

Weekly Buzz

29 January 2018



Thank you to Andy and The Odd Socks for the great performance!

Just over a week left
to Oliver!

Dates for your diary

Academic and Sports
fixtures

Oliver!

School Musical 2018

6–8 February
7:00pm



Finchley Rd NW3 6ET

Reserve for free

tickets@portland-place.co.uk



Portland Place School

Letter from the Headmaster



"This week has seen contrasting events that all highlight the very best of Portland Place.

Year 11 have returned to the usual timetables following a successful mock exam period. Monday evening was the parent meeting following on from those and there was a great atmosphere in the room celebrating some real achievement and step forward by our Year 11 students. There was much for them to be proud of and a sense of confidence boosted for the final run in to the live GCSE exams.

Yesterday evening was the first of a new event in our calendar, a Chamber Concert held in PP Hall. This provides a chance for students relatively new to learning instruments and performing to get a taste of being "on stage" and boost their confidence in front of an audience. It was a very enjoyable performance from all involved but I will give a special mention to Eli Anderson (Year 9) who closed the concert with a great piece of his own composition.

And on Wednesday Andy Day, star of CBeebies, and his band The Odd Socks came and performed for our younger students, as promised, following their winning entry to the Odd Socks Day anti-bullying campaign competition.

And in many ways that is a typical week at Portland Place ..."

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M J".

Notice Board

Responding to sexting in schools and colleges – UKCCIS Guidance

Sexting in schools and colleges, responding to incidents, and safeguarding young people, guidance from the UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS)

In August 2016 the UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) published non-statutory guidance on managing incidents of sexting by under-18s. Over 200 organisations were involved in creating the guidance, including government and the DfE, children's charities, UK Safer Internet Centre, CEOP, Police, and teachers' groups.

The UKCCIS guidance is non-statutory, but should be read alongside 'Keeping children safe in education' (KCSIE 2016). These guidelines should be followed in schools unless there is a good reason not to do so. There is no clear definition of 'sexting'. Instead, this document talks about 'youth-produced sexual imagery'. This is imagery that is being created by under 18s themselves and involves still photographs, video, and streaming. In the guidance, this content is described as sexual and not indecent. Indecent is subjective and has no specific definition in UK law. Below is the most recent information from the DfED

UPDATED Searching, screening and confiscation at school (DfE, January 2018)

The government's 'Searching, screening and confiscation at school' guidance, has been updated. The latest document includes a new section, 'Statutory guidance for dealing with electronic devices'. Other than this section, the previous guidance still holds.

A summary of the new section is below:

Teaching Staff may lawfully search electronic devices, without consent or parental permission, if there is a suspicion that the pupil has a device prohibited by school rules, or the staff member has good reason to suspect the device may be used to:

- cause harm,
- disrupt teaching,
- break school rules,
- commit an offence,
- cause personal injury, or
- damage property.

Any data, files or images that are believed to be illegal must be passed to the police as soon as practicable, including pornographic images of children, without deleting them.

Any data, files or images that are not believed to be unlawful, may be deleted or kept as evidence of a breach of the school's Behaviour Policy.

The school's policies should reflect this new guidance.

Download the guidance here: [Searching, screening and confiscation at school \(DfE, January 2018\)](#)

'Searching, screening and confiscation at school (January 2018)' must be read alongside the (UKCCIS) UK Council for Internet Safety -guidance, ['Sexting in schools and colleges: Responding to incidents and safeguarding young people' \(January 2017\)](#)

If anyone would like any further information please contact me in school
Elayn O'Neill

Notice Board

Extra Language classes

Thomas Lalande, Head of MFL

EXTRA LANGUAGE CLASSES THIS TERM: PLEASE NOTE SOME DAY / TIME CHANGES. STUDENTS ARE FREE TO JOIN, PLEASE SIGN UP WITH MR LALANDE IN MFL.

Arabic Adv. Mon after school 36	Japanese beg. Tues after school 36	Arabic beg. Weds after school 35	Russian Adv. Weds after school 36	Mandarin beg. Thurs after school 36	Russian Beg. Fri lunch -library
Jasmine Kermoud	Caspar Waldron	Vasilis Koutrakos	Bo Frampton	Zeynep Abuluk	
Hassan Nazzal	Josh Hallam	Rory Dixon	Egor Pertsev	Rory Dixon	
Mahmoud Al Khaled	Arthur Quairel	Josh Tucker	Polina Zaluzhkaya	Gunnar Handssom	
Nazim Merad	Roberto Hinton	Yehya Zayed	Khach Tovmasyan	Asia Frampton	
Sultan Hindi	Grace Gosling	Eli Anderson	Michael Glukhov	Sasha Whowell	
Nour Merad	Josh Tucker			Hana Husaini	
Adelah Bouhasan	Polina Zaluzhhkaya			Sergei Pollock A	
	Rudi Bigoni				
	Dylan Young				
	Idir Kermoud				
	Nora Hill				
	Adelah Bouhasan				
Mr Mohamed	Ms Minematsu	Mr Mohamed	Ms Zalesny	Ms Hong	Mr Burton

New Year coursework or exam stress?

Lydia Coles, Head of KS2

New Year coursework or exam stress?

Yoga Club is every Monday at 4pm in the Drama Studio. Create space for yourself this January and try something new. You'll leave lighter, centred and ready for the week ahead. Be in your body, be in your breath, tune in and let go.

Lessons run by qualified yoga teacher, Louise Wellby.

News

Visit by James Leaver, GM of Mail Online International

Natalie Keen, Head of Media

This week year 11 and 12 Media students were fortunate to have been visited by James Leaver- the General Manager of Mail Online International. He gave a fascinating talk on the news industry which certainly made students (and teachers!) question their digital footsteps.



News *continued*

Andy and The Odd Socks

Christina Boyle, Head of Year 7

Pupils at Portland Place School recently battled it out in a national awareness competition, to be one of only a few winners who scooped the much-coveted first place prize.

Young children from hundreds of schools all over the country demonstrated their support for anti-bullying by taking part in the 'Odd Socks Day' challenge, in association with the BBC's Andy Day.

The pupils were invited to don their best odd socks to school, encouraging them to embrace being unique. The day was then captured in an image and submitted as a competition entry on Twitter with the hashtags, #AntiBullyingWeek and #OddSocks. The winners were selected by Andy himself who based his judgement on the most creative submission.

All 30 pupils in the Year 7 group who took part celebrated their efforts with a special performance from Andy Day and his band, 'Andy and The Odd Socks', followed by a workshop on anti-bullying.



News *continued*

GCSE English Literature Workshop

Lauren O'Donnell, Head of English

The English Department gave a two hour workshop to Year 11 on Thursday morning, in order to take them through their mock exams and give targeted feedback and advice. This was the first time the department has given feedback en masse to the whole year group, rather than class by class, and was partly done to reflect the marking approach taken this year, where one teacher was responsible for one component across the two papers. For example, Miss O'Donnell marked The Sign of Four, Mr Capel marked Macbeth, Ms Hubner marked Lord of the Flies, Ms Baig marked Power and Conflict poetry and Mr Burton marked unseen poetry.

This allowed for better standardisation of marking and for the teachers to give really in depth advice based on their findings of typical errors and areas of strength across the year group. Pupils have a hard copy of the presentation, so all of the feedback and notes are condensed and can form part of their revision materials.

Year 11 were attentive and focused throughout the session and really seemed to engage with the process, setting themselves targets for each text as we went through the session.

'This session was extremely helpful, interesting and useful. Our teachers put in a lot of effort to give us clear explanation of the papers.' – Neesa Awasty

'It was constructive, gave a lot of feedback that I think would help us in the future for our English Literature exam at the end of Year 11.' – Jasmine Kermoud



News *continued*

Sixth Form

Hannah Bridge, Head of Sixth Form

Congratulations to Yanni Lemos and George Sayles who both accepted conditional offers from Royal Holloway, University of London this week. They have opted to study Computer Science and need to achieve grades 'ABB' in their upcoming A Levels to meet the conditions of their offers.



Year 12 University Talk

Hannah Bridge, Head of Sixth Form

Year 12 Talk on US University opportunities

On Wednesday, Dr Jason Smith from UES came to speak to our Year 12 students about the opportunities open to them if they would like to apply to American universities. He spoke about the application process and the different courses available at different institutions. There were interesting and thoughtful questions from our students about the cost of attending universities in the US, types of courses and sports scholarships.

Reminder to all students in Year 12 and their parents that if they have any questions about US university applications to come and see me for more information.

This is the first of many opportunities for students to explore their options after leaving PPS as part of our Future Pathways programme and we look forward to working with students and parents during this important time.

News *continued*

Year 5 and 6 Students Tango lesson

Ruth Picado, Teacher of Spanish

Years 5 and 6 students had a fantastic afternoon on Friday, 5 January, learning about the roots and the origins of tango, thanks to the fantastic workshop carried out by Carolina Esteves and Martín Espindola, Canela Fina! tango professional dancers.

Our students also had the chance to learn the main moves of this fantastic South American dance and to play the bandoneón (an essential instrument in most tango ensembles), some of them really impressively: Lloyd Day and Kunal Patel formed a spectacular tango couple!

The Spanish Department would like to thank all the students for their great work and impeccable behaviour, as well as Miss Coles and Miss Campbell for their support and help; and, of course, Carolina and Martín, we can't wait to have them back at Portland Place!!!

Muchas gracias!!

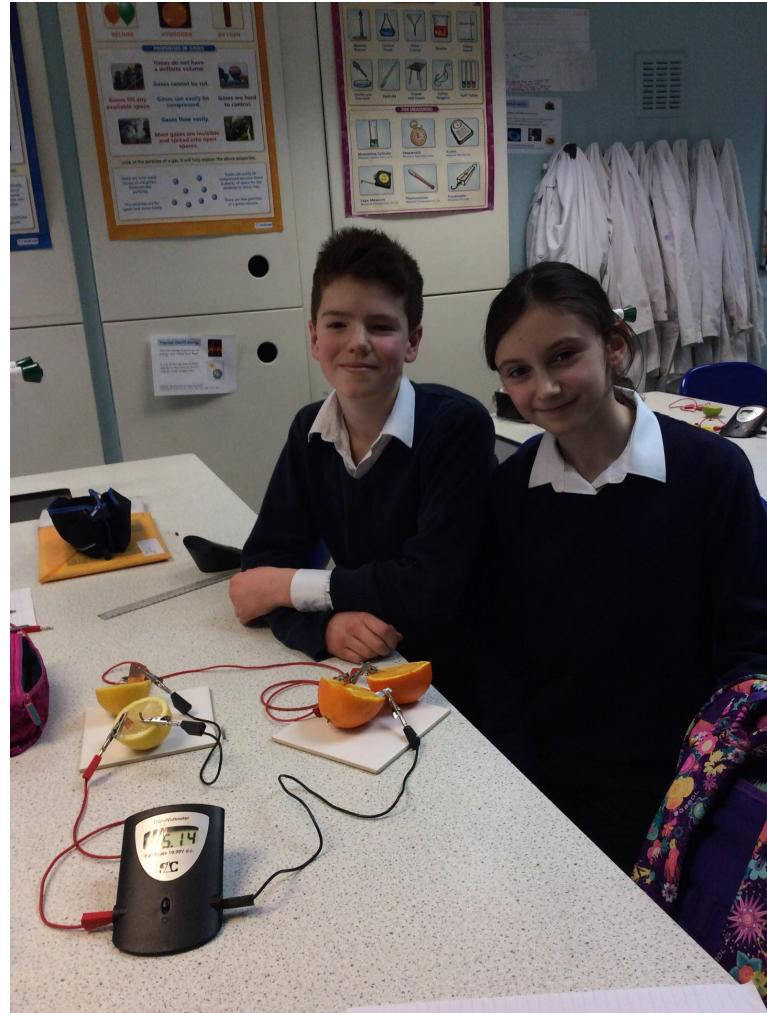
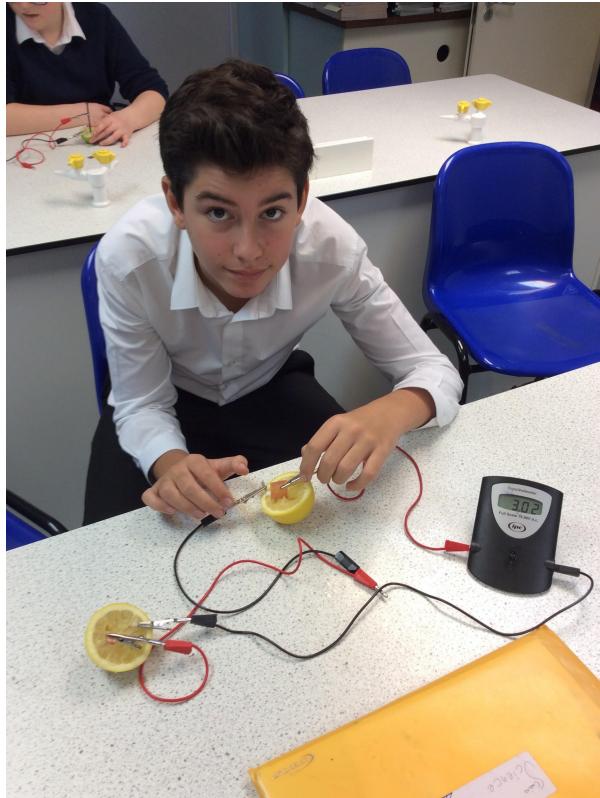


News *continued*

Year 7 Science

Steve Thompson, Head of Science

Year 7 are studying energy. In the fruit cells experiment they are seeing that chemical energy can be converted into electrical energy. They were given the opportunity to vary the fruit and/or metals that they plugged into them and see how those factors affected the voltage that was generated. They were very inventive, choosing to put cells together and make batteries, once they discovered that they could make more and more voltage.



Sports results



Sports

Football

Scott Rider, Teacher of Physical Education

I.S.A London North Under 11s 5 A-Side Tournament

The under 11s entered this competition for the first time this year. This was one of the biggest tournaments around with 32 teams entering, all hoping to qualify for the ISA nationals (top 4 teams). PPS in group D with 7 other schools, needed to place 1st or 2nd to progress into the quarter finals.

The first game was unkind to us as we were playing the host school, King Alfred A team. Seconds before the kick off the boys huddled and there was a sense that the boys were really up for the day and keen to do well. They came out of the blocks at lightening pace and dominated the game. The pitch had no boundaries; boards kept the game alive at all times, it was frantic, competitive and the boys looked comfortable. They were rewarded with a goal from **Tom Hallam** to take the lead. However, as they game progressed both teams were getting a number a chances. **Benny Miller** hit the post and a rapid counter-attack led to a King Alfred equaliser. With such short games it was difficult to get back on top and the first game finished 1-1.

What happened for the next couple of hours was incredibly enjoyable to watch as PPS went on an unbelievable run of results:

PPS v Faraday - Won 2-1

PPS v Immanuel - Won 3-0

PPS v Maple Walk - Won 3-0

PPS v Norfolk House - Won 3-0

PPS v Snaresbrook - Won 6-0

PPS v Southbank - Won 2-0

You could hear parents and fellow pupils from other teams talking amongst themselves about not looking forward to playing us. The boys had a swing in their step and were really enjoying the day. **Lawton Ballback** with a run of 5 clean sheets in goal was exceptional, with no shortage of action in all the games he really gave the boys confidence to go forward. Goals came from **Tom Hallam** (5), **Lloyd Day** (10), **Roberto Hinton** (2) and **Benny Miller** (3).

Unbelievably King Alfreds, who we drew with in the opening game also won the rest of their games, so we finished tied on points at the top of the table. Both teams progressed to the semi-finals . However, they had superior goal difference which resulted in a tough quarter final for PPS. The level stepped up in the knock out stages and we were playing Gateway A team, who won all 7 of their group matches.

The match was physical and intense and evenly matched. There was a huge crowd watching and the game was end to end. However, PPS found themselves behind for the first time all day after a slip at the back. It was great to see the boys respond so positively and they really looked to be attacking and hunt for an equaliser. They got their reward when **Roberto Hinton** scored a rebound from the goalkeeper. With the game tied PPS decided to go for the win and were pressing hard. Even hitting the cross bar. However, fatigue set in and in the closing moments a swift counter attack led to a winning goal for Gateway. The boys had such a great day, performed to a fantastic standard and should be very proud of themselves. Well done!

Sports *continued*

I.S.A London North Under 11s 5 A-Side Tournament Photos



Sports *continued*

U14 Netball

Scott Rider, Teacher of Physical Education

Portland Place 10

Grey Coat 9

The U14 netball team faced Grey Coat in their last game in the Westminster Netball League, Grey Coat had an exceptionally tall team and we knew that this would be a close and tough game. Joint player of the match Erin Dytor shone as goal defence, making superb interceptions and clearing the backlines on numerous occasions. There were also solid performances in defence from Michela Carbosiero and Cristina Carbosiero. Mid court players Ava Jones and Audrey Hammer continually moved into space opening up the play and moving the ball quickly down the court. The shooters Freya Francis Baum and joint player of the match Nora Hill worked well in the shooting circle and coped well with extremely strong defenders. I was extremely impressed with Freya Francis Baum and Nora Hill who have played exceptionally well together over the past few games. The girls fought hard and all contributed to a much deserved victory finishing top of the league table. The U14 netball team have had an outstanding season finishing unbeaten in the league. The girls will be presented with their medals in their year group assemblies next week and will officially be crowned U14 Westminster Netball league champions! Well done girls!

Table Tennis Tournament

Scott Ryder, Teacher of Physical Education

The PE Department will be organising a whole school table tennis tournament this term. It will be split into three age groups: Upper school (Y10, 11, 12 & 13), Middle School (Y8 & 9) and Lower School (Y5, 6 & 7). It will be a mixed tournament and all pupils are welcome to enter. The draw for the Y8 & 9 tournament has been completed. Entries for the senior and junior tournament are still open. We will try to seed strong players and the competition will follow a standard knock-out format. We anticipate the tournament will run until Easter, so there's still plenty of practice time if you can get through your first round match. Good luck!
Matches will need to be played in the mornings and after school at the following times.

Year 8 & 9: Monday 8.00-8.30am PPS Hall

Year 5, 6 & 7: Tuesday 8.00-8.30am PPS Hall

All age Groups: Tuesday 3.45-4.45pm PPS Hall

Upper School: Friday 8.00-8.30am PPS Hall

Sports *continued*

Sports Hall Athletics

Scott Rider, Teacher of Physical Education

Portland Place will be sending Y7 & 8, boys and girls teams to The Queen Mother Sports Centre in Battersea for the a Sports Hall Athletics meeting organised by the Westminster Sports Unit on Tuesday and Wednesday. Sports Hall athletics is designed to test athletic skills and fitness in a smaller indoor gymnasium format and differs from indoor athletics where a large banked running track and accompanying facilities are needed. The events focus on agility, quickness, power and endurance. Good luck to all those who are involved.

Calendar and Contact

Monday 29 January

8.00am	GCSE Chemistry, H3
12.45-1.30pm	Symphonfree, Ms Boyle, R2
12.45-1.30pm	Woodwind Ensemble, Mr Slack, R1
1.00-1.30pm	U15 Netball v More House (a)
1.00-1.30pm	KS3 Bookclub, Ms Hubner, Library
3.30pm	Yoga Class (Year 10-13), Ms Wellby, Dramastudio
4.00-5.00pm	Arabic Advanced, Mr Mohamed, R36
4.00-5.00pm	Year 8 Parents Evening, GPS Hall
4.00-7.00pm	Year 10, 11 & 13 visit Lyric Theatre
7.30pm	Hammersmith

Tuesday 30 January

08.00-08.30am	Table Tennis Club, Ms Rider, PPS Hall
1.00-1.30pm	Debating Club, Ms Baig, Library
12.45-1.30pm	Percussion Ensemble, Mr Jesson, R1
12.45-1.30pm	GCSE Italian Club, R23
12.45-1.30pm	French Exam Club, R22
1.00-1.20pm	Netball Shooting Club, Girls PE office
1.10-1.30pm	GCSE PE Club, boys changing rooms PPS
3.45-4.45pm	KS3/4 Computing Club, R34
3.45-4.30pm	Year 7-9 Maths Club, R10
3.45-4.30pm	Year 10-12 Maths Club, G12
3.45-4.45pm	KS2 Sports Club, PPS Hall
3.45-4.30pm	GCSE Revision Chemistry, H3/4
3.45-4.30pm	GCSE Revision Physics, H6/7
4.00-6.00pm	Oliver Rehearsals, PPS Hall
4.00-5.00pm	Arts Award Club (all years) Ms Birtles, B3
4.00-5.00pm	Japanese, Ms Komaki, R36
4.00-4.30pm	GCSE French Club, Ms Magniez, R33

Wednesday 31 January

8.00-8.30am	Zumba, PPS Hall
8.00-8.30am	Chamber Choir, Ms Boyle, R1
12.45-1.30pm	Music Theory Club, Ms Bottrell, R42
12.45-1.30pm	Soul Band, Mr Bentley, R2
12.45-1.30pm	Guitar and Ukulele Ensemble, Mr Hill, R1
1.00-1.30pm	Spanish Bilingual Club, Ms Picado, Library
1.00-1.30pm	Netball Shooting Club, Girls PE Office
3.45-4.30pm	EAL Homework Club, R23, Ms Florea
3.45-4.30pm	GCSE Classical Civilisation Club, G41
3.45-5.00pm	KS2 Art & Craft Club, R22
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 GCSE, Ms Linton, B1
4.00-5.00pm	Year 11 DT GCSE, Mr Macfarlane & Ms Birtles, B1
4.00-6.00pm	Oliver Rehearsals, PPS Hall
4.00-5.00pm	Arabic for Beginners, Mr Mohamed, R35
4.00-5.00pm	Russian Advanced, Ms Zalesny, R36
4.00pm	U14 Girls Netball v Westminster League (a)

Thursday 1 February

All Day	U11s Boys Football (King Alfred's Tournament (a))
12.45-1.30pm	Brass Ensemble, Mr Bentley, R41
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/Ms Magniez, Library
3.45-4.30pm	Year 13 Maths Club, G12
3.45-4.30pm	GCSE Music Composition Support, Mr Bentley, R42
3.45-4.30pm	GCSE Economics Club, G43
3.45-4.45pm	KS2 Homework Club
4.00-5.00pm	Whole School Art Club
4.00-5.00pm	DT Cubs, Year 5 & 6, Mr Macfarlane, B3
4.00-6.00pm	Oliver Rehearsals, PPS Hall

Friday 2 February

12.45-1.30pm	String Ensemble, Ms Boyle, R1
12.45-1.30pm	Jazz Band, Mr Hill, R2
12.45-1.30pm	Textiles Club (all years), Ms Birtles, B3
12.45-1.30pm	Russian Beginners, Mr Burton, Library
2.40-3.40pm	KS2 Visit to New London Architecture
4.00-6.45pm	LAMDA, Lessons, R11

Oliver Rehearsals

Tues 30 January:	4-6pm, GPS Hall
Wed 31 January:	9.00-5.30pm, GPS Hall
Thur 1 February:	9.00-12.45pm, GPS Hall
Thur 1 February:	4-6pm, GPS Hall, Dress Rehearsal
Thur 2 February:	4-5pm, Drama studio, Costume Call

Spring Term 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 opens two weeks before each event. Please note that certain teachers are only available from 4.30pm due to teaching commitments.

Monday 15 January	Year 8
Monday 22 January	Year 11
Monday 26 February	Year 9
Monday 12 March	Year 5 & 6
Monday 19 March	Year 7
Monday 26 March	Year 8

TERM DATES:

SPRING TERM 2018

Term Starts	Thursday 4 January
Half Term	Mon 12 Feb – Fri 16 Feb
End of Term	Wednesday 28 March

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

www.portland-place.co.uk Tel: 020 7307 8700

PPS TWITTER ACCOUNTS:

<https://twitter.com/PortlandPlaceHd>

[@PortlandPlaceHd](#) – Main PPS account

[@PPS_Sports](#) – Sports Department

[@PPSDrama](#) – Drama Department

[@PPSLibrary](#) - Reading related news

[@PPSMusicDept](#) – Music Department

[@MissColes_PPS](#) – Head of KS2

[@PPS_DT](#) – Design Technology

[@MFLPPS](#) – Mfl Department

[@year7PPS](#) – Year 7

[@year8_pps](#) – Year 8

[@pps_maths](#) – Maths Department

[@EnglishPPS](#) – English Department

[@PPSBiology](#) – Biology Department





Thanks for reading!

*Look for our next issue
at www.portland-place.co.uk/*

