



GEORGE
PINDAR
SCHOOL

The Pindar Postbag

May 2025 Edition

Message from the Principal

The last half term was very short and with two four-day weeks out of five weeks in school, you might expect that we haven't had time to do anything apart from lessons and exams (for Year 11!) As can be seen below, that is far from the truth! Our half term has once again been jam packed and we are so grateful to all staff who have organised such a wide range of activities for students, and so impressed by all our students who have made us incredibly #ProudToBePindar this half term. We are looking forward to the next half term and seeing all our students on **Monday 2nd June 2025 at 8.40am**. Students need to be in to win and attendance matters so please remind your child to start the new half term with 100% attendance!

Attendance pays off!

We were delighted to draw our 100 Club prize draw on Friday morning where three £100 vouchers were up for grabs for students who have achieved 100% attendance each week. Research tells us that students who maintain higher attendance achieve higher grades and we encourage every child to be in every day. Congratulations to our lucky winners - there are seven weeks in the final half term and we will make a draw during sports day on the 18th July. Students need to be in to win!

Hard work will make a difference!

Our Year 11 students are now halfway through the final set of GCSE exams and we have been so proud of their attitude towards the most important exams of their school careers so far. In school we have revision lessons and drop down sessions every day to prepare students as thoroughly as possible for exam success and we encourage students to never lose sight of the envelope when revising hard at home and in school. Exam Results Day is **Thursday 21st August 2025** and students can collect their envelopes from 9am - 11.30am. We wish our Year 11s every success!

The next half term is busy for students in all year groups with Endpoints Assessments taking place over the next three weeks for Years 9, 8 and 7 in all subject areas. Parents and carers have received an email containing dates of assessments and revision lists are available on Google Classroom. Please encourage your child to revise as hard work does pay off!

As Year 11 prepare to leave school, our Year 10 students take up the exam preparation mantle and their first set of formal 'mock' exams takes place in June. These offer a fantastic opportunity to review student progress throughout Year 10 and give guidance on next steps. Students have been issued with a timetable and we encourage all Year 10s to prepare thoroughly for these exams. Reports will be shared for all year groups by the end of term - good luck #TeamPindar!



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Where next?

At George Pindar School we are very mindful that our students are only with us for a relatively short period as they continue their educational journey from primary school to post-16 provision and beyond. To that end, we offer a huge range of activities to help students find out more about their next steps and support them to aim high, showing our PINDAR value of Aspirational. This half term students from Years 8, 9 and 10 have embraced a taste of university life in visits that have been generously organised by York St John University and the University of York and thoroughly enjoyed by all our students!

Year 8 enjoyed the Making Waves project day at York St John where they learnt about student finance, took part in a campus tour and enjoyed a taste test to compare branded vs non-branded food items to consider how they could get best value from a student loan!

In their Making Waves project day at York St John, Year 9 students completed a series of Taskmaster style challenges and got their (rubber) ducks in a row when they snapped photos of them around campus!

On campus at the University of York, our Year 9 Shine students enjoyed their first visit learning about student finance, student accommodation and budgeting with their eyes on life post-18.



Over the Easter holidays a small group of Year 10s truly embraced student life staying overnight in student 'digs' at the University of York for the Shine project residential. Students participated in lectures, seminars and societies and got a taste of the food on offer in student halls of residence - it was a brilliant experience and we are very grateful to the SHINE project staff who made this happen!

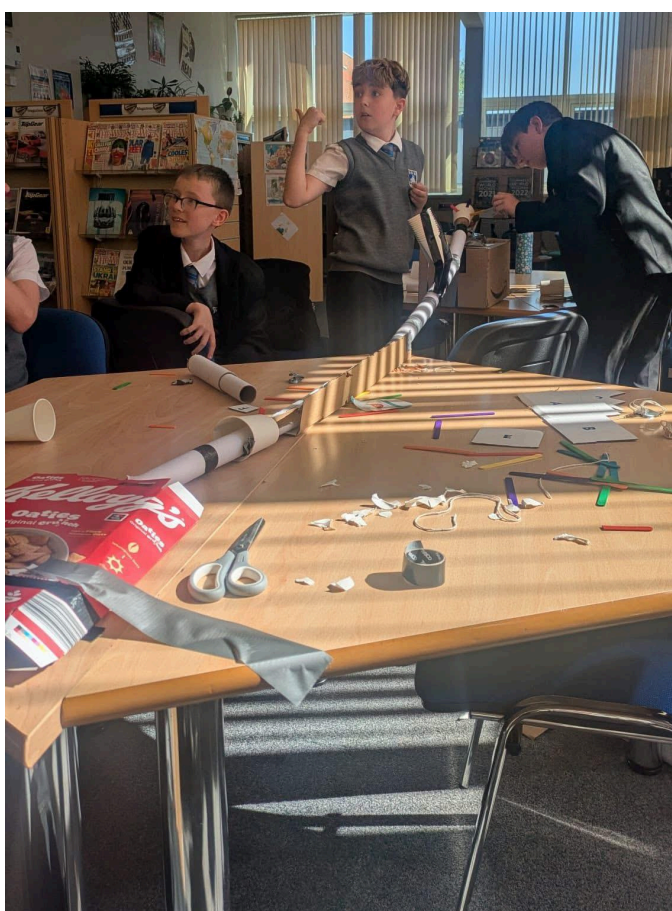




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Our Meet the Professionals series of events has continued this half term which has been generously funded by Anglo American and this half term we have been delighted to welcome Shannon to school twice to deliver engineering workshops to interested students. In one amazing session, students designed an arcade style target launcher whilst in another session students created a marble run that would work but deliver the ball in the slowest time. We were very impressed with all the students who participated and very grateful to Shannon for her time!



Tasty treats!

Mrs Raisin, our incredible Hospitality & Catering teacher, seeks out any and every opportunity to bring her popular course to life for students and over the last half term our Year 10s have been lucky enough to serve and be served! Mrs Raisin requested funding from the Proudfoots Group charity to organise a visit to the Stained Glass Centre at Killerby for Year 10s to experience afternoon tea and find out more about the professional catering industry. Members of the school's Senior Leadership Team are now very excited as an afternoon tea is in sight for them prepared by our wonderful Year 10s!



We are beyond proud of the Year 10 class who represented our school again by preparing, cooking and serving a very special lunch to Cayton Parish Council Lunch Club at the Jubilee Hall in Cayton. They demonstrated our PINDAR value of Neighbourly so well and made us incredibly



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#ProudToBePindar - receiving an email from a 90 year old resident of Cayton to congratulate our young people filled our hearts with joy! Thank you to Mrs Raisin and Miss Emmerson who made sure the delicious produce could get to the Jubilee Hall and well done to all students who prepared and served this feast!

Great Graffiti!

We were delighted to host a very special workshop organised by Mrs Gibson, our Head of Art, with Rew Nurse, a local graffiti artist. Our Year 10 artists were taught how to create a layered stencil graffiti piece using acrylic and spray paint and created a series of stunning pieces. This will stand them in very good stead for GCSE success and we look forward to seeing what they produce next!



Sporting Success

Our PE department have once again gone above and beyond to give students a huge range of

sporting opportunities and over the last half term we have seen success across the region.

Mr Worrell signed off from his career at GPS by getting four of our football teams to the District Football Finals and for the first time, we are delighted to report that our Year 11 students are District Champions! The trophy is so huge that we have considered building a new cabinet in reception and we are very proud of this special group of boys who have demonstrated the PINDAR value of determined throughout their school football journey!



The sun shone on 61 students from Years 7 - 10 who represented George Pindar at this year's Town Sports event and staff were beyond proud of the attitude and behaviour of all our participants. We were particularly impressed by our relay teams who all won their events - great work #TeamPindar!

We are now in the season of summer sports and our cricket teams have done brilliantly so far this



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half term, with a win for our girls against Filey and a narrow defeat to Scalby, alongside a defeat for our Year 7 team who nevertheless made us very proud with their sportsmanship, behaviour and effort.

Miss Simpson took a group of students to represent GPS at the District Athletics Trials at Malton School where they competed for a place to represent the district and they will now represent Whitby and Ryedale in the 200 metres, shot put and triple jump events in the County events. Congratulations to all our participants!

Clean It Up!

One of our PINDAR values is Neighbourly and nowhere was this more on display than during the Big Clean in May! A group of Year 7 and Year 8 students spent all morning litter picking around the local area, working tirelessly and conducting themselves impeccably alongside members of the community. We were incredibly #ProudToBePindar and hope that residents in the local area noticed the impact of our students' hard work!

#ProudPINDARParents

We love hearing from our families about students' activities outside school and this half term has seen some incredible success! Our Performing Arts department were delighted to hear about the success of three students in the British Arts Awards. We are incredibly proud of Violet who came second in the intermediate section for singing and highly delighted to see that Ruby and

Matilda achieved first place for singing in the National Awards! Congratulations to our incredibly talented girls! As a proud Scarborough school, we highly value our connection with the Sea Cadets and we were beyond proud to read about the National Drill competition where young people including our Jasmayne from Year 10 took away a silver medal! Congratulations Jasmayne! We were also wowed hearing about Eleanor, Poppy and Polly who helped a member of the community when he fell one morning - this was a great demonstration of our PINDAR value neighbourly and we are very proud of our students!

We really enjoy reading about our young people so please do contact Miss Matson via c.matson@gps.hlt.academy if you have a story to share!

How to Get in Touch

Telephone: 01723 5822194

Email: hello@gps.hlt.academy

Email: news@gps.hlt.academy

EduLink: Use the App or go online

Communication between home and school is of vital importance to ensure that all students can strive for success. Therefore, in order to ensure that this is as effective as possible, please can we politely remind parents / carers to contact reception to book meetings with staff as colleagues are not always available for an immediate meeting. Heads of Houses have a



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teaching commitment so there will be a delay in responding to parental contact on occasion. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding with this matter.

Attendance Matters

Evidence shows clearly that students who maintain higher attendance achieve higher grades so we want to encourage every child to attend as much as possible! At George Pindar School, students who achieve 100% each week are given a ticket to enter the '100 Club' prize draw and they can drop these in the attendance rewards cabinet for a chance to win gaming, shopping or Amazon vouchers at the end of each half term. Students who can quote their attendance percentage when asked at random might also win one of our special prizes! Students need to be in to win!

If for any reason your child is too ill for school, or if you have booked a holiday, it is incredibly important to update us in the morning. You can do this by ringing 01723 582194, using the Edulink App or emailing hello@gps.hlt.academy or news@gps.hlt.academy Please let us know the reason for your child's absence. If you have any queries about attendance, or need any support for your child, you can contact our attendance team via the school office. Thank you for your support.

Reporting a Concern

If you have a concern about a student or anyone else in our school community please report it. Mrs

Welsh is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Miss Pickles is the Advanced Safeguarding Practitioner. They lead safeguarding in school with a team of colleagues who can support your child. You can contact colleagues by calling the main school telephone number on 01723 582194 or via email to safeguarding@gps.hlt.academy

If you need help

At George Pindar School, we are continually working to support students in feeling safe and well at school and to enable them to flourish both in and out of school. Students are encouraged to seek support from their form tutor or teachers in school and will be directed to pastoral and safeguarding colleagues when appropriate. Students who prefer to report a safeguarding concern by text can send a message to the school's safeguarding mobile number on 07895132530 or email safeguarding@gps.hlt.academy The safeguarding mobile is available from 7am to 7pm Monday to Friday during term time. Students who need support beyond the school day, on a weekend or over the holidays should look at the range of information on our website: [If You Need Help](#)

Helpful Links

You can read all about the latest George Pindar news on our social media channels and website: <https://www.facebook.com/georgepindarschool>
<https://www.instagram.com/georgepindarschool>
<https://gps.hslt.academy/>