



The Weekly Buzz

Portland Place School

23 March 2020

Ancient Aboriginal art

Inter-house Drama competition!

PPS Online Stars

Pi Day!

Resources and ideas for keeping busy

To get us started this week, here are some messages from your teachers!

Set work finished? Time for a break? Free time at the weekend?

Ms Hubner recommends... #drawwithrob

Learn a new skill and enjoy a study break by following along with #drawwithrob on Twitter! Follow @RobBiddulph for ten minute drawings and other lovely ideas.

<http://www.robbiddulph.com/draw-with-rob>



Ms Bhandari recommends... Yoga with Adriene

for flexibility, strength and calming the mind. Her dog, Benji, is super cute as well and he can be found in lots of the yoga videos sleeping in the corner or pottering around.

<https://youtu.be/dF706-Qablo>





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Noticeboard

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ISA Essay Competition

ISA
ARTS

The ISA Essay Competition is an annual opportunity for pupils at ISA Members' Schools to allow their writing skills to shine.

Wordsmiths are invited to submit entries for a range of competition prizes aimed at age groups from year five through to sixth form.

VISIT THE ISA WEBSITE TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES

DEADLINE FRIDAY 27 MARCH

*Competition open to ISA Members' Schools only

DEADLINE EXTENDED- THURSDAY 30 APRIL

www.isaschools.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter @ISAartsUK



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COVER DESIGN COMPETITION 2020

Pupils are invited to design the images for the front cover of our national sports events' programmes.

Copies will go to more than 1,200 spectators.

Open for entries: Friday 3 April 2020

Deadline for entries: Thursday 16 July 2020

Open to all ages

Enter via the ISA website www.isaschools.org.uk

*Competition open to ISA Members' Schools only





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ISA Handwriting competition 2020

The ISA Handwriting Competition is an opportunity for pupils at ISA Members' Schools to showcase their handwriting skills.

Handwriting is a skill which has been traditionally highly-valued at independent schools; we feel it should continue to be nurtured and celebrated, even in this electronic age where keyboard skills can be developed at a very young age.

Deadline 25 June 2020

Details on how to enter below or visit www.isaschools.org.uk

This competition is only open to pupils at school whose Head Teacher is a full Member of ISA.



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Drama

The screenshot shows a website interface for Drama. On the left is a navigation menu titled 'Explore Drama' with a hamburger icon. The menu items are: Drama, Extra-Curricular, KS2, KS3, GCSE, A Level, Shakespeare Schools Festival - Nov 19, and Drama - Learning from home...the fun stuff! (which is highlighted). The main content area has a header 'Drama > Drama - Learning from home...the fun stuff!' and a sub-header 'Drama - Learning from home..the fun stuff!'. Below this is a section titled 'Inter-House Drama Competition' with the text: 'C-19 may have put our school production on hold, but it is not going to stop our fun! We are introducing an Inter-House Drama competition. All you have to do is record yourself performing a 1-2 minute monologue and send it to Mr Chivers via Firefly or email. Where possible we will be sharing some of the monologues on our Firefly page!'.

Inter-House Drama Competition

C-19 may have put our school production on hold, but it is not going to stop our fun!

We are introducing an Inter-House Drama competition. All you have to do is record yourself **performing a 1-2 minute monologue** and send it to Mr Chivers via Firefly or email. Where possible we will be sharing some of the monologues on our Firefly page!

The monologue can be an original monologue written by yourself, something you have worked on in an English/Drama lesson, or a monologue from your favourite play. There are lots of monologues online...so get searching! Learn it and then perform your little heart out! You could even perform a short scene with a sibling or parent? Be creative!!

House points will be rewarded to all students who enter. We also extend the competition to PPS staff!



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Mr Chivers has just searched his flat for prizes:

- ✦ **First prize** – One roll of Andrex Supreme Quilts
- ✦ **Second prize** – One tin of chopped tomatoes (perfect for any pasta dish! You could cook for your parents...they'd love that!)

Third prize – Percy Pigs (apologies, he has eaten the rest!)



The judging panel (below) will look at all entries over the Easter break. Deadline **Friday 3rd April**.



GOOD LUCK! We look forward to seeing your performances!



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Science

Miss Bhandari has started a weekly blog for all of the PPS community. It can be found on the Physics page under the Resources tab on Firefly.

<https://portlandplace.fireflycloud.net/physics-1/miss-bs-blog-and-star-learners/pps-online-week-1-finding-our-feet>

"I have started this as a space of positivity to share my thoughts, feelings and highlights of each week as we enter a new era of taking PPS online. I will be featuring star work in Science by pupils in all year groups - well done if you are amongst the first mentioned! Of special mention is the resilience shown by Y11 and Y13 during this time - you are managing to soldier on in the face of uncertainty and chaos remarkably well. Thank you also to Y7 and Y8 for outstanding engagement in all lessons so far. You are keeping up excellent progress despite the complete shift in schooling."



Tanzania Expedition

For the next 5 weeks, team members will be interviewed here to tell readers a bit more about their fundraising, share their excitement or worries and let you know about how to support them in reaching their targets.

An interview with... Beatrice Curto

1. Why do you want to go on the Tanzania Expedition?

I think you can get a good experience of volunteering and helping people.

2. What are you looking forward to the most?

I want to help people and I think it's a different culture so it's going to be interesting.

3. What are you worried about?

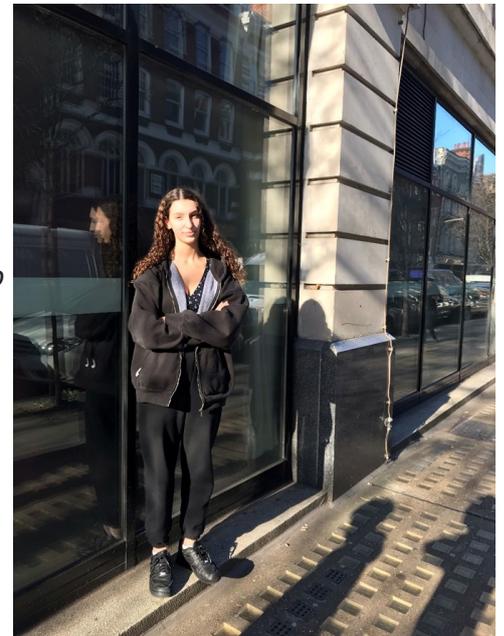
I'm a bit worried that it might be a shock to the body and we don't know what's going to happen.

4. How much money have you raised so far and how can we help you?

I have raised about £100 so far, so I need another £200. You can sponsor me by donating on our Expedition page, using "Beatrice" as a reference. Thanks in advance!

Team Tanzania's target is £5000 and so far they have raised £1900. Please help them reach their target by donating onto: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/portlandplaceschooltanzania>

Thanks for your support!





Noticeboard

Literacy

Today we remind you of one literacy strategy that helps to solve any mathematical task.

It is an acronym: RUDELY. You can also use etymology and morphology to see how to break down long words. Good luck!

calculate
Work out the percentage increase from 80 to 280 [3 marks]

percentage (per centum) (rate) per hundred
increase (in crescere) into grow

100% = 80
a% = 80 → 280

80=100% 80=100% 40=50%
80=100% a%

80=100% + 80=100% + 40=50%

80+80 +40

Answer **a=250%** %

Read it

Underline and understand

Decide/Draw what calculation you need

Estimate a rough answer

Look again

You may begin

The etymology
Track the meaning

The morphology
Break it down

Interact with the instruction
(active reading)



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Drama

Thank you to Harry who has made an excellent start on creating a character from a stimulus. I am looking forward to seeing "James Moore" develop!

Ms Judd

19 March 2020 at 10:48

Drama lesson period 2 Thursday 19th March 2020



Brainstorm:

Terrifying

Vacated expression

The wilderness has taken over

Constantly on the move

What lead up to this

If he stops he going to die

Rusty and broken motorbike signifies it has been like this for years

Uneven and broken roads

Name: James Moore

Age: 22

Job/school: doesn't have one he lost it in the when the apocalypse started

Family: father and sister

Pets: doesn't have a pet

Hobbies: killing zombies and giving his sister and education

Likes/dislikes: dislikes zombies likes his family dislikes the world but is somehow enjoying life

Maths

Pi Day



Despite the disruption following the corona virus, the annual celebration of Pi Day went ahead at Portland Place School on Monday 16th March*.

As usual, the Year 7s had been encouraged to bring in a circular pie to help celebrate and investigate the meaning of pi; the never-ending number. Other year groups also worked on formulae involving pi, such as circumference and area of circles, and cylinders etc. The celebration culminated, as every year, with the reciting digits of pi competition for year 7 students in the hall.

Again this year, students had done some excellent preparation and showed their impressive skills. The following students took part in the competition and deserve a mention:

Sam Osbourne - 7 digits

Markus Allen - 10 digits

Leo Bennet - 12 digits

Charlie Wilson - 15 digits

The following top three students deserve a special mention:

Valery Vogel - 42 digits

Egor Pertsev - 48 digits

Remy Brooke-Cowden - 88 digits

Please congratulate these students and particularly Remy for his very impressive achievement. This is how long pi to 88 digits is:

3 . 1 4 1 5 9 2 6 5 3 5 8 9 7 9 3 2 3 8 4 6 2 6 4 3 3 8 3 2 7 9 5 0 2 8 8 4
1 9 7 1 6 9 3 9 9 3 7 5 1 0 5 8 2 0 9 7 4 9 4 4 5 9 2 3 0 7 8 1 6 4 0 6 2
8 6 2 0 8 9 9 8 6 2 8 0 3 4

Remy, however, said he was disappointed and said he can in fact do over 100 digits! Another student, Alex Parker, was absent also who claims to also be able to do over 100 digits. We may have to do a re-match once school is back as usual. Watch this space..

Maths Department

*Pi Day is normally celebrated on 14 March every year (third month and 14th day) but this fell on a Saturday this year





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Maths

Pink and Grey Kangaroo - Intermediate Maths Challenge

On Thursday 19 March, Laura Liu and Joshua Larkin, Year 9 and 11 respectively, were scheduled to sit the follow-on round of the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge, following achieving gold certificates in the first round and going through to this next round.

Pink Kangaroo is the name of the next round for students in year 9 and Grey Kangaroo the next round of the Intermediate Maths Challenge for students in years 10 and 11. Both are 60-minute, multiple choice competitions consisting of 25 problems.

Due to the corona virus and the closure of the school, we now hope these fantastic mathematicians will get an opportunity to compete in this national completion at a later date this year.



**United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust**



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Art

You will have noticed our front cover this week. It is artwork by Sebastien in Year 7. Students in this year have been creating pieces that depict Ancient Aboriginal Mimi figures—spirits! Here are some more.



Leo Bennett



Albert Thompson



Isabella Calvert-Bull

Music

Trombone and viola lessons have been taking place online this week.



Also, congratulations to the GCSE Music students who came into school on Wednesday and successfully recorded their solo and ensemble performances. Well done!

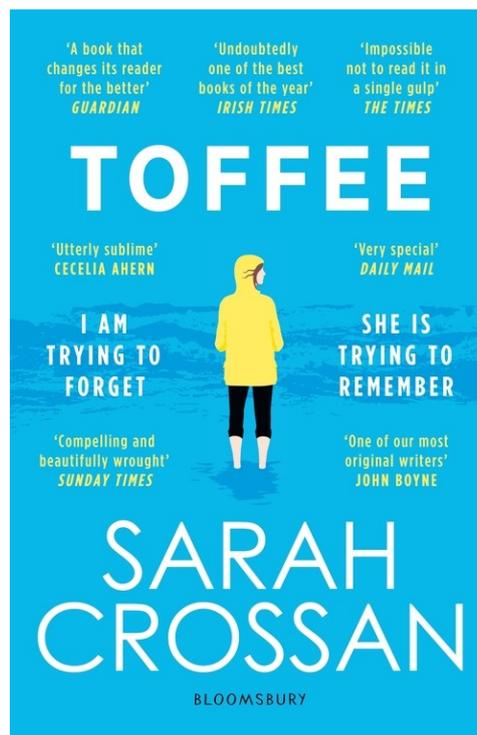


Library

The school has a subscription to an eBook platform, and now is a really great time to check it out! Students can access thousands of eBooks and audiobooks for free. Years 6, 7 and 8 use the app regularly on their school iPad, but every student at PPS has a login. To use it on your own device, you'll need to download Wheeler's ePlatform app, and follow the login instructions that are on the Library Firefly page:

<https://portlandplace.fireflycloud.net/library/e--books>

Miss Baker's Book Recommendation



We love free verse novels here at PPS! They give a real sense of achievement as they are usually quite quick to read, and often un-put-down-able!

Allison runs away from an abusive home and finds sanctuary in the home of Marla, an elderly lady with dementia. Whilst Marla is trying to remember, Allison is trying to forget. The story follows their relationship as Allison pretends to be Toffee, Marla's best friend who disappeared many years before, so that she can stay in the safety of Marla's home.

It's a heart-warming story that I think would suit **Years 8 and above (including adults!)**



And finally, if you haven't seen it yet, please head over to the Physical Education Firefly page to watch an informative video from your PE teachers about keeping fit whilst indoors!

<https://portlandplace.fireflycloud.net/physical-education-2>





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Thank you for reading