



Prince Henry's Grammar School
COLLABORATIVE LEARNING TRUST



Newsletter

July 2026

School is nearly out for the summer, and what a warm few weeks it has been! Thank you for all your letters of support following two spells of unusually hot weather. It is never easy to navigate these conditions, but we have done, with resilience, and without making the decision to close in the worst of the heat and humidity of two weeks ago, where the DfE were actively discouraging schools to close.

This half term we are delighted to welcome our new Sixth Form Head Students, Deputies and Assistants into their new roles. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Hannah Young and Joseph Davy as our new Head Students, alongside Nicole Brown, Ollie Holder and Emma Walters as Deputies. They are joined by eight Assistants who have committed to representing the school and students in events and opportunities over the coming year. Good luck to the new Senior Student Team of 26-27 in all your leadership pursuits.

Year 6 pupils spent three action-packed and exciting days with us last week as part of transition in readiness for Year 7 in September, and they impressed us with their mature approach. We are looking forward to welcoming them to PHGS and, of course, their parents and carers who joined us for an evening last Thursday to hear from, and meet, key staff. At this evening, we outlined plans to try to establish one point of entry from the Newall Carr Road entrance in the morning. This idea was not welcomed by all, and some members of our community have raised their concerns. We fully understand this and agree that we need to take more time to consider the safety of all our students, and the traffic implications. Thank you to those of you who took the time to communicate with us in a constructive and supportive way. As a result of your feedback, we will pause on this decision and continue operating with both entrances whilst we consult further.

We said some sad farewells to Year 13 at their Prom at The Village Hotel again this year, marking the end of their time with us. The Year 11 Prom was held on a glorious evening for the first time at The Craiglands. Both occasions were delightful and we enjoyed spending time with students at such lovely venues. We wish those who are moving on the very best and encourage them to keep in touch. We always love to hear from alumni and look forward to featuring some new faces in our 'Prince Henry's People' gallery.

Our final staff gathering will take place on Friday after students have left the building at 12.25pm, where we wish staff who are leaving us good luck for their future pursuits. This year we will say farewell to colleagues who have given varying periods of service to Prince Henry's, starting with those who leave us after an impressive 20 years. We wish John Walsh (English), Belinda Hall (Business Studies) and Gina Williams (DT) the best of luck and thank them for their long service. They are closely followed by Michael Horner (English and Media), Andy Rice (Catering Manager), Christine Barker (Cleaner), Val Sheppard (Catering) and Ruth Thackray (Science). Thank you to all for your dedication, and good luck for your futures beyond PHGS.

Before signing out, I would urge you to read the many important messages within this newsletter about the small details which will help make September a smooth start for all – particularly about uniform and mobile phones. We look forward to welcoming students back to the new academic year on Wednesday 2nd September.

With grateful thanks for your support, as ever. Have a safe and joyful summer, whatever you are doing, and take care.

Sally Bishop
Headteacher

A reminder that school closes for the summer this Friday at 12.25pm.
School buses are expected to depart at 12.30pm.

The new school year begins at 8.30am on Wednesday 2nd September
for all students in all year groups.

Key Stage 3 news

Students in Years 7 and 8 have been reaping the rewards from their hard work this academic year. It was lovely to see so many students enjoying the Rewards Trips and taking full advantage of the opportunities that this day presents. It was also wonderful to see students representing their forms on Olympic Day with the type of effort that meant it was a very competitive day.



Students have also been involved in this week's end-of-year Rewards Assemblies, where certificates and prizes are being awarded for a huge variety of achievements.

This includes excellence in subjects – in attitude to learning, progress and effort – as well as awards for attendance, 'clean slates' and all-round excellence. Form awards are also presented for resilience, showing support for one another and contribution. It has been great to see a large number of students receiving awards for their efforts. Well done to all concerned!

The Key Stage 3 team would like to wish all students a good summer holiday.

Mr S Day
Key Stage 3 Director

Key Stage 4 news

As we approach the holidays, it is a pleasure to reflect on another successful year in Key Stage 4. On Monday, students enjoyed Rewards Day, with visits to Blackpool Pleasure Beach, laser tag and bowling, alongside a range of fun in-school activities. These experiences are a well-deserved reward for the hard work, commitment and effort demonstrated throughout the year.

Yesterday, students took part in our annual Olympic Day, competing in a programme of individual and team sporting events. Our end-of-year Rewards Assemblies are also taking place this week, where we celebrate students' outstanding academic achievement, progress and positive attitude to learning.

As families begin preparing for September, many will be purchasing new school uniform. Please ensure that all items meet our uniform expectations, as students will be required to replace any items that do not comply. Please see Mr Clarkson's article on the next page for further details.

We wish all our students and their families a safe, enjoyable and restful summer holiday, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Mr S Knight
Key Stage 4 Director

Mobile phones from September



A reminder that, from September, mobile phones should fall into one of three categories during the school day:

- 1) No phone at all;
- 2) A 'brick phone' (i.e. non-smartphone) with only basic functions;
- 3) A smartphone with the 'Blackout' App installed.

Furthermore, when arriving on site, students will be required to switch off their phones and place them in their bags by the time they cross the painted line. Staff will be monitoring this as students arrive. If students do choose to bring a phone to school, they are advised to use a bag that has a space to store a phone or bring a case in which the phone can be stored to minimise the chance of damage.

Once a student has crossed the line, any phone seen on a student, whether being used or not, will be confiscated for a minimum of one night. Thank you to those who have made clear your support for our tougher stance on managing these devices, in response to the updated government guidance.

Mr S Clarkson
Deputy Headteacher: Behaviour and Attitudes

Fundraising news



Thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraising efforts this year, led by the Student Council, Senior Students and Year 7 form groups. Over the year, our school community has raised over £5,800 to support our students' chosen charities: the Otley-based Sarah Jackson Community Wish and Endometriosis UK.

Mr C Lillington
Assistant Headteacher: Community and Ethos

Attendance and Punctuality update

We want every student to have the best possible opportunity to succeed. Regular attendance and good punctuality are key to achieving this, helping students make the most of their learning and feel fully involved in school life.

From September 2026, the school will not authorise requests for discretionary absence (including filming licences and performance activities) where a student has four or more unauthorised absence sessions recorded on their attendance certificate.

A school day is made up of two sessions: AM (morning) and PM (afternoon).

Unauthorised sessions can occur when:

- No reason is provided for an absence.
- An absence cannot be authorised.
- A student arrives after registers close at 9.00am (recorded with a U code).
- A term-time holiday is taken without authorisation.

How can parents/carers help?

- Report all absences promptly.
- Ensure that your child arrives at school on time every day.
- Avoid requesting leave of absence during term time, wherever possible.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us to maintain high standards of attendance and punctuality for all students.

Mr L Wilson

Assistant Headteacher: Safeguarding and Wellbeing

School uniform

There are no changes to the uniform requirements for September. Year groups will continue to wear their current school tie with the same coloured stripe they have worn this year. New Year 7 students will wear a yellow stripe.

Unfortunately, we occasionally have students who find themselves getting the new academic year off to a negative start as we enforce the sanctions associated with uniform misdemeanours. To help your child avoid this, here are some of the common pitfalls where we would appreciate your support:

- Students who plan to have piercings anywhere other than their ear lobes are advised to do this well in advance of their return to school. Nose studs/piercings of any kind are not allowed and students will be required to remove them before being allowed to attend lessons.
- Hairstyles and colouring should be in line with school policy. This particularly includes no shaved patterns/lines in hair or eyebrows.
- Make up is not permitted in KS3 and must be discreet in KS4. Acrylic nails are not permitted in any year group at any time.
- Students may wear a watch and one small earring per lobe (small plain **silver or gold stud** only). No rings, bracelets or necklaces are permitted.
- Navy trousers should be bootcut or tailored and must have a waistband, a traditional zip and cover the ankles. Slim/Skinny or tapered fit trousers and invisible/concealed zips are not allowed. If you choose to buy trousers from a retailer other than our recommended suppliers, please ensure that the colour matches the school blazer.
- Navy skirts must be traditional tailored navy without pleats, worn no more than the student's hand width above/below the knee. Please pay particular attention to requirements regarding skirt style and length.
- Shoes must be plain black with no logos or white decorative elements. Boots are not allowed.
- Socks must be black or navy.

If in doubt, please check our uniform [webpage](#) which sets out our full uniform expectations, with visuals to support you to purchase items which meet the requirements.

Mr S Clarkson

Deputy Headteacher: Behaviour and Attitudes

In the first week of the new term, look out for your copy of our *Key Events* leaflet for 2026/27.

In the meantime, you can also use the interactive calendar via our website [here](#).

ATTENDANCE
MATTERS

IN ONE SCHOOL YEAR

97% = 6
attendance days off
= 30 hours
of learning lost

Prince Henry's
Grammar School

The poster features a blue background with white and yellow text. At the bottom left is the Prince Henry's Grammar School logo. On the right side, there is a graphic of a yellow spiral-bound calendar with several dates marked with red 'X's.

SIXTH FORM

Year 12 students approached the recent mock exams with determination and commitment, providing an excellent opportunity to evaluate their progress and identify strengths as they prepare for Year 13. Students also attended the Leeds Beckett UCAS Fair to explore higher education options, speak with university representatives and gather information about courses, student life, and application processes. Alongside university routes, students were able to learn more about apprenticeships and employment opportunities, helping them make informed decisions for life beyond Sixth Form.

Another highlight of the term was our highly successful Work Experience Week. Students embraced the opportunity to gain first-hand experience in the professional world, securing placements across a diverse range of industries and careers, where they represented both themselves and the school exceptionally well. The experience will not only develop their professional skills and confidence but also provide valuable inspiration as they consider future career aspirations.

Finally, yesterday Year 12 students took part in their own alternative Olympic Day – a fun-filled celebration with a mixture of friendly competition, teamwork and enjoyment, and an opportunity to further strengthen the friendships and sense of community that make our Sixth Form so special.

Year 13 students completed their A Level examinations in June, showing great resilience and determination throughout. We are incredibly proud of the way they have approached their studies and supported one another. To mark the end of their time at Prince Henry's, students came together for a spectacular Leavers' Prom, attended by over 150 students. Students arrived looking fantastic and ready to celebrate this significant milestone. The atmosphere throughout the evening was one of joy and excitement, with friends sharing memories, taking photographs and enjoying their final opportunity to come together as a year group. The dance floor was rarely empty, as students – and even one or two members of staff – embraced the occasion. From the first song to the last, the energy and enthusiasm in the room ensured an unforgettable evening for everyone.

We now look forward to welcoming our students back from 8.30am on A Level Results Day (13th August). This will be another important milestone, providing an opportunity to celebrate their achievements and the destinations they have secured. Although their time at Prince Henry's may be drawing to a close, we know that the experiences, friendships and memories they have created here will remain with them for years to come. We wish all our Year 13 students every success as they embark on the next stage of their journey.

Mr M Johnson

Assistant Headteacher: Post-16 Learning

Focus on equipment

There will be a renewed focus on presentation of work in the new school year.



To assist with this, it is important that students have the basic equipment at all times. At Prince Henry's, this is classed as:

- pen
- pencil
- ruler
- rubber
- calculator
- pencil sharpener
- green pen
- glue stick

This should all be stored safely inside a pencil case.

Mr S Clarkson

Deputy Headteacher: Behaviour and Attitudes

Careers news

Last week, all students in Year 10 had the fantastic opportunity to meet with local employers for a 'mock interview', with staff from M & S, RAF, British Army, NHS, West Yorkshire Police and many more companies and organisations giving up their time to come into school. Employers gave our students the chance to practise their interview skills and gain valuable feedback to help prepare them for real interviews.

Mrs F Quinlan
Careers Officer



Catering reminders



Please remember to top up your child's lunch card balance before the start of the new term.

Remember, too, that you can select the 'Alerts' option on Scopay to tell you when their lunch card balance is running low.

Mr A Rice
Catering Manager

Online safety



The UK Safer Internet Centre's [website](#) provides a wide range of useful guidance for parents/carers to help to keep their children safe online.

This year, in each edition of our Newsletter, we have been including one of their 'top tips for parents/carers'.

Tip 6: Misinformation and 'fake news'

- Talk regularly with your child about how they use technology and where they go for information online. Discuss who they follow, what types of adverts they see, and what stories they find surprising or suspicious. Listening to your child will give you the best possible idea of how you can support them.
- False and misleading content online can be upsetting and confusing (for example, harmful claims that target specific groups, or unhealthy lifestyle tips). Young people may feel powerless when faced with the amount of unreliable content they see. Regularly check in with your child about their online life and ask them how what they see makes them feel. Reassure your child that you are there to talk about things that upset them.
- Find out how to get more support by visiting [Childnet](#). You can take steps to support your child online by using the 'report' feature on a range of apps, games and services, and by using privacy settings on social media.

Mr O Wharton

Assistant Headteacher: Exams, Assessment and Innovation

During last week's Equality & Diversity Week, students

#Free2Bme
@phgs

explored issues of equality throughout the curriculum, whilst special activities included wheelchair basketball, Capoeira and British Sign Language workshops, a Global Masterchef competition and a range of sessions delivered by external speakers on issues such as disability discrimination, racism, homophobia and gender stereotypes. As part of the week, year group assemblies considered the progress made in society in terms of achieving greater equality, as well as the challenges which remain to ensure that everyone is treated with respect.

We want our school community to be a place where everyone feels that they belong, and where everyone looks out for one another. Please encourage your child to 'speak up' if they are the victim of, or witness, any type of discriminatory or unkind behaviour.

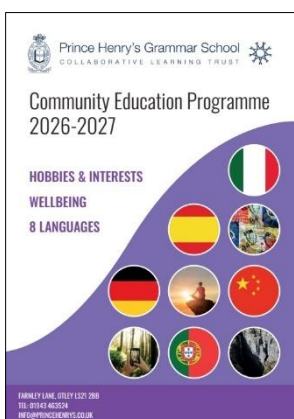
Mr C Lillington

Assistant Headteacher: Community and Ethos

Travel to school by car

A reminder that, for safety reasons, due to the high volume of young people moving through the gates, parents/carers must NOT be using the school car park to drop off/pick up students at the start/end of the school day.

Exceptions may be allowed where a child has a temporary mobility issue, provided this has been agreed with your child's Year Manager and the vehicle details logged with the staff on duty.



New Community Education Programme launched

Our brand-new Community Education Programme brochure has just been published, featuring a wide range of evening courses and one-off workshops. Choose from **over 50** evening classes / day workshops, including 23 language courses across 8 different languages, as well as a wide range of hobbies and wellbeing classes. New courses this year include an Introduction to Geology, Phone Photography for Beginners, Batik and Brusho, Write a Memoir and Meet the Tudors! Familiar favourites including African Drumming, Fly Tying, Photography, Pilates and Dru Yoga also make a return. For further details, visit our website [here](#).

Mr C Lillington

Assistant Headteacher: Community and Ethos



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, please ask for our SENCO, Mrs R Hunter, or email her via send@princehenrys.co.uk.

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.

PASTORAL TEAM	Key Stage Director	Assistant Key Stage Director	Year Manager (from September 2026)		
Key Stage 3	Mr Day	Mr Weston	Year 7	Mrs McQuire	Ext. 1613
			Year 8	Miss Combe	Ext. 1614
			Year 9	Mrs Parker	Ext. 1612
Key Stage 4	Mr Knight	Mr Shann	Year 10	Mrs Wood	Ext. 1616
			Year 11	Mrs Furness	Ext. 1617
Key Stage 5	Mr Faulkner (Y12) Mr Johnson (Y13)	Miss Rosillo	Year 12/13	Mrs Robinson-Junni	Ext. 1610

CURRICULUM SUBJECTS

Art	Mrs A Blakeley	Law / Criminology	Mr M Faulkner
Business Studies / Economics	Mr M Faulkner	Mathematics	Mr A Fishburn
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	Mrs A Blakeley
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 / Sociology	Mr M Faulkner
ICT / Computing	Mr S Hunt	Science	Mrs S Richards



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