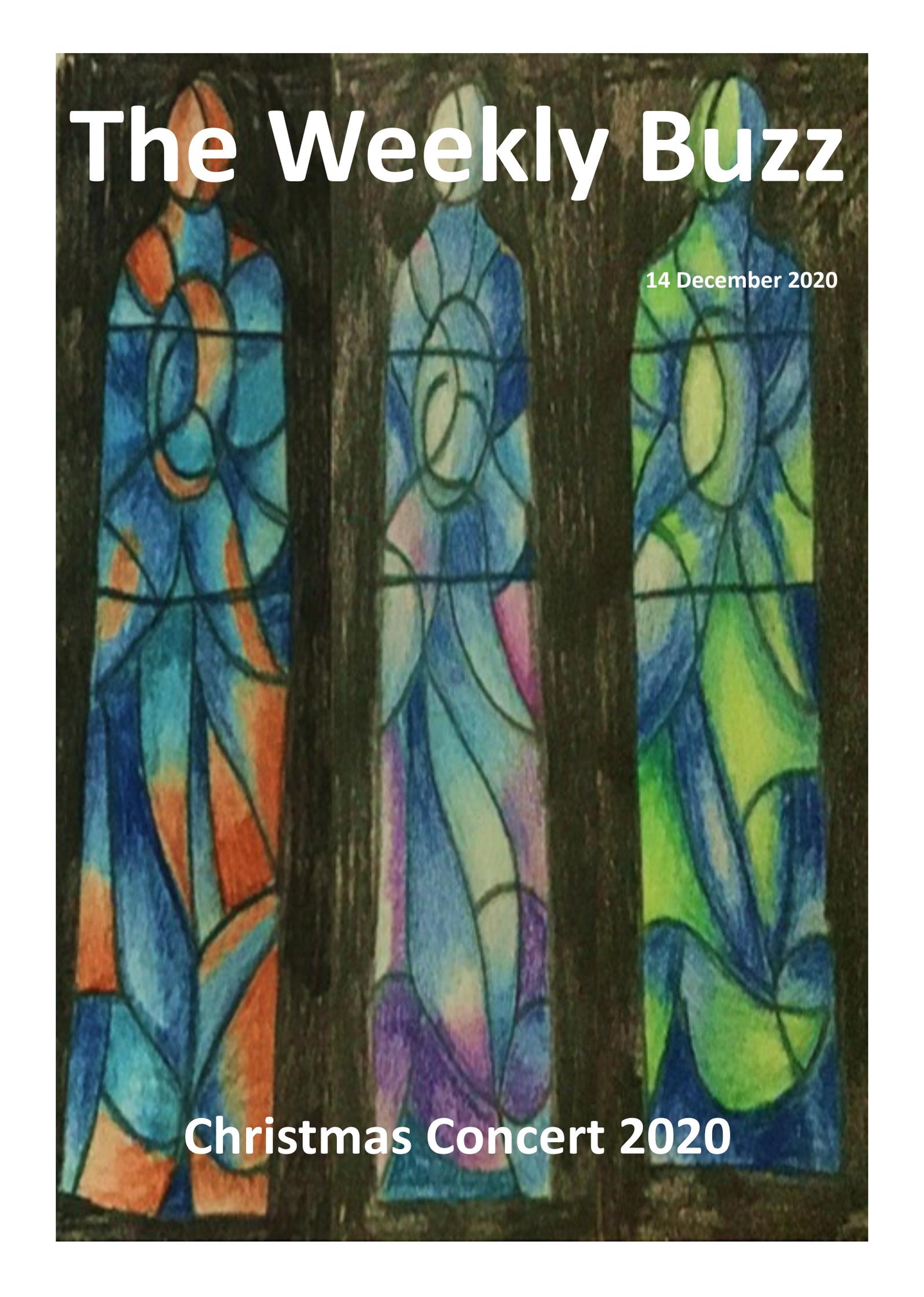


The Weekly Buzz

The background of the entire page is a photograph of three vertical stained glass panels. Each panel features abstract, organic patterns created with various shades of blue, orange, green, and purple. The panels are set against a dark, textured background, possibly wood or stone. The overall aesthetic is artistic and festive.

14 December 2020

Christmas Concert 2020

Headmaster's letter



Well, we've made it. This has been one of the most challenging terms any of us can remember and I have been impressed and grateful for the way the whole community has risen to those challenges – parents, staff and most of all the students. We have had our slice of luck – the only positive Covid tests in our community so far coinciding with half term so not otherwise affecting the wider school – but it has also been the diligence of all in following our safe working procedures that has seen us to Christmas without having to have large groups of students working remotely.

There has been the successful launch of *Portland Place Online*, now with 11 students studying with us in our hybrid school. It was a proud moment last Saturday when The Times ran an article about us and our hybrid school. If you haven't seen the article it is here:

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/hybrid-school-offers-four-days-at-home-and-fees-cut-by-half-m20zkxshg>.

We already have a good level of interest in joining for next year.

The day school is, and will always be, the beating heart of Portland Place. We have worked hard to keep the school feeling as normal as possible for our students. Plentiful sport continues despite the lack of fixtures against other schools. We have put on our shows – filmed and posted online rather than a live audience but performed nevertheless. We have a new page in our website hosting these films (<https://www.portland-place.co.uk/creative-arts-events/>) where you can see *The Haunted House*, *Hamlet* and by the time you read this, our *Christmas Concert*.



Portland
Place
School

Headmaster's letter

It has also been heartening to see the interest in Portland Place with a number of new students joining us not just at the start of September but through the term as well. It has been a pleasure to welcome them all and to see the energy they bring to the school.

2020 has challenged us all in so many ways and I am very proud of the way our community has come through it together. With vaccines now being rolled out I look forward to 2021 and our lives becoming less restricted as the pandemic passes. It will be interesting to see how far our lives move back to what was normal and what changes we retain from this year.

All that remains is for me to wish you a Merry Christmas and all the very best for the New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Bradbury', is written above the printed name.

David Bradbury



Portland
Place
School



Noticeboard

WEEK 1

Monday

Soup of the Day (Vegan)

Main Meat Free:
Beef Chilli with Tacos

Meat Free:
Veg Chilli with Tacos

To Go With:
Mashed Potato
Rice
Sweetcorn

Dessert:
Flapjack

Lunch MENU

Tuesday

Soup of the Day (Vegan)

Main:
Thai Green Curry

Meat Free:
Veg Thai Curry

To Go With:
Cauliflower
Rice
Peas

Dessert:
Chocolate Cake

THURSDAY

Soup of the Day (Vegan)

Main:
Butter Chicken

Meat Free:
Veg Curry

To Go With:
Rice
Bean
Courgette

Dessert:
Pineapple Cake

Every Day

Salad Bar
Fresh Fruit
Yoghurt

Friday

Soup of the Day (Vegan)

Main:
Fish

Meat Free:
Veggie Finger

To Go With:
Oven Baked Fries
Crushed Peas
Baked Beans

Dessert:
Shortbread

Wednesday

Soup of the Day (Vegan)

Main:
Roasted Gammon

Meat Free:

Quorn Roast

To Go With:
Roasted Carrot
Roasted Potato
Swede

Dessert:

Banoffee cheese cake

our awards!



Gluten-free options available on each day



Cover design: Three Angels by Rachel Winch in Y8



Portland
Place
School

Noticeboard



Christmas Lunch at Portland Place School

Thursday, 10 December 2020

Menu

Christmas Roasted Veg Soup

Roast Turkey or Vegetable Wellington (Vegan)

Pigs in Blanket

Sage & Onion Stuffing

Roast Potatoes

Honey Roasted Carrots

Roasted Parsnips

Yorkshire Pudding

Christmas Pudding

Vegetarian Jelly



Alternative Option

Vegetarian Pasta
& Salad Bar





Noticeboard

Literacy Corner

Regular proofreading allows the students to take the ownership of their learning, creates good habits and improves the accuracy of our students' work. We encourage you to share this editing checklist with your child for any written homework.

Secretarial skills checklist:	✓
<p>Capital letters Have I included capital letters for all proper nouns and after full stops?</p>	
<p>Organisation and omissions Have I used paragraphs? Are there any missing words in my sentences?</p>	
<p>Punctuation Have I included speech marks? (") Have I put a question mark at the end of a sentence that asks a question? Have I used commas and full stops? (, !)</p>	
<p>Spelling Read the text backwards (starting at the bottom right of the text). Have I spelled any words incorrectly? Try to correct them. Highlight any homophones (words that sound the same as another word but have different meanings and spellings). Read the sentence with the homophone. Have you used the correct one?</p>	
Authorial skills checklist:	✓
If someone who knew nothing about this topic read my work, would they understand it?	
<p>Vocabulary Circle 5 – 10 words that are simple. Swap them for more ambitious vocabulary. Risk the incorrect spelling!</p>	
<p>Style Who is your audience? Is the style suitable for them? (formal/informal)</p>	
<p>Sequencing Is your work logical? (moving from point to point in a way that makes sense) Have you used linking sentences at either the beginning or end of each paragraph?</p>	
<p>Answered? Have you answered the question you were asked?</p>	



Noticeboard

Numeracy Corner

This week we continue to present a series of support tools to help to solve mathematical problems.

Strategy 4-Step by Step

Step-by-Step

Class: _____ Teacher: _____

When solving a math problem, it helps to do the work in steps. Use this chart to map out the steps.

1. Write any important math formulas or notes in the box to the left.
2. In the top right box, write your problem.
3. Complete the problem, one step at a time. Put only one step in each box.
4. Write your solution in the bottom right box.

Important Math Formulas and Notes:	Your Problem:
	Step One:
	Step Two:
	Step Three:
	Step Four:
	Step Five:
	Your Solution:



Noticeboard

Numeracy Corner

This week we continue to present a series of support tools to help to solve mathematical problems.

Strategy 4-Step by Step- Example

Name: _____ Date: _____
Class: **Geometry** Teacher: _____

Step-by-Step

When solving a math problem, it helps to do the work in steps. Use this chart to map out the steps.

1. Write any important math formulas or notes in the box to the left.
2. In the top right box, write your problem.
3. Complete the problem, one step at a time. Put only one step in each box.
4. Write your solution in the bottom right box.

<p>Important Math Formulas and Notes:</p> <p>Pythagorean theorem</p> <p>$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$</p>	<p>Your Problem:</p> <p>Find the length of the missing side in the triangle:</p> <p>Step One:</p> <p>$a = 9, b = 12, c = ?$</p> <p>Step Two:</p> <p>$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ $9^2 + 12^2 = c^2$</p> <p>Step Three:</p> <p>$81 + 144 = c^2$</p> <p>Step Four:</p> <p>$225 = c^2$</p> <p>Step Five:</p> <p>$\sqrt{225} = \sqrt{c^2}$</p> <p>Your Solution:</p> <p>$15 = c$</p>
---	---



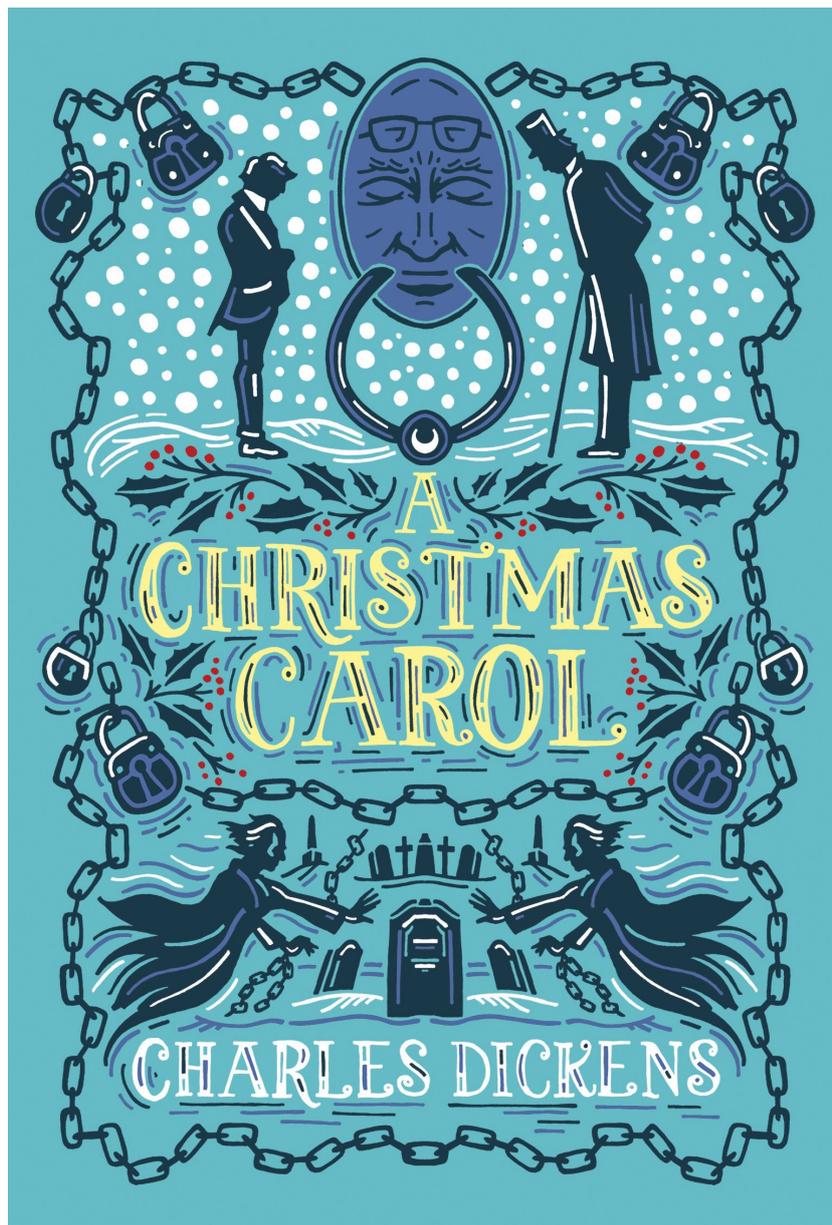
Portland
Place
School

Noticeboard

Library—Book of the Week

Merry Christmas from the library! **Book of the Week** this week is Barrington Stoke's Dyslexia friendly version of the classic festive book **A Christmas Carol** by **Charles Dickens**. Available to borrow in the library. Read a sample below:

<https://www.barringtonstoke.co.uk/books/a-christmas-carol/>





Portland
Place
School

Noticeboard

Library—Book Buzz Student of the Week



BOOK BUZZ STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Yaqoub, Year 7, has read several
Book Buzz Books this term, well
done!



Portland
Place
School

Noticeboard

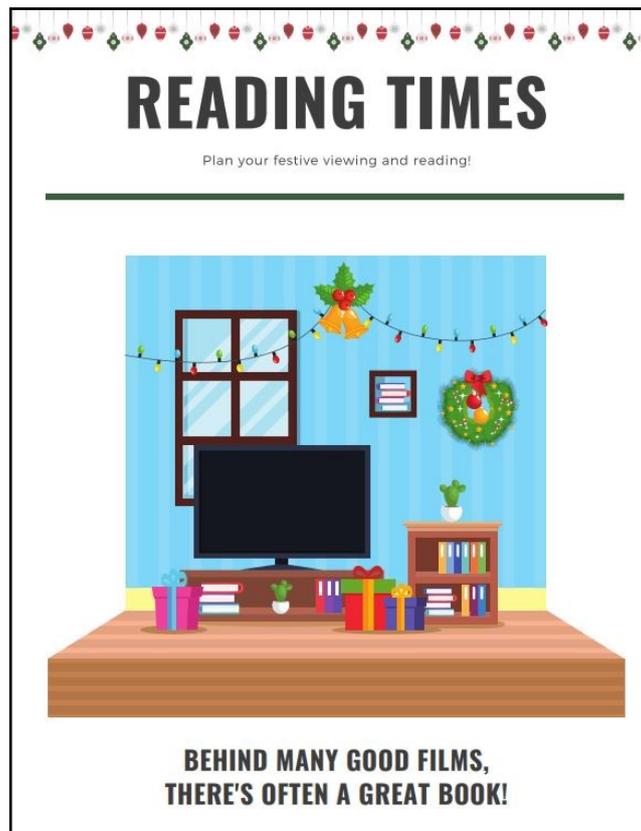
Attention Years 7 and 8

Remember to read your Book Buzz book and complete your review and project over the holidays. More information is on Firefly, any questions on this contact Mrs Carvalho.

The Christmas Reading Times

Do you love unwinding Christmas movies? Every year, the TV schedules are packed with wonderful movies, many of them based on equally wonderful books.

<https://heartoftheschool.edublogs.org/2020/12/09/christmas-reading-times-2020/>



Virtual Library

Remember to use our virtual library over Christmas. Go to Firefly – Resources – library and choose Virtual library for instructions in accessing our e-book platform, audio books and student news resource The Day.



Portland
Place
School

Noticeboard

DLD Extra—Tuition Programme



DLD
COLLEGE
LONDON
ESTABLISHED 1931

DLD EXTRA

A **unique** tuition programme enabling **GCSE** and **A Level** students to achieve exam success.



Winner: Independent Boarding School of the Year & Special Judges' Award, Independent School of the Year Awards 2020.



www.dldcollege.co.uk/dld-extra

Merry Christmas everyone!



Leo and Luke in Y8



Zaid in Y6

Enrichment—Comics

This week in Enrichment, we had an art tutorial by Sonia Leong, live on Zoom, who taught us several manga art styles which we drew in the session. Sonia Leong is an artist who specializes in drawing Manga. She gave us a tutorial in creating different types of faces. We all created our own piece of art to take away.



This was an event which myself and the others will remember. Hopefully, sooner or later, Sonia Leong will come to PPS for another event, in real life next time. Her books, including several on how to create your own manga drawings, will be available to borrow from the library in the New Year. For more information have a look at her work on Twitter: [@sonia_leong](https://twitter.com/sonia_leong)

By Yaqoub, Year 7



Science

Sonny, Sasha and Ariella learning about what static electricity is and the effect of the movement of electrons to produce opposing and attracting forces.





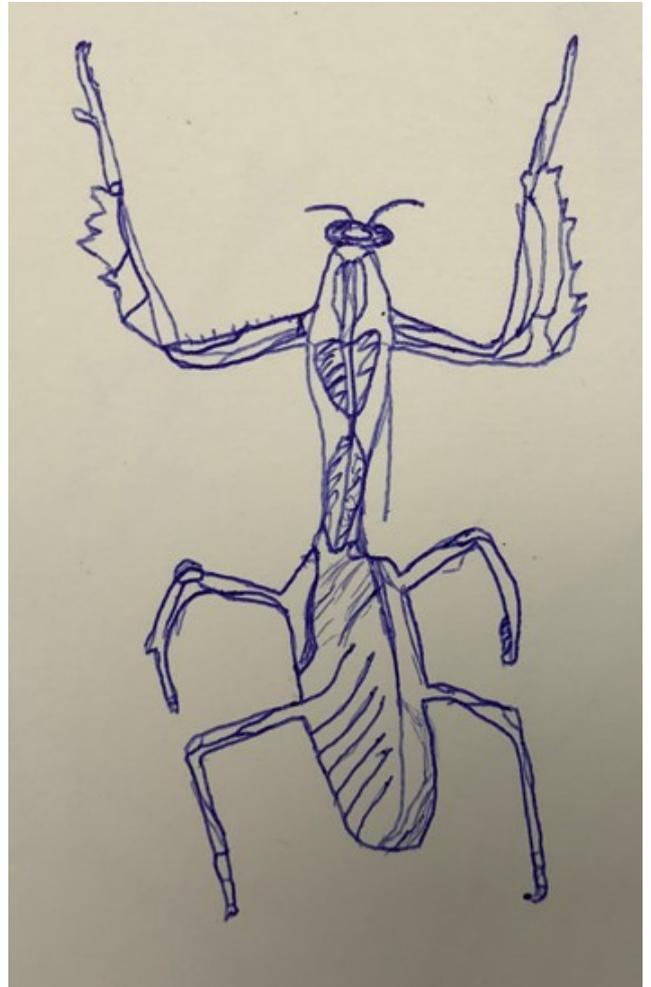
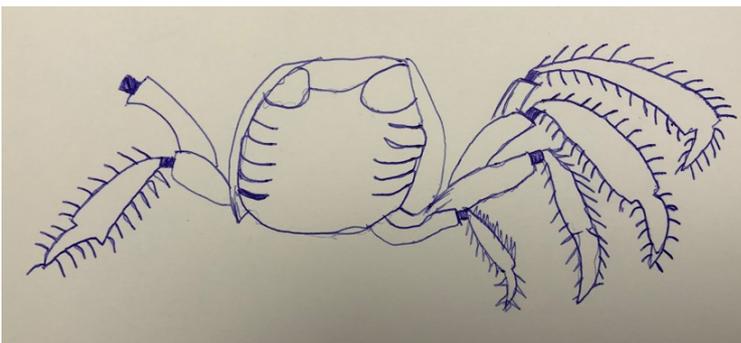
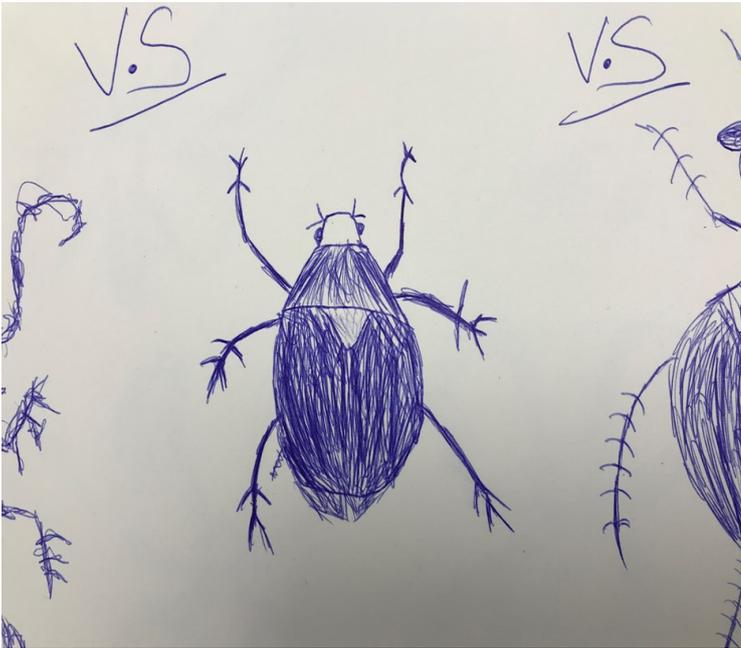
Portland
Place
School

News

Art

A selection of bugs from Year 8. All drawn from life, continuous line drawing with a biro. Delightful.

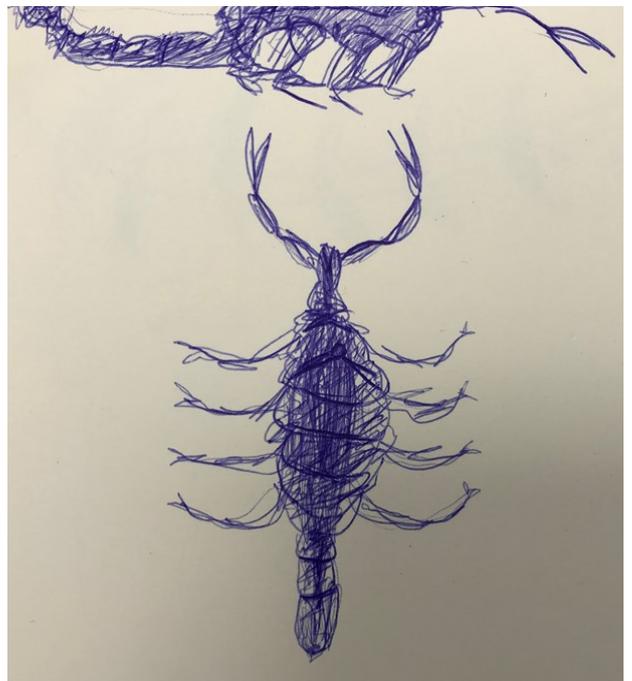
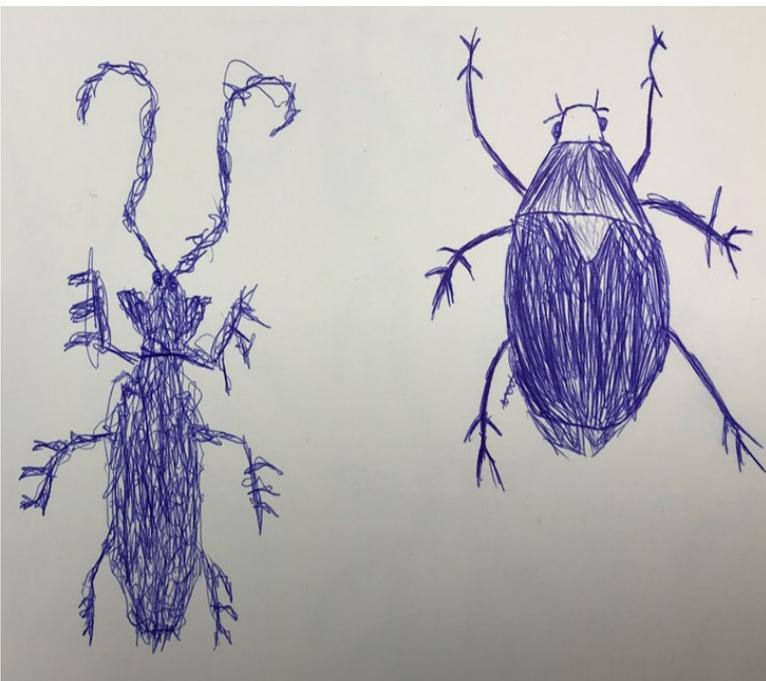
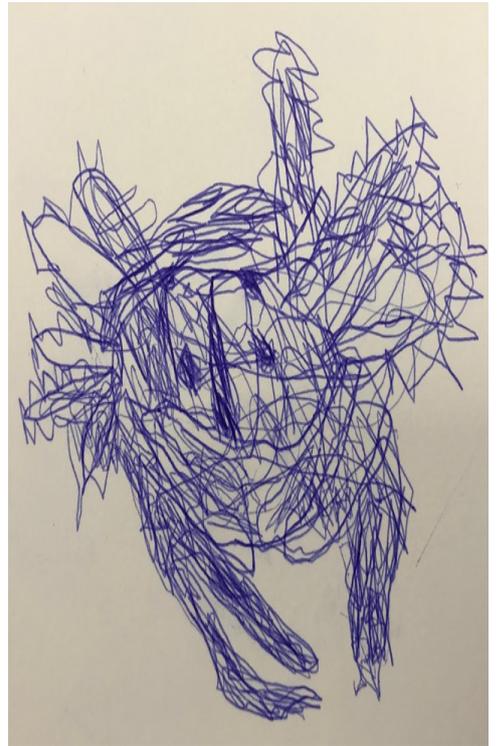
Ms Osborne





Portland
Place
School

News





Portland
Place
School

News

Science

Christmas Chromatography!





Portland
Place
School

News



English as an Additional Language

I feel very fortunate to work with students from different countries and this week I have asked some of them to share their experiences of Christmas and New Year, as they celebrate them in their home countries. Please see below their answers.

Hazuki Kita (Year 7): "In Japan, on Christmas Day we visit our grandparents, and we buy them a big bunch of flowers as a sign of respect. On New Year's Eve, we go to Disneyland in Tokyo where we join thousands of people who start the countdown at midnight. It is the most exciting moment of the holidays!"



Disneyland on New Year's Eve

Egor Pertsev (Year 8): "In Russia, we celebrate Christmas on January 7th, according to the Russian Orthodox calendar. Some people jump into frozen lakes and then use a sauna to warm up. Lots of people have saunas in Russia because our winters are extremely cold. On Christmas Day, we eat Olivier salad (which usually has peas, potatoes, carrots, onions, meat, pickles, and eggs all mixed with mayo) and a lot of fish (salmon and herring). My mum makes the best herring pie!"



Herring Pie and Olivier Salad

Murong Li (Year 10): "In China, people do not celebrate Christmas, but they love the Chinese New Year (also known as the Spring Festival) which is celebrated on a different day each year, between January 21st and February 21st. Grandparents put a lot of money in a red bag and give it to the grandchildren for good luck. "



Symbols which bring good luck and prosperity

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the EAL students for their creativity, resilience and effort this year. It is always a pleasure to teach you and I continue to feel inspired by your innovative ideas and passion for learning.

I wish you a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Miss Florea

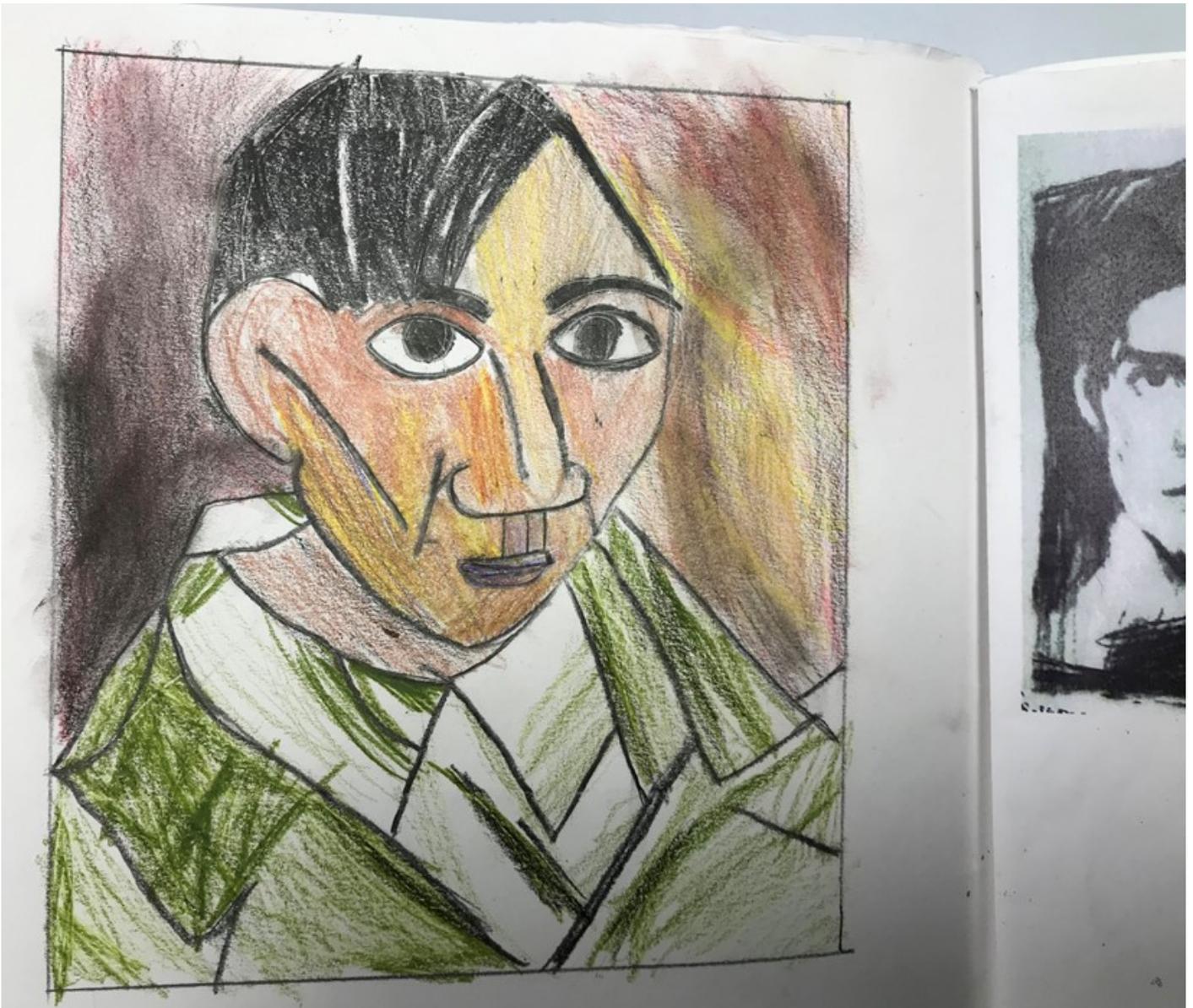


Portland
Place
School

News

Art

Picasso was hugely influenced by an exhibition of african masks. Year 7 are starting to design their own.



Beckett Jenkinson Chamberlain

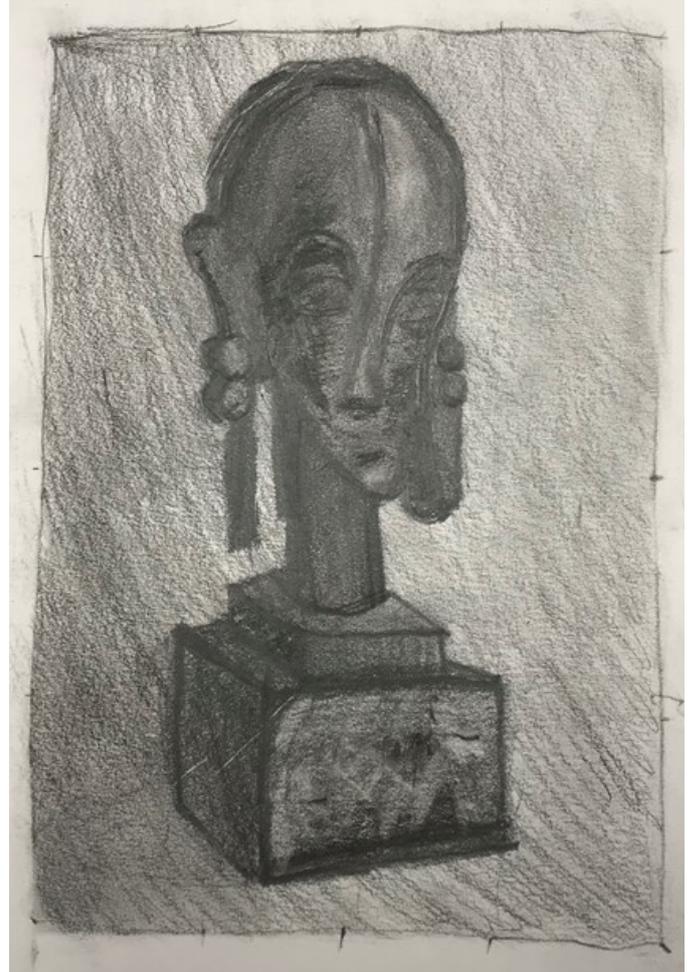


Portland
Place
School

News



Kadi Bahbahani

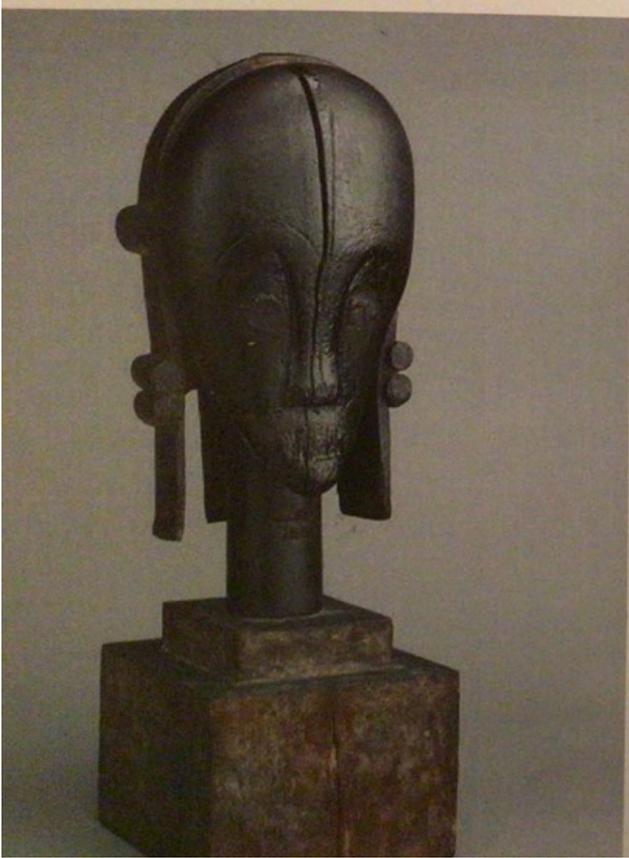


Georgia Cox



Portland Place School

News



Celebration Mask

Looks calm and scary.

hollowed out - wool beads

Wooden

Stripes on

Carved design above

Looks aggressive

animal hair

- Celebration mask
- animal parts
- wide face
- eyes squinting
- knobs around edge
- headress/horns

Beckett Jenkinson Chamberlain



Portland
Place
School

News



Claymation Day 6



PPS Christmas Concert 2020

Given the circumstances this year, we unfortunately could not host an audience for our annual Christmas Concert. However, we were grateful to RADA Studios for still allowing us to use the space so that we could film and record a variety of solos and choir items. A big shout out to the amazing technician Pete for his versatility in helping us through the day!

The students did some amazing performances from debut numbers featuring Sofia on drums and Jemima on violin, as well as solos from Fritzi and Susan in Year 6, alongside more seasoned veterans! Everyone did really well and we now have the task of editing and compiling a video. Hopefully this will be available on the school website by the end of the week and an In-Touch message will go out when it goes live.

As always, thanks to the staff, students and parents for all their support and encouragement throughout a long and very different term, but still with the opportunity for musical performances!

The Music Department



Here are some photos from the recording, including some great shots of the choir during their 3-minute performance without masks!



Portland
Place
School

News





Portland
Place
School

News





Portland
Place
School

News



Year 7 House Fitness Challenge

The weather at Regents Park was truly awful for this House Sports event on Thursday morning of last week and it was a close-run thing as to whether it would go ahead or not. The Year 6 & 7s were not to be deterred and put in a fantastic effort despite the elements and very muddy footing.

The competition involved every member of each house completing an endurance-based obstacle/fitness course in the fastest time possible, with the winning house recording the lowest cumulative time. Three of the houses were extremely closely matched, but the winning team, Cavendish were comfortable champions, in the end.

There were some superb individual times; **Hazuki Kita** recorded the best boys time of 2min, 32sec, with year 6s **Humphrey Boland** achieving 2min, 48 and **Jake Gadney** finishing in 3min, 05 sec. The best girls time was from **Georgie Cox** with 3min, 09sec, just ahead of **Olivia Solomou** in 3min, 13sec. **Isabelle Therese Alfeche** completed the course in 3min, 26sec.

A huge well done to all that took part. The overall team scores are as follows:



1st	Cavendish	21min 6sec
2nd	Wigmore	23min 1sec
3rd	Devonshire	23min 22sec
4th	Langham	23min 52sec

Year 8 House Fitness Challenge

On Friday 4th December, PPS year 8's made their way to Regents Park to compete in their annual house fitness competition. It was a bitterly cold morning but the year group were in good spirits and there was an air of tension and anticipation at the start of the race as each house sized up the opposition, trying to predict who would be victorious. Year 8 showed great grit and determination, and everyone pushed themselves to complete the fitness challenge course as quickly as possible. There were some impressive times from a number of individuals. **Isabella Calvert-Bull** was the fastest girl of the competition, completing the course in an impressive 2mins 49 secs. The fastest boy was **Miles Sellens-Flack** who ran in an outstanding 2mins 24secs in his very first house competition for the school! It was great to see year 8 show excellent team spirit, they constantly encouraged each other and cheered on their teammates throughout the competition.

Results:	1st – Cavendish	14.03
	2nd – Langham	15.08
	3rd – Wigmore	15.48
	4th – Devonshire	16.41



Year 9 House Fitness Challenge

About an hour after the Year 6 & 7 competition, the year 9s turned up at Cumberland Green on Regents Park for their contest. The weather had, if possible, got even worse, with steady rain and cold on top of a muddy course. However, such adversity seems to bring out the best in our pupils and the competition went ahead as planned and there were some excellent performances in a race that Devonshire dominated. Interest in fitness training seems to have grown significantly this term and may be a result of pupils paying more attention to personal fitness through lockdown. Of the girls, **Jemima-Frances Hyam** produced the fastest time of 3min 18sec, ahead of **Lana Tuite's** 3min 21sec and **Sumayyah Mahmoud's** 3min 24sec. **Lloyd Day** finished what was the hardest course of the three age groups in 3min 4sec, a time he shared with **Tom Hallam**. Just a second behind the pair was **Leo Newberry** with 3min 05sec.

The overall contest results were as follows:

- 1st Devonshire 22min, 33sec
- 2nd Cavendish 25min, 30sec
- 3rd Langham 25min, 54sec
- 4th Wigmore 28min, 08sec



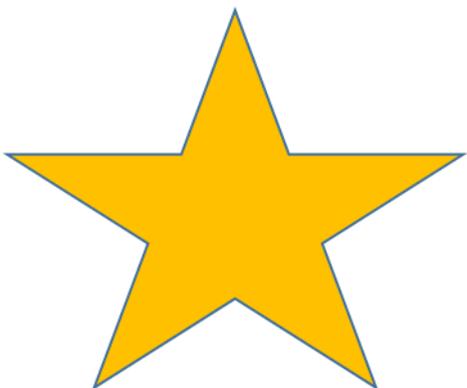
PE Stars of the Term

The PE department have chosen a boy and girl from each year as **Stars of the Term** in acknowledgement of their consistent, high effort and performance and tremendous progress throughout the last twelve weeks. Great effort – well done!

Year 6



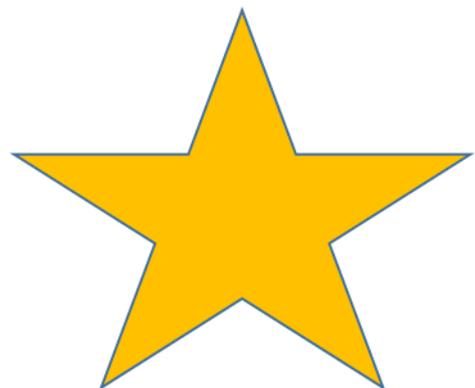
Fritzi & Humphrey



Year 7



Jake & Georgie





Portland
Place
School



Year 8



Felix & Isabella

Year 9



Jessy F-J & Isabella

Year 10



Jake & Ruhi

Year 11

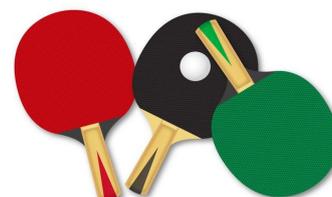
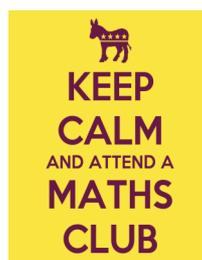


Adam & Zeynep



CLUBS	
Monday	
12:50—13:40	Y6-11 Table Tennis Club, PPS Hall
12:50—13:40	Y6-8 Drama Club, Drama Studio
12:50—13:40	Y6-8 Book Club
12:50—13:40	Advanced Arabic, Ms Elshelmani, G41
12:50—13:40	Y11 GCSE Art Club, Ms Osborne, HH12 (invite only)
13:15—13:45	KS3 Science Journal & Book Club, H1
Tuesday	
12:50—13:35	Senior Weights Club (Y9-11), PPS Changing Rooms
12:50—13:45	GCSE French, Mr Lalande, G41
12:50—13:45	PPS Choir, Mr Hill & Miss Boyle, GPS Hall
13:00—13:45	Cyber Discovery (age 13+), Mr Whiteside, G34
13:15—13:45	KS3 STEM Club, Ms Robinson, H1
15:45—16:45	Japanese Club, Ms Eren, R36
15:45—16:45	Y11 GCSE Design Club, Ms Birtles, B1
15:50—17:00	Art Club, Ms Dever, H11
Wednesday	
12:50—13:40	Y6-11 Fitness Training Club (HIIT/Circuit), R11
12:50—13:40	GCSE Computer Science (Y11), G34
12:55—13:40	Maths Puzzles, Mr Hill, G41
13:00—13:45	Russian Club, Ms Zalesny, R24
13:10—13:45	Y11 Science Revision (Physics), H1
15:45—16:30	KS3 Maths Club (Y6-9), R24
15:45—16:30	GCSE Statistics & Additional Maths, G33
15:45—16:30	Arabic Club, Mrs Elshlmani, R36
16:00—17:00	Fencing, PPS Hall, meet PPS changing rooms 15:45
Thursday	
12:50—13:40	Y6-11 Dance Club, Rm 11
12:50—13:40	Y8-11 Creative Writing, Ms Baig/Ms O'Donnell
12:50—13:40	Mandarin Club, Ms Huang, PPS Hall
13:10—13:45	Y11 Science Revision (Chemistry), H1
15:45—16:30	KS4 Maths Club (Y10-11), G33
15:45—16:45	KS2/3 Design Technology Club, Mr Bradford, B1
15:50—17:00	Art Club, H10 & H11

12:50-13:45	Chamber Choir - Room 1 - Miss Boyle
Friday	
12:50—13:50	GCSE Art Club, Miss Dever, H11
12:50—13:40	Y6-11 Table Tennis Club, PPS Hall
12:50—13:40	Digital Theatre & Club, Drama Studio
12:50—13:40	GCSE Spanish, Ms Magniez, G32
12:50—13:45	Vocal Ensemble, Ms Ryder, R1
12:55—13:40	UKMT Maths Challenge practice, G41
13:10—13:45	Y11 Science Revision (Biology), H1



PPS TERM DATES	
<u>Autumn Term 2020</u>	
Term starts	Monday 7 September
<i>Half term</i>	<i>Mon 19 Oct – Fri 30 Oct</i>
End of term	Friday 11 December
<u>Spring Term 2020</u>	
Term starts	Monday 4 January
<i>Half term</i>	<i>Mon 15 Feb – Fri 19 Feb</i>
End of term	Thursday 1 April
<u>Summer Term 2021</u>	
Term starts	Thursday 22 April
<i>Bank holiday</i>	<i>Mon 3 May (school closed)</i>
<i>Half term</i>	<i>Mon 31 May – Fri 4 June</i>
End of term	Friday 9 July



Portland
Place
School



Thank you for reading