



Newsletter

October 2022

As the long, hot, dry summer gives way to the autumn colours and gentle winds and rain, we embark on a new academic year, where hopefully we are entering a new sense of normality not afforded us in the past couple of years. The changing of the seasons always brings new hope, new goals and this one is always particularly exciting for all those working in education. This term is no different, and our Year 7 and 12 students have made a superb start to their next chapter. It has been wonderful to see our Year 7 students transition from their primary schools. Having settled in, they are blossoming into keen and mature learners, impressing us with how they are embracing our vision and values which are such an important feature of our school. Well done, Year 7 – we know you will be a special year group and we look forward to celebrating your achievements, in whatever spheres you excel.

Year 12 students have started the last chapter with us, and have also made a really strong start with a renewed sense of purpose, making new friends with those who have joined us from other schools, whom we particularly welcome into our extended sixth form family. You are in safe hands and we wish you all the luck in the world!

In looking forward, it is also important to review our recent accolades, and although it seems a long time ago now, we offer our formal congratulations to the significant achievements of our outgoing Year 11 (many of whom are now in Year 12) and our Year 13s who have moved on to universities, apprenticeships or employment. I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all our students – and of course our very dedicated staff – for their hard work and tenacity which has resulted in our best ever set of results at GCSE and A Level. Achieving that on the back of the significant disruption to education that the world has recently seen is no mean feat and is a credit to them, their families, school and community. A heartfelt well done and congratulations from us all, classes of 2022. You smashed it! We now look forward to celebrating with our students and their families at our annual Celebration Evening which will be held, as is customary, at the Leeds City Museum on Thursday 15th December.

This term we have welcomed our new Deputy Headteacher, Simon Jackson. You may also have noticed that some familiar names and faces have not been present this term. At the time of going to press for our Summer Newsletter, it had not yet been finalised that Chris Rowbottom, Deputy Headteacher, would take up a temporary secondment to another school as a senior consultant working with the Headteacher on their behaviour strategy. This movement has meant that we have had to make some temporary changes within the Leadership Team in order to cover his areas of responsibilities. As such, Stephen Clarkson is now Acting Deputy Headteacher and is overseeing Positive Discipline, and Andy Fishburn is now Acting Assistant Headteacher in order to help Mr Clarkson with some of his substantive responsibilities overseeing the timetable, assessment and reporting. This has meant that Lisa Wray has taken on Mr Fishburn's substantive role as Acting Faculty Leader for Maths. I am sure you wish to join me in wishing Mr Rowbottom all the best in his new role, and in thanking him for everything he has achieved in the school, as well as welcoming our new post holders.

With a new term comes new opportunities, and we are delighted that we have once again been able to launch a full range of extra-curricular clubs, trips and visits. The rehearsals for our musical, Billy Elliot, have begun in earnest and it promises to be a spectacular show. We have secured sporting success across a variety of disciplines and educational visits are firmly back on the agenda. One of our 'unique selling points' is the rich variety of experiences we offer which students take part in enthusiastically.

With very best wishes as the nights draw in.

Sally Bishop
Headteacher

Key Stage 3 news

It has been pleasing to see how well Key Stage 3 students have settled into the new school year and embraced the new challenges, routines and huge range of extra-curricular opportunities available.

Students in **Year 7** have made a positive first impression and a great start to life at Prince Henry's, whilst a record number of Year 7 parents/carers came to our KS3 Information Event in school. The information shared at this evening is available on our website [here](#) under *Parents and Carers / KS3 Support*. Year 7 parents/carers are also taking part in this week's online Parent/Tutor Afternoons, which are providing a valuable opportunity to discuss how well students have settled into life at Prince Henry's.

We have been delighted to see the high number of students who have already achieved their Bronze certificate for receiving 250 stamps. Students in **Year 8** and **Year 9** have also been making excellent use of the new Bedrock app in English lessons and during form time to support their literacy.

The first Progress Report for all year groups will be shared with you soon. If you have any questions about this, please do contact me, or the relevant Year Manager.

Mr S Day
Progress Leader: Key Stage 3

Forthcoming dates

School closure

Close	Re-open
21 Oct 2022	31 Oct 2022
24 Nov 2022	28 Nov 2022*
16 Dec 2022	04 Jan 2023*

**Fri 25 Nov and Tue 3 Jan are Training Days*

Other Dates

31 Oct 2022	Year 12 GCSE re-sit exams start
03 Nov 2022	Sixth Form Open Evening
08 Nov 2022	Performing Arts Showcase
10 Nov 2022	Year 11 Revision Strategy Evening for Parents/Carers
23 Nov 2022	PSHE / Citizenship Day 1
23 Nov 2022	Year 13 Progress Eve (<i>in school</i>)
23 Nov 2022	SLT Open Access Evening
25 Nov 2022	Training Day (<i>closed to students</i>)
28 Nov 2022	Year 11 Trial Exams start
08 Dec 2022	Year 12 Progress Eve (<i>online</i>)
13 Dec 2022	Christmas Concert
15 Dec 2022	Annual Celebration Evening
16 Dec 2022	Early close to students (12.25pm)



Online safety

If you missed our recent online safety evening, visit our school website [here](#) for strategies for parents/carers to employ to keep their children safe online.

Mr A Fishburn
Assistant Headteacher: Learning Facilitator (Acting)

Key Stage 4 news

Key Stage 4 students have made an extremely positive start this year, and I am delighted with the attitude and engagement of the vast majority of students. We are all now focused on working hard to prepare students for success in their examination courses.

Year 10 parents/carers will receive the first Year 10 Progress Report next half term, indicating how well your child has settled into their GCSE studies. Important GCSE information, including exam boards, revision techniques and strategies, can be found on the KS4 section of our school website [here](#). A detailed overview of how GCSEs work, helpful advice for parents/carers and key information from GCSE English, Maths, Science and MFL can all be found in the presentation from last months' Year 10 GCSE Information Evening.

Year 11 parents and carers will receive the first Progress Report next month, highlighting teachers' GCSE predictions based on current performance. Important GCSE information including exam boards, revision techniques and the current timetable of revision and catch-up sessions can be found on the Key Stage 4 section of the school website [here](#). This information was also emailed out to parents recently. Please encourage your child to attend as many of the revision sessions as possible as well as engaging in the other intervention strategies we will be implementing throughout the year.

For your advance planning, please note that the Year 11 Revision Strategy Evening for Parents/Carers will take place in school on 10th November. I will email all Year 11 parents and carers with details of this event after the half-term holiday.

Mr S Knight
Progress Leader: Key Stage 4



Please top up your child's lunch card online before the start of the new half term to reduce queues at the re-valuation machine.

Sixth Form Open Evening

All Year 11 students, parents and carers should now have received an invitation to our Sixth Form Open Evening on **Thursday 3rd November**. This will be a great opportunity to find out more about the A level and BTEC subjects on offer at Prince Henry's and to gain an insight into Sixth Form life from some of our students. It has been great to see so much interest already, but if you have not already indicated which subjects you would be interested in visiting, the online form can be found [here](#). Year 11 students will also have the opportunity to take part in A Level taster lessons on the next PSHE Day and on our Sixth Form Taster morning (Saturday 21st January 2023). The application form for Sixth Form will be live on our website after Open Evening.



Arbor

Arbor update

Over 80% of our parents/carers have now logged into and made use of the parent/carer area of our new whole school information sharing system known as Arbor. We know from feedback that parents/carers who have used the system appreciate the overview this gives of the information held about their child, and particularly the ability to support them with their home learning.

Please remember to update the information on Arbor if there are changes to your personal circumstances. We continue to develop our use of Arbor and look forward to opening more areas soon.

Mr S Clarkson
Deputy Headteacher: Leadership for Learning (Acting)

Year 12 opportunities

Year 12 students have made a great start to their sixth form careers, with many taking up the opportunity to volunteer in a variety of capacities in school.

The Academic Pathways group (for students who are looking to apply for Oxford, Cambridge or the medical pathways) will be starting shortly after the half-term holiday, and all students will be involved in activities on November's PSHE day beginning to look at Higher Education and planning for next steps.

Mrs C Willis
Assistant Headteacher: Post-16 Learning

Year 13 UCAS applications / career planning

Many **Year 13** students have made a good start to their university and apprenticeship applications, following our 'futures' focus in PSHE lessons this half term, and some have received university offers already. The internal deadline for Year 13 students to complete UCAS applications is 11th November 2022. This will allow time for applications to be processed before Christmas, giving students the best chance of gaining offers for their chosen courses. For students who are unsure about their next steps, there is a range of information on the UCAS Hub, about both university and apprenticeship opportunities.

Please encourage your child to make use of the regular student bulletin which we distribute, sharing information about careers webinars, events and opportunities to support them in making careers decisions. Please remind them, too, that the Careers Advisor is available to support students with one-to-one interviews.

Mrs C Willis
Assistant Headteacher: Post-16 Learning



School uniform

As we move into the colder months, a reminder that we encourage students to wear an outdoor coat on their way to and from school and when outdoors at break and lunchtime. The coat must be worn over the blazer. Students are only required to remove coats (and other outdoor clothing such as scarves, hats and gloves) when they are in the school building. Please remember that casual 'hoodies' are not allowed anywhere on site at any time.

Finally, we appreciate your support in ensuring that your child's uniform is worn correctly at all times. This includes appropriate skirt length (no more than 5cm above or below the knee) and tie length. In addition, our requirements regarding jewellery state that students may only wear a watch plus one small, plain, silver or gold ear stud per lobe (to be worn in the lowest hole in lobe). No rings, bracelets or necklaces are permitted.

Mr S Clarkson
Deputy Headteacher: Leadership for Learning (Acting)

Welcome to new staff

This term, we have welcomed a number of new members of staff to our growing school community:

Ben Appleby	Teacher of Music
Maddy Brough	Cover Supervisor/History Teacher
Scott Bush	Teaching Assistant
Alice Dale	Teaching Assistant
Helen Dawson	Music Tutor
Rebecca Denby	HR Administrator
Louise Freeman	Teacher of English
Lauren Hought	Sixth Form Study Support Assistant
Simon Jackson	Deputy Headteacher
Sophie Laing	Teaching Assistant
Rosie Lenton	Teacher of EPR
Chris McKenzie	Maintenance/Grounds Operative
Thomas Millington	Teaching Assistant
Clarisa Monroy Cortez	Spanish Foreign Language Assistant
Ivan Noble	Area Leader: EPR
Ben Peacock	Lead Maintenance Operative
Barbara Prinsep	Teacher of Maths
Hannah Radford	Teacher of MFL
Hayden Roberts	IT Technician
Charlotte Robinson	Teaching Assistant
Charlie Rowe	Teacher of Maths
Guga Shann	Teacher of ICT/Computing
Jessica Stevens	Teacher of History
Rebecca Wall	HR Officer
Virginie Wray	Teacher of MFL

External exams: additional needs

Each year during the exam season, we receive requests from students and/or parents/carers for additional support in exams. Unfortunately, it is not always possible to meet these requests.

The exam regulations specify that a candidate may only receive additional support where there is an established difficulty and, given that support has been in place to reduce its impact **prior** to the main exam season, it is the student's 'normal way of working'. Evidence must be submitted to the exam boards in February of the exam year. The earlier we can start collating this evidence, the better. If you feel your child is likely to need additional support during their exams, and this has not already been established, please contact me to discuss.

Miss N Sadler
Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator



Site security

In order to strengthen further site security and safeguarding, from 1st November all visitors during the school day should use the Newall Carr Road (i.e. swimming pool) entrance only. Visitors will need to press the new intercom button to gain entry via the locked gate on the pedestrian footpath adjacent to the sports hall / reception.

Similarly, students arriving late or leaving early (including sixth form students) must enter the site via this same gate. Please take account of these revised arrangements if you visit during the school day, and ensure that your child understands these changes.

The Farnley Lane pedestrian gate will continue to be locked throughout the day, except at lunchtimes.

A reminder, too, that all visitors to the school must report immediately to reception on arrival. For the safety of our students, CCTV will continue to operate throughout the site.



Sustainability news

Please encourage your child to make use of the new pen recycling points throughout school, in order to reduce plastic waste. In addition, please support our environmental sustainability efforts in the following ways:

1. Avoid transporting your child to / from school by car, wherever possible.
2. Ensure that your child brings a filled reusable water bottle to school each day. Additional water dispensers were fitted last year so that students never need to purchase water.
3. Encourage your child to support the recycling arrangements in Henry's Diner, taking care to place items in the correct bin.
4. Encourage your child to reduce their meat consumption, for example by supporting weekly 'Meat Free Mondays' in Henry's Diner.
5. Make use of our school uniform recycling bank. Contact our receptionist, Alison Kilmartin, if you have unwanted uniform / PE kit items to donate, or if you want to see what items are available for a small donation.

Mr C Lillington
Assistant Headteacher: Learning Community

Attendance and punctuality

Our Vision

To strive to meet 100% targets for attendance and punctuality.

Why are attendance and punctuality so important?

Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Prince Henry's Grammar School seeks to ensure that every student receives a full-time education which maximises opportunities for each student to realise their true potential, both socially and academically. Over a period of five school years, a student with 90% attendance will have missed half of a whole year of schooling. Similarly, students with poor punctuality miss valuable lesson time and, if it happens regularly, progress will be jeopardised.

Definitions of attendance

The table below sets out our definitions of attendance. We expect outstanding attendance for all. However, we do recognise that there are times when students will be absent from school. As a school, we work relentlessly to support students and families.

Outstanding	98 - 100%
Good (no more than 5 days off per year)	97- 97.9%
Cause for concern	95- 96.9%
Cause for serious concern	< 94.9%
Persistent Absentee – possible legal action	< 90%

What should I do if my child is not well enough to come to school?

Please either:

- ♦ call the Student Absence Line (01943 855682)
- ♦ email us at info@princehenrys.co.uk
- ♦ use the unique text number assigned to you by Arbor

Contact with school should be made before 8.30am on the first day of absence. Please inform us of your child's name, year group, the reason for absence and when you would expect them to return to school.

Medical appointments should be made for after school, wherever possible. We may ask to see evidence of medical appointments where these are taken during school time.

Please visit our new Attendance and Punctuality page on our website [here](#) for further guidance about how we can work together to support young people to drive improvements in their attendance.

Mr L Wilson

Assistant Headteacher: Learner Support

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

IN ONE SCHOOL YEAR

97% = 6
attendance days off

= 30 hours
of learning lost

Prince Henry's Grammar School
COLLEGE ROAD, LEEDS LS10 1BA



Chippindale Pool

We are pleased to confirm that repair work has now commenced (funded jointly by Prince Henry's and Leeds City Council) to address the pool tank issues identified during previous works to replace the roof covering. This is being accompanied by significant investment in a new boiler to help to safeguard the future of the pool. It is anticipated that all works should be completed in time for the pool to re-open shortly after Christmas.

Data privacy

In line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), we publish 'Privacy Notices' to set out how we use personal data. Our updated Privacy Notice for students, parents and carers can be found on our school website [here](#).



Who to contact at Prince Henry's

To contact your child's Year Manager, call 01943 463524 and enter the appropriate extension number (see below). For enquiries relating to Special Educational Needs, contact our SENCO, Miss N Sadler.

For matters relating to specific subjects, email info@princehenrys.co.uk or call school and leave a message for the appropriate subject teacher or Faculty / Area Leader.

YEAR TEAMS	Progress Leader	Assistant Progress Leader	Year Manager		
Key Stage 3	Mr Day	Mrs Hunter	Year 7	Miss Crosby	Ext. 262
			Year 8	Mrs Stewart	Ext. 237
			Year 9	Mrs McQuire	Ext. 224
Key Stage 4	Mr Knight	Mr Walsh	Year 10	Mrs Wells	Ext. 295
			Year 11	Mrs Wood	Ext. 235
Key Stage 5	Mr Faulkner (Y12) Mrs Willis (Y13)		Year 12/13	Mrs Robinson-Junni	Ext. 220

CURRICULUM SUBJECTS

Art	Mr S Green	Law	Mrs N Edney
Business Studies / Economics	Mrs A Blakeley	Mathematics	Mrs L Wray
Design Technology and Innovation	Mrs A Blakeley	Media Studies	Mr S Hunt
Drama	Mr P Condry	Modern Foreign Languages	Mrs J Barber
English	Mr C Smith	Music	Mr P Condry
Ethics, Philosophy and Religion	Mrs N Edney	Photography	Mr S Green
Geography	Mrs N Edney	Physical Education	Mr D Curtis
Health and Social Care	Mr S Hunt	Politics	Mrs N Edney
History	Mrs N Edney	Psychology	Mrs S Richards
ICT / Computing	Mr S Hunt	Science	Mrs S Richards

Last week's year group assemblies marked Black History Month by celebrating the achievements of key figures who have fought injustice, whilst also highlighting the responsibility that we all have today to tackle racism and other forms of harassment. Please reinforce with your child the importance of not 'being a bystander' and encourage them to 'speak up' if they witness any form of bullying or prejudice-based behaviour so that we can ensure that our school is a place where all students can be themselves without fear of discrimination.

#Free2Bme
@phgs

We have recently re-launched our Student Equality & Diversity Group to all students in Years 7-13. If your child is interested in supporting this work, encourage them to get involved (3.00pm-3.45pm on Tuesday Week A / Wednesday Week B in En7). See the extra-curricular activities booklet on our website [here](#) for details of this and all other lunchtime and after-school activities.

Mr C Lillington

Assistant Headteacher: Learning Community



Prince Henry's Grammar School
COLLABORATIVE LEARNING TRUST



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