

# Weekly Buzz

6 November  
2017

## Remember remember...

Coverage about  
Salamanca Trip

Upcoming events  
and clubs

Academic and Sports  
fixtures





# THE | OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

The Oxford & Cambridge Singing School is for children aged 7-13 who love to sing. This Christmas we will be singing carols and festive music from around the world, from the medieval to the modern.

Our holiday courses in Oxford, Cambridge and London are run by renowned coaches from the colleges of Oxford & Cambridge, and involve world-class teaching in choral singing, history, theory and much more, developed to inspire in a way that is both varied and rewarding.

*"I Just wanted to say thank you to all involved. My daughter came home 'buzzing' each day. Loved the music and thought that the coaches were all very, very good. Loved everything about it!"*

To join our mailing list and for more information on our courses, please look at [www.oxbridgesingingschool.co.uk](http://www.oxbridgesingingschool.co.uk) or email [oxbridgess@gmail.com](mailto:oxbridgess@gmail.com)

**CAROLS AND FESTIVE MUSIC**  
**MARYLEBONE PARISH CHURCH, LONDON NW1 5LT**  
**DECEMBER 22nd (10 am-4 pm) & 23rd (10 am - 1 pm)**

[www.oxbridgesingingschool.co.uk](http://www.oxbridgesingingschool.co.uk)

# Letter from the Headmaster

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On Monday this week we held our first whole-school assembly of the year in The Salvation Army Hall on Oxford Street, the venue for our Celebration Day last year (and again at the end of this year too). It was a great event, one to celebrate the achievements of our pupils, and opened by a beautiful performance from our Chamber Choir. Certificates were presented to Year 11 students who have achieved their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award and I look forward to many of them working for their Gold Award next year in the Sixth Form. This was also inspiring for our next cohort of Bronze award candidates who have started their programme with Miss Pym this week. We also had presentations to our Pupil Rewards Points leaders in Years 5 – 9. There was palpable sense of togetherness in the hall and this is an event I aim to have every half term.

There was something of a Sixth Form theme this week. Year 11 had their Taster Days on Monday and Tuesday where they elected to join nine classes in subjects they are considering for A-level study next year. There was a brilliant atmosphere to those days with students being excited and challenged by the lessons they attended, having a real experience of that “next level up” in their studies. The information evening on Tuesday with parents attending as well also had a lively buzz. With twenty-three A-level subjects on offer Portland Place can certainly provide for a wide variety of interests and ambitions. I look forward to seeing the choices our Year 11 students make in their imminent options round.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Bradbury'. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long, sweeping underline.

David Bradbury, Headmaster

# Notice Board

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## PPS Poppy Poet Competition 2017

Ms Butler, Head of Humanities (History)

Remembrance Day takes place each year providing us with the opportunity to reflect on and remember those who have been affected by warfare; both civilians and military personnel. The History and English Departments are pleased to announce the start of a brand new competition for Year 9, designed to engage and enthuse our students to be creative and insightful at this poignant time of year. The 'PPS Poppy Poet' competition will take place annually in early November with the winner receiving a formal award and the accolade of presenting their poem at Prize Giving at the end of the year. We are looking for the poems to enthrall, captivate and absorb us! Get scribing and we look forward to reading them and announcing the winners!



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## Online Safety Guidance for Parents

Ms O'Neill, Deputy Head Teacher

Online spaces, games and media form a large part of life for young people growing up today. It offers a platform to connect with others, connect with others and to learn. If you understand the situations they encounter you'll be better placed to offer them advice on how to deal with them.

This pocket sized leaflet gives parents and carers points to consider and useful links on the following topics

- Gaming
- Bullying
- Live Streaming
- Apps
- Instant Messaging

<https://swgfl.org.uk/products-services/online-safety/resources/online-safety-guidance-for-parents/online-safety-guidance-for-parents/>

# News

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## Star Geographer

Ms Johnston, Head of Geography

Each term we nominate a student from Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 to be 'Genius Geographer'. The students who win this award have shown exemplary work and effort in Geography throughout the term. Year 7: Nicholas Bartha, Year 8: Bo Frampton, Year 9: Flinn Seery. Well done to all three!

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## Year 11 Presentation from the Local Community Police

Ms O'Neill, Deputy Head Teacher

Our Year 11 had a presentation on Misuse of Substances in our GPS Hall on Friday 13 October during Period 5. Our Year 10 will be receiving the same presentation this Friday 3 November.

The police are coming into school to work with all age groups.

The topics being covered will be age appropriate – but relate to the following:

- Moped Enabled thefts
- General safety tips
- Misuse of Substances (Year 10 and over)

The sessions have been very interactive and time has been given to allow the students to ask questions and particularly, for the older pupils, to establish where the stand "age wise" in relation to the Law.

Our two Local Police are PC Zach Zachariah. [Ali@met.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Ali@met.pnn.police.uk) and PC Bart Bartosz. [Nowicki@met.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Nowicki@met.pnn.police.uk)

Both from Westminster BOCU Paddington Green Police Station 2-4 Harrow Road, Ground Floor, Central Cluster, London, W2 1XJ



# News

## GCSE Spanish homestay trip to Salamanca (15-19 Oct)

Ms Picado, Head of Spanish

The trip has been once again a huge success, our students had a fantastic time attending Spanish lessons at Colegio Delibes in the mornings and enjoying different activities in the afternoons. Salsa and cooking lessons were definitely the highlights of the trip: Freddy and Euan proved to be fantastic salsa dancers and all the boys had a go at cooking a Spanish omelette and making alcohol-free sangria. All the host families gave super feedback about our boys' behaviour and attitude while staying with them

It will be wonderful to go to Salamanca again next October. Well done chicos!!



# News

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## Droids arrive at Portland Place

Mr Caballero (Head of IT and e-Learning)

For the first time ever, Year 7 at Portland Place School have created their own Droid R2-D2. Using *littleBits* electronic blocks and following instructions on the Droid Inventor app, they have given their Droid new abilities and take it on missions. Year 7 will level-up their inventor expertise and reconfigure their Droid to give it new skills. The target is to continue on to challenges that spark creativity and get our students to invent brand-new Droids.



# News

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## Year 7 Form Captains

Ms Boyle, Head of Year 7

Congratulations to Josh Tucker, Grace Gosling, Angel Ellis and Madoc Jones for being chosen as Year 7 Form Captains.



# Sports

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## Cross Country

Mr McLoughlin, Head of PE

### Six Portland Place Pupils are selected for the London Youth Games

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been selected to represent the City of Westminster at this year's London Youth Games Cross Country Championships. This takes place at Parliament Hill on Saturday 18th November. All athletes were selected after their outstanding performances at the Westminster Championships before half term. Well done! Tom Hallam; Benny Miller; Dylan Cohen; Alex McDonald; Sam Ingram and Eli Anderson.



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## Football

Mr McLoughlin, Head of PE

### U14

<b>Portland Place</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>King Alfred's</b>	<b>0</b>

On Friday 6th October, PPS made their way to Hampstead Heath to take on King Alfred School in an action packed game of football. PPS started brightly and looked dangerous. The boys were playing some high quality football in possession and were quick to close down King Alfred's when defending. The boys took an early lead through Theo Moot who was fastest to react and finish from two yards after a powerful shot by Alex McDonald. The game started to even out as King Alfred's looked for an equaliser, but the boys were solid in defence, preventing King Alfred's from getting any good efforts on target. PPS added a second through Alex McDonald who showed great pace to beat the fullback and good composure to drive the ball into the bottom corner taking a 2-0 lead into halftime. In the second half the boys continued to play some eye catching, fast paced football. It wasn't long before the boys added a third, with Theo Moot placing the ball into the far corner for his brace.

# Sports

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## **Football Continued...**

Moments later Idir Kermoud added a fourth with a powerful finish to put the match out of reach for King Alfred's. To King Alfred's credit they continued to compete and made PPS work hard off the ball, but as in the first half the PPS back four remained resolute. As the game entered the final few minutes, Idir Kermoud managed to find the back of the net with a confident finish to see PPS take a 5-0 win at full time. Overall, a very impressive performance from PPS in an action packed and competitive match.

Nico Blakemore had an excellent game until he gained an unfortunate injury at the end of the first half. Eli Anderson marshalled the back four well in defence, whilst also making some driving runs to provide an extra attacking threat, but man of the match went to Idir Kermoud who was constant thorn in King Alfred's side with his clever movement, good footwork and deadly finishing. Well done boys.

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## **Basketball**

Mr McLoughlin, Head of PE

<b>U11s</b>	<b>Inter</b>	<b>House</b>	<b>Basketball</b>
<b>Winners</b>	-	-	<b>Cavendish</b>
<b>Runners</b>	<b>up</b>	-	<b>Langham</b>
<b>Third</b>	<b>Place</b>	-	<b>Devonshire</b>
<b>Fourth</b>	<b>Place</b>	-	<b>Wigmore</b>

The boys and girls of Year 5 & 6 kicked off the first House Sporting event of the year with the annual Inter House Basketball tournament. The format for the tournament was league based where all teams played each other and this determined the 3rd/4th place playoff match and the overall final. The six league games were of a fantastic standard and resulted in no less than 12 different scorers across the six games. Cavendish dominated all of their games, winning all three and scoring the maximum of 9 points and cruising into the final. However, the main action was in the final group match between Langham and Wigmore in a winner takes all route to the final to play Cavendish. It was a close encounter and the score line was level, a draw would have been good enough for Wigmore to sneak into the final on points difference. However, Grace Bradshaw had other ideas and sunk a superb shot to snatch the victory and a place in the final! Devonshire played Wigmore in the 3rd/4th Place playoff and Devonshire ran in comfortable winners with baskets from Kunal Patel and Roberto Hinton. The final was a close encounter and the score was tied at 2-2 for a long period after Grace Bradshaw who scored the first points against Cavendish on the day. However, the top scorer for the day was not willing to let Cavendish lose this tournament after such a dominant performance in the league. Lawton Ballbach scored a total 14 points during the competition and Cavendish took the victory. Despite the points total from Lawton the MVP today was Roberto Hinton who demonstrated an outstanding skillset from the terms basketball lessons.

# Calendar and Contact

## Monday 6 November

12.45-1.30pm	Ukulele & Guitar Ensemble, Mr Hill, R2
12.45-1.30pm	Woodwind Ensemble, R1
1.00pm	KS3 Bookclub, Ms Hubner, Library
2.00pm	U13 Girls Netball v Dwight
4.00-5.00pm	Yoga Class (Year10-13), Ms Wellby, Dramastudio

## Tuesday 7 November

08.00-08.30am	Table Tennis Club, Ms Rider, PPS Hall
12.45-1.30pm	Debating Club, Ms Baig, Library
12.45-1.30pm	Percussion Ensemble, Mr Jesson, R2
12.45-1.30pm	Symphonietta, Ms Boyle, R1
12.45-1.30pm	GSCE Italian Club, R23
1.00-1.20pm	Netball Shooting Club, girls PE office
1.10-1.30pm	GCSE PE Club, boys changing rooms PPS
1.00pm	U13 Girls Netball (Westminster Netball Tournament (a))
2.00pm	U11s Boys Football v Chaterhouse Square
3.45-4.45pm	Computing Club, R34
3.45-4.30pm	Year 7-9 Maths Club, R10
3.45-4.30pm	Year10-12 Maths Club, G12
3.45-4.45pm	KS2 Sports Club, PPS Hall
4.00-4.45pm	GCSE Italian Club, R36
4.00-6.00pm	Oliver Rehearsals, Drama Studio
4.00-5.00pm	Arts Award Club (all years) Ms Birtles, B3

## Wednesday 8 November

12.45-1.30pm	Music Theory, Ms Bottrill, R42
12.45-1.25pm	Soul Band, Mr Bentley, R2
12.45-1.30pm	El club de Español/Spanish Bilingual Club, Mr Lalande and Ms Picado, Library
2.00pm	U16s Boys Football v Thames Christian College (a)
2.30pm	U18s Boys Football v Radnor House
3.45-4.30pm	EAL Homework Club, R23, Ms Florea
3.45-4.30pm	GCSE Classical Civilisation Club, G41
4.00-4.45pm	GCSE Art, Art Studio
4.00-4.45pm	GCSE Computing Club, G11
4.00-4.30pm	Italian Club, R10
4.00-5.00pm	Year 11 DT GSCE, Ms Linton, B1
4.00-5.00pm	Year 11 DT GSCE, Mr Macfarlane & Ms Birtles, B1
4.00-6.00pm	Oliver Rehearsals, PPS Hall
4.00pm	GCSE French Club, R33
4.15pm	U16 Girls Netball v Pimlico (a)
4.45pm	U16 Girls v St Georges (a)

## Thursday 9 November

12.45-1.30pm	GCSE History Club, G23
12.45-1.30pm	Portland Place Choir, Mr Hill, R1
12.45-1.30pm	Club de Francais/French Bilingual Club, Mr Lalande and Ms Magniez, Library
12.45-1.30pm	Music Tech Club, Mr Bentley, R42
3.45-4.30pm	Year 13 Maths Club, G12
3.45-4.45pm	Brass Ensemble, Mr Bentley, Room 41
3.45-4.45pm	GCSE Economics Club, G43
3.45-4.45pm	KS2 Homework Club
3.45-4.45pm	Chamber Choir, Miss Boyle, R1
3.45-4.30pm	GCSE Drama Theory Club, HH
4.00-5.00pm	Whole School Art Club
4.00-5.00pm	GCSE Art, Art Studio
4.00-5.00pm	DT Cubs (Year 5 & 6), Mr Macfarlane, B3
4.00-5.00pm	Oliver Rehearsals, Dramastudio

## Friday 10 November

12.45-1.30pm	PPS Strings, Ms Boyle, R1
12.45-1.30pm	Portland Place Big Band, Mr Hill, R2
12.45-1.30pm	Textiles Club (all years), Ms Birtles, B3
2.00pm	U11s Boys Football v Radnor House (a)
4.00-6.15pm	LAMDA Lessons, R11

## Upcoming Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent/Teacher meetings will be held on the following dates on The 5th floor of the GPS Building from 4pm.

Parents evening booking system now open.

Monday 6 November Year 10

Monday 4 December Year 7

## TERM DATES:

### AUTUMN TERM 2017

Term Starts Tuesday 5 September

Half Term Mon 16 Oct – Fri 27 Oct

End of Term Friday 13 December

## CONTACT DETAILS:

### PPS MAIN BUILDING (Years 4-9)

58 Portland Place, London W1B 1NJ

### HARFORD HOUSE (Art/Drama/Science)

101-103 Great Portland Street W1W 6QE

### GPS BUILDING (Years 10-13)

143-149 Great Portland Street W1W 6QN

E-mail: [admin@portland-place.co.uk](mailto:admin@portland-place.co.uk)

[www.portland-place.co.uk](http://www.portland-place.co.uk) Tel: 020 7307 8700

## PPS TWITTER ACCOUNTS:

<https://twitter.com/PortlandPlaceHd>

[@PortlandPlaceHd](https://twitter.com/PortlandPlaceHd) – Main PPS account

[@PPSSports](https://twitter.com/PPSSports) – Sports Department

[@PPSDrama](https://twitter.com/PPSDrama) – Drama Department

[@PPSLibrary](https://twitter.com/PPSLibrary) – Reading related news

[@PPSMusicDept](https://twitter.com/PPSMusicDept) – Music Department

[@MissColes\\_PPS](https://twitter.com/MissColes_PPS) – Head of KS2

[@PPS\\_DT](https://twitter.com/PPS_DT) – Design Technology

[@MFLPPS](https://twitter.com/MFLPPS) – Mfl Department

[@year7PPS](https://twitter.com/year7PPS) – Year 7

[@year8\\_pps](https://twitter.com/year8_pps) – Year 8

[@pps\\_maths](https://twitter.com/pps_maths) – Maths Department

[@EnglishPPS](https://twitter.com/EnglishPPS) – English Department

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