

The Weekly Buzz

22 May 2023



Artwork by Ryder Y11



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Noticeboard

Lunch Menu

The FUTURE of
FOOD

WEEK COMMENCING: 22nd May 2023 - **Doughnut Week**

MONDAY

Slow Cooked Chunky Beef Lasagne
Mediterranean Vegetarian Lasagne
Roasted Peppers, Kale & Sweetcorn
Ice Cream

TUESDAY

Apple & Honey Loin of Pork
Sweet & Sticky Tofu Filo Tarts
Coconut Rice with Pineapple,
Pepper 3 Bean Medley & Carrot Batons
Oat & Raisin Cookie

WEDNESDAY

Grilled Beef Burger with Caramelised Onions
Quorn Burger with Caramelised Onions
Zucchini Chips, Potato Wedges, Tomato
& Burger Bun
Baked Glazed Mini Donuts

THURSDAY

Sweet Potato & Beef Curry
Marrakesh Vegetable Curry
Brown Rice
Roasted Vegetable Medley, Courgette &
Cauliflower
Lemon Drizzle Cake

FRIDAY

Pizza Topped with Ham & Chicken
Pizza Topped with Cheese & Veg
Oven Baked Chips, Steamed Peas & Baked Beans
Apple Crumble with Custard

EVERYDAY

Seasonal Soup of The Day With
Home Baked Bread
Seasonal Salads, Tomato, Cucumber, Mixed Leaf,
Coleslaw & Grated Cheese
Yoghurt Pots with
Seasonal Fruit

MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE SHOULD INGREDIENTS BE UNAVAILABLE

Gluten-free options available each day



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DATES FOR THE DIARY

More details to
follow

Year 6-8 Creative Arts Showcase
Thur 25 May, RADA Studios

Summer Concert - Thur 22 June
RADA Studios

Sports Day- Fri 23 June
Perivale

**Celebration Day & GCSE Art &
Design Exhibition - Thur 29 June**
Regent Hall & GPS

Carol Service - Tues 5 Dec
St Marylebone Church

Christmas Concert - Mon 11 Dec
Regent Hall



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English Language Revision

Y11

The English Department are delighted to invite Year 11 for some final English Language revision on Thursday 25th May in Room 22 (PPS) . We will be carrying out a walk-through mock for both English Language papers. Please come equipped with your laptop, pencil case and some water. See you at **12.00pm!** (Note, these are new details from those previously advised).

Thurs 25th May



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*TO OUR EXAM
STUDENTS...*

**GOOD LUCK
WITH YOUR
GCSEs!**





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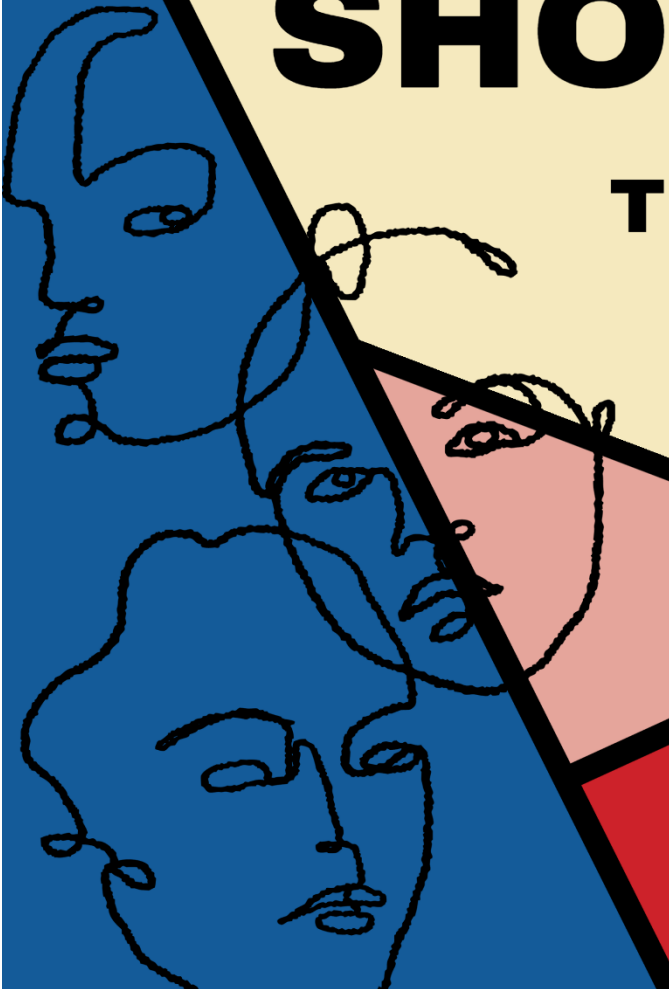


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YEAR 6, 7 & 8 CREATIVE ARTS SHOWCASE

**Thursday 25 May
5.30PM**



**@ RADA Studios: 16
Chenies Street
WC1E 7EX**



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The Y6, 7 & 8 Creative Arts Showcase is almost upon us – next Thursday at 5.30pm in RADA Studios, 16 Chenies Street, WC1E 7EX.

This is a fantastic opportunity to display the creativity and efforts across Drama, Music, Art, & Design. In Drama, students have been working on trestle masks and extracts from texts that they have been studying throughout term. In Music, all classes have been learning songs to perform along with a range of solo items. We are also compiling photographs of Art and Design work across both years as well as a presentation of some of the African Mask prints.

Early lunch will be provided at school for the students before they are escorted to RADA for an afternoon of rehearsals. All students must bring: any instruments / sheet music / any other equipment needed - full school uniform - snacks and water to last until 6.30pm (no nuts). Students can refill water at RADA.

Parents should arrive from 5.15pm at RADA where refreshments will be available. If you are not able to attend the event, we ask that your child is collected from RADA at 6.30pm.

See you there! The Creative Arts Faculty



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PORTLAND PLACE SCHOOL

Music Department

presents

Summer Concert 2023

Thursday 22nd June

6.30pm

RADA Studios



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END OF YEAR MATHS EXAMS

JUNE 2023



YEAR 7

PAPER 1

THURSDAY JUNE 15
PERIOD 5

PAPER 2

MONDAY JUNE 19
PERIOD 3

YEAR 8

PAPER 1

FRIDAY JUNE 16
PERIOD 6

PAPER 2

MONDAY JUNE 19
PERIOD 2

YEAR 9

PAPER 1

THURSDAY JUNE 15
PERIOD 6

PAPER 2

MONDAY JUNE 19
PERIOD 1

YEAR 10

PAPER 1(NON-CALC.)

THURSDAY JUNE 8
9AM

PAPER 2(CALC.)

MONDAY JUNE 12
9AM



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15 to 21 May 2023

Mental Health Awareness Week



Mental Health
Foundation



#ToHelpMyAnxiety



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Mental Health Awareness Week is organised by the Mental Health Foundation and this year's theme is 'Anxiety,' to help increase awareness and understanding of anxiety and think about things we can do to help us feel calmer and happier. Thank you to Mrs Wolfe-Murray for leading the Year 6, 7 & 8 assembly on this topic.

"Having some anxiety – or worries – is totally normal. But sometimes our thoughts can get carried away and our worries get on top of us. It happens to lots of people. In fact, the Mental Health Foundation says anxiety is one of the most common mental health problems we can face. In a recent survey they carried out, a quarter of adults said they felt so anxious that it stopped them from doing the things they want to do some or all of the time. On a positive note, there are lots of things we can do to help us feel less anxious. One very simple way is with kindness."

Please encourage your child to complete the **Kindness Calendar for Children**. It can be downloaded here:
<https://schoolofkindness.org/kindness-calendar-for-children>

DID YOU KNOW?
Kindness causes elevated levels of dopamine in the brain, helping us feel happier.



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Summer of Love

Want to make this the best summer ever? Spreading kindness is a great place to start! Not only will you be helping other people, you'll also be helping yourself feel happier at the same time.

This is your own special Kindness Calendar. You can use it to record your acts of kindness during the summer...we've added a few suggestions and left lots of blank spaces for you to add your own ideas.

What colour will you make your hearts? Use our colour key to decide!
Green Heart - Acts that are kind to the planet
Yellow Heart - Acts that are kind to ourselves
Red Heart - Acts that are kind to other people

B K1ND

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Write a kind note for someone ♥	♥	♥	Have a screen-free day ♥	♥	♥	Help tidy up without being asked to ♥
♥	♥	Ask someone how they are and really listen to their answer ♥	♥	♥	Write down 3 things you love about yourself ♥	♥
♥	Spend time doing something that you love ♥	♥	♥	Give a loved one a hug ♥	♥	♥
♥	♥	Spend at least an hour out in nature ♥	♥	♥	Do something kind for someone in your household ♥	♥
Have a sort out of your clothes, toys and books and donate anything you don't need to charity. ♥	♥	♥	♥	Plant some bee-friendly flowers ♥	♥	Write a thank you note for someone who has helped you ♥

Congratulations! You have completed a whole month of kindness and helped to make the world an even kinder place.

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52 LIVES
SCHOOL OF KINDNESS



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Tapping in/out of PPS

Parents, please kindly remind your child to bring their wristband/pass to school every day. It is vital that all students and staff entering the buildings tap in and out, as this informs our fire procedures.

If your child has lost their wristband/pass they can go to Gary before registration or at break and he will issue them with a replacement. If students are not tapping in and out of the buildings regularly, detentions will be issued. Students are reminded about this in assembly and the consequences explained.

Mobile Phones

Some students have been using their mobile phones during the school day. We understand that students may require their phones on journeys to and from school, but it is against school policy to have their phones out during the school day. If a student needs to urgently contact a parent during school hours, they can go to Gary or Gail on reception and they will place a call for them.

If students are seen on their phones without permission from a member of staff, they will be issued with an after-school detention. Again, this has been discussed with students during registration and assembly.

Thank you for your support.





Noticeboard

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT MATHS?

However you feel about maths, you're not alone. Feeling this way isn't the same as being bad at maths, and it doesn't mean that you can't get better at working with numbers.



NUMERACY IN THE UK

A donut chart with a pink and green color scheme. The pink segment represents 49% of the total, and the green segment represents the remaining 51%. The text "49%" is displayed in the center of the chart.



30%

of school-leavers (18-24s) feel anxious about using maths and numbers. They are the most maths-anxious adult group in the UK.



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National
Numeracy
Day

MATHS ANXIETY AND DYSCALCULIA

Maths anxiety is thought to affect a large proportion of the population.

It has been defined as “the panic, helplessness, paralysis, and mental disorganisation that arises among some people when they are required to solve a mathematical problem.”*

Dyscalculia is often described as ‘dyslexia of numbers’ – it’s a cognitive impairment affecting the understanding of numbers.

It’s estimated that 3% of the population have dyscalculia – that’s more than 2 million people.

Plus, 60% of people with dyslexia – 3 million people - have maths learning difficulties too.

It’s a lot of people, and we’re in this together!

TOP TIPS FOR FEELING GOOD ABOUT NUMBERS

However you feel, you’re not alone.

- By having a go and then sticking with it, you might find your feelings about maths change.
- Keep practising and your confidence and skills can grow.
- It’s ok to be honest at work and at home about how you feel.



Remember:

- Talk about your feelings about maths
- Challenge your own beliefs
- Try not to compare yourself to others
- Find a comfortable space without distractions
- Take your time
- Set realistic goals



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IMPROVE YOUR NUMERACY

Visit the [National Numeracy Day hub](#) to get lots of free and useful resources for children and adults.

Have a go at the [National Numeracy Challenge](#) – you can check your numeracy skills and start improving in just 10 minutes, anytime, anywhere.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZuert73Le0>

Watch this video to find out how the Challenge can help you!

JOIN THE WIDER CONVERSATION

The story behind your lucky number, top tips for bagging a bargain, doing calculations in your career, or helping kids with homework... whatever it is, we want to hear it!

At work: As a team or individually, share your Big Number Natter videos, photos or messages via your intranet or internal channels.

At home: Join the wider conversation – share your own perspective on your social media channels, using **#BigNumberNatter**. Use the 'Ideas for Number Nattering on social media' sheet if you need inspiration.



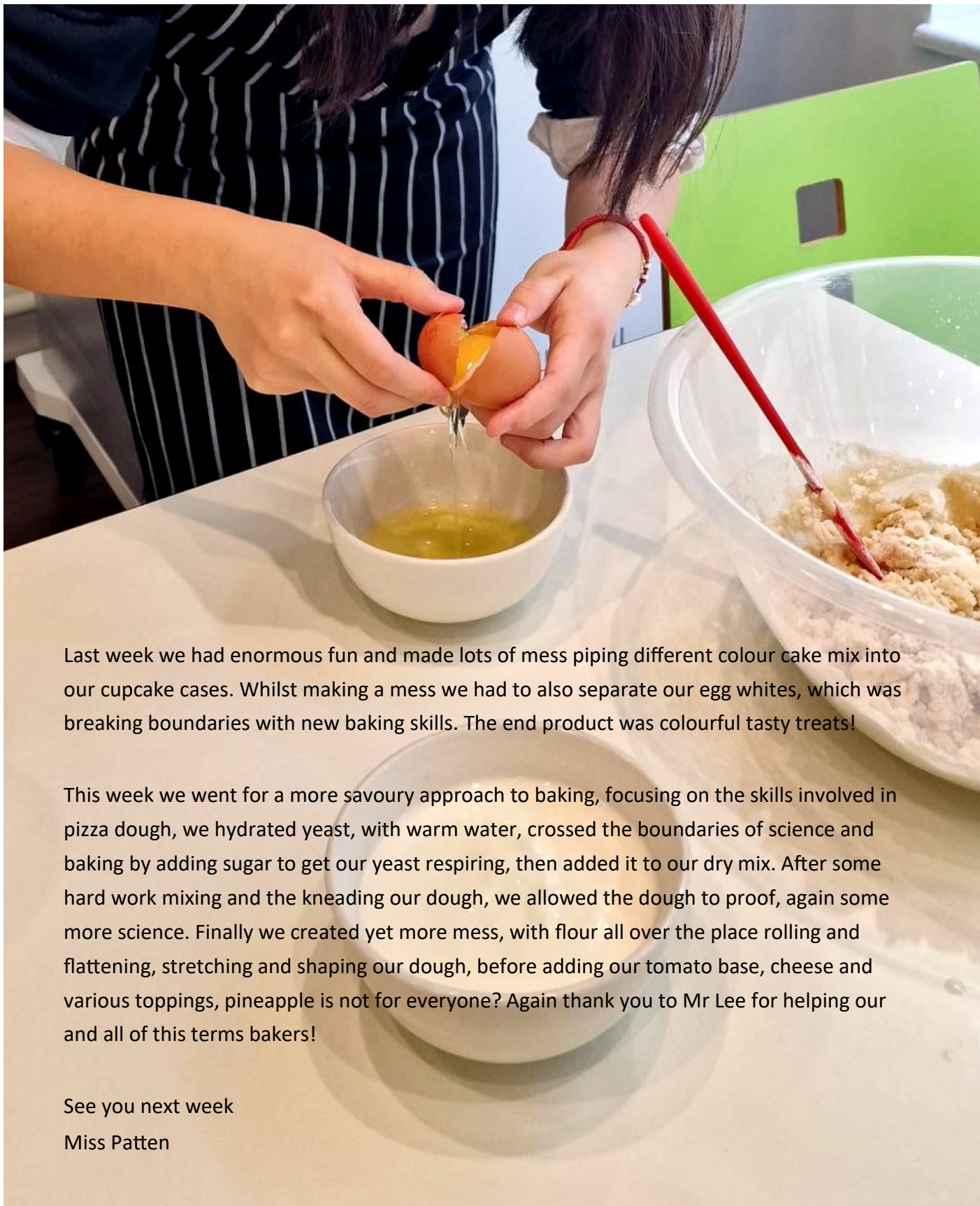


Portland
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News

Baking Enrichment





Last week we had enormous fun and made lots of mess piping different colour cake mix into our cupcake cases. Whilst making a mess we had to also separate our egg whites, which was breaking boundaries with new baking skills. The end product was colourful tasty treats!

This week we went for a more savoury approach to baking, focusing on the skills involved in pizza dough, we hydrated yeast, with warm water, crossed the boundaries of science and baking by adding sugar to get our yeast respiring, then added it to our dry mix. After some hard work mixing and the kneading our dough, we allowed the dough to proof, again some more science. Finally we created yet more mess, with flour all over the place rolling and flattening, stretching and shaping our dough, before adding our tomato base, cheese and various toppings, pineapple is not for everyone? Again thank you to Mr Lee for helping our and all of this terms bakers!

See you next week

Miss Patten



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News





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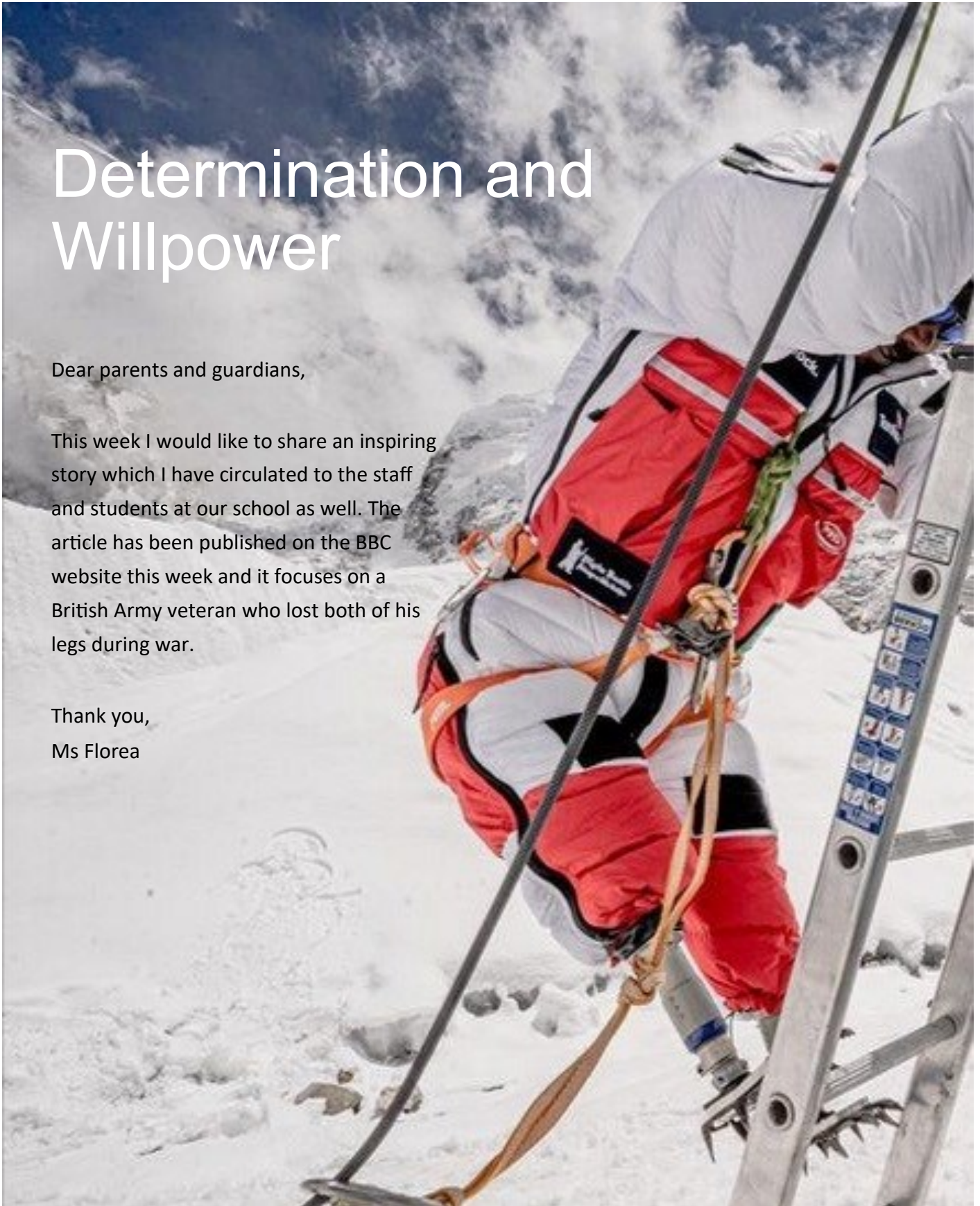
News

Determination and Willpower

Dear parents and guardians,

This week I would like to share an inspiring story which I have circulated to the staff and students at our school as well. The article has been published on the BBC website this week and it focuses on a British Army veteran who lost both of his legs during war.

Thank you,
Ms Florea





Canterbury Gurkha completes first phase of Everest climb



Hari Budha Magar, a former soldier in the Gurkha regiment, is aiming to be the first double above-the-knee amputee to scale the world's highest peak.

The 43-year-old climbed to camp two, before returning to base camp. The team will recover before heading back up to camp two to make the push for the summit.

Hari, who lives in Kent, said: "The record for a double amputee (below knee in this case) from base camp to camp one was 16 hours, so we beat that and I'm happy with that. "This is the first time ever a double amputee above the knee has gone through Khumbu ice fall coming up to camp two, so this is also hugely significant for me, and just an amazing experience."

Hari lost his legs when he stepped on an improvised explosive device (IED) in Afghanistan in 2010. He is attempting to raise 100 times the height of Mount Everest (£884,900) for five charities that helped him on the road to recovery.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-62742323>

THE GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE 2023

After a recent visit to PPS by **The Good Schools Guide**, I am pleased to share a lovely review that has been published on their website for prospective parents to access.

It was a very positive visit and I feel we were able to communicate all the tangible and intangible elements that make Portland Place so special.

The review plus information about **The Good Schools Guide** can be found on their website: www.goodschoolsguide.co.uk

Mrs Wantman
Head of Marketing



GSG

What The Good Schools Guide says:

Head

Since 2017, David Bradbury. Educated at Campsmount School (now Campsmount Academy) in South Yorkshire and Keele University, where he read physics and then did an MSc. His first experience of teaching was as a part-time lecturer in physics and maths at a further education college in Newcastle-under-Lyme – he enjoyed it so much that he headed back to Keele to do his PGCE. His first post took him to Chase Terrace Academy in Staffordshire, followed by a three-year stint teaching science at Bangkok Patana School, an all-through British international school in Thailand. Back in the UK, he rose through the ranks to become assistant head at Alleyne's Academy in Staffordshire and then deputy head academic at South Hampstead High School GDST for seven years.

He knew of Portland Place before he took up the headship but when he visited for the first time he was struck by its 'lively, vibrant community' and its huge potential. 'I knew it was a school where you could make a mark,' he says. When he arrived there had been several heads in quick succession and he moved swiftly to 'steady the ship' and provide stability and reassurance. He was adamant from the start that Portland Place should remain non-selective but he has built a strong academic team and recognised the school's strengths in creativity and the arts. 'He's done a very good job,' a parent told us. 'He's firm but fair – very kind and approachable. He really listens and takes everything on board.' 'His ethos and knowledge of the children are amazing,' said another. 'He's incredibly thoughtful and really pushes forward for the children to leave Portland Place as rounded human beings.'

He teaches GCSE physics to year 10s and 11s at Portland Place's hybrid school and runs science practicals for year 10s in the main school. 'I had one year when I didn't teach and I missed it,' he says. His wife is a former teacher who works at the Museum of London. In his spare time he enjoys cooking (his signature dish is 'a proper Tex-Mex chilli'), playing in-person table-top games and travelling.

Entrance

Non-selective but children must be able to cope with the school's mainstream curriculum. The usual entry point is in year 7 but there's a one-form entry in year 6, designed for parents keen to avoid putting their children through the 11+ or those who have recently moved to the capital and don't want their offspring to move schools twice. The school expands to three forms in year 7 – applicants sit assessments in maths and English and have a 20-minute interview with the head. Year 8 to 10 entrants have assessments in maths, English and science.

Exit

There's no sixth form so at 16, pupils head to the likes of St Paul's, South Hampstead High, Highgate, The King Alfred School, Mill Hill, St Marylebone CE School, the London Screen Academy, Albemarle College, Ashbourne College and Fine Arts College in Hampstead. Many opt for DLD College, which, like Portland Place, is part of the Alpha Plus Group.

Latest results

In 2022, 33 per cent 9-7 at GCSE. In 2019 (the last pre-pandemic results), 27 per cent 9-7 at GCSE.

Teaching and learning

A small, close-knit school with a nurturing environment, it's ideal for youngsters who might be daunted by larger, pushier schools. The head recalls a year 11 boy who progressed to the sixth form of one of London's top academic schools. 'When he joined us in year 7 he wouldn't have been emotionally ready for the school he's at now,' he says. 'But after five years with us he is thriving there.' Parents agree that bright pupils are challenged and stretched while the less academic receive plenty of support. 'The school sometimes has a reputation for not being so academic but when you look at the schools they get into for the sixth form it's clear that the academic side is really good,' said one. Maximum classes sizes of 16 so teaching is very personalised. We joined a class of year 11 GCSE history pupils who were studying political and religious developments in Britain from 1629 to 1660. As the teenagers made notes in digital exercise books, their teacher encouraged them to paste in 'trigger' images, graphics and maps to help them revise.

In science, year 7s were using litmus paper to test whether different substances were acidic or alkaline. The school has three science labs and most pupils take two sciences at GCSE (around eight a year, mostly those wanting to do sciences at A level, take three).

French and Spanish are taught as part of the main curriculum but the school offers after-school classes in Arabic, Japanese, Mandarin and Russian. 'When they speak another language at home they take the GCSE in year 9,' says the dynamic head of modern foreign languages. We watched a year 11 GCSE French class practise for their forthcoming oral exams by using virtual reality headsets to converse with native speakers. The initiative has been so successful that the school is starting to use the headsets in other subjects too. We were impressed by the Strive programme, which gives year 7 to 9 pupils ideas about how to expand their knowledge outside the classroom. In English, for instance, year 7s are encouraged to read books like *Northern Lights* by Phillip Pullman, visit the Wallace Collection and attend a live poetry reading.

There's lots of emphasis on reading, with a weekly 60-minute library session for younger pupils, author visits and reading initiatives galore. All tastes catered for – from Arthur Ransome to Anthony Horowitz. The school supplies iPads to younger pupils but during the GCSE years most bring their own devices. Students email teachers if they need help. 'The teaching here is very good,' one told us. 'They make lessons fun and interactive.'

Learning support and SEN

The school can support children with mild to moderate learning needs but they must be able to work in a mainstream environment. Some attend the timetabled Learning Lab – either for specific learning difficulties like dyslexia or dyspraxia or for help with spatial reasoning, literacy and numeracy. The SEND team has four members (including a dedicated EAL teacher). Around 20 per cent of pupils are bilingual, with some international families in London on multi-year postings. 'For someone who is coming new into the British education system or who needs more dedicated support, the size of the school is perfect,' a parent told us. The parents of a dyslexic pupil praised the school to the rafters for the support she's had. 'She has come on in leaps and bounds,' they said. 'Her confidence is through the roof. It's wonderful to see.'

The arts and extracurricular

The creative arts department, comprising art, design, drama and music, is a real powerhouse – a haven of creativity. Teachers are dynamic and enthusiastic and the head of design, who recently returned to Portland Place after a spell at a large academy, described the school as ‘a rare gem’. ‘Creativity and innovation are encouraged here,’ he told us. ‘It’s about pupils using their hands and their imaginations. As a teacher it’s glorious.’

The school makes huge efforts to get pupils on board musically – they offer Symphonfree to all year 7s, giving them a free musical instrument and lessons for a year. Music is a compulsory subject in years 6 to 9. During our visit a class of year 8s were studying the Lord of the Rings film score, learning chord sequences and creating their own mixes. Two-thirds have instrumental lessons and there’s a variety of groups, from orchestra and school choir to a rock band and even a ukulele ensemble. The chamber choir recently won a national a cappella singing competition.

Drama for all, with every year group treading the boards and helping backstage in the annual show. At the time of our visit pupils had just staged Grease in the JW3 centre in north London, complete with props and costumes borrowed from the National Theatre. Fourteen or so take GCSE drama every year. The art department is on the top floor, with views of the BT Tower (great for learning about perspective). Lots of budding artists and good numbers of GCSE entrants (eight in the main school and five in the hybrid school at the time of our visit). The school makes the most of its central location, with trips to places like Tate Modern and the British Museum, as well as a street art walking tour of Shoreditch and a field trip to Epping Forest. ‘It’s really important that my daughter should engage with life in central London and take advantage of all that’s around her,’ said a parent. ‘It’s a massive draw.’

Wednesday afternoons are devoted to enrichment, with everyone off timetable to pursue activities like photography, yoga and meditation, climbing at a climbing wall in Vauxhall, horse riding in Hyde Park and mountain-biking at the Lee Valley VeloPark in Stratford. Other extracurricular activities, clubs and DofE take place during the lunch hour and after school.

Sport

For a school with next to no outside space of its own – and with numbers that might make fielding teams for the plethora of sporting activities on offer a struggle – Portland Place does remarkably well at sport. The school has its own dance studio, fitness room and table-tennis tables but it helps, of course, that Regent’s Park is on the doorstep. ‘It’s like our back garden,’ said one pupil appreciatively. Some form of sport happens three or four times a week, depending on the year group, with swimming up to year 10. As well as football, rugby, netball, tennis, cricket and rounders in Regent’s Park, the school uses a variety of top-notch sporting facilities – including the Seymour Leisure Centre and the Parliament Hill Athletics Track. Portland Place prides itself on its inclusivity and fields teams against independent and state schools across London every week. A pupil recently became the national ISA 100 metres champion while another is winning contemporary dance competitions at national level. A former student plays for Premier League club Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Ethos and heritage

A comparatively new kid on the block compared to more established rivals, Portland Place was founded in 1996 as an alternative to larger, very exam-focused independent schools in London and is part of Alpha Plus, London’s largest private education company. It’s housed in two buildings in an elegant part of Marylebone – halfway between the charms of Regent’s Park and the hustle and bustle of Oxford Circus, with embassies and professional institutions as near neighbours. The main building – known as PPS – is an imposing five-storey house just up the road from the BBC’s Broadcasting House, with a light, airy library on the ground floor and classrooms above (you need to be fit to climb all those stairs). The rest of the school operates out of a building in Great Portland Street, known as GPS. Only one of the school’s two buildings (GPS) has a lift but if someone breaks a leg and can’t get upstairs the school will move lessons to the ground floor. The school’s distinctive ethos is to be small, caring and inspirational. It’s genuinely innovative too – alongside the main school it pioneered a hybrid school in 2020 to offer a mix of online and on-site learning. ‘As far as I’m aware it’s unique in terms of mainstream schools,’ says the head.

The hybrid school offers two alternatives – one where pupils learn online most of the week and attend Portland Place in person one or two days a week and the other where pupils learn online five days a week. They all come in for school trips, mocks and real exams. ‘They are very much part of the school community,’ we were told. The hybrid school now has 50 pupils, most from London and a few from further afield. Some are anxious about attending school after the pandemic, some have medical needs and a few are school refusers. During lockdown two brothers from Ukraine joined the hybrid school for two terms.

Pastoral care, inclusivity and discipline

The school has a purposeful and friendly working atmosphere, with good relationships between staff and pupils. Slightly informal but it feels comfortable and natural, with staff going the extra mile to understand each child. Everyone seems to know each other – the beauty of a smallish school. Pupils are clear about where to go if they need help, whether it’s their form tutor (in most cases they keep the same tutor right the way through the school), head of year or the front office. There are two counsellors on hand to support students and staff and wellbeing is part of the PHSCE curriculum, delivered by form tutors twice a week. Behaviour overall is ‘very good’, says the head – ‘although I’m not going to say I’ve got 230 angels’. Anyone caught vaping or bringing vapes into school is suspended and the school takes a zero-tolerance policy to drugs.

Pupils wear an unfussy navy uniform, with a choice of trousers and skirts for all. When the head did a post-pandemic uniform survey he wondered if pupils might want to get rid of it but they didn’t. Quite the reverse, they wanted blazers to feature the PPS emblem. ‘Having a uniform makes everyone the same,’ said one boy. When it comes to hair and nails, there’s a certain amount of leeway. ‘You can have coloured hair and nails,’ a pupil told us approvingly. The school welcomes pupils’ ideas – there’s a school council with two reps per year group and a suggestions box (made by a pupil) in reception. As students progress up the school they get more freedom. Years 10 and 11 are allowed to pop out to the nearby Sainsbury’s and Pret at lunchtime. Lunch is served in a bright canteen, with long tables and zingy green and yellow chairs; most have school dinners cooked by the chef and his team but a few bring packed lunches. Younger ones moving between the school’s two buildings are always accompanied by a member of staff but from year 9 onwards they are trusted to walk by themselves in this genteel part of town.

Pupils and parents

Currently the pupil cohort is 60:40 boys to girls, but the ratio in years 6 and 7 is 50:50. Lively newsletter – The Weekly Buzz – keeps everyone informed about upcoming events, the school lunch menu, parents’ evenings and sports fixtures. Pupils seem genuinely sad when it’s time to leave. ‘Most of the kids love it,’ a parent told us. ‘The teachers are so caring and the kids absolutely love them.’

Pupils come from around 20 London boroughs and most travel to school by public transport. Some walk from their homes in Marylebone and Fitzrovia while others use the tube (Great Portland Street, Regent’s Park, Oxford Circus and Warren Street tube stations are close by), travelling from west and east across London.

Money matters

As part of the Alpha Plus Group, Portland Place has the back-up of a well-resourced operation. A limited number of creative arts and sports scholarships are available at year 7 and year 9 entry, worth up to 10 per cent of the fees. Bursaries are available through the Gold Standard Charitable Trust.

The last word

A small, nurturing school in the heart of London with a distinctive ethos. Ideal for lively and engaged youngsters, it’s a godsend for parents looking for an unpressurised environment that offers inspirational teaching and great opportunities for all.

www.goodschoolsguide.co.uk



GSG



VeloPark Update

SUMMER IS IN SEASON!

VeloPark this half-term has heralded the start of the cycling season, in parallel with the Giro d'Italia, and it's been a magnificent three weeks of riding so far in the early sunshine. We began with two sessions on the road circuit, practicing team drills and racing skills in close formation, and pushing ourselves hard over the distance – with a particular mention to the lower-years', whose focus and speed in this activity were hardly at all slower than the much more powerful Year 10s!

On the mountain bike course in the last two weeks the story has been somewhat different – the Year 10s' speed and audacity was noted by Instructor Jason this week, who commented that the group were 'the best school group he can remember seeing'! But the Year 10s really stood out for two reasons – for one, it was through the encouragement of **Miles, Felix** and **Todd** that I dared to attempt one of the drops by myself and conquered my fear of that particular type of feature – and secondly, having challenged me to a race around the 400m-long XC





course, Miles and I went wheel-to-wheel for a couple of laps, later finding that we had taken the 10th fastest time on that course of all time – out of a pool of over 2,000 riders, and many thousands more attempts! That’s more one for the Strava fans among us, but a pretty remarkable achievement nonetheless, capping off an exceptionally fast-paced and challenging session.


Instructor Jason and I both commented on how everyone’s bike handling and skill in tackling tough obstacles has really improved – and he also had one final shout-out to **Maya**, whose resilience despite a couple of washouts remains undented. VeloPark concludes next week with a big day out on the BMX jump track! Mr Tasić


You're the tenth fastest worldwide!

[Share](#)






 **1:09**
Today

 **Personal Record**
1:09 - Today

 **Analyze Effort**
21.7 km/h, 146 W

 **Your Results**
5 Efforts

All Leaderboards

All-Time	11		>
All-Time (Men)	10		>
All-Time (Women)			>
This Year	1		>
This Year (Men)	1		>
This Year (Women)			>
Today	1		>



Portland
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News

**ZSL
LONDON
ZOO**

Enrichment



Our second workshop on 10 May was dedicated to evaluating human impact on the extinction of the animals. We were also debating some controversial questions...

Ms Coates

WEEK 03: ZSL-WILDLIFE UNDER THREAT

4. Introduced Species

1. Habitat Destruction

3. Pollution

5. Hunting and Illegal Trade for:

- Sport and Leisure
- Decorative Objects and Souvenirs
- Clothes and accessories
- Medicine
- Pets
- Food

2. Climate Change

Bluefin Tuna 92% decrease in population

Lemur Leopard 100 left

Ivory Trade

- Kenya 1980 - 275,000 elephants
- Kenya 1989 - 20,000 elephants
- New products made and seized in London.

Week 3:

Javan Rhino only 60 left

METROPOLITAN POLICE

WWF TRAFFIC



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DISAGREE

DEBATING

AGREE



❑ Should people who buy these medicines, be punished in some way?

WHAT ZSL IS DOING?

1. Research

2. Working with governments

3. Protecting the animals in the ZOO

4. Reintroductions

5. Protecting animals in the wild

6. Working with local people

6. Education



BRAIN
TO CURE LAZINESS & PI

EYEBALL
FOR EPILEPSY, MALAR
NERVOUSNESS OR FEV
CHILDREN, CONVULS
AND CATARACTS

NOSE
FOR EPILEPSY AND
CHILDREN'S CONVULSIO

WHISKERS
FOR TOOTHACHE

TEETH
OR RABIES, ASTHMA AN
SOES ON THE PENIS

FAT
OR VOMITING, DOG BIT
HAEMORRHOIDS AND
CHILDREN'S SCALP
CONDITIONS

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP

- ❑ Don't buy animal souvenirs on holiday
- ❑ Don't buy 'herbal' or 'traditional' Chinese medicine unless the shop displays the Met Police label
- ❑ Don't buy real fur or snake skin clothes and accessories
- ❑ Do buy fish with are sustainably resourced
- ❑ Do ask the pet shop where they get their animals from before buying



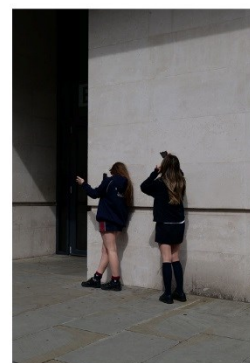
BACKGROUNDS

ENRICHMENT PHOTOGRAPHY



USING SHAPES AND GRAPHIC ELEMENTS

FINDING COOL BACKGROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENTS



THE WALL OF KINDNESS

Oba Y8 Hybrid would like to thank
Will and Mohammed for helping
him settle in.

Jamaal Y8 Hybrid would like to thank Eddie for
showing him the school this week on his first day.

Thank you to Maha and Abz for being incredible in
Computer Science this year! I will miss teaching you!!
- Miss McBain

I would like to thank Arjun and Isaiah for always being so
friendly and welcoming to visiting families. Many thanks, too,
to Cora who recently took Freddie's sister under her wing
during a taster day—Ms Wild



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Kayaking Enrichment

Last Wednesday and this Wednesday, the boys had their second and third session on the Regent Canal!

On May 10, they experienced single kayaks for the first time and paddled themselves down to Feng Shang Princess restaurant. On the way there, Joel decided to test the theory that if you are paddling and turn your head too far to the side, you will fall into the water.... the theory was proven correct! They boys also played Zombie tag - where there is one Zombie who tries to infect all the other players. The week's most impressive kayaker was (surprisingly) Joel, who was incredibly able to get back into his kayak while still in the water!!

During this week's session, the boys were in a mix of single and double kayaks and stayed close to the castle near Camden Market. There, we played British Bulldog - Miss McBain won, Zombie Tag, and more Kayak Polo - which is the favourite of the group! While some of the boys chose to remain chilled out enjoying floating on the water, the majority of the boys played hard and sped around the canal - including Henry, who looked like he was going to capsize a few times! This week's most impressive kayakers were Felix and Koby for their turning skills and control of their kayaks!





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Portland Place Sports Teams Photos



The recent sports team photographs taken at Portland Place School are now online and available to order with delivery direct to your home address.

Please use the following link, and your email address when prompted, to view and order on the Gillman & Soame website:

<https://www.gillmanandsoame.co.uk/?cardRef=GC3796&cardPass=986878&loginType=editOrder>

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact Gillman & Soame directly at enquiries@gillmanandsoame.co.uk or on 01869 328200.



U13 Rounders vs North Bridge House Hampstead

It was the girls' first Rounders match of the year and despite it being a somewhat damp afternoon at Regent's Park, they were up for the challenge. Representing PPS for the U12 team were **Maya, Jazz, Mia, Zaya, Kansas, Bibi, Yasmin, Rhiya** and **Abi**.

PPS were batting for the first innings, and they managed to get some good strikes to earn themselves some valuable rounders. Unfortunately, NBHS were strong when they came to bat and took the lead on their go.



After a half time talk PPS stepped up to the challenge and were eager to win some points for the team. Everyone played well, and some excellent batting and fielding skills were demonstrated. NBHS unfortunately won by 9 to 3.5 rounders, but I know the girls will come back stronger for their return match.

Well done to all those involved,
Miss Boyce

U15 Cricket Match Report



PPS 69 v 36 Maida Vale (Pairs cricket scoring format)

On Thursday 11th May PPS u15s had their first cricket fixture of the term at Regent's Park against Maida Vale school. The conditions for cricket were not great and the game was at risk of being cancelled but thankfully the rain held just enough for the fixture be to be completed. The game format saw batting pairs have a set number of overs with different bowlers each other giving everyone the opportunity to bat and bowl.

PPS opened the batting and got off to a bit of a slow start giving away 2 wickets in the opening 2 overs. However, after a rocky start PPS started to play some nice shots and started getting some runs on the board. **Felix** had a positive innings playing some well-timed drives and **Ethan** also scored some excellent runs when batting. By the end of the innings PPS had scored 69 runs.



Sports report

Maida Vale stepped up to bat and opening bowler Felix had a positive first over limiting Maida Vale to 2 runs with some fast-paced bowling. **Charlie** managed to take the first wicket with an accurate delivery that hit the leg stump. **Todd** bowled an excellent over taking 2 wickets in 6 balls! Overall PPS bowled very well and bowled noticeably less wides than Maida Vale which was important in keeping their score down. By the end of the innings Maida Vale reached 36 runs meaning PPS took the victory 69 to 36 runs.

This was a great opening game for our u15 team who are not regular cricket players. The bowling accuracy was a real positive as this is often where more inexperienced players make mistakes. There were some positive batting from a number of PPS players and some who know they have a bit of work to do. Ethan batted, fielded and bowled well, **Michael** and Todd both bowled very well but player of the match goes to Felix who scored the most runs (joint with Ethan) and bowled brilliantly.

Well done boys.

U14 Tennis vs Maida Vale

On Monday 15th May PPS took a mixed tennis team to Queen's Park to take on Maida Vale School in a friendly tennis fixture. It was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon with some highly entertaining tennis played throughout the afternoon.

The format saw 2 doubles teams for both boys and girls take on doubles teams from Maida Vale. Each Pair played against as many other pairs as possible in the allotted time. **Olivia, Ella, Cora** and **Kadi** all played some great tennis and improved game after game. They found their initial match ups tough but by the end of the afternoon they had all won some games and played some brilliant shots. The double team of **Max** and **Yura** worked well together and played out some highly entertaining rallies. The boys lost a little more than they won, but they should be proud of their efforts against some strong players. **Tec** and **Hazuki** are both more experienced players and it showed with the boys going through the whole afternoon without losing a match! They were tested, but Tec's consistency and ability to return everything and Hazuki's attacking style of play was too much for Maida Vale to handle.

Well done to all PPS players who played some entertaining tennis and had a very enjoyable afternoon!



Sports report





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Sports report

U12/13 Tennis vs Malda Vale





Sports report



On Tuesday 16th May, PPS took another mixed tennis team across to Queens Park to challenge Maida Vale School in a friendly tennis fixture. The sun was out and we were lucky enough to have access to 5 courts, which meant lots of game time! The afternoon ran with PPS students pairing up and taking on as many Maida Vale pairs as possible in the time provided. **Taisei, Babur, Lucy, Angelica** and **Talia** demonstrated their competitiveness with some tight losses to Maida Vale, but through practice their returns, serves and teamwork improved leading to some great rallies.

Zane and **Enzo** put on an absolute clinic after finding themselves losing match 1, 0-40. However, their teamwork and ability to strategically place their shots resulted in a

whopping come back to win in straight sets. **Noah** showed his passion vocally in a singles match where he took down Maida Vale 3-1 comfortably.

Abi took on Maida Vale's top player in a singles match. Her experience was made clear with some great returns and sneaking in some aces, showing why she is not to be messed with and coming away victorious.

Well done to the PPS team for an entertaining afternoon and putting in their best effort.



Portland
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Sports report

NEXT WEEK'S CLUBS & FIXTURES

Mon 22nd May:

Table Tennis Club, PPS Hall, 1.10-1.40pm

ISA London North Area Athletics Championships,
Bedford Int. Athletics Stadium, 10.00am – 4.00pm

Cricket Club, 3.50-5.15pm, Lord's Indoor Cricket
Academy

Karate Club, PPS Hall, 4.00-5.00pm

Tues 23rd May:

Weight Training Club, 12.50-1.25pm, PPS changing
rooms

U12 Cricket vs Kew House, Regent's Park, 2.00pm

Wed 24th May:

Running Club, 12.50-1.25pm, Regent's Park

Y9 & 10 Cricket vs North Bridge House Canonbury,
2.00pm, Regent's Park

Thurs 25th May:

Weight Training Club, 12.50-1.25pm, PPS changing rooms

Y7/8 cricket/rounders (TBC) vs Fairley House,
Archbishop's Park, 2.00pm

Fri 26th May:

—

Enrichment — First Half of Summer Term 2023

Activity	Staff	Room
Advanced Maths	TTO	G21
Athletics	SRI, LST & JKU	Offsite. Meet PE changing rooms at 1.40pm
Baking Club	KPA & RLE	Dining Hall & Kitchen
Carnegie Book Club	JWO & GBL	Library
Climbing	AZE & LVW	Offsite. Meet Room 1 at 1.30pm
Debating Club	ABA	Room 22
Digital Drawing	LDE & CHU	Art Studio
EPQ	SSA	Room 36
F45 Fitness	CBY & TLA	Offsite. Meet PE changing rooms at 1.50pm
Fantastic Beads	CFL	Room 34
Fashion & Styling	FSY	Room 35
Horse Riding	AIS	Offsite. Meet PE changing rooms at 1.20pm
Kayaking	MMC & JVA	Offsite. Meet Room 10 at 1.30pm
London Zoo	ECO	Offsite. Meet Library at 1.30pm
Park Sports	RAL, AJU & CBO	Offsite. Meet Room 1 at 1.50pm
Street Photography	PZA & DFL	Room 24
Tennis	BSO	Offsite. Meet PE changing rooms at 1.50pm
Velo Park	TTC, HIS & WBR	Offsite. Meet outside PP at 1pm
Y11 Independent Study 1	DBL	LAB 1
Y11 Independent Study 2	MTH	LAB 2
Y11 Independent Study 3	KOL	G22
Y11 Independent Study 4	PLE	LAB 3

Clubs for Summer Term 2023

Day	Time	Activity	Staff	Location	Year Groups
Mon	12:50-13:50	Table Tennis Club	JKU	PP Hall	All
Mon	12:50-13:45	String Ensemble (Friday for first 3 weeks)	R H'white	R1	All
Mon	13:15-13:45	Chemistry Revision Club	HSI	Lab 3	10 & 11
Mon	13:15-13:45	Year 9 Science Clinic	RLE	Lab 2	9
Mon	12:50-13:45	Chinese Club	TLA	G33	All
Mon	12:50-13:45	Rock Band	DMC	R2	All
Mon	13:15-13:45	UKMT Maths Challenge	AIS	34	All
Mon	13:15-13:40	Board Games	DFL & ECO	R11	6-9
Mon	16:00-17:00	Karate Club	PE	PP Hall	All
Tues	13:15-13:45	Year 9 Science Clinic	RLE	Lab 2	9
Tues	12:50-13:45	PPS Choir	SHI & CBO	R1	All
Tues	12:50-13:30	Weight Training Club	PE	Changing Rm	All
Tues	13:15-13:45	Physics Revision Club	WBR	Lab 3	10 & 11
Tues	15:50-17:15	Cricket Club	PE	Lords	All
Tues	16:00-17:00	KS4 GCSE Art Club	LDE	Art Studio 1	10 & 11
Tues	15:45-17:00	KS4 Design Drop-In Clinic	MJO	B1	10 & 11
Wed	12:50-13:45	Music Theory Club	ZBO	R42	All
Wed	12:50-13:45	Percussion Ensemble	J Morrison	R2	All
Wed	12:50-13:50	Running Club	PE	Regents Park	All
Wed	16:00-17:00	Fencing Club	Fencing coach	PP Hall	All
Thurs	12:50-13:45	Woodwind Ensemble	J Slack	R1	All
Thurs	12:50-13:30	KS3 Drama Club	TNO	Drama Studio	6-9
Thurs	12:50-13:30	Russian Club	PZA	R24	All
Thurs	13:10-13:45	Dance Club	CBY	R11	All
Thurs	12:50-13:50	Beginner French / Spanish	FSY	G33	6 – 9
Thurs	12:50-13:30	Weight Training Club	PE	Boys C/ Rooms	All
Thurs	13:15-13:45	Biology Revision Club	RLE	Science Lab 2	10 & 11
Thurs	13:15-13:45	Coding Club	MMC	33	6-8
Thurs	13:15-13:45	Spanish GCSE Club	CFL	G33	10 & 11
Thurs	13:15-13:45	Y6 Design Club	JVA	B1	6
Thurs	16:00-17:00	PPS Chamber Choir	CBO	R1	All by audition

Clubs for Summer Term 2023

Day	Time	Activity	Staff	Location	Year Groups
Thurs	16:00-17:00	Art Club	TMO & LDE	Art 1 & 2	All **
Thurs	16:00-17:00	KS4 Design Drop-in Clinic	MJO	B1	10 & 11
Fri	12:50-13:45	Brass Ensemble	W Brown	R2	All
Fri	12:50-13:50	Japanese	Yekta	R24	7 – 9
Fri	13:15-13:45	Science Exam Skills	DBL	Science Lab 1	10 & 11
Fri	13:15-13:45	Music Tour Choir	SHI	PP Hall	Invited
Fri	13:15-13:45	KS4 Maths Club	KPA	Science Lab 1	10 & 11
Fri	13:15-13:45	KS3 Maths Club	AZE	33	6 – 9
Fri	13:15-13:45	French Bilingual Club	TLA	B3	7 – 9
Fri	13:15-13:45	Music Tour Choir	SHI	PPH	Invited

** by invitation only for KS3, Art Scholarship holders must attend

Summer Term 2023

Term Starts: Tuesday 25 April
 Bank Holiday: Monday 1 May (school closed)
 Coronation Bank Holiday: Monday 8 May (school closed)
 Half Term Holiday: Monday 29 May—Friday 2 June
 End of Term: Friday 7 July



56-58 Portland Place
 London W1B 1NJ
 Tel: 020 7307 8700
 (Main Switchboard)

Autumn Term 2023

Staff Inset: Thurs 31 August (closed to students)
 New Student Induction Day & Staff Inset:
 Friday 1 September
 Term Starts: Monday 4 September (all other students)
 Half Term: Monday 16 October—Friday 27 October
 End of Term: Friday 15 December

GPS Building:
 143-149 Great Portland St
 London W1W 6QN

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