



Prince Henry's Grammar School

SPECIALIST LANGUAGE COLLEGE



Newsletter

March 2018

Welcome to the Easter edition of the Newsletter. There is an impressive range of information and guidance contained in this newsletter, designed to enhance your support for your child during the final term of this academic year.

As we near the end of the second term, it is a good time to reflect upon the year so far and the many activities and achievements to be celebrated. These include academic success alongside achievements in areas such as music, sport, technology and fundraising. These accomplishments, and the continuous improvement at Prince Henry's, are due to the fact that we are not complacent – we are always looking for ideas and opportunities to make our school even better. We regularly work in collaboration and partnership with other schools and this really supports our improvement. For example, our work as part of the Leeds Learning Partnership, Red Kite Teaching School Alliance and Yorkshire Leadership Community means that staff have access to high quality professional development, and opportunities to share and develop ideas with colleagues carrying out similar roles in other schools.

Our strong partnership with all our local feeder schools and other community groups through the Otley, Pool and Bramhope Cluster brings additional benefit, especially with regard to enabling students' smooth transition from primary to secondary school and providing wider support for young people and families across our community. The recently developed partnership with Oasis Academy in Bradford has already given some of our students the opportunity to learn and develop academically and socially as a result of their work with students in a different context (and vice versa). This builds on the existing opportunities which occur through our partnerships with schools around the world. We will continue to be "outward facing" in order to maintain and, where appropriate, strengthen partnerships to maximise the benefits for our students.

Next term will be extremely busy, especially for those students sitting external exams. I know that students and staff have been working hard to prepare for success, and that this hard work will continue right up until the exams take place. If your son or daughter is involved in the upcoming exams, please read the additional examination information contained in this newsletter so that you know about the revision support available and can advise your child appropriately.

Have a very happy Easter.

Ms J Sheriff
Headteacher

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Year 7 and 8 exams

The summer term will see Year 7 and 8 students sitting their end of year exams between 14th and 25th May 2018. We will be using form time and assemblies to introduce a host of revision skills to assist them with this. Please encourage your child to prepare fully for these important assessments.

Year 7 form groups have been doing a great job of showing solidarity with the school's chosen charity partners. Their fundraising efforts have included 'beat the goalie' competitions, bun sales, sponsored silences and even a (virtual!) walk, run, cycle and swim from Land's End to John O'Groats!

This term's **Year 8** form challenge was to create a school news report. The winning form, 8CYP, then spent the day making a 'live' school report that fed into the BBC School Report webpage. Their exceptional efforts can be found on our website.

Year 9 students have completed the Options process and can now look forward to preparing to become Key Stage 4 students at the end of the next half term. They will take part in a number of activities, supported by their form tutor, to prepare them for this very important next step.

As ever, the Student Council plays a very important role in school life. The form discussions that take place every half term feed in to the year group and whole school discussions. If your child has great ideas about how to improve further our provision, please encourage them to make the most of this forum.

Mr S Day

Progress Leader: Key Stage 3



Finance news

Remember that you can use the online payment system to add credit to your child's lunch card before the start of the new term. This will help to reduce the start of term queues at the re-valuation machine.

If you have mislaid your log in details, please contact the Finance Office.

Key Stage 4 news

Over the coming weeks, we will be having a renewed focus on the importance of good presentation and bringing the correct equipment to school every day. I would be grateful if you could support us by emphasising the importance of these requirements with your child.

Year 10

Year 10 internal exams will take place from Wednesday 2nd May 2018. Students should be revising thoroughly well in advance! There are revision technique materials available on the Key Stage 4 section of our website.

Year 11

Parents and carers recently received the final Year 11 Progress Report, highlighting teachers' GCSE predictions based on current performance. The Year 11 Predicted Results Ceremony took place on Friday 23rd March. Students discussed their predicted results with teaching staff to confirm whether they met the entry requirements of their chosen Sixth Form course. This process aims to focus students on the upcoming exams and spur them on to even greater achievements. The Year 11 revision programme begins on Friday 25th May 2018. However, many examinations take place before this date so please refer to the student's personalised exam timetable for exact dates. If you have not received your child's examination timetable, please contact our Exams Office for a replacement. Study guides, revision tips, revision timetables can all be found on our website under Parent Zone / Key Stage 4 Study Support.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Key Stage 4 Team, to wish all students the very best of luck in their upcoming examinations.

Mr S Knight

Progress Leader: Key Stage 4



News from Henry's Diner

We are pleased to announce the launch of an online pre-order scheme for students in Year 7, 8 and 9 to order their sandwiches, drinks and snacks up to a week in advance. Orders will be prepared and ready for students to collect at the start of break or lunch. Students can use the link to the online shop on their Firefly homepage. If you have any queries, please contact our catering team at catering@princehenrys.co.uk.



Attendance news

Congratulations to 11BRR, who have had the highest form group attendance this half term with an outstanding figure of 97.8%!

Good school attendance is vital. Evidence shows a clear link between high rates of attendance and high levels of achievement, both in and out of the classroom. Attendance of 90% means that a student has missed the equivalent of one full school day every fortnight. The whole-school target for attendance is 96%.

It is important that parents support the drive for good attendance by ensuring positive routines at home and asking for help when they encounter difficulties. If you are concerned about your child's attendance, please contact their Year Manager. Please remember that we need a note from parents for absence due to illness.

Mr P Temple

Assistant Headteacher: Learner Support



Online school bus renewals

If your child uses a school bus service, you should have received a letter from Metro advising you to complete an online renewal form if you wish your child to continue using a school bus service.

Renewal forms can be located at www.generationm.co.uk, or by following the link from the school website: Parent Zone / Travelling to School / GenerationM.

Renewal applications must be completed no later than **30th June 2018**.

Mr C Rowbottom

Deputy Headteacher: Learning Infrastructure

Sixth Form news

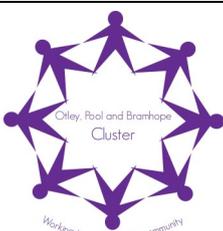
Year 11 students will now have received letters confirming their offers for Sixth Form at Prince Henry's. Acceptance forms should be returned to school by Friday 20th April 2018. The next event to look forward to is the Year 12 Induction Day on Tuesday 3rd July 2018, where students will have an introduction to their A level courses and be able to choose Enrichment Activity options for the coming year. A letter inviting students to this event will be sent out next term.

For **Year 12** parents who were unable to attend the HE Information Evening on the 22nd March 2018, the presentations can be found in the Sixth Form section of the school website. You should also have received a letter giving you a parent login code for the Unifrog website which can be used with students to research HE choices and apprenticeship options. The message from all our speakers at the evening is that preparation and research is key to making the right choices post-18. Tutorial time will be devoted to HE preparation in the summer term and it is really helpful if students have started their research process at home before this point, so that any queries this raises can be discussed with form tutors.

Year 13 students will have received feedback on their mock exams this week, which can now help to structure a focused revision timetable in the final weeks before A level exams start. Useful guidance about revision strategies and study skills can be found on Firefly in the Sixth Form Study Skills section. All Year 13 students have received a personal exam timetable and information booklet about exam procedures. While very few students will experience problems on the days of examinations, this booklet should be kept for reference should any issues occur.

Mrs C Willis

Assistant Headteacher: Post 16 Learning



Otley, Pool and Bramhope Cluster Easter holiday activities

The Otley, Pool and Bramhope Cluster has arranged for the Leeds Sports Academy and ACES Sport to offer a range of activities for young people during the Easter holidays. If your child is interested in accessing these sessions, please visit their websites: www.leedssports.co.uk and www.acesportuk.com.



Travelling to school by car

A reminder to parents and carers that West Yorkshire Police have requested that students are not dropped off or picked up in Prince Henry's Court, which is next to the school gates. If you drop your child off in the morning or collect them after school, please do not turn into the school approach road. Instead, you should arrange to meet your child in a safe place on Newall Carr Road, or on one of the adjacent streets.

Please also remember that students must not be picked up or dropped off in the school car park unless there is a medical reason which has been agreed with the Year Manager.

Speak up!

Recent assemblies have focussed on the responsibility which all students have to 'speak up' in order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone in our school and local community. Students have been asked to speak to their Year Manager or other appropriate adult if they feel unhappy or uncomfortable with any situations or behaviours they may witness, so we can intervene in a considered and sensitive way.

Similarly, we encourage parents and carers to 'speak up' and communicate with us where they feel that information they have may benefit our school or wider community. We work with the local police and other agencies, and pass relevant information on when we feel it is necessary.

Mr C Rowbottom
Deputy Headteacher: Learning Infrastructure



Fundraising news

Students and staff have already raised over £3,000 as part of this year's fundraising efforts - a total which they are hoping to double in the coming months! Over the past week, students have had the opportunity to buy a Teenage Cancer Trust wristband, which they are allowed to wear in school until the Easter holidays (after which the usual uniform rules will apply). These are available for sale (£2.00 each) during morning registration.

Don't miss the annual fundraising Talent Show, organised entirely by students, which takes place on Thursday 19th April 2018 at 7.00pm. Tickets will be available after Easter from the Library at break time and lunch time, and also on the door (£3.00).

Mr C Lillington
Assistant Headteacher: Learning Community

Mental health and emotional wellbeing

You may be aware of recent local and national press coverage about mental health issues affecting young people. Mental health problems range in severity and manifest themselves in different ways, including low mood, low self-esteem, self-harm and aggressive behaviours. As a member of the Otley, Pool and Bramhope Cluster, Prince Henry's is part of the TAMHs (Targeted Mental Health in Schools) project. This is a city-wide initiative designed to improve emotional wellbeing and mental health for all young people.

If you have concerns about any aspect of your child's mental health, please contact their Year Manager. There are also many useful websites providing support and advice, including:

- ◆ www.leedscommunityhealthcare.nhs.uk (CAMHs – Child and Adolescent Mental Health)
- ◆ www.mind.org.uk
- ◆ www.mindmate.org
- ◆ www.nhs.uk
- ◆ www.time-to-change.org.uk

Mr P Temple
Assistant Headteacher: Learner Support

Community Education Programme 2018/2019

Run as a service to parents, carers and the local community, our Community Education Programme is one of the most diverse offered by any school in West Yorkshire. We are currently planning our new programme for September 2018. If there is a particular course that you would like to see us offer, or you are interested in teaching on the programme, please call Pippa McPherson, our Community Engagement Manager, during term time, or e-mail her at mnp@princehenrys.co.uk.

Mr C Lillington
Assistant Headteacher: Learning Community

Forthcoming dates

Holidays

| Close | Re-open |
|--------------|-------------|
| 29 Mar 2018* | 16 Apr 2018 |
| 04 May 2018 | 08 May 2018 |
| 26 May 2018 | 05 Jun 2018 |

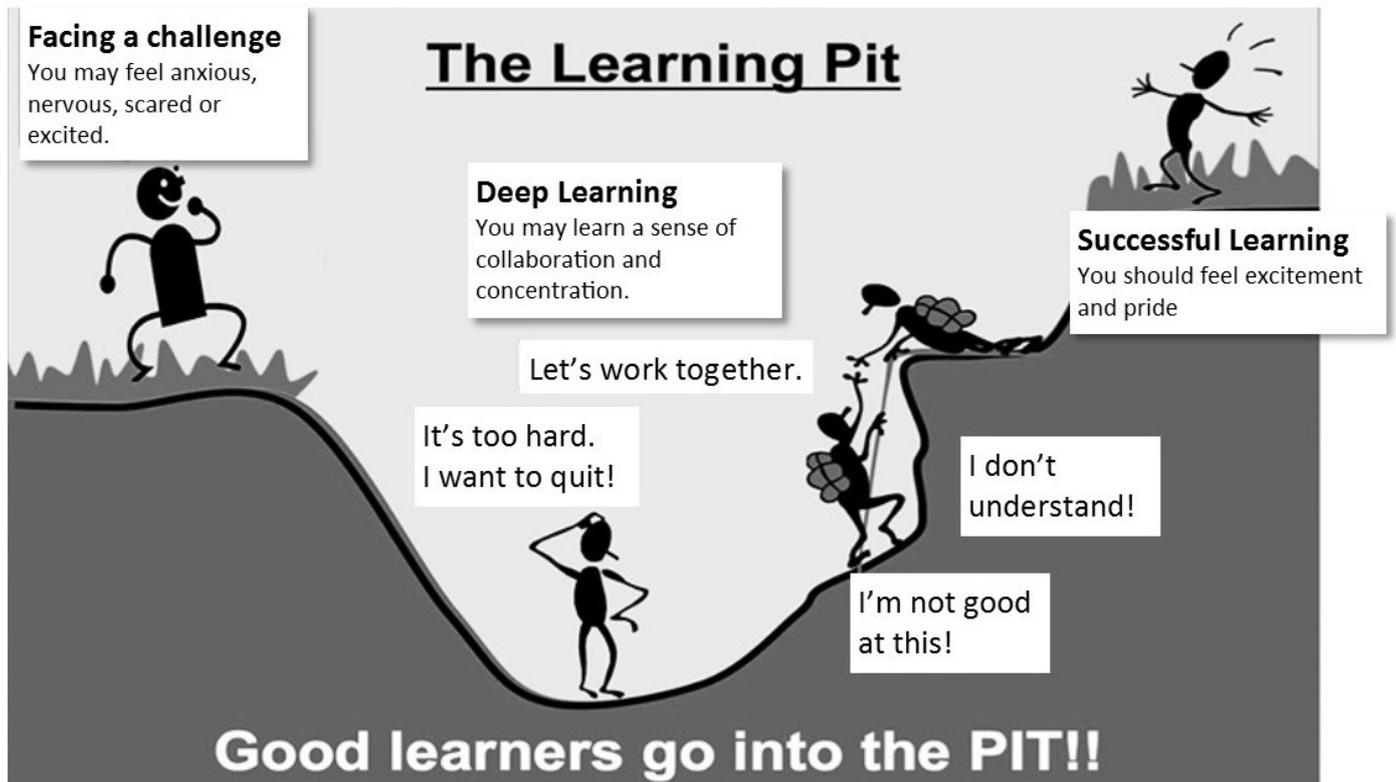
*Thursday 29 March (Friday 30 March is Good Friday)

Events

| | |
|---|--|
| 19 Apr 2018 | Talent Show |
| 24 Apr 2018 [#] | Senior Concert (Parish Church) |
| <i>(#change to original published date)</i> | |
| 26 Apr 2018 | Year 10 Assertive Mentoring Cohort Parents' Evening |
| 02 May 2018 | Year 10 exams begin |
| 14 May 2018 | Year 7 and 8 exams begin |
| 14 May 2018 | GCSE / AS written exams begin |
| 25 May 2018 (3pm) | Year 11 revision programme and Year 13 Study Leave begin |

Building student resilience

Over the last few years, we have been supporting our students to build their academic resilience, offering strategies to help them deal with and overcome challenge, setback and fear of failure. The aim is to develop in students the confidence to overcome problems that they face in their learning, as well as encouraging a 'growth' mind set which teaches them to learn from their mistakes, 'feeling the fear' but doing it anyway!



We encourage parents to take a similar approach at home! Encourage your child to be resilient, face challenges and setbacks, learning how to overcome them and not giving up too easily. Making a mistake is the best way to learn: WD40 is called this because they tried 39 prototypes before they found the right one!

Mrs J Nelson
Deputy Headteacher: Learner Experience



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