



Weekly Bulletin for Parents & Carers

Week commencing Monday 16th September 2019

Principal's Message

All students have got off to a good start this academic year and it has been great to see our Year 7s settling in so well to life at the school. In total our students have been awarded 10,666 positive reward points this week and I am writing this on Thursday afternoon! It is just one measure of the way our students are applying themselves in lessons and the polite way they conduct themselves around the school buildings.

I have obtained this information at the touch of a button using our Classcharts system. The system is available online and also via the app and allows you to see exactly how your child is performing in school, giving live updates on rewards, behaviour, attendance and also any homework that is due. Sometimes secondary school students just need a little encouragement or support in getting themselves organised, particularly around homework deadlines so Classcharts provides a highly useful way of getting involved and supporting your child to develop good habits.

We are also improving our communications with parents by switching from the Groupcall text-based system to ParentMail. If you have not received an activation email regarding this system, it is important that you contact our reception team and they will check we have your email address on our system. We will no longer be sending out communications via text so it is important that you have access to the ParentMail system. If there are any problems, please do not hesitate to contact our reception team and they will ensure we get you up and running. Please also see this webpage <https://www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp/> for login advice if you are having difficulty.

We hope you find both systems useful and we would welcome feedback regarding them.

Mark McKelvie
Principal

Year 7 and 8

Year 7 Meet the Form Tutor and Information Evening – Wednesday 18th September at 6.00pm

We will be holding a 'Meet the Form Tutor and Information Evening' for new Year 7 parents/carers and students. We would like to take the opportunity to welcome you to Pudsey Grange School on Wednesday 18th September at 6.00pm. The evening will give you the opportunity to meet Form Tutors and provide you with valuable information on Literacy, Numeracy, Online Safety and Modern Foreign Languages, as well as our school expectations. The evening will start at 6pm with a presentation in the main hall and will finish at 7pm.



Year 7 Maths and Reading Assessments

All Year 7 students have sat Maths and Reading Assessments in the first week at PGS. This is to support staff with their planning and ensure they continue to challenge students. We will also be using these assessments to help inform and quality assure our Year 7 setting.

The feedback from staff supervising the assessments was that students' behaviour was exemplary and it was clear how hard they had tried!

Well done to all Year 7 students for their efforts at the start of the new term.

What a great start!

Year 7 and 8 students have settled into the new academic year exceptionally well. We as staff have been very impressed with how they have been conducting themselves around school and in lessons. We are particularly pleased by how quickly Year 7 have picked up the school ethos and values. It has also been really impressive to see so many Year 7 and 8 students involved in extra-curricular activities such as the school performance and football practice.

Let's keep up the good work!

Mr Matthews – Year 7 & 8 Director of Studies

Year 9

Year 9 have achieved 2711 achievement points in their first week back at school. Well done year 9! Keep up the great work.

Students had their individual photographs taken last week, the deadline for the payment is Friday 20th September.

Mrs A Mitchell – Year 9 Director of Studies

Year 10 and 11

Year 10 Revision Guides

Revision Guides are a really useful way for students to prepare for assessments. Over the coming weeks we will be giving parents an opportunity to purchase revision guides through the school at a discounted rate. Please ensure you are signed up to ParentMail in preparation for this.

Year 11 Parent Information Evening

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Year 11 Parent Information Evening. The students have made a fantastic start to the year and we are excited to see all the hard work they are already putting in.

The presentation and booklet will shortly be available via the school website. A message will be sent out via ParentMail when they are live.

Mr Sammons – Year 10 & 11 Director of Studies



Post 16

Firstly, we would like to take the opportunity to congratulate all our Post 16 students for the mature and focused manner that they have returned to this academic year.

Thank you to all students (and parents) for their patience whilst we 'ironed' out the new academic timetable. As you will be aware, we have added Supervised Guided Learning (SGL) to timetables to allow for supervised study for each student. We feel this will benefit each student in supporting independent study, subject focus and ultimately overall progress.

New timetables have now been distributed to students and all SGL/EPQ time will commence on Monday 16th September.

Post 16 Bursary

There are two types of 16-19 bursaries:

- Discretionary bursaries - household income below £25,000
- Bursaries for defined groups (Free School Meals in Year 11, Care Leavers, young people in care and those in receipt of Universal Credit)

Application forms are available on the school website and must be returned by 4th October to Miss Fisher. If you have any queries please contact the Post 16 Team.

Post 16 Tutorial

This week Year 12 students will be using their tutorial time to think about their ambitions whilst in the Sixth Form at PGS and will be looking to set themselves achievable targets and steps to help them on their journey. Tutors will use this opportunity to speak with students for the first time about careers and guidance whilst also informing them about key parts of the school year, including parents evenings, mock exam weeks and AS exams at the end of the year.

This week Year 13 will continue their work on careers, gaining guidance and support in completing the next stages of the process. For many students the focus remains the Unifrog system, looking at applications to university and the completion of CVs. Tutors will also use this time to speak with students who are not entering the university process about their next steps and short term goals for this year.

Year 12 Paris Trip - Monday 6th to Friday 10th July 2020

There are two student places available for this exciting trip (cost per student will be £465). Interested students should see Mrs Smith by Friday 20th September to register their interest (places allocated on a first come basis). An idea of the itinerary is as follows;

	A.M	P.M
Day 1	Depart school, journey to Folkestone Crossing to Calais.	Journey to your accommodation. Check in. Evening meal and night.
Day 2	Breakfast. Full day discovering Paris: Notre Dame, Ile de la Cite, Quartier Latin, Tour Montparnasse.	Bateaux Parisiens River Cruise. Time at leisure around the Eiffel Tower. Evening meal in a restaurant close to the Champs Elysees.
Day 3	Breakfast. Visit Louvre Museum and discover Tuileries gardens.	3-hour city tour with an English-Speaking guide coming into your coach to discover the French Capital, possibly Place de la Concorde, Madeleine and Opera Quarter and Montmartre area. Evening meal at restaurant Chez Gigi near Montmartre.
Day 4	Breakfast. Full day Disneyland Paris 1 day / 2 parks.	Meal voucher for your lunch. Evening meal at your hotel or Disney meal voucher for evening meal.
Day 5	Breakfast. Check out your accommodation. Time at leisure, possible supermarket stop. Journey back to Calais.	Crossing to Folkestone and travel back to school.



Important Dates

Thursday 26th September – Year 12 Information Evening

Year 13

The BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT) is an admissions test for applicants to Medicine, Biomedical Science and Dentistry courses at certain universities. Please be aware that the test date is **Wednesday 30th October**, this is during October half term. As a result students will need to register with a test centre, these can be found at <https://www.admissionstesting.org/find-a-centre/>

Important Dates

BMAT/UCAT	-	Register by 18th September
Access to Leeds	-	Opens 23rd September
Early Entry Applications	-	15th October
UCAS Deadline	-	15th January

Mrs Smith – Year 12 & 13 Director of Studies Miss Fisher – Post 16 Pastoral Support & Careers Lead
