



**PARENT & CARER
WEEKLY BULLETIN**
Friday 21st March 2025

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I was fortunate to be invited last Friday along with two of our Year 11 students to visit Parliament and then go on to 11 Downing Street to meet Rachel Reeves along with the other secondary schools from her constituency. The trip was amazing – our students asked extremely incisive questions about a career in politics, and they were a real credit to the school. After we met the Chancellor, we were then given a tour of 10 Downing Street. We were taken into the Cabinet Room which was an astonishing experience for us all. To walk in the footsteps of so many British Prime Ministers was a real privilege for us and it was great to see Pudsey Grammar School students on a visit which only a few school pupils nationally can make.

Mark McKelvie
Headteacher

GENERAL NOTICES

End of year reward trips (Years 7, 8, 9 & 10)

We have recently launched our end of year reward trips. The trips are to acknowledge those students with strong attendance and good attitude to lessons.

Every lesson students earn points that can be tracked on Arbor. For students to access the trips they will either need:

- 3500 points from September to May Half Term
- 1000 points over the 9 week period from Monday 10th March - Friday 23rd May

Students will also be given an update by their form tutor as to how they are progressing. We are really looking forward to celebrating with your child at the end of the year.

Mr Sammons
Associate Assistant Headteacher



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Year 7

Year 7 students have had a great start to this term! They've shown enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work across all subjects. As we approach the final few weeks of this term it is wonderful to see the positive attitude and eagerness that they started with at the beginning of the year.

Importance of attendance

Attendance is a crucial factor in your child's academic journey, and we are so grateful for your continued support in ensuring that your child is attending school regularly and on time. Consistent attendance helps our students build strong routines, stay engaged with their learning, and achieve their full potential. Good attendance also contributes towards getting those ATL scores each lesson which in turn will increase their ATL points as we approach the exciting end of year rewards activities.

Mrs Mitchell
Year 7 Director of Studies

Mrs Swithenbank
Year 7 Leader

YEAR 8

I would like to inform you that the assessment week for Year 8 students will take place in May/June. To help your child prepare, we encourage them to start revising independently using techniques such as mind maps, flash cards, and revision clocks. If your child does not have a knowledge organiser to support their revision, please ask them to speak with me.

You should have received communication about the GoApe trip, including information on your child's eligibility or risk status. If you haven't received this yet, please let me know.

This week, I have been meeting with students about the Step into NHS competition. I am making a final call for those who want to participate. If you think your child would be interested, please ask them to speak with me before the end of next week.

Mrs Kaye
Year 8 Director of Studies

Miss Mathie
Year 8 Leader

YEAR 9

Guided Choices

Thank you to everyone who came to the Guided Choices Evening, it was great to see so many of you and we hope you found it informative and helpful. If you missed the evening or want



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any clarity information is now on the school website under the Year 9 tile. All of the course details will be on the QR code in the booklet given out as well as being on the website.

A reminder that the form to fill in Options will open on Monday so please talk to your child about their choices over the weekend so they are ready to make the best choices for them. It is not first come, first served so please do not worry about that, we want students to be confident and happy with their choices.

Mr Lucas
Year 9 Director of Studies

Mrs Green
Year 9 Leader

YEAR 10

Year 10 Progress Report 2

The second progress reports have now been distributed. Please take some time to reflect on the progress students are making in their subjects. Note the following advice on current grades:

The Current Grade reflects your child's present academic performance in each subject. This is based on the work completed so far, including assessments, coursework, class participation, and homework. It provides an indication of where your child currently stands relative to the target and highlights areas where they may need additional support or focus. Across a GCSE course a current grade can move up and down based on performance in certain topics and units.

And here is the advice on ATL scores:

The ATL Grade measures your child's level of commitment and engagement in each subject. It takes into account their attendance to lessons, attitude towards learning, their willingness to participate in class, their behaviour, and how well they manage their time and resources. The ATL grade is an important indicator of how hard your child is working, regardless of their academic results, and we strongly encourage them to consistently demonstrate a positive and proactive attitude.

Mr Syed
Year 10 Director of Studies

Miss Exley
Year 10 Leader



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YEAR 11

Year 11 History Easter Intervention Sessions- (10/4 and 17/4)

Year 11 History Easter Half-Term Intervention – Thursday 10th April & Thursday 17th April

To support your child's preparation for their upcoming exams, we are running focused revision sessions during the Easter half-term on Thursday 10th April and Thursday 17th April. These sessions will help them refine their knowledge, practise key exam skills, and boost their confidence ahead of their GCSEs.

Both sessions will cover the same content. It is strongly advised that they attend on the 17th, as all staff members will be present. If they cannot make this date, they may attend on the 10th, but please note that only Mr Alderson will be available on this day.

Session Timings and Content

Morning Sessions (10:00 am - 12:00 pm)

Paper 3 – Weimar and Nazi Germany

Paper 1 – Crime and Punishment

Rooms: 113, 114, 116, 117 (RAN, AGT, OBT, JLA)

Afternoon Sessions (1:00 pm - 3:00 pm)

Paper 2 – The American West

Paper 2 – Elizabethan England

Rooms: 113, 114, 116, 117 (RAN, AGT, OBT, JLA)

Why should students attend?

Targeted support – Receive expert guidance on key topics and exam techniques.

Exam-style practice – Work through past questions with teacher feedback.

Boost your confidence – Strengthen your understanding and improve your performance.

Important Information

Arrive at reception 10 minutes early to sign in and find your room.

These sessions are optional but highly recommended to strengthen your knowledge and improve your exam performance.

Resources will be provided to help students make the most of these sessions. Students should take advantage of this opportunity to maximise their marks!

Well done to Year 11 who have done very well this week in their English Literature trial exams. Their focus, maturity, and effort have not gone unnoticed, and we are incredibly proud of the



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way they approached both papers. These trial exams are a vital part of their preparation for the summer, and it's clear that many students are taking this final push seriously.

Next week students will receive a link in their school emails so they can complete a short survey in regards to end of year arrangements. This will allow them to:

- Share dietary requirements for prom
- Vote for the "Most Likely To..." awards
- Submit their leavers hoodie/t-shirt size

Please encourage your child to complete this once it becomes available so we can begin planning these special end-of-year celebrations.

Key Upcoming Dates:

- Tuesday, 25th March: Exam Success Evening – A valuable session for both students and parents, with presentations from myself and the Heads of English and Maths, offering key advice and insights into the upcoming exam period.
- Friday, 4th April – Easter Holidays Begin
- 28th & 29th April – Art GCSE All-Day Exam
- 30th April & 1st May – Photography Exam (Day 2)
- Study Leave Date TBC to all in Exam Success Evening
- 5th May – 20th June – GCSE Exams
- 1st – 3rd June – Year 11 Celebration Week

Miss Legg
Year 11 Director of Studies

Miss Birdsall
Year 11 Leader

SIXTH FORM


Year 13 Easter Intervention Sessions- (7th April, 10th April and 16th April)

To support your child's preparation for their upcoming exams and coursework deadline, we are running a series of focused revision sessions during the Easter half-term. These sessions will help them consolidate key content, refine exam skills, and strengthen their NEA.




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Intervention Schedule:

 Monday, 7th April

 Morning & Afternoon Sessions (10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm)


 NEA Support


 Room: 108 (RAN)

 Thursday, 10th April

 Morning & Afternoon Sessions (10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm)


 Tudor England


 Rooms: 114 (OBT), 113 (AGT)

 Wednesday, 16th April


 Morning & Afternoon Sessions (10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm)


 DE Democracy and Nazism


 Rooms: 114 (RAN), 113 (JLA)

 Why should students attend?


 Expert guidance – Receive tailored support from subject specialists.




 Exam preparation – Practise past questions and refine their essay-writing skills.

 NEA refinement – Get feedback to improve and finalise their coursework.

 Important Information:

 Please arrive at reception 10 minutes early to sign in and find your room.

 These sessions are optional but highly recommended to strengthen your knowledge and improve your exam and coursework performance.

 Resources will be provided to help you make the most of these sessions. Students should take advantage of this opportunity to boost their confidence, sharpen their skills, and maximise their marks!  

For further details, please either speak to or email Mr Alderson
(r.alderson@pudseygrammar.co.uk)

Mr Alderson
Subject Leader of History

Year 12 Work Experience Week

As you may be aware, Year 12 students will be participating in Work Experience Week starting week commencing 14th July. At this stage, students should be actively contacting businesses and leveraging local connections to arrange their own placements.



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However, we are pleased to share a list of exciting opportunities that local businesses have offered our students. These placements are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Students interested in securing one of these spots should see Miss Robinson as soon as possible to register.

Work Experience Openings:

Pudsey based Florist – A creative opportunity at a local florist where students will have the chance to create their own bouquet by the end of the placement. Ideal for creative and media students interested in gaining experience with the business' growing social media presence.

(5 placements available) **Local Primary Schools** – A primary school-based placement perfect for students aspiring to work with young children or considering a career in education.

Forensic Accounting & Finance (Pudsey) – An accounting firm specialising in forensic finance cases that appear in court. A great fit for students interested in law, finance, or business.

Business-Facing Accounting Firm (Swinnow) – A firm focusing on tax returns, bookkeeping, VAT, pensions, and tax refunds. Ideal for students considering careers in accounting or financial services.

Video Game Industry (Teeside) – A game development studio offering insight into the video game industry. Due to the distance, they are offering shorter placements (1-2 days) to accommodate students unable to arrange overnight stays.

Engineering Firm (Pudsey) – Specialising in precision engineering and technologies, this placement is ideal for students interested in STEM careers. Please note, this placement will take place one week earlier than Work Experience Week (during the Paris residential trip).

We encourage students to take advantage of these fantastic opportunities.

General Notices

AI Assembly – This morning, students attended an assembly on AI and exam regulations regarding its use and misuse.

Punctuality & Entrance System – Well done to all students for being on time for lessons and adapting to the new entrance system.

Voter Registration – Please ensure your child registers to vote if they are eligible

Key Dates & Reminders

Year 12 Parents' Evening – 3rd April. Please book appointments.

Work Experience (WEX) – Encourage your child to secure a placement and check Google Classroom for opportunities.



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Year 13 Hoodies – The online shop closes on 29th March.

Student Finance Applications – Now open for Year 13 students.

Success & Finance Evening – 27th March at 5.30pm.

Prom Tickets – On sale now for Prom on 29th June.

Easter Revision timetable is linked below, please encourage your child to make the most of these opportunities.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=19F719XYgh-VDa4kh8GCekHK6sDS1InQG>

Thank you for your continued support!

Mrs Lea
Acting Post 16 Director of Studies

Miss Hart
Attendance and Pastoral Support

Miss Robinson
Post 16 Administrator
