to participate in the Bronze Award, Year 10 in the Silver Award, and Year 12 in the Gold Award.

An assembly for each year group has introduced the program, and further details will be sent via ParentMail. If your child is interested, please check your inbox.

### **Important Date:**

**Parent Information Evening: 4th December, 5:00pm - 5:45pm**

Attendance is strongly recommended for parents of students interested in participating. You'll receive detailed information and meet the Turnballs, who lead the expeditions. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop skills, resilience, and independence.

Miss Legg

Director of Studies – Year 11

### **Still time to be in the school production?**

Rehearsals take place Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. If you are interested, come long. No audition required. Open to Year 7 - Year 13 students. Just turn up and have fun. Meet outside the Performing Arts office.

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Show dates: 17th - 19th December

Any questions please talk to your Music or Drama teacher.

Miss Wray  
Subject Leader of Performing Arts

### **History Club (Years 7, 8 and 9)**

Discover the past and unlock history's greatest stories at the History Club! Join us every Tuesday of Week A from 3:00pm-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

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## **Year 7**

### **Residential**

We have now filled all the places on the residential. However, there is a waiting list if you would like your child to be added on. You need to access Parentmail and click on the option to pay, this will then give you the option to be added to the waiting list.

Mrs Mitchell  
Year 7 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank  
Year 7 Leader

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## **YEAR 8**

I would like to inform you that Year 8 Parents Evening will be held on Thursday 5th December. This will be a virtual Parents Evening, allowing you to meet with your child's teachers to discuss their progress.

Further details, including how to book appointments and access the virtual meetings, will be sent to you in due course.

Mrs Kaye  
Year 8 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie  
Year 8 Leader

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### **YEAR 9**

#### **Duke Of Edinburgh**

This week Year 9 had an assembly about taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh award. This is a hugely rewarding experience for students and I would encourage students with any interest to complete the forms and take part. It is an enriching experience and will help students get the most out of school.

All information to take part in Duke of Edinburgh will be sent out in Parentmail.

Mr Lucas  
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mrs Green  
Year 9 Leader

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### **YEAR 10**

#### **Celebrating Good Revision in Year 10**

We have been so impressed with the year group's approach to revision in the build up to their first assessment week in Key Stage 4. It was clear to see that so many students have been engaging in revision at home as I have been inundated with staff, students and parents sending in examples of students' revision materials. Thank you to everyone who was able to contribute and joined in with the celebration in assembly - it was a moment of real pride for the year group. The students were rewarded with a box of chocolates a token of appreciation - I had to get more as we had so many students to celebrate! I will be encouraging students to build on this fantastic momentum by revising small amounts regularly. This will put them in a positive place as they begin submitting coursework in Year 10 and also as students head towards further assessments.

Please see the attached examples.

Mr Syed  
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Exley  
Year 10 Leader

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### **YEAR 11**

This week, some of our Year 11 students had the opportunity to participate in an Oxbridge workshop alongside Year 12 students. This invaluable experience offered insights into what

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life at a prestigious university entails and has hopefully sparked curiosity and ambition for their futures.

An early reminder that Year 11 mock exams are scheduled to start on Monday, 13th January. These will be full-length papers conducted under exam conditions, with students provided their full access arrangements and an exam timetable. Once the exam timetables are distributed later this half term, we will be dedicating focused revision sessions during Form time to support their preparation.

Finally, we are very pleased to see how brilliantly Year 11 students are engaging with intervention sessions. Their commitment and focus show a high level of maturity and determination toward their success.

Miss Legg  
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall  
Year 11 Leader

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## **SIXTH FORM**

### **wc 18th November: Year 13 Trial Exams**

Year 13 trial exam week is this coming week. Please be advised that Year 13 trial exam week is scheduled for the upcoming week. Students have been informed of their individual exam schedules. The exams will be conducted in the dance studio, and students will be on study leave during this period. This means they are not required to attend lessons, study sessions, or tutorials. Year 12 will still be required to attend lessons as normal. Year 13 will return to their normal timetable next week.

### **Year 11 and 12 Oxbridge Workshops**

This week, we were delighted to host Shelby from the University of Oxford, who visited to deliver informative Oxbridge and Russell Group workshops to our Year 11 and Year 12 students. These sessions provided valuable insights into the UCAS process, writing personal statements, and crafting the perfect university application. This initiative is part of a fantastic three-year scheme designed to support our students from Year 11 through to Year 13 in their journey towards university admission.

Mrs Smith  
Post 16 Director of Studies

Miss Hart  
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson  
Post 16 Administrator

Miss Kenny  
Careers and Enrichment Lead