



Weekly Bulletin for Parents & Carers

Week commencing Monday 9th December 2019

Principal's Message

We are part of the Red Kite Teaching Alliance which is a group of good and outstanding schools from across Yorkshire who work closely together to share ideas and good practice. One opportunity that membership offers is for Head Teachers and Principals to be part of a small team who visit another school and review a specific aspect. Leading our school is such an incredible privilege for me but it is also incredibly busy so the annual opportunity to visit another school allows the rare opportunity to compare our school to another high performing school.

My visit this week was extremely interesting. The main reflection I had when I returned to Pudsey Grangefield was not only the amount of rapid progress our school has made in recent years but that, unlike some schools who achieve a good Ofsted judgement, we are also continuing our drive to further improve our school. A measure of this is recent data we have had where the following 2019 exam results were in the top 20% of schools nationally:

- Science
- Humanities
- Business Studies
- Physical Education
- Digital Media Production
- Progress of high ability students
- Progress of middle ability students

There is still work to do and we are looking forward to adding many more subject to this list in 2020.

However, this is clear evidence of the continuing hard work and dedication of our staff and students and it also shows that our school is beginning to compete with some of the very best schools in the country.

Mark McKelvie
Principal

General Notice

Charity Fundraising

The Student Council has asked that Pudsey Grangefield has a nominated charity to work with and support throughout the year, and have suggested a very worthwhile cause; Martin House Hospice for children based in Boston Spa. From now on, half of all proceeds from non-uniform days will go towards Martin House and the Charity Committee will also organise additional fundraising events throughout the year. Martin House will be coming into school to raise awareness of their charitable work through assemblies, but a link to their website can be found below.

<https://www.martinhouse.org.uk/>



The first fundraising event will be a **non-uniform day on the last day of term**. Students are welcome to wear their own clothes for a payment of £1, which will be split between Martin House and Save the Children. We hope that the opportunity to wear something Christmassy if they would like (something sparkly, a Christmas jumper, a bit of tinsel, a favourite top etc) will add to the festive atmosphere on the last day of term. Payments should be made via Parent Mail.

End of term arrangements

Please note that the school will close on 12.15pm on Friday 20th December and re-open on Monday 6th January at the usual time.

Year 7 and 8

Celebration Assembly

This year Year 7 and 8 will be recognised in celebration assemblies in the following areas:

- The School Values Awards
- Attitude to Learning Awards
- School Ambassador Awards
- Zero Hero Awards (Zero Negative Points)
- Attendance Awards

A large number of students are being considered for the awards which is extremely positive and just shows what a fantastic start to life at Pudsey Grange Year 7 and 8 have made.

Year 8 Celebration Assembly: Monday 16th December

Year 7 Celebration Assembly: Tuesday 17th December

Positive Feedback from the Road Safety Team

Riot Act presented: Deadly distraction theatre production and workshop (road safety). The feedback from the actors was that our Year 7 students were one of the best audiences they've experienced. They commented on their excellent behaviour and attitude during the production. Once again another example of our students impressing visitors. Well done Year 7.

We continue to focus on reading and homework

We would like to thank parents/carers for their continued efforts and support with homework and reading. The impact of students reading and completing homework has been proven to have a big impact on students' progress and outcomes. We are urging parents/carers to continue to support their child in these two key areas.

Mr Matthews – Year 7 & 8 Director of Studies

Year 9

PSHEE Day

On Wednesday 4th December students took part in the first drop down PSHEE day of the year. The topic was Sex and Relationships and they year 9 students displayed mature behaviour throughout the day. All staff have reported that their forms had insightful questions and that they were very impressed with how they conducted themselves.



9 SLS

Well done to 9SLS who have the best attendance in Year 9. This is a fantastic achievement, keep up the good work.

9PST

9PST have the highest number of achievement points in Year 9.

Well done, keep up your outstanding work.

Mrs A Mitchell – Year 9 Director of Studies

Year 10 and 11

Year 10 – Hairspray

Last week I was able to pop into a number of rehearsals for Hairspray. It has been great to see so many Year 10s involved in the performance and I am excited to see how it all comes together over the final week of rehearsals. Please do support the year group by coming along and seeing the show next week.

Year 11 Post 16 Pathway Discussions

This week all Year 11 students will have a discussion with a member of the Post 16 or Year 11 team about their options at the end of the year. This initial discussion will be to explore the options and make some suggestions as to what their preference will be.

PSHEE Day

Last week we had a PSHEE day. Both Year 10 and 11 covered a range of topics from Sex and Relationships to Fire Safety. It was great to see students engaged in the day and working together in a respectful way.

Key upcoming dates for Year 11:

Friday 13th December – Trial Exam Results
Reports will also be issued.

Friday 20th December – Monday 6th January – Christmas Break
No homework to be issued

Thursday 9th January – Parents Evening
Booking will open this week.

Mr Sammons – Year 10 & 11 Director of Studies

Post 16

Well done to all students who attended the PSHEE Day 1 on Wednesday 4th December. Many Year 12 students have now embarked upon their Unifrog journey, whilst Y13 students made significant progress with their Post 18 applications.



Also, thank you to all parents, careers and students who attended the Year 12 Parents Evening.

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