

Weekly Buzz



Updated schedules for clubs!

Dates for your diary

Academic and sports fixtures



MACBETH

YEAR 10 – 13 STUDENTS ONLY

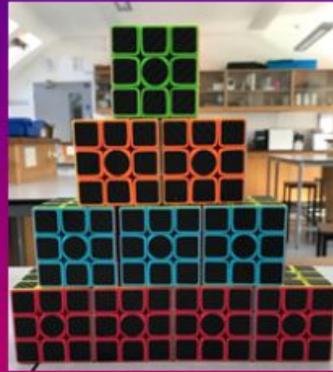
FRIDAY 7th SEPTEMBER, 4-4.30pm – Drama Studio

Learn more about the project at this informal meeting & collect audition materials

MONDAY 10th SEPTEMBER, 3.45-4.45pm– Drama Studio

Auditions

Come to
Rubik's Cube Club



When? Monday lunchtime 1-1.20

Where? Room 24

If you have your own cube, bring it!

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Portland Place School, be that welcome back or a welcome for the first time! It was good to meet so many of you and your daughters and sons this morning as they arrived for the first day of the new school year. I am writing this as the afternoon lessons start and all is calm and purposeful – the rhythm of the school already re-established. Starting on Friday 7th and running through next week we host a series of Parental Welcome mornings for each year group, a chance for you to meet Heads of Year and Tutors, and I look forward to meeting you at one (or more) of those.

We start the new school year on the back of some excellent results in the summer, at A level and in particular at GCSE. As ever with our students and their results, simple percentages do not tell the whole story of success: our value-added measures remain strong as they have been in recent years. All our Year 13 students who wanted a place in higher education secured one and on highly regarded courses at good universities (including King's College London, Royal Holloway, Exeter and Nottingham). I am particularly pleased with our GCSE results as this was the first year where (almost) all our subjects were graded on the new 9 – 1 scale, with 9 being that “better than A*” elusive score. Eight students achieved that grade in subjects as diverse as History, English Literature, Art & Design, Performing Arts and Languages.

New facilities were announced before the summer. 143 GPS now has a new Photography and Graphics studio. In 101 GPS work has begun in the basement to create a new studio space that will be in use later this term. Along with these a major upgrade of our IT infrastructure has started, the first phase being a high capacity fibre optic link to and between our buildings.

Our wide range of clubs, sporting activities and fixtures, trips, visits, etc. will all resume starting next week. We will, this year, continue to expand our range of community events – whole school assemblies, parent evening receptions, etc. Details of all of these are published every Friday in our newsletter. I do encourage all of you to read this as it is our main channel of regular communication with you, our parents. Back issues, to give you a flavour, are available on our website: www.portland-place.co.uk/news/newsletters

Safeguarding of our students is always a high priority and following staffing changes this summer I need to make you aware of a few changes in contacts and processes here. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is now Paul Jones, Head of Sixth Form, and he is the primary contact for any safeguarding concerns any member of our community (parent, student or staff) wishes to raise. I am the Deputy DSL whom you can also contact on such issues. The Heads of Year are also part of our wider Safeguarding team. Of course if a student has any concerns at any time they can speak to any member of staff whom they feel comfortable to do so and such concerns will be reported appropriately.

Finally, a reminder of our mission and our aims that inform all that we do here in school:

Portland Place provides a 21st Century education preparing students with the aspiration, confidence, resilience and skills to meet the challenges of their life ahead.

At Portland Place School we aim:

- ***To encourage aspiration, resilience and a love of learning in our pupils in a secure, supportive and inclusive environment;***
- ***To ensure each pupil achieves their best personally, socially and academically;***
- ***To encourage service to our wider community leading pupils to respect and value its diversity.***

Letter from the Headmaster



I am looking forward to a year of challenge and personal high achievement for all our students and am sure you are too. Good luck to all for the year ahead!

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Bradbury', written in a cursive style.

David Bradbury
Headmaster

Notice Board

Extra Curricular Languages at PPS

At Portland Place we believe languages are keys to children's education. We currently offer French, Italian and Spanish as part of the curriculum but students are also given the option to study extra languages, which could be useful for their future.

Most of the classes take place after school or at lunch time. A timetable will be finalised within the next coming weeks.

Russian, Arabic, Mandarin and Japanese are on offer for beginners and advanced, as well as extra classes for French, Italian and Spanish.

Please send an email to Mr Thomas Lalande (thomas.lalande@portland-place.co.uk) should you want to sign up for any language.

Bilingual students (of any language) can also contact Mr Lalande in order to discuss extra GCSE entries.



LAMDA 2018/19

Whether you are new to PPS or have been with us for a couple of years, you might be interested in developing your speech and drama skills.

We have a few spaces left in our **Monday 4-4.45 & 4.45-5.30pm classes**. There is also the opportunity for some students to have one-to-one sessions, these have been very popular in previous years. If either of these LAMDA sessions appeal to you, or you would like more details, please drop me an email (david.chivers@portland-place.co.uk)

Notice Board

Oliver! DVDs

If you ordered a show DVD at the end of last year and still need to collect it, you can do so by heading to the Drama Office.

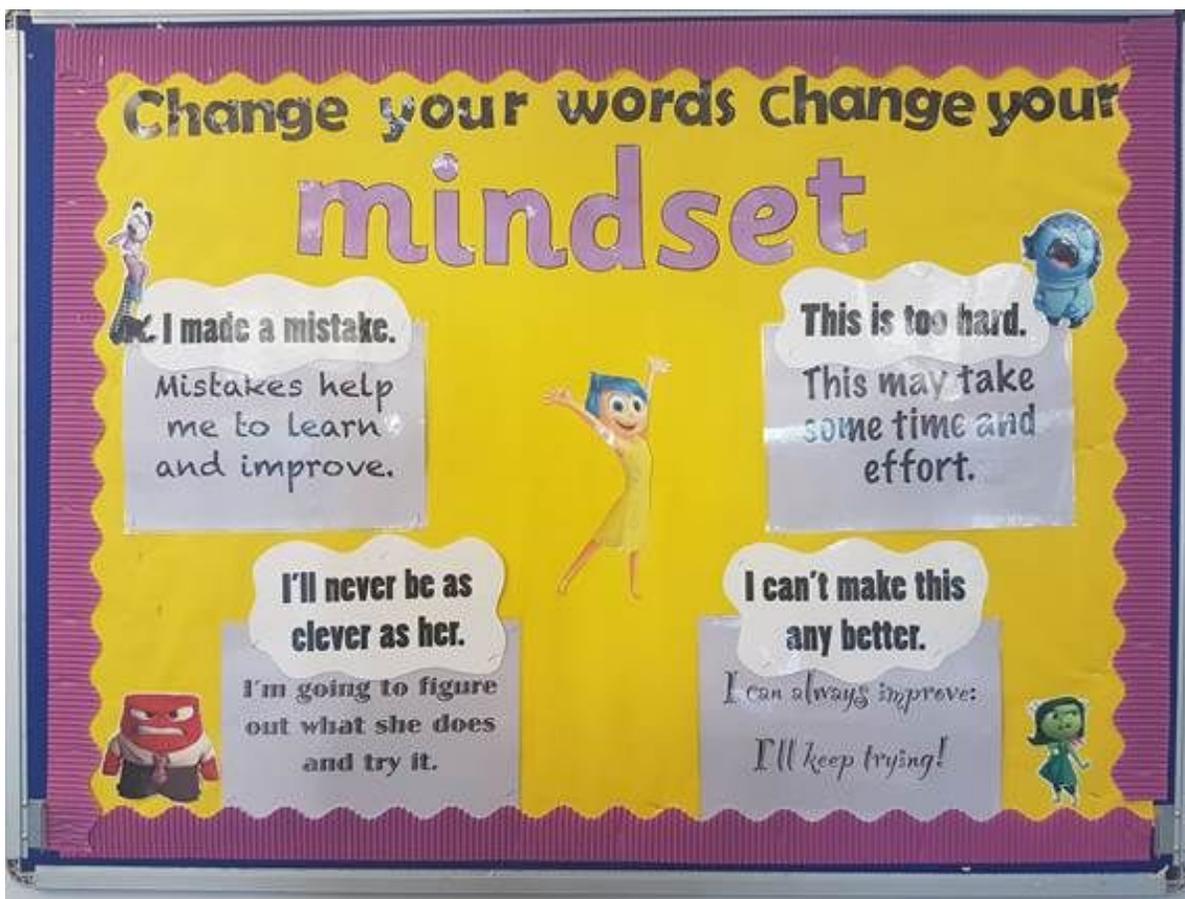
Growth Mindset

As parents, you play a huge role in influencing the mindset of your children, so it's important for you to model a growth mindset for them. Showing your children that you are excited by challenges, see mistakes as learning opportunities, and understand the value of practice and trying different strategies will go a long way in cultivating their growth mindsets **especially at the start of a new academic year!**

Please see on the following page a few growth mindset questions that you could ask your children in the evening at the dinner table or as you are relaxing together.

Below is also an example of an excellent growth mindset display put together by **Ms Magniez** in room 33.

Ms Florea



Notice Board



Growth Mindset Questions

to ask your kids at the dinner table



1. What did you do today that made you think hard?
2. What challenge or problem have you worked on today?
3. Can you think of something new you tried today? What was it?
4. Was there anything that made you feel stuck today?... Great! What other ways might be there to solve this?
5. What did you learn today outside of school?
6. Can you think of a mistake you made today? ... Great! How can you use this mistake to do better next time?
7. Is there anything you are struggling with? ... Excellent! What new strategies can you try next?
8. Can you think of something you could have done better today?... Great! Who can you seek feedback from to make it better?
9. What would you like to become better at?
10. Did you do anything today that was easy for you? ... How can you make this more challenging for you?

Notice Board

Code Camp at Portland Place School



We are very excited to be hosting Code Camp at Portland Place School during the October half term! Code Camp began in Australia 5 years ago and since then have educated and inspired more than 40,000 children to code, build apps and websites over 3 days of incredible excitement, fun and engagement.

Every child will create their own app to take away with them at the end of the program!

Code Camp will be at Portland Place from 17th-19th October and for 3 fun filled days the children will be problem solving and improving their computational thinking in a fun and interactive way, ready to take on the digital world of the future!

Code Camp have been sponsored by HP, and won numerous awards as they've grown to inspire the next generation of tech superstars.

Check out Code Camp [reviews](#) to find out what other parents are saying about Code Camp.

For more information or if you would like your child to be part of this incredible learning experience, please go to www.codecamp.co.uk. You will be able to book online from Monday 17th September.

If you have any questions please contact hello@codecamp.co.uk

News

Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition

Mr Sagoo

In July 2018, the science department took students to the annual Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition. The students got the opportunity to speak with leading scientists from around the country and learn about the potential benefits of their research. The pupils took part enthusiastically in a range of activities and had a great time.



News

Big Bang 2018

Mr Sagoo

In the last week of July, Year 9 students attended the annual Big Bang event near Kings Cross. Students took part in a range of activities such as making slime, learning how paper can be used to make furniture as well as an introduction to advanced modelling techniques.



News

Music Tour 2018

Mr Hill

This year's Music Tour took 16 students from the Portland Place Choir and Chamber Choir to Belgium. After a quick journey over to our hotel in Ypres, everyone settled in and had a quick rehearsal for Day 2.

Concert 1 was on the Kinderland stage at the Bobbejaanland theme park followed by some time in the sun and a few rollercoasters and slushes!

Day 3 was a trip to Bruges with some sightseeing on a canal cruise and exploration of the many chocolate, lace and souvenir shops. After lunch was concert number 2 at St Salvatore Cathedral - a great audience, amazing acoustics and a fantastic performance from everyone. In the evening, we went to the Menin Gate for the 31,091st Last Post Ceremony which has taken place every evening at 8pm since 1928 to remember those that fell in the battle of Ypres but who were never given a grave - an estimated 90,000 soldiers.

The final day gave us a trip back into Ypres centre with plenty more chocolate consuming and souvenir buying before the return coach trip.

An absolutely massive thanks to all the students who were fabulous and made the staff very proud with their hard-work, enthusiasm, commitment and good humour!!



Sports results



Sports

Welcome back to PE!

All the staff in the PE department would like to welcome back the pupils from their summer holidays and wish them every success in both PE and sport in the coming year. There will be plenty of opportunities to compete and enjoy sport, whether it be during games, in inter-house competitions or against other schools. Last season some of our pupils even managed to win national titles! Please ensure you bring the correct kit to your lessons. If you have any questions, please ask a member of the PE team.

Football and Netball Club

This half term, both football and netball club will be running on Wednesdays from 3.50pm – 5.00pm. Football will be held on the new hybrid grass surface at Regents Park, whilst netball will be at Regents Park Tennis Club. Pupils of all ages are welcome to attend and there will be bus transport laid on, to and from the park. Please make sure you bring the appropriate kit and footwear and meet at the changing rooms as soon after period 5 finishes as possible. We will back to school by 5pm.

U15 Ibstock Place 6-A-Side Football Tournament

On Thursday 6th September PPS u15s opened their football season at the annual Ibstock place 6-a-side football tournament. In the group stages we started well against a very strong Rutlish school. Whilst Rutlish had most of the possession in the first half PPS defended bravely with keeper **Felix Rivadeneira** making a number of outstanding saves. PPS started trying to play from the back in the second half but unfortunately a Rutlish player stole the ball in a dangerous position and finished well. We went on to lose 1-0. In the second group game PPS took on another very strong opponent in Ardingley school who had a number of outstanding club players amongst their ranks. The boys worked extremely hard off the ball when defending but unfortunately just could not keep possession. **Alex McDonald** came extremely close when he beat a player and smashed a rasping drive towards the top right hand corner but the Ardingley keeper made an impressive save. Eventually the pressure from Ardingley tired the boys out and they went on to lose the game. At this point the boys knew they could not make the main finals but knew the final group game against Ibstock Place would determine who they would play in the plate semi final. This game was very different to the last couple of games as we started to attack with more confidence and accuracy, PPS started really well but unfortunately an unlucky error from a goal kick gifted Ibstock the lead. Moments later **Nico Blakemore** equalised after a well worked team goal. The remainder of the game remained very even but unfortunately Ibstock managed to sneak a goal before full time to take the win. In the plate semi final against Kew House the boys had a dreadful start and conceded after 10 seconds due to some sloppy play at the back. **Alex McDonald** came close to equalising twice after some excellent individual play but had both efforts saved. Before half time Kew House added a second and you just had the feeling it was not going to be PPS's day. The boys couldn't fight their way back into the game and were eliminated from the plate competition.

It was a tough start to the season for the boys. They will be the first to admit they felt rusty and lacked composure but there is a long season ahead where the boys will have plenty of opportunities to show what they can really do. On to the next one!

Sports



PPS U15's Football Team

Calendar & Contact

Monday 10 September

12.45-1.30pm	Woodwind Ensemble, Mr Slack, R1
12.45-1.30pm	Rock Band, Mr Hill R2
12.45-1.30pm	Student Voice, Ms Magniez, R33
12.45-1.30pm	Chess Club, Mr Burton, Library
12.50-1.30pm	Weight Training Club, Sports Dept
1.00-1.20pm	Rubik's Cube Club, Dr Chen, R24
4.00-6.15pm	Lamda Lessons in PPS Hall
4.00-5.00pm	Yoga Class (Year 10-13), Ms Wellby, Dramastudio
4.00-5.00pm	

Tuesday 11 September

1.00-1.30pm	Debating Club, Ms Baig, Library
12.45-1.30pm	Percussion Ensemble, Mr Jesson, R1
12.45-1.30pm	Rock Band, Mr Hill R2
3.45-4.45pm	Portland Place Orchestra, Mr Hill, R1
3.45-4.45pm	KS3/4 Computing Club, R34
3.45-4.45pm	GCSE Geography Club G24
3.45-4.30pm	GCSE Classical Civilisation G31
3.45-4.30pm	GCSE Business Club G12
3.45-4.30pm	History GCSE revision club, G23
3.45-4.30pm	GCSE Revision Chemistry, H3/4
3.45-4.30pm	GCSE Revision Physics, H6/7
3.45-5.30pm	DT Club for Y11, Ms Linton
3.45-5.30pm	School Play Rehearsal, Drama Studio
4.00-5.00pm	Arts Award Club (all years) Ms Birtles, B3

Wednesday 12 September

12.45-1.30pm	Boys' Choir R1
12.45-1.30pm	Music Theory Club, Ms Bottrill, R42
12.45-1.30pm	Soul Band, Mr Bentley, R2
12.45-1.30pm	Theory Club, Ms Bottrill, R43
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
3.45-4.45pm	Economics Club, Ms Byrne, G21
3.45-5.00pm	KS2 Art & Craft Club, R22
3.50-5.00pm	Netball Club, Sports Dept
3.50-5.00pm	Football Club, Sports Dept
4.00-4.45pm	GCSE Art, Art Studio
4.00-4.45pm	Film Club Y9-13 Mr Flack, GPS Hall
4.00-4.45pm	GCSE Computing Club, G11
4.00-5.00pm	Year 11 DT GCSE,
4.00-5.00pm	Chamber Choir, Ms Boyle, R1
4.00-5.00pm	U14 Girls Netball v Westminster League (a)

Thursday 13 September

12.45-1.30pm	Portland Place Choir, Ms Boyle, R1
12.45-1.30pm	KS3 Book Club, Library
3.45-4.30pm	Soul Band, Mr Bentley, R2
3.50-4.30pm	KS3 Humanities Club Room 10
3.45-4.45pm	KS2 Homework Club
3.45-5.30pm	School Play Rehearsals, Drama Studio
4.00-5.00pm	Whole School Art Club

Friday 14 September

12.45-1.30pm	Jazz Band, Mr Hill, R2
12.45-1.30pm	Textiles Club (all years), Ms Birtles, B3
4.00-6.15pm	LAMDA, Lessons, PPS Hall

PLEASE NOTE THAT MORE CLUBS WILL BE ADDED OVER THE COMING WEEKS.

TERM DATES:

AUTUMN TERM 2018

Term Starts	Wednesday 5 September
Half Term	Mon 15 October – Fri 26 October
End of Term	Friday 14 December

SPRING TERM 2019

Term Starts	Monday 7 January
Half Term	Mon 18 February – Fri 22 February
End of Term	Friday 5 April

SUMMER TERM 2019

Term Starts	Wednesday 24 April
Half Term	Mon 27 May – Fri 31 May
End of Term	Friday 5 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

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

[@PPS_KS2](https://twitter.com/PPS_KS2) – Years 5 & 6

[@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

[@pps_film](https://twitter.com/pps_film) – Film & Media Department





Thanks for reading!

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

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