



CHILTERN
LEARNING
TRUST



Putteridge
High
School

NEWSLETTER

Issue number : 25

Date: January 2019

Headteacher: Mr David Graham

I hope you find our monthly newsletter informative, our students continue to do fantastic things every day and we are so proud of what your children achieve. Our thoughts continue to be very much with Terry, the husband of Jane Halls, their children and friends. I have been overwhelmed by the response from our community. Jane will be enormously missed and staff and students are writing down their memories, messages and feelings in two remembrance books. If you would like to make a contribution then please do speak to Mrs Pitchford. To those of you who have spoken to me directly, thank you for your kind words, I will do my very best to ensure they are shared with the family.

The next bidders day for the new build is planned for early March and as soon as I have more information I will let you know. While we wait for the new build, we will continue to ensure we make the best of our current site. Last week we had our annual Health and Safety audit and I'm delighted to say that we came out as outstanding, much of this is down to our Health and Safety Officer Kurtis Pitchford, who is well supported by our caretaker Kim Jensen.

More imminent change is arriving with regard to Parentmail. I am so pleased that we finally have an online payment system for school based financial matters, from school ties to trips. Please do check the details and get yourself signed up as soon as you can. You will find payment so much quicker, safer and more efficient going forward. On the subject of lunch times, I would like to apologise if there have been some teething problems with the new arrangements. As we grow we are having to adjust our systems to 'cater' for the growing popularity of the school. We now have both dining rooms serving hot and cold food and hopefully, with our latest adjustment of delaying one year group in lower for 10 minutes, the flow is improved. We were very keen to enable those with packed lunch to continue to eat with their friends who are eating a school meal.

The arrangements for travel to and from school appear to be improving. Arriva have kindly put on an additional bus in the morning and this is making a significant difference to punctuality. To speed up the boarding process on the bus, please ensure weekly tickets are purchased prior to travel, either using the app, online, prior to exiting the bus from their last journey or from the town centre. In addition, please spend some time with your child and ensure they are leaving early enough to arrive well before 8.30am each morning and that they are 'Ready' to learn, with a full pencil case and all the required stationery they will need in any one school day.

Finally, I would like to share with you that due to recent growth and success we have been in a wonderful position to recruit several new teachers recently. Breaking the national trend and indeed the trend of many local schools, we had quality applicants and recruited 6 excellent new teachers who will bring a real vibrancy, enthusiasm and quality to our already exciting staffing team.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and as always thank you for your continued support.

David Graham
Headteacher

'A FIRST CLASS Education'

TERM DATES 2019

Spring Term

Half term - Monday 18th February 2019 – Friday 22nd February 2019

Closes - Friday 5th April 2019

Summer Term

Starts - Tuesday 23rd April 2019

Half Term - Monday 27th May 2019– Friday 31st May 2019

Closes - Tuesday 23rd July 2019

Training days (School closed for students)
Friday 7th June 2019

YEAR 8 OPTIONS EVENING THURSDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2019

*Remember to book your place via
'Forms' on Edulink*

PRESENTATIONS
AT 6:30
AND 7PM

FEBRUARY 7TH

Thursday 7th February
6-8pm in the sports hall, Year 8
students and parents are invited
to learn about the options available
in Year 9.

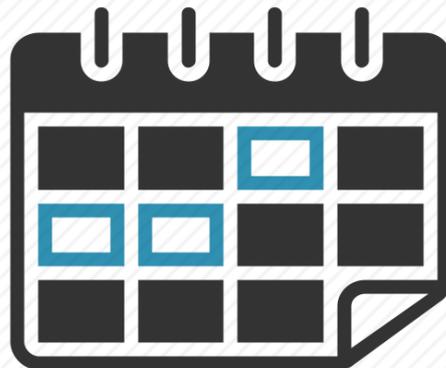
**YEAR 8 OPTIONS
EVENING**
**PUTTERIDGE
HIGH SCHOOL**

DATES FOR FEBRUARY

Thursday 7th February - Year 8 Options Evening

Half Term - Monday 18th February - Friday 22nd February

**Thursday 28th February - Year 8 Parent/Carer
Consultation Evening**



FOR INFORMATION

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE

In exceptional circumstances it may be necessary to close the school during normal hours. In these instances, i.e. due to severe weather conditions, we shall inform parents via our website, school Facebook and Twitter pages. In addition, we will endeavour to contact you by email/text.

ATTENDANCE

It is through good attendance that students maximise their full potential, enhancing their life chances for the future. Missing school means missing out on learning and this can have an impact on a child's development and attainment. There is a strong statistical link between attendance and attainment. The law states that children of statutory school age, who are on roll at a school or academy, must attend regularly and punctually. Regular attendance is important because it is the best way of ensuring children make the most of the educational opportunities available to them.

STUDENT ABSENCE/MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Please remember to call school on 01582 415791 and select option 1 for Attendance, as soon as possible in the morning, and by 8.30am, should your child be unwell and not able to attend school.

Medical evidence is required for absences over 3 days if your child has over 92% attendance. Where a student's attendance is under 92%, medical evidence is required for every absence. Students must also provide, to Mrs Hake, Attendance Officer, copies of appointment cards/ hospital letters on or before the day of the appointment.

AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP

At the end of the school day we are still experiencing high levels of congestion outside the front of the school. Please endeavour to park a reasonable distance away from the school to avoid unnecessary traffic at all times. In addition, please remind students that they are not to walk across either the staff or recreation car park at any time.

FOR INFORMATION

Edulink

As many of you are aware, we began using Edulink for communicating with parents and carers at the start of term.

Edulink is used to send emails and text messages, in addition to allowing you to view the following information on your child/children, using just one login:

- Timetable
- Achievement Points
- Behaviour Points
- Contact information - check we hold the correct contact numbers and email addresses for you
- Parents' Evenings - for booking timeslots at the year group Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings.
- Links to other internet based systems used by school.

Available as a free app for Apple and Android phones or via the internet, Edulink will help keep you informed on a day to day basis.



*If you do not have a username and password for Edulink please contact the Central Admin team:
centraladmin@putteridgehigh.org*

www.edulinkone.com/#!/login

YEAR 8 - GCSE OPTIONS FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 7th February – Year 8 Options Evening (6.00pm-8.00pm) (presentations in main hall at 6.30pm and 7.00pm)

Thursday 28th February – Year 8 Parent/Carer Consultation Evening (4.00pm-7.00pm)

Friday 22nd March – Options form to be handed in to Central Admin Office

Friday 29th March – Majority of Year 8 students to be interviewed



FUNDRAISING

Christmas Raffle

Forms G1 and G4, of Green House, held a Christmas hamper raffle before the end of term and we are delighted to inform you that a total of £231.20 was raised for their charity - the NSPCC.

1st Prize - Miss Bruton

2nd Prize - Sisanda, Yellow House

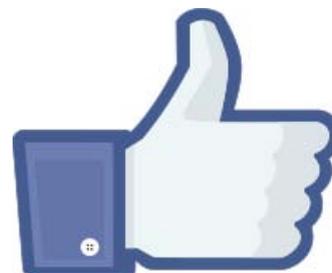
3rd Prize - Mr Graham, who donated his prize to Harvey, G3



NSPCC



*Like our page on
Facebook:
Putteridge High School*



*Follow our Twitter feeds:
@PutteridgeHSch
@PutteridgePE*

SAFEGUARDING

POLICE

Emergency 999 / Non Emergency 101

<https://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/information-and-services/Contact/Contact>

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

KEEPING SAFE AWAY FROM HOME (NSPCC)

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/staying-safe-away-fromhome/>

CHILDLINE

Childline is a free, private and confidential service for young people. Whatever the worry

<https://www.childline.org.uk/> or Phone 0800 1111

MULTI-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING HUB (MASH)

Protecting vulnerable children is everyone's business, and we all need to be alert, to know what to look out for and where to go for advice, as well as having the confidence to report any acts of abuse safe in the knowledge that they will be acted on. If you are concerned about the welfare of a child (0 to 18 years old) please call the MASH on 01582 547653. The number to call for out of normal working hours emergencies is 0300 300 8123

MIND

We're MIND the Mental Health Charity, we won't give up until everyone experiencing a mental health problem receives support and respect. <https://www.mind.org.uk/>

ONLINE SAFETY

Childnet International has produced guidance for parents and carers on looking after the digital wellbeing of children and young people. This includes having an awareness of how being online can make children and young people feel, and how they can look after themselves and others when online. The guidance includes: age specific information about how children and young people are interacting with the internet; top tips to support young people at this age; and ideas to help start a conversation about digital wellbeing.

Source: www.saferinternet.org.uk

EXAM INFORMATION

Examination Key Dates 2018-2019

Exam Series	Year Group	Dates	Results
UK Maths Challenge (Intermediate)	Years 9/10/11	7th February 2019	Via Department
Functional Skills English	Years 10 & 11	25th February 2019	April 2019
NCFE VCerts Food & Cookery	Year 11	5th March 2019	24th May 2019
GCSE Internal Exams	Year 11	11th - 22nd March 2019	Via Departments
GCSE 3D Design	Year 11	1st & 2nd April 2019	22nd August 2019
GCSE Art & Design	Year 11	3rd & 4th April 2019	22nd August 2019
UK Maths Challenge (Junior)	Years 7 & 8	30th April 2019	Via Department
Summer Exams GCSE/GCE/F.SKILLS/ BTEC/ELC	Year 11	13th May - 26th June 2019	22nd August 2019
BTEC Sport	Year 11	Sport results to Exams Office by 20th June 2019	22nd August 2019
End of Year Tests	Years 7 & 9	7th - 17th May 2019	Via Departments
End of Year Tests	Years 8 & 10	17th - 28th June 2019	Via Departments

TRIP TO THE GUARDIAN

Twenty eight of our Year 10 GCSE Media Studies students had the opportunity to visit the Guardian News & Media Education Centre in London this month.

The 'Newspaper: Make a Front Page' workshop allowed students to take on the roles of both reporters and editors to choose, research and write news stories using the day's breaking news feed.

As the day progressed they sub-edited their stories, wrote headlines, chose photographs and produced their page using industry standard software. Students learnt how stories are structured, how editorial decisions are reached and how the news is made.

The day was a valuable learning tool for the students as The Guardian has been set as a case study by the examination board.



Miss S Parker
Media Studies

LANGUAGES

LANGUAGES @ PUTTERIDGE

YEAR 8 & 9 LINGUISTS VISIT UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Some of our best German linguists in Years 8 and 9 enjoyed a taster day at Magdalene College, Cambridge on 15th January. They listened to two presentations about the importance of learning languages and our students had the chance to ask any questions to the undergraduates on the panel. Together they had a German masterclass on advertising and taster lessons in Russian and Arabic. Our students were exemplary throughout and learnt a lot from the day.

“It was cool to learn other languages and to be taught by different teachers – Pretty nifty!” James

“It was interesting to learn the different scripts of Arabic and Russian.” Rumaysah

“It was fun learning about life at university.” Year 8

“It was very fun, but quite challenging learning new languages.” Vidhi

“The college looked great and it was pretty interesting starting two languages with different script to English.” Year 8

“It was a great trip and a good experience for the future.” Malik

“It was interesting to learn how to write in the Arabic script.” Alessia

“I had so much fun today. I found it so much fun learning a bit of Arabic and Russian. It made me want to do Arabic when I go to university and now I really want to go to the University of Cambridge.” Evie

“It was an amazing experience learning some Russian and Arabic in Cambridge University. The trip opened new doors that languages can open.” Sarah



Mrs H Line
Head of Languages

LANGUAGES



WHY LEARN A LANGUAGE AT GCSE?



Year 8 students can choose to study French or German GCSE and there are many benefits:

- Gain an EBacc qualification and improve your employability/choice of universities.
- Travel to or live in different countries with greater ease.
- Understand more about how other people think and about their cultures.
- Give yourself more open doors in life.
- Be more competitive in the jobs market and maybe earn more money.
- Develop denser grey matter and more brain plasticity.
- Become a good problem-solver, creative thinker and communicator.

Students in Years 10 and 11 can also take a full GCSE in other languages, such as, Italian, Urdu, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Polish, to name a few. Half GCSEs (for listening/speaking assessment only) are no longer available in most languages; students have to be able to read and write too.





LETS CELEBRATE

YELLOW HOUSE “TOP TIGERS”

We are always keen and proud to recognise what our students achieve. Our Head of House, Ms Heartfield, has scanned through a myriad of data and information to seek out who her “Top Tiger” will be, always looking to recognise those who contribute to school life in some way. Since the beginning of the school year, 29 students have received this well-earned accolade.

Congratulations to them all

Brianna McC, Lucy L, Tyler C, Ella-Louise S, Jack A, Kaylee L, Millie-Jo G, Kacper I, Eloise C, Callum T, Sandra W, Adil S, Emily S, Aisha L, Abigail E, Ellis F, Nathaniel D, Katie P, En Qi H, Oskar M, Katie S, Louis, Callum T, Jake W, Jameeur R, Zoe S, Denisa L, Kiah S, and Kharmani PW.

Well done to them all!

JOB VACANCIES

EXAMINATION INVIGILATORS

We currently have vacancies for Examination Invigilators. The job requires casual work on an hourly basis at various times of the year – particularly at the end of November / beginning of December, March, the middle of May and all of June.

To apply for this role or for further information please email our HR Officer, Mrs T Toyer:
ttoyer@putteridgehigh.org

SPORTS

BADMINTON

Congratulations to the four year 8 girls who took part in a badminton tournament on Friday 11th January at Denbigh High School. They played very well, coming 4th in the competition. Players were - Cerys, Shanese, Lillie and Eliza.

Mrs Nicholl

'ONE OF OUR OWN'

Ex-Putteridge High School student James Justin finds time in his busy schedule to visit his old school and inspire Year 11 students. Thank you James, we hope you continue to play fantastic football with the flying Luton Town FC.



SPORTS

CHIYENNE REACHES TOP TEN IN THE UNITED KINGDOM!

Our very own Chiyenne, Year 11, has now been ranked as the 9th best 60m indoor sprinter in the UK! Chiyenne has proven to be a fantastic athlete over the years and we have been privileged to see her in many races. Hopefully she will continue to perform after she leaves PHS...it may not be the last we hear of her!

YEAR 7 BOY'S BASKETBALL TEAM - 4th IN BEDFORDSHIRE!

Our 2019 had a brilliant start with our Year 7s qualifying from the Luton Schools Basketball to the County competition in January. At Cranfield University we won several games against the best schools in Bedfordshire, even beating the team that came 3rd having the same amount of games won, however we narrowly missed out on the bronze medal through points difference.

A huge well done to the squad on the day including Takhahri, Daniel, Leo, Reagan, Rhys and Imad. Also a massive well done to George Lewis and Alfie who also played throughout the season and contributing to our qualification. Next academic year will provide the opportunity for the boys to train and play together for another season, which could lead to a medal in 2020!

CROSS COUNTRY @ PHS

In January at Stockwood Park Athletics Stadium our KS4 students enjoyed success in the Senior competition. With great runs and times from all involved, we had Bethany come 1st in her event, Lewis coming 5th, with Kaylee and Jagoda also qualifying for the county competition!

Mr Szwajbak
Subject Leader - PE

