

#PINDARPositives



Dear Parent / Carer

After a busy first week back after half term, I am writing to share some positives from our last week in school.

We often have tweaks to timetables after holidays and this week Miss Pickles took on a Y7 Drama group. She emailed to tell me that they were incredible; so supportive of each other and so kind. Their ideas were amazing as they performed their Physical Theatre group work to each other. Personally I have recently taken over a Year 7 French class and am absolutely delighted by their engagement and this week they worked particularly well when learning to tell the time in French, being very generous with me when we were plagued by IT problems! Miss Mills emailed me this week to highlight 7B3 who have had two very calm and purposeful French lessons this week where she has been extremely impressed with the engagement of the whole class. Miss Ward-Gow also wanted to highlight 7B/Ma2 for their enthusiasm for calculating the perimeter of shapes... some of which had over 20 sides! Keep up the great work Year 7!

Regarding Year 8, Mr Traves asked me to shout out to his Year 8 IT class whose behaviour was exemplary on Friday whilst having to develop their own game/app using 'App Lab'. The class showed care, thought and imagination in their creations. Effort, behaviour and attitude displayed was impeccable throughout. High praise indeed Year 8! Miss Mills told me that she was SOOOO proud of 8B3 French this week for their outstanding focus in a really tricky lesson on the past tense in French. Their behaviour was exemplary and they achieved so much! Continuez comme ça Year 8!

Our Year 9 classes have had lots of timetable changes over the last two weeks but this has not stopped them achieving - Mr Virr, our Subject Leader for IT, asked me to shout out to the whole year group for their perseverance when making an animation on Blender - I have been lucky enough to have seen some of these lessons and I have been hugely impressed. Miss Mills also asked me to shout out to all Year 9 French classes who are coming to the end of their French film project and who have written some brilliant reviews of the film in French. If you ever get a chance to watch Les Choristes, I would recommend it! Miss Ward-Gow asked me to congratulate 9B/Ma1 for their hard work every lesson and for being successful with questions featured on "The 1% Club" - great work Year 9! Mr Vickers also popped into detention on Friday night to tell me that his Year 9 class have been doing incredible work balancing equations this week - well done to our budding scientists!

In Year 10 Miss Pickles highlighted her Year 10s who have had a fantastic start to the GCSE Literature Poetry syllabus. They have contributed really thoughtful and engaging ideas and learned a few new poetry skills along the way.

There is a huge fortnight coming up for our Year 11 students who begin their final PPE or 'mock' examinations this week. Students have been working hard in lessons revising or completing the end of their GCSE qualifications and this week Mr Virr wanted to congratulate his Year 11 Cambridge National class for continued resilience with the RO98 coursework whilst Miss Ward-Gow wanted to highlight 11M/Ma1 for their hard work every lesson and for striving to be successful in the next PPEs. She urges them - and all Year 11 students - to keep going - hard work pays off.

School remains very busy and teachers are regularly out of lessons attending meetings, training and school visits and when this happens, we use a team of supply teachers to supervise our students. It has been so wonderful to receive messages this week from Mrs Swift, who asked to nominate her Y10 class, 10En1, for a #PINDARPositive for superb, mature attitudes and working independently for cover teachers during her 3 recent absences. Even with the additional challenge of no internet on Thursday, they worked brilliantly. It is really uplifting to receive praise for a class from a supply teacher! Mr Smith was at a training course on Friday and the supply teacher sent an email to say that she had the pleasure of covering P4 on Friday for Mr Smith's Year 8 and this group was delightful. We are so proud of these students who have shown their determination to succeed for themselves as well as for their teachers.

Finally, and as you are aware, we like to provide a huge range of extra-curricular activities at out school and Mr Worrell asked me to say well done to the Y10 students who played in the KS4 Badminton competition this week, with GPS being the only school to have both a boys and a girls team in the event. Keep flying the GPS flag #TeamPindar!

I hope you have enjoyed this week's edition of the #PINDARPositives email and look forward to reporting on another good week soon!

With every good wish

Lesley Welsh

Principal