

30 April 2018

Portland Place School

# Weekly Buzz



ST. GEORGE'S  
PARK

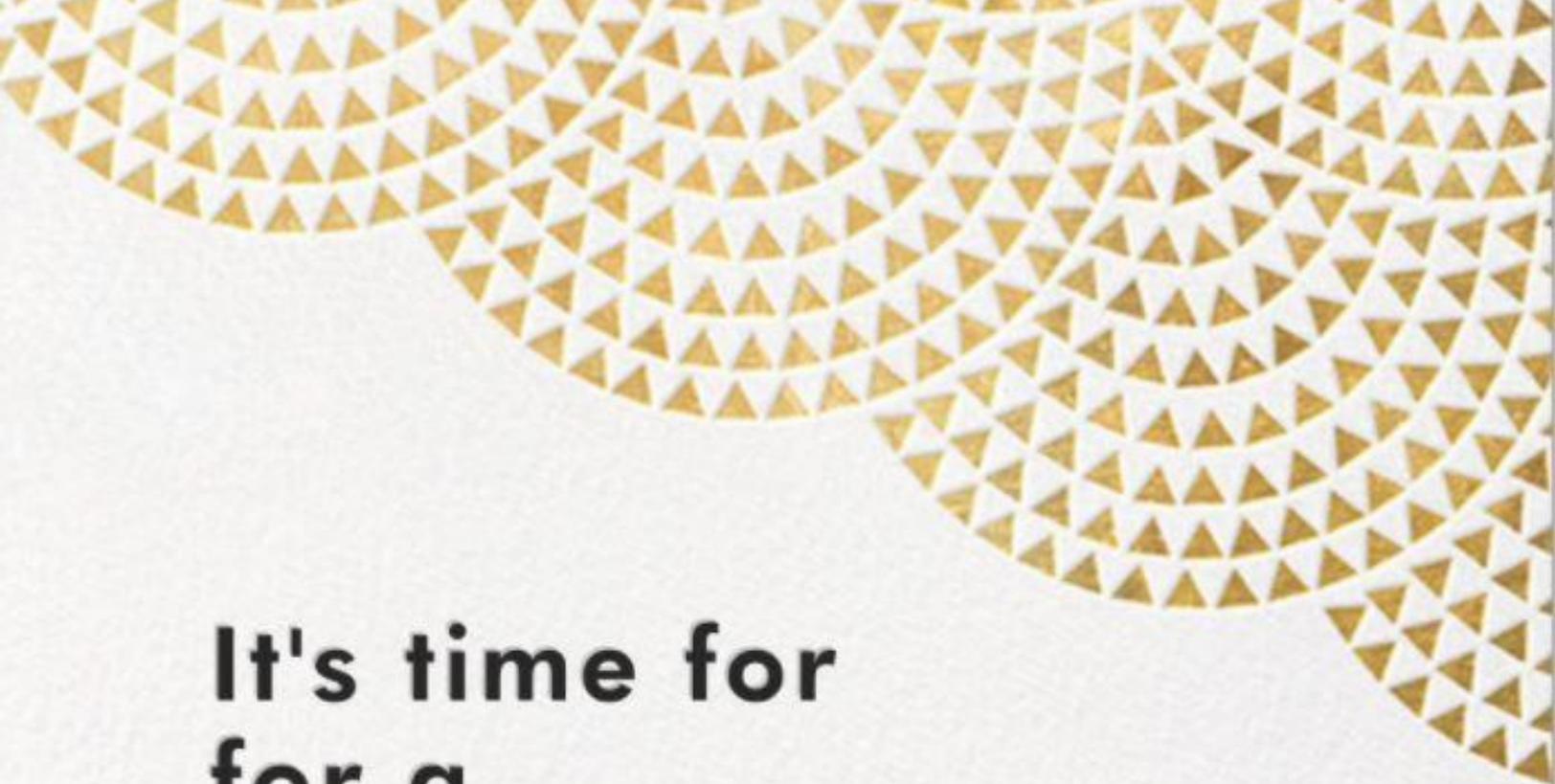
FOOTBALL CENTRE



Updated schedules for clubs!

Dates for your diary

Academic and Sports fixtures



# **It's time for for a celebration**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A 21ST BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORY  
DRINKS RECEPTION**

**THURSDAY, MAY 10**

**7PM-9PM**

**PPS HALL**

**PORTLAND PLACE SCHOOL**

**56 PORTLAND PLACE, W1B 1NJ**

**Dress code: Smart/casual**

**RSVP: Please RSVP by Friday 4 May. Spaces are limited**

# Notice Board

---

## Parent Contact

Elayn ONeill, Deputy Head DSL Safeguarding

Parents must alert us if they are ever away from home or out of London so that we know who the “responsible contact adult is” in case of any emergency. WE hold personal details on our Database for all pupils and if there is an emergency we work through our Contact 1 Contact 2 etc telephone numbers. It is therefore very important that we are informed of any change of contact details. If you have information of a “confidential nature” please share this with the Head of Year or myself. Otherwise for straightforward absence details email [admin@portland-place.co.uk](mailto:admin@portland-place.co.uk) or call 020 7307 8700

---

## Lost Property

Elizabeth Peltz

If your child has lost anything that is named, it has been sorted out and put into year groups. Please speak to your Head of Year or get your child to ask if anything of theirs was handed in. Also found but with no names were a Zadig & Voltaire wallet containing an oyster card and a starbucks card. A pair of Behringer headphones. A Kipling pencil case and a Kipling wallet/pouch.

All these items are in the Lost Property Cupboard.

---

## PPS 21st Celebratory Drinks

We hope you can join us on **May 10** for our 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday celebratory drinks reception. Invitations have been sent out via paperless post. If you have not received your invite please contact Golnar on [golnar.narvani@alphaplusgroup.co.uk](mailto:golnar.narvani@alphaplusgroup.co.uk).

---

## Spanish Club Cancelled

Unfortunately, Spanish Club has been cancelled on Wednesday due to the exam period.

# Notice Board

---

## Reading

Pat Capel, English Teacher

Dear Parents

One of my roles here is Literacy Co-ordinator. At Portland Place, we are facing the same issues that schools all-round the country are facing:

1. Children do not read as much as they used to and it is largely down to the competition of social media and other online activity
2. This lack of reading is impacting on general literacy skills.
3. There is a direct link between literacy skills and academic attainment.
4. A good vocabulary has now been shown as the key to academic success. Many children now have a significant word gap which is impacting on learning and attainment.

For those of you who might be interested in reading the most recent research, I would like to direct you to the following website which summarises the key findings from a research project conducted by Oxford University Press.

<http://fdslive.oup.com/www.oup.com/oxed/Oxford-Language-Report-Overview.PDF?region=uk>

Should you wish to read the whole report, you can find it here:

<http://fdslive.oup.com/www.oup.com/oxed/Oxford-Language-Report.PDF?region=uk>

At school we are planning various strategies aimed at improving reading habits. We would like to ask you at home to become part of developing your child's literacy and, in particular, narrowing the word gap.

Here are some ideas that we would like you to try:

1. Encourage your child to read. Anything! It does not have to be Victorian Classics. A newspaper is a good place to start.
2. If your child is a reluctant reader, suggest he or she reads something about a particular interest or a hobby. It is fine to suggest something short from a web page, magazine or newspaper about, for example, football.
3. When you can, read something together – even if it is a newspaper article about your child's favourite TV programme. And then spend a few minutes having a chat about it.
4. There are times an audio book can be appropriate. Hearing new words can be effective. It is even more effective if your child is reading the text at the same time as listening to it.
5. Our current year 7's have a personal dictionary where they write down new words. Encourage your child to record new words and to use them in any writing or speaking exercise they will do in school.
6. There are some really good websites that you could refer to in order to find appropriate reading material for your child. Here are a few:

<https://www.thebookseller.com/ya-book-prize>

<https://www.worldbookday.com/writes-of-passage/>

[http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/press.php?release=pres\\_2018\\_shortlists\\_announced.html](http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/press.php?release=pres_2018_shortlists_announced.html)

<https://www.waterstones.com/category/childrens-teenage/teen-and-young-adult?page=1>

Our Literacy programme will continue to grow in the terms to come. You will be sent updates about what we are doing and what you could be doing at home to help.

# News

## DLD Debating Competition - The Final: PPS Crowned Champions!

*Ms Baig*

On the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018, Portland Place attended the grand final of the PPS versus DLD Debate competition. The motion was, 'This house believes that celebrities should stay out of politics' and PPS proposed the motion. During this debate, our Year 11 students, Louis Chalupa and Oona Wolseley, remained composed, eloquent and powerful against the DLD sixth-form team. After two hours of head-to-head, PPS were crowned the overall winners! Well done to the champions and the rest of our team. As this was the first year of our new society, this result is a tremendous achievement for us and we will be looking to enter some national competitions next year. Thank you to all of our supporters who have remained faithful and consistent throughout the heats and attended PPS Debating Society each week to offer their support, and a special congratulations to Lukas Torr who confidently judged the last two competitions.



# News *continued*

## Junior Maths Challenge

*Maths Department*

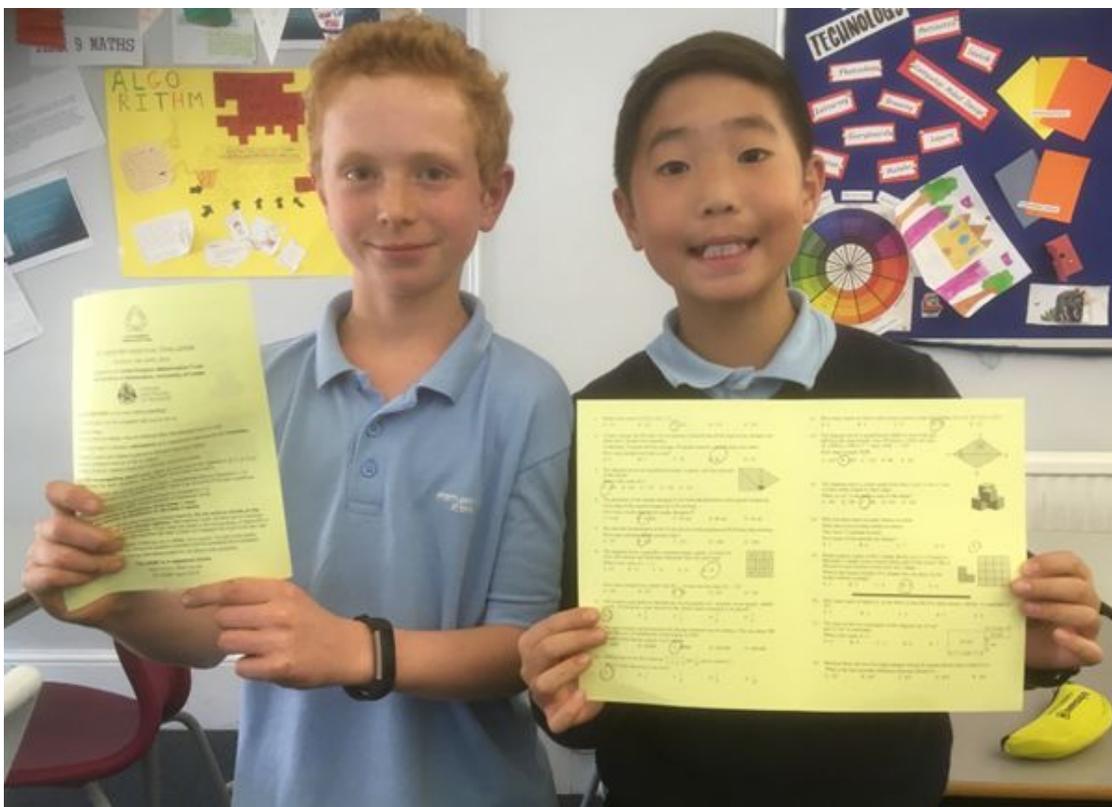
On Thursday 26 April, a group of young mathematicians at Portland Place took part in the Junior Maths Challenge. This is a challenge that encourages and helps develop students' problem solving skills. The challenge is aimed at Year 7 and 8 students, but Victor Cho and Tom Hallam, from year 5 and 6 respectively, have been entered early as two very promising mathematicians at Portland Place. Results will come out in a few weeks and we will wait to see who has done well enough to receive a certificate or go through to the next round. Please congratulate the students who were selected to take part.

**Year 5:** Victor Cho

**Year 6:** Tom Hallam

**Year 7:** Nicholas Bartha, Victor Calbucci, Kayla Cho, Hamish Cooper. Angel Ellis, Max Hubert, Laura Rouchen, Elliot Macleod, Ronan McCarthy, Lucas Munford, Irene Peleteiro Paniagua, Leo Sargent, Cassius Swales, Gordon Turnor

**Year 8:** Jan Ceylan, Dylan Cohen, Amy Cooper, Beatrice Curto, Angelo Dillon Demosthenous, Calder Douglas, Bo Frampton, Elliot Greenfield, Joshua Hallam, Sam Ingram, Nicholas Kazarina, Sid Marber, Nazim Merad, Anton Polyakov, Arthur Quairel, Sultan Sindi



# News *continued*

---

## Tanzania Pre-Departure Training

With only 11 weeks to go until we land in Kilimanjaro airport we had our pre-departure training session on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April.

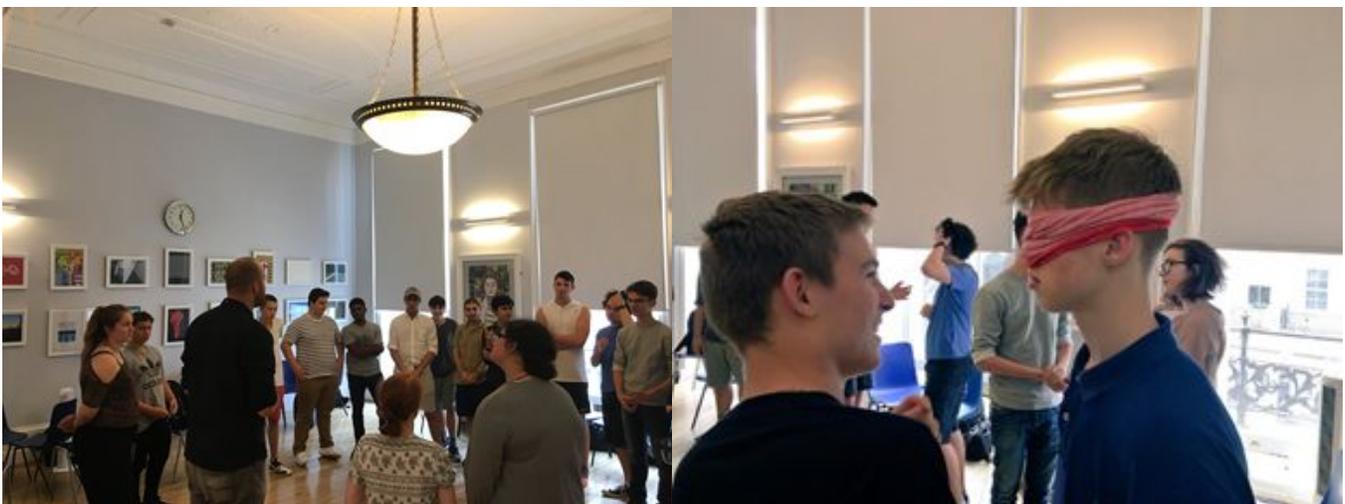
It was an intense day with students spending the morning completing ice breaking activities and meeting the leaders from Inspire that will be travelling with them. We also looked at Malangi village where we will be based and how the project that we complete will benefit the local community. So far the students have raised an incredible **£10,405!**

The hope is that we will be able to finish Malangi School – this requires plastering and painting some classrooms and laying a concrete floor in another. The school also has a market garden that is designed to educate students on how to maximise crop yields, essential in a rural community! We hope to be able to help them improve the infrastructure of this garden. In order to be able to complete the project **we need to raise £13,000**, if you would like to help us reach our target please donate to our Virgin Money page:

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?userUrl=ppstanzania18&pageUrl=3&isTeam=true>

After lunch the students focused on how they could prepare for the trip, looking at what meals they could cook in the evenings, how to avoid mosquito bites and the importance of keeping hydrated. Everyone worked incredibly hard together and it was great to hear some of the ideas and questions the students came up with, the Inspire team and Julian commented on how engaged our students were. Having managed to draw in our football match against the locals in 2016, we are optimistic that this year we can win!

Our final session was learning how to pack efficiently – something that usually proves challenging for all of us! The teaching staff were all hugely impressed with the maturity and enthusiasm shown by the group throughout, we can't wait to see how they get on with the project while in Tanzania.



# News *continued*

---

## Chocolate con Churros Workshop

On Friday 4th May 2018, Years 7 & 8 Spanish classes will be attending a chocolate con churros workshop in GPS Hall between the hours of 10.30 and 12.30.

---

## Ms Nicholas completes London Marathon!

Last Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, Ms Nicholas took part in the 38<sup>th</sup> London Marathon. It was reportedly the warmest London Marathon on record which made the conditions excellent for spectators but slightly challenging for competitors.

On the event, Ms Nicholas said she was “extremely grateful to be part of an event that embraces the truest spirit of London and shows that people of all abilities and diversities really can achieve wonderful things!” She described the support of the crowds as “absolutely fantastic, especially when the going was getting tough around mile 22-23.” She completed the 26.2 mile course in a respectable 4 hours 28 minutes – a fantastic effort for a first timer!

Ms Nicholas ran the London Marathon in support of the North London charity Chickenshed Theatre, and has so far raised £1200 – but she wants to do more! With her sights set on a target of £2000, she hopes that her efforts in running the 26.2 mile course have inspired you, the PPS community, to show your support by also donating to a brilliant cause and support Ms Nicholas’ efforts.

To make your contribution head online to:

[https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Run\\_Tanya\\_Run](https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Run_Tanya_Run)

or text ‘TNIC81’ followed by an amount in £ to 70070.

Congratulations Ms Nicholas on a terrific run!



# News *continued*

---

## Applying Growth Mindset in School

*An Interview with Ali Abdel-Khaleq, Year 5*

**Miss Florea:** “How did you apply Growth Mindset in your studies? What concrete examples could you give?”

**Ali:** “When I found some questions difficult in my lessons, I started using Growth Mindset. I just did not want to give up! In Maths in particular I had a low score at the start of the academic year and after I applied Growth Mindset, I got 78%.”

**Miss Florea:** “How did you keep going when things got tough?”

**Ali:** “I kept motivating myself to stay focused in lessons, especially in Maths.”

**Miss Florea:** “How could you use Growth Mindset further in your studies?”

**Ali:** “I think I should work on staying focused in lessons and avoid talking to the students sitting around me. I am aware that I should concentrate more on the tasks I have to complete.”

**Miss Florea:** “What will you do to challenge yourself today?”

**Ali:** “Today I will try to get full marks in Maths, English and Science.”

**Miss Florea:** “What piece of advice would you give to your peers? How should they apply Growth Mindset to make the most of their time in school?”

**Ali:** “I would tell them to focus more in lessons and not get distracted. When they get stuck, they should think about how they can help themselves. Also, they should ask the teacher if there is another way to complete the task.”



# News *continued*

## A Level Students Record their Performances

### *Music Department*

This week, it has been the turn of the A Level students to record their Music Performances. On Wednesday, Simon and Joe in Year 12 recorded their internal assessments whilst Jacob recorded his final submission. On Thursday evening, all three students showcased their pieces at the A Level Recital Evening. Many congratulations to Joe, Simon and Jacob and thank you to the family, friends, staff and students who attended and gave their support.



# Sports results



# Sports

---

## Cricket

### Cricket Club

We are running cricket club this term mainly on Tuesday's after school. This is taking place at Lord's Indoor Cricket School from 4pm – 5pm. If you wish to attend you must have cricket 'whites' otherwise you will not be permitted into the Cricket School, these are the rules of the MCC. Please register your interest on a weekly basis with Mr Kubik in the PE department to avoid missing out as we have limited spaces.

## Athletics

### London Marathon and Mini Marathon 2018

Congratulations to **Curtis O'Keeffe (Yr 9)** who represented the City of Westminster at this year's Virgin London Mini Marathon. He had a strong run and finished in a time of **18.40 minutes**. In the Full Marathon, science teacher, **Miss Nicholas** ran a respectable **4hrs 28mins 09 seconds**. Well done to you both.

### Westminster Athletics Championships

Next **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** is the Boys Westminster Athletics Championships which is being held all day at the Millennium Stadium in Battersea Park. This is a precursor to the London Schools Championships and is always very competitive. Please ensure if your son is selected that he is in school by **8.15am** ready to leave for 8.30am.

#### Y7 Squad

Nolan Song  
Gordon Turnor  
Bosco Buonaguidi  
Hamish Cooper  
Arthur Hales  
Nicholas Bartha  
Elliot MacLeod

#### Y8 Squad

Nicholas  
Kazarina  
Anton Polyakov  
Dylan Cohen  
Sam Ingram  
Jan Ceylan  
Nazim Merad  
Sultin Sindi

#### Y9 Squad

Curtis O'Keeffe  
Eli Anderson  
Theo Moot  
Ezra Roberts  
Alex McDonald  
Bernado Brago  
Hassan Nazzal

#### Y10 Squad

Lex Gosling  
Emanuel Curto  
Lachlan Macdonald  
Colin Ballbach  
Max Ackermann  
Oliver Turner  
Shaan Patel

# Sports

---

## Cross Country

### Inter House Cross Country

Lower school Inter House Cross Country took place in the final week of last term and there were some excellent races. Many of our pupils rose to the occasion and produced some personal best times. The boys and girls ran in a mixed race which made for some very interesting races with the team scores being made up of the fastest six pupils in each House.

The overall team standings, as well as the individual Boys and Girls winners are as follows:

#### KS2

Yr 5 Boys Winner: **Ali Abdel-Khaleq**

Yr 5 Girls Winner: **Nour Merad**

Yr 6 Boys Winner: **Tom Hallam**

Yr 6 Girls Winner: **Adelah Bouhasan**

*Team Results: 1<sup>st</sup> Cavendish 33; 2<sup>nd</sup> Langham 49; 3<sup>rd</sup> Wigmore 52; 4<sup>th</sup> Devonshire 83*

#### Yr 7

Boys Winner: **Elliot MacLeod**

Girls Winner: **Lucy Mainstone**

*Team Results: 1<sup>st</sup> Cavendish 64; 2<sup>nd</sup> Wigmore 80; 3<sup>rd</sup> Devonshire 86; 4<sup>th</sup> Langham 90*

#### Yr 8

Boys Winner: **Dylan Cohen** Girls Winner: **N/A**

*Team Results: 1<sup>st</sup> Devonshire 40; 2<sup>nd</sup> Wigmore 47; 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavendish 54; 4<sup>th</sup> Langham 70*

#### Yr 9

Boys Winner: **Curtis O'Keeffe**

Girls Winner: **Audrey Hammer**

*Team Results: 1<sup>st</sup> Wigmore 62; 2<sup>nd</sup> Langham 69; 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavendish 92; 4<sup>th</sup> Devonshire 109*

# Calendar and Contact

## Monday 30 April

08.00-08.30am Table Tennis Club Y8 & 9 PPS Hall  
12.45-1.30pm Symphonfrietta, Miss Boyle, R2  
12.45-1.30pm Woodwind Ensemble, Mr Slack, R1

## Tuesday 1 May

08.00-08.30am Table Tennis Club, Y5,6 & 7, PPS Hall  
12.45-1.30pm Percussion Ensemble, Mr Jesson, R2  
12.45-1.30pm GCSE Italian Club, R23  
12.50 - 1.20pm Weightlifting Club, PPS Boys changing rooms  
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 Table Tennis Club, All Years, 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 2 May

7.45-8.45am Yoga, Louise, PPS Hall  
12.45-1.30pm Guitar & Ukulele Ensemble, Mr Hill, R1  
12.45-1.30pm Soul Band, Mr Bentley, R2  
12.45-1.30pm Music Theory Club, Ms Bottrill, R42  
12.45-1.30pm French Exam Club, R22  
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  
3.45-4.45pm GCSE History Club, G23  
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

## Thursday 3 May

12.45-1.30pm PPS Choir & Tour Choir, Mr Hill, R1  
12.45-1.30pm Brass Ensemble, Mr Bentley, R42  
12.45-1.30pm Club de Francais/Ms Magniez, Library  
12.45-1.30pm Carnegie Book Club, Miss Hubner, Library  
3.45-4.30pm Year 13 Maths Club, G12  
3.45-4.30pm GCSE Economics Club, G43  
3.45-4.45pm KS2 Homework Club  
3.45-4.30pm GCSE Music Composition Support, Mr Bentley & Mr Hill, R42  
3.50-4.30pm KS3 Humanities Club, Room 10  
3.45-4.45pm GCSE Revision Biology, H2  
4.00-5.00pm Whole School Art Club  
4.00-5.00pm DT Cubs, Year 5 & 6, Mr Macfarlane, B3  
4.00-5.00pm Madarin, Miss Kong, R36  
4.00-5.00pm Chamber Choir, R1, Miss Boyle

## Friday 4 May

8.00 - 8.30am Table Tennis Club, Y10-13, PPS Hall  
12.45-1.30pm String Ensemble, Miss 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  
4.00-6.15pm LAMDA, Lessons, R11

### TERM DATES:

#### SUMMER TERM 2018

Term Starts Tuesday 17 April  
Half Term Mon 28 May – Fri 1 June  
End of Term Friday 6 July

### 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

[@PPS\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/PPS_Sports) – 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  
[@PPSBiology](https://twitter.com/PPSBiology) – Biology Department





**Thanks for reading!**

*Look for our next issue  
at [www.portland-place.co.uk/](http://www.portland-place.co.uk/)*

 [@PortlandPlaceHD](https://twitter.com/PortlandPlaceHD)