

The Weekly Buzz

Portland Place School

11 November 2019



MADRID FOOTBALL TOUR!

Welcome back!

Shakespeare Schools
Festival

Post 16 scholarship news



Headmaster's Letter



Yesterday evening was the last of our Open Evenings for this term. Along with our Saturday Open Mornings they have been very well attended with a very good atmosphere. I want to thank everyone involved but in particular those students who have volunteered as either tour guides or helping with demonstrating particular subjects and their learning. They have all been great ambassadors and a huge credit to themselves and the school.

Luckily the Shakespeare School Festival performances started a little late, and Portland Place performed second, so I was able to make it to the RADA Studios in time to see our production of *The Tempest*. What a treat it was! Creative, dynamic and skilfully staged and performed. There was a clear sense of both the dramatic and the comic elements of the play. What most struck me was the clarity with which our students spoke the (at times) complicated Shakespearean dialogue. My thanks to Miss Judd for leading this and to those parents and staff who were able to attend and support our students.



David Bradbury



Portland
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Noticeboard

On behalf of our members,
we would like to thank

**PORTLAND PLACE
SCHOOL**

Raised funds on world
languages day!

 **Autism**
BEDFORDSHIRE

£ 291.00

Thank you so much!

**Thank
You**

from

 **Autism**
BEDFORDSHIRE

To the teachers and students
at Portland Place School,
Thank you very much for
raising £291 for Autism
Bedfordshire. This was a
lovely surprise!!
We hope you had lots of
fun (and worked hard)
on world languages Day.
Merci beaucoup!
Sarah Gunnis
Autism Bedfordshire

Gardening club

Our PPS gardeners have been busy preparing the courtyard for winter. We should have lovely crocuses, daffodils and cyclamens in January! Gardening club will not continue during the winter season due to the dark evenings but will be back after February half-term.

Thank you!

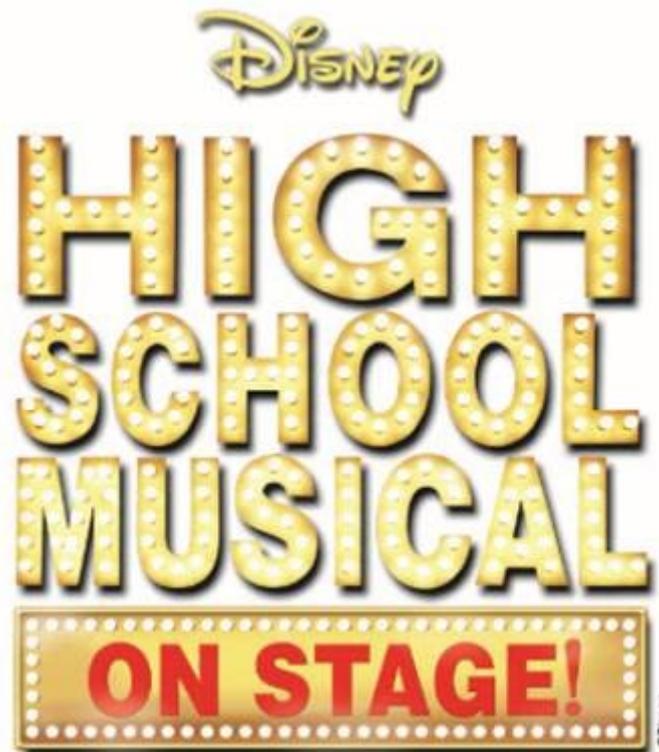




Portland
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Noticeboard

Drama



We have started this half term with some challenging yet fun rehearsals. This week the students have been put through their paces by Amy our wonderful choreographer. Students got to grips with the well-known dance routines for *We're All In This Together* and *Wildcat Cheer*. We were impressed with how quickly the students started to pick up the moves, and I have no doubt students will be eager to show parents what they have been doing in rehearsals over the next few months.

Retaining all their fabulous work from rehearsals is the secret to exciting end product. All students are required to visit Firefly to listen to the backing tracks that Mr Hill has added. Going over harmonies and dance routines are perfect activities for the dark and cold evenings we have approaching.

A reminder to parents that rehearsal schedules are being sent home at the end of each week, please read carefully and do get in contact if you have any questions.

Goooooooooooo Wildcats!



It has been a busy return to the second half of term regarding Post 16 opportunities with plenty of students undertaking various interviews and assessments at different potential destinations around London.

I've been really impressed with the proactive mindset of our Year 11s, with many asking for mock interviews and advice - it's fantastic to see their confidence grow and is a testament to their positive mentality as we head into mock examinations.

I've managed to visit both Brampton College and Collingham College this week, whilst finalising the final details of the DLD Taster Day that is taking place next week on the 15th November.

I feel that my investigation of independent establishments is slowly coming to an end for this year, as I start to look into booking appointments with state schools. Finally, my aim is for all students in Year 11 to have a primary and back up application submitted by the end of the Autumn Term. I understand that some students have already received offers from their first choice which is brilliant news. However, I want to ensure that all students and their families get this area in the best position possible before we hit the Spring Term where full concentration on GCSE examinations will be required.

London Screen Academy

With regards to state establishments, I was fortunate to visit the London Screen Academy before half term. If your son or daughter has an interest in film or media production, definitely get in touch and have a look. The LSA opened this year and have a large number of spaces available; indeed, there were lots of interested students who attended the Open Evening so competition will be high. I hope to organise a workshop for our Year 11 Film and Media students at some point over the next couple of months.

InvestIN

Some parents may have noticed a number of workshops from InvestIN that were published in the newsletter before half term. Following this, I had a positive meeting with InvestIN and have agreed to organise some internal talks with our students. This would especially be helpful for our Year 8s who will be exploring the world of jobs and careers during the latter stages of the academic year during their citizenship sessions.

Immersive Career Experiences For Ages 15-18

InvestIN Summer Internships 2020 London and Silicon Valley

We are delighted to announce the launch of our 2020 Summer Internships, which are now available for booking.

InvestIN provides students aged 15-18 with the 'ultimate internship' in their dream career. Throughout July and August 2020, high-profile professionals will take your students on an immersive journey through some of the most competitive and desirable careers in the world: Investment Banking, Law, Medicine, Engineering and Tech.

Internships will take place in both London (UK) and Silicon Valley (California) with optional trips to industry hubs across Europe: Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Bologna, Prague and Oxford. Places are highly limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Fine Arts College Open Days

Fine Arts College will be holding open days on the following days:

Tuesday 26th November 2019 (2.30pm & 5pm)

Tuesday 4th February 2020 (2.30pm & 5pm)

Tuesday 16th June 2020 (11.00am)



Scholarships

I have managed to receive some information regarding scholarships for both Ashbourne College and DLD College London. A message was sent out to all Year 11 parents yesterday about this. I am attaching that email communication below:

Dear Parents,

*I have received an email from **Ashbourne College** regarding **Drama and Music Scholarships** that are due to take place on **Wednesday 13th November 2019**. Some scholarships of up to 100% are available.*

***DLD College** have also confirmed that any PPS students joining in September 2020 will also receive a 7% discount in fees. The scholarship provisions that they are offering for September 2020 entry to UK students are enhanced with a jump from 20% - 40% discount in tuition fees. (This would not be in addition to the 7% PPS transfer discount because DLD will only apply one discount to any student). Previously only academic awards were on their website listing in certain subjects. Now DLD have added, music, sport and drama which may suit some of our students.*

In addition, there is the 90 Scholarship which is new this year, offered for September 2020 entry to a student who would be studying in the college during DLD's 90th birthday.

In addition, there is the Alpha Scholars Programme that provides a 50% tuition fee cost discount. This would be suitable for academic scholars, there are several pathways, further details available here: <https://www.dldcollege.co.uk/dld/courses/alpha-scholars-programme/>

*Students have until **2nd January 2020** to apply for DLD scholarships, with assessments taking place in January (Saturday 18th January) and the week following, although DLD can be flexible to work around dates for PPS students if needed.*

I appreciate not all students and parents may wish to attend either Ashbourne or DLD, however, I thought it would be best to let you all know for good order. I shall also attach a leaflet containing further details for Ashbourne's Scholarship Audition.



Portland
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Post 16 Noticeboard



DRAMA & MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

*Up to 100%
scholarships available!*

Auditions held on
Wednesday
13th November 2019



ASHBOURNE

Independent Sixth Form College Kensington

Contact us on: 0207 937 3858

admissions@ashbournecollege.co.uk

Wishing you all a great weekend.

Michael Flack

SEN Department

The highlight of this week has to be Egor's return to PPS and EAL lessons. We are all so delighted to have him back and we are already very impressed with his positive attitude to learning. Josh, in particular, is very happy to work with him during the EAL lessons. 🐾





Library

Years 7 & 8 selected and took home a Bookbuzz book before the half term break. Their homework was to write a book review on their book before they came back to school. Each review wins pupil reward points for their class, and the classes with the most points will be rewarded with an acclaimed **Portland Place Reading Challenge Pizza Party**. I wanted to share a really fantastic review, which hopefully will guide and inspire year 7s and 8s to write their next review and win those points!

Remember, you can write as many reviews as you like on books you have read :)

James gives a synopsis of the story without spoilers

He includes things he liked and didn't like about the book

The Last Zoo
Sam Gayton
Introduction: The Last Zoo is about a girl called Pia who lives in the last zoo which has lots of fantasy creatures like genies and angels. One day the angels go missing and Pia goes into the seam (where all the creatures for the zoo are created by imagination) to find them. She comes out and everyone thinks she is "mind-frayed". Then all the grownups turn crazy because of a worm virus. They try and stop Pia. With the help of her genies, her friends who don't turn crazy and her nanabug Pia stops them.

I like this book because it has a bit of everything. It has action, fantasy and adventure. I also like the story because the pace sometimes goes really fast and sometimes it goes slowly. Another thing I liked was that there were lots of different characters and each one was different and had unique magical names, also there were lots of mystical creatures like singing hippos and unicorns. So I liked the mystical, magical effect. Pia was also a well-written and interesting character and at some points in the book I felt sympathetic towards her. One thing I didn't like was sometimes that the chapters were very long.

I give it an 8/10 and recommend it to people who enjoy stories that have weird characters, fantasy worlds and stories that are funny in places but also are quite serious.

James Mitcheson
Mr Burton

He talks about genres and what kind of readers would enjoy this book

He gives the book a rating



Portland
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News

Drama



Last night the cast of *The Tempest* took to the stage at RADA Studios for the annual Shakespeare Schools Festival. This was a first for all the students involved, and they should be incredibly proud of all their hard work! The students had eight weeks to create, learn and polish an abridged version of *The Tempest*. Their efforts were clear to see, with an entertaining and enjoyable interpretation of Shakespeare's final play. A huge CONGRATULATIONS to our talented and dedicated students; Lawton Ballbach, Lola Hardcastle, Laura Liu, Lucy Maidstone, Jesse Francis - Baum, Nicholas Bartha, Irene Peleteiro, Ronan McCarthy, Kieran McKintosh, Teddy Upton, Angel Ellis, Cassius Swales, Ruhi Patel, Zachary Sharif, Reuben Wiseman, and Teddy Scanlan.

Thank you to all the parents and staff that came to support our students.

Well done from a very proud Drama Department!



Portland
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News

Shakespeare Schools Festival



Under 13s Football

Dwight– 0

Portland Place School – 5

The under 13's continued their good form with a comprehensive victory in North London. Fresh from training sessions with Real Madrid over the half term Spanish tour the lads were certainly up for this game. The boys were dominating possession in the early stages and **Lloyd Day** picked the ball up in the centre of the pitch and ran powerfully past the Dwight defence before smashing the ball past the goalkeeper. A second goal quickly followed when **Jessy Fryer-Jacobs** slotted into the bottom corner from a tight angle. The boys were dominating the game and **Tom Hallam** was dictating all of the attacks for PPS. A fantastic through ball from **Tom** found **Jessy**, who once again found the back of the net for his second of the match. The second half continued with good forward momentum and **Jesse Francis-Baum** playing in central midfield managed to get himself on the score sheet with a calm finish. The goalkeeper for Dwight had an outstanding game. However, he could do nothing about the best goal of the game from **Benny Miller** who beat two defenders and smashed the ball into the roof of the net from distance. A great win, bring on Kew House next week!

U12 Football

Ibstock Place: 5

Portland Place: 0

Portland's year 6 and 7's travelled to Roehampton to face Ibstock on a small and very muddy pitch on Tuesday afternoon. The game was fairly competitive in the first half, although Portland struggled to keep possession and were unable to really threaten the Ibstock goal. A cross that evaded our defenders fell at the feet of an unmarked striker and was hit home to give the home side the lead and just before the break a loose pass let Ibstock in again to double their lead.

In the second half PPS created a few more attacking chances and both **Danny Maclean** and **Maxim Mydlar** came close to scoring. **Josh Liu** made some good saves, but was unable to stop Ibstock adding another three goals to their tally. It was a disappointing end to the game from PPS and the boys know that they can do better and show more competitive spirit than they managed. Hopefully we will see a greater level of commitment next week when we face Kew House.



Madrid Football Tour

Over half term PPS took two football teams to Spain for the much-anticipated Madrid Football Tour!

The boys completed four training sessions at the highly impressive Real Madrid academy training ground, the 'Ciudad Real Madrid' training complex - one of the best training complexes in the world!

They played some highly entertaining fixtures against local Madrid football clubs Atletico Casarrubuelos FC (where Manchester United goalkeeper David De Gea played as a child), Pedrezuela FC and Vellon Venturada FC. The local community were very welcoming of PPS and complimentary of their performances in the games!

The boys got to attend the Atletico Madrid vs Valencia, La Liga football match at the Wanda Metropolitano stadium, witnessing a dramatic, all action 1-1 draw with penalties, red cards and various controversy throughout! They also had the opportunity to complete a tour of one of the world's most famous football stadiums – the 'Santiago Bernabeu Stadium'.

Overall it was an absolutely fantastic football tour and hopefully the boys will remember this trip for many years to come. They played some brilliant football, putting into practice a lot of the things they had learned from their training with Real Madrid coach 'Danny'. Well done boys!





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Madrid Football Tour





Portland
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Sports results



Madrid Football Tour



Mouth Guards for Rugby

After a half-term of touch-rugby and mainly ball handling work for our lower-school pupils in one of their weekly single periods, we will move to some contact work this half term now the ground has softened and the boys are feeling more confident. This will not necessarily be for all our pupils, but it will be imperative that pupils have their mouth guards with them for rugby this half term. Last year we found a lot of lost guards and were unable to return many of them to their owners due to them not being named. These items often look very similar, so please ensure that the case they are kept in is clearly named.





Calendar

Monday 11 November

- 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
- 4.00-5.00pm Chinese, Room 35
- 4.00-5.00pm Japanese, Room 36
- 4.00-5.30pm High School Musical rehearsal, PPS Hall

Tuesday 12 November

- 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
- 4.00-5.30pm High School Musical rehearsal, PPS Hall

Wednesday 13 November

- 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 High School Musical rehearsal, PPS Hall

Thursday 14 November

- 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 Dance Studio, R11
- 4.00-5.00pm KS3 Design Club, B1
- 4.00-5.00pm Table Tennis Club, GPS Hall
- 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 15 November

- 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
- 4.00-6.00pm LAMDA lessons, R11

TERM DATES:

AUTUMN TERM2019

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

SPRING TERM2020

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

SUMMER TERM2020

- 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

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

[@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

[@PPS_KS2](https://twitter.com/PPS_KS2) – Year 6

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

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

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

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