



The Weekly Buzz

Portland Place School

14 October 2019

Modern Foreign
Languages Day
sneak preview!

Round-up of Dyslexia
Awareness Week



Portland
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School

Noticeboard



Portland
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Whole School Assembly

Monday 14 October

9:15—10:15

Regent Hall, 7a Princes Street, London

W1B 2LH

All parents welcome



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Noticeboard

Parental controls on mobile phones

As has been mentioned in the recent Parent Information Evenings, we highly recommend that if you have allowed your child to have a smartphone you use the parental controls on it to monitor (and limit) their access to social media, etc., and filter their internet searches. If you want to know how, these websites have some good advice on doing so:

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/tv-radio-and-on-demand/advice-for-consumers/television/protecting-children/advice-guides-for-parents/parental-controls-for-mobile-phones>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/>



Ashbourne Visit (Year 11)

Last Friday, we were lucky to have a short presentation/Q&A with Ashbourne College. The session went very well and it was important for those students, especially those wanting to study Economics, Sociology and Maths to ask questions. I hope students realise that just because peers find one college more appealing than others that it doesn't necessarily mean that it will be the right onward destination for them. Friendship is important, however, inner development in one's strengths must take higher priority - if a college or school does not offer the right courses for you, do not apply simply because you wish to be with your friends. We will be looking to bring other schools and colleges into PPS in order to show the variety on offer.

Work Experience and Extra Curricular Activity (All Year Groups)

With applications and interviews starting to take place, most students wonder what they can do in order to stand out compared to pupils from other schools once they leave PPS.

In my opinion, students must be seeking to broaden their skills outside the classroom no matter what age.

At Portland Place, we pride ourselves on both our STRIVE programme (Ms Butler) and extra curricular clubs.

The Leadership Programme (Ms Nicholas) and Duke of Edinburgh (Y9 - Ms Campbell and Y10 - Ms Birtles) would also look rather appealing within an application.

If a student also has a passion for a certain industry and should parents be happy to grant permission, work experience or gaining an extra qualification (sporting badges in coaching or officiating, the Cadets, LAMDA or simply helping in one of the local businesses) would be seen as a very positive and proactive thing.



Finally, I have been informed of the following programmes that are due to take place over the next couple of months:

The Young Investment Banker Programme - Sunday 10th November OR Saturday 14th December at UCL - Ages 15-18

<https://bit.ly/2IWw5X1>

The Young Business Leader Programme - Sunday 17th November at UCL - Ages 15-18

<https://bit.ly/35s7AKE>

The Young Lawyer Programme - Sunday 24th November OR 15th December at UCL - Ages 15-18

<https://bit.ly/31aH9FT>

The Young Political Leader Programme - Weekend of 30th Nov- 1st Dec at UCL - Ages 15-18

<https://bit.ly/35vxHRd>

The Young Engineer Programme - Sunday 15th December at UCL - Ages 15-18

<https://bit.ly/2M7PW04>

The Young Computer Scientist Programme - Sunday 19th January at UCL - Ages 15-18

<https://bit.ly/2MsQHxG>

Open Days & Application Deadlines

As Half Term quickly approaches, I shall leave the following table below containing relevant upcoming dates for school open days and application deadlines.

School/College	Next Open Day	Application Deadline
Camden School for	Tues 19th Nov	3rd Jan 2020
St Marylebone School	Tues 19th Nov/ Thurs 21st Nov	10th Jan 2020
Arts Ed	Weds 20th Nov	13th Dec 2020
London Screen Acad-	Thurs 17th Oct	TBC
Ashbourne College	Tues 22nd Oct	N/A
Woodhouse	Sat 9th Nov	13th Jan 2020
King Alfred	Mon 11th Nov	8th Jan 2020

Wishing you all a fantastic weekend.

Michael Flack

Portland Place School  Portland
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celebrates
Dyslexia Awareness Week
7th - 11th October 2019  @PPS_SEN

Monday

A Dyslexia Empowerment Quiz and a video called 'See Dyslexia Differently'.



Tuesday

Everyone had an opportunity to find out what their preferred learning style is. We wore something blue to continue to raise awareness and empower everyone who has dyslexia.



Portland Place School



celebrates

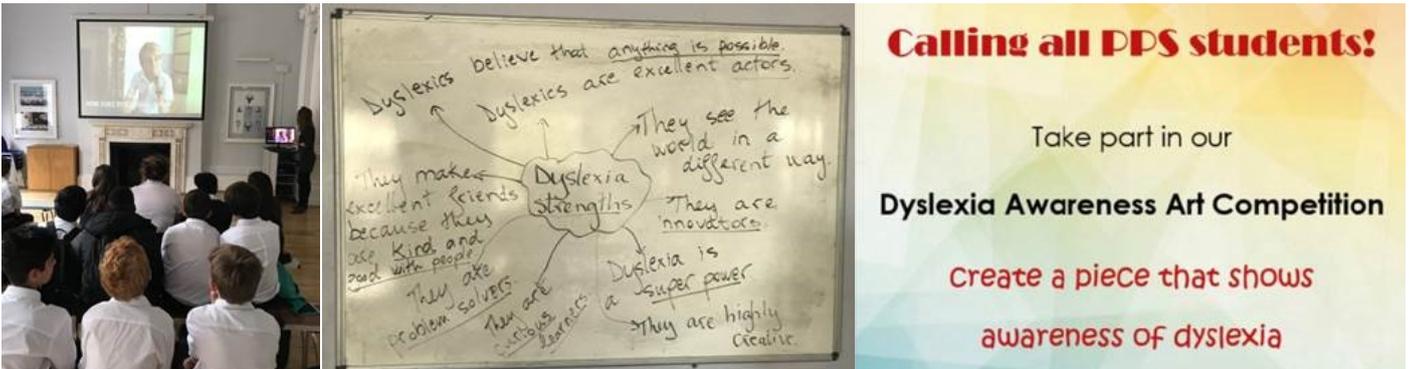
Dyslexia Awareness Week

7th - 11th October 2019

 @PPS_SEN

Wednesday

Another empowering story, and everyone was invited to take part in a competition.



Thursday

This was the climax of the week—a 'no pens day' to enable all students and teachers to experience a multi-sensory way of learning.





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News



...tune in next week for a full report!

Science

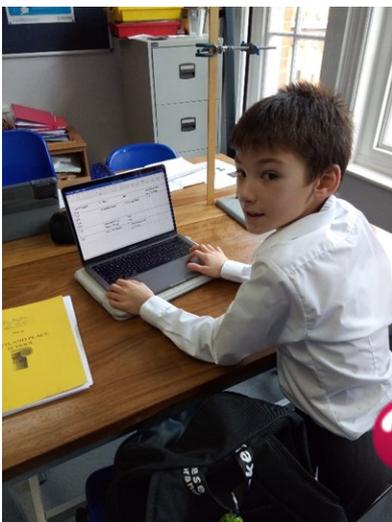
Mr Thompson's year 7 pupils used their iPads to video bouncing balls this week.

By playing back the video at slow speed they were able to pause the motion when the ball reached its highest point after bouncing and measure the height of the bounce.

The pupils investigated different types of ball, different surfaces off which the balls bounced and different starting heights.

The experiment would have been harder to do if they just judged by eye where the ball went up to.

The pupils will follow up this work by calculating the gravitational energy before and after and consider the wasted energies.





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News

Music

Year 8 students have been learning to play 'Ode to Joy' in their music lessons.





Westminster Athletics Championships

On a slightly damp Friday afternoon Portland's cross country runners contested the Westminster Cross Country Championships. The age groups mixed year 7s, 8s and 9s in a 3km junior race and year 10 and 11s in a 4km senior race over flat and fairly dry grass. The junior girls' race went first with around 80 runners. Portland's Y7 **Isabella Calvert-Bull** finished a very creditable 40th, considering she was up against Y8 and 9s. **Lana Tuite** (Y8) placed 36th, finishing very strongly, which suggested she was capable of a faster pace. Pace judgement is always tricky, especially so early in the season.



The Portland Place Westminster Champs Cross Country team

In the junior boys' race, Portland fielded five Y8 runners who all finished in the top 18 out of around 50 athletes. **Tom Hallam** placed highest with 8th, then came **Lawton Ballbach** in 10th, **Ryder Nayak** finished 12th, **Rudy Bigoni** was next with 15th and **Huxley Nayak** crossed the line 18th. This was a tremendous team effort and the team should place highly in the team competition, although we are still awaiting official results.



The Junior Boys team: Ryder Nayak, Lawton Ballbach, Tom Hallam, Rudy Bigoni and Huxley Nayak



The senior race was mixed due to a low turn-out. Portland's runners dominated with **Sam Ingram** successfully defending his title ahead of **Curtis O'Keefe** who pushed him hard to come in 2nd. **Ava Jones** placed 2nd in a very small girls' field but should be happy with the way she ran.



U17 boys: Sam Ingram^{1st} and Curtis O'Keefe^{2nd}

Hopefully some of our athletes will be selected for the London Youth Games event later this year and a few may be put forward for the London Schools and Inter-Borough competitions later this season.

Very well done to all who took part!



Under 18s Football

Ibstock Place - 1

Portland Place - 2

Wednesday afternoon provided one of the most enjoyable football matches these boys have taken part in during their seven years at PPS. This was a classic underdog story that produced a result few would have predicted at the start of the game. The game plan was set out to protect the goal and try to score on the counter attack. PPS got off to a fantastic start and within the first minute a bouncing ball fell to **Albie Marber** around twenty yards from the Ibstock goal, he went to volley, miss-kicked it completely with his shin and somehow, the ball unbelievably looped high, over the goalkeeper and into the back of the net. With PPS in the lead the boys were fantastic. They were, strong, physical and collectively were ensuring there was no way through for Ibstock. **Jake Lloyd** in goal produced a couple of fine saves and the boys made it to half time with a 1-0 lead. At half time **Albie** tried to convince the team that he struck his goal true with the laces, this made the boys laugh and it was great for team spirit. They knew they had a tough job on their hands in the second half, defending the slight down slope on the pitch. Wave after wave of attack came from Ibstock, and a hostile crowd cheered them on and it was beginning to take its toll on the boys. Still, they stayed strong and **Alex Macdonald** found the ball on our 18 yards box and started a superb counter attack, passing four players like they were standing in concrete. He offloaded to **Albie** who scored his second of the game and provided a much needed cushion. Ibstock then scored a magnificent goal struck from distance into the top corner. The closing ten minutes was certainly backs against the wall defending, bodies blocking on the line, an offside goal disallowed, penalty appeals turned away and a result for the underdogs. Well done boys, a great win!

Under 14s Football

Northbridge House - 5

Portland Place - 0

A difficult score line to accept for the boys in year 9 in what was a very competitive match. The lesson from this game is taking your chances when they present themselves. The match was played at a high tempo and there were lots of chances for both sides. PPS almost took the lead after a header from **Tom Hallam** was heading into the top corner, the save from the goalkeeper was outstanding. Northbridge went on to score three goals from long range in a blustery first half. PPS continued to create chances and had three opportunities in the second half, all requiring excellent saves from the Northbridge goalkeeper. As the boys chased the game another two goals went in. Lots of positives from this game despite the score line. Well done boys!



PPS U13s St Auybn's six-a-side tournament

On Wednesday 11 October, PPS U13s made their way to St Auybn's School to compete in a highly competitive six-a-side tournament. The tournament format saw seven schools all play each other in a league system. Whoever finished top of the league would be the tournament winners. In the first game, PPS took on tournament favourites St Johns school. The boys worked hard but it was a tough start. Two lapses in concentration gifted St Johns an early lead and the boys eventually lost 3-0.

In the next game PPS took on a strong Northbridge House side. In the early stages PPS were the better team, passing forward with purpose and creating three excellent chances that were unfortunately not taken. The game was highly competitive but unfortunately Northbridge scored right at the death to take a 1-0 win.

Next up was St Auybn's A team. PPS conceded early against the run of play but maintained their composure going on to take a 3-1 win with a brace from **Jesse Francis-Baum** and a well taken finish from **Jesse Fryer Jacobs**. At this stage, results in other matches meant PPS had an opportunity to potentially put themselves into second place if they could beat The King Alfred School, who had just beaten tournament favourites St Johns. PPS made an excellent start with **Jessy Fryer Jacobs** showing great composure to toe poke past the King Alfred's keeper. Minutes later, **Lloyd Day** powered in an excellent drive. At 2-0 it was all looking very promising. King Alfred got back into the game with a well-taken finish and much to the boys' frustration, managed to equalise with the last touch of the ball before full time. 2-2 the final score.



Lloyd Day on the ball



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Next up was King's School. A scrappy, uneventful game ended 0-0. It was an even encounter in which both teams defended resolutely. In the final match of the tournament, PPS finished on a high, recording an excellent 4-0 win against St Auybn's B team. The boys played some excellent attacking football throughout the tournament and, had they not lost their concentration at key moments in a couple of games, could have finished in the top three of the tournament. **Lawton Ballbach** made some good saves across the matches, **Jesse** and **Jessy** both scored some excellent goals and **Lloyd Day** put in his usual all-action performances. However, man-of-the-tournament goes to **Leo Newberry** who played his best football in PPS shirt to date. He made tackle after tackle and showed good tenacity and aggression against some very talented attackers. Well done boys.



U13 boys' squad



Calendar

Monday 14 October

- 9:15-10:15am Whole School Assembly, Regent Hall
- 12.45-1.30pm Rock Band, Mr McCarthy, R41/44
- 12.45-1.30pm KS3 Cyber Security Club, Mr Whiteside, G34
- 12.45-1.30pm Year 7-11 Post 16 Drop In Sessions, Mr Flack, G24
- 12.45-1.20pm Weightlifting Club, PPS Boys changing rooms
- 4.00-6.00pm Lamda Lessons, PPS Hall
- 4.00-5.30pm Hairspray rehearsals, PPS Hall
- 3.45-4.45pm Year 6-9 Arts and Crafts Club, Ms Campbell, B3
- 4.00-5.00pm Chinese, Room 35
- 4.00-5.00pm Japanese, Room 36

Tuesday 15 October

- 12.45-1.30pm Percussion Ensemble, Mr Jesson, R1
- 12.45-1.30pm Music Theory Club, Ms Bottrill, R42
- 12.45-1.20pm Weightlifting Club, PPS Boys changing rooms
- 1.00-1.30pm Student Voice Club, Ms Magniez, Room 22
- 3.45-4.30pm Year 10 & 11 Maths Club, G33
- 3.45-4.30pm GCSE Sceicne Support, H6
- 4.00-4.45pm Year 11 French GCSE Club, Ms Magniez, G32
- 4.00-5.00pm Year 10 Design Club, B1
- 4.00-5.00pm GCSE & A Level Film Club, Mr Flack, G31
- 4.00-5.00pm Shakespeare School Festival rehearsal, Drama Studio
- 4.00-5.30pm Hairspray rehearsals, PPS Hall

Wednesday 16 October

- 8.20-8.50am KS5 Statistics & Mechanics 2 extra help, G32
- 12.45-1.30pm Boys Choir, Ms Boyle, R1
- 12.45-1.30pm Woodwind, Mr Slack, R2
- 12.45-1.30pm Ukulele Ensemble, Mr McCarthy, R44
- 12.45-1.20pm Weightlifting Club, PPS Boys changing rooms
- 3.45-4.30pm Years 7-9 Maths Club, R24
- 4.00-5.00pm Year 11 Design Club, B1
- 4.00-5.00pm Year 6-11, Photography Club, Mr Flack, G42
- 4.00-5.00pm Shakespeare Schools Festival rehearsal, Drama Studio
- 4.00-5.30pm Hairspray rehearsal, PPS Hall

Thursday 17 October

- 8.20-8.50am KS5 Pure 2 Extra Help, R10
- 12.45-1.30pm PPS Choir, Mr Hill, R1
- 12.45-1.30pm Brass Ensemble, Mr Bentley, R42
- 12.45-1.20pm Weightlifting Club, PPS Boys changing rooms
- 1.05-1.30pm Russian, Mr Burton, G32
- 3.50-5.00pm Football Club, Regents Park
- 3.50-5.00pm Dance Studio, R11
- 4.00-5.00pm KS3 Design Club, B1
- 4.00-5.00pm 3D Design Club, B1
- 4.00-5.00pm Arabic, R36
- 4.00-5.00pm Chamber Choir, Ms Boyle, R1
- 4.00-5.00pm Soul Band, Mr Bentley, R2
- 4.00-5.00pm Whole School Art Club, Art Studio

Friday 18 October

- 12.45-1.30pm String Ensemble, Miss Boyle, R1
- 12.45-1.30pm Jazz Ensemble, Mr Hill, R2
- 12.45-1.30pm Vocal Group, Ms Ryder, R44
- 12.45-1.30pm Weightlifting Club, PPS Boys changing rooms
- 4.00-4.30pm Gardening Club, Ms Magniez & Mr Thompson, PPS Courtyard
- 4.00-6.00pm LAMDA, Lessons, R11



TERM DATES:

AUTUMN TERM 2019

- Term Starts Wednesday 4 September
- Half Term Mon 21 Oct – Fri 1 Nov
- End of Term Friday 13 December

SPRING TERM 2020

- Term Starts Monday 6 January
- Half Term Mon 17 Feb – Fri 21 Feb
- End of Term Friday 3 April

SUMMER TERM 2020

- Term Starts Wednesday 22 April
- Bank Holiday Fri 8 May (school closed)
- Half Term Mon 25 May – Fri 29 May
- End of Term Friday 3 July

CONTACT DETAILS:

PPS MAIN BUILDING (Years 6-9)

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

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

PPS TWITTER ACCOUNTS:

<https://twitter.com/PortlandPlaceHd>

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

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