



Peacehaven
Community
School

Aspire • Believe • Contribute • Achieve

Summer Newsletter

21st July 2023

Academic & Community Awards Evening



Academic Year 2022 - 2023



PCS Newsletter - 21st July 2023





Headteacher Update

Dear PCS Families

What an amazing year it has been, and a year when the 'Community' in Peacehaven Community School has taken centre stage. There have been so many wonderful opportunities presented to students in all year groups and it has been great to see so many take advantage of them.

I hope you have been keeping an eye on the website and our newsletters where we are sharing the activities that your children are involved in.

This year we had our first PCS Academic and Community awards ceremony and celebrated the achievements and progress of many students in our school. The award for Student of the Year are as follows;

- Y7 Taylin Q
- Y8 Amber H
- Y9 Amber C
- Y10 Aaliyah G

I'm already really looking forward to next year.

Rachel Henocq
Headteacher



Year 7

As we approach the end of the year Ms Fernee and I would like to take the opportunity to let all Year 7 students know how proud we are of you.

You've been amazing! These are just some of the highlights:

- You managed the massive change from primary school to secondary school.
- You made new friends and kept in touch with old ones.
- You worked hard in lessons.
- Many of you got involved in clubs including science, drama, tennis, anime and chess.
- You took part in school productions, music and dance shows.
- You approached your first set of exams calmly and sensibly.
- Most of you maintained high standards of uniform even on the hottest days.
- You represented your teams on sports day; records were broken! Some of you even got to represent the school in the Annual Town Sports competition.
- Special mentions to Archie R and Josh G for being record breakers! The Transition Leaders supported Ms Fernee and I with the Year 6 taster days.
- You really are incredible role models.
- You have started to navigate the move from Year 7 to 8.
- And you were kind to each other!

So, I want you to remember that when you return to school in September you 'can do it!'. You'll have the support of Ms Brookes and Mr Millar but Ms Fernee and I will still be around to catch up if you need us; our office is always available to you if you need some help or just want to pop in for a chat.

Finally, thank you for being so wonderful. We've loved being part of your team and we look forward to seeing you all in September. (Try not to be taller than Ms Fernee and I though!)

One last thing, 'tuck your shirts in!'

Have a great Summer break,

Mrs McCaughan and Ms Fernee



Link to Shout Out



Year 8

Dear Year 8 students, Parents and Carers,

Wow! Hasn't this year flown by? The last year has been jam packed with activities and opportunities both inside and outside of school that we have been so proud to have seen our Year 8s involved in.

Well done to all of our Year 8s for taking part in and enjoying our World Book Day celebrations in March.

Our U14 girls football team led by the mighty Mr Thomsett blew us all away with their massive achievements this year: winning the Brighton Cup, the Eastbourne Cup and the League; just missing out on the County Cup final after a penalty shoot out - we'll try again next year.

I had the pleasure of seeing some of our students involved in Careers interviews with PCS alumni. The students showed incredible interest and maturity interviewing some of our ex-students and finding out all about their career paths - a very inspirational and aspirational experience!

Year 8 have been massively involved in our Extra Curricular clubs - Chess Club, Creative Writing Club, Film Club, Board Games Club, Anime Club (which included a Japanese Language course) and PCS LGBT+ Society all seem to have been firm favourites with our Year group this year and it has been an absolute pleasure to pop in and see them enjoying themselves so much.

A huge well done to our Junior Student Leaders: Karina G, Matilda A, Zac S, Katelyn H and Sacha S who have represented our Year group very confidently and maturely this

year giving their peers a real voice in the development of our school community.

Thank you to students who took part in raising money for Comic Relief through making cakes and cookies to sell in our bake sale and our PCS LGBT+ Society for raising money through our Pride Month cake sale.

Thank you to those parents and carers who came into school to take part in our Year 8 Enrichment Evening in March.

It was lovely to see you relishing being part of our school community; playing Musical Bingo, making tasty pizzas with your children and creating some beautiful pieces of Art. What a wonderful experience!

Well done to all of those students involved in our fabulous Dance Show this term. All of our Year 8 students involved did us proud!

Thank you to all of our parents and carers who embraced Year 8 'Take Your Child to Work Day'. Your children reported back to us that they thoroughly enjoyed their time with you, experiencing life 'in the real world' - what an inspiring and amazing opportunity for them and one that they will always remember.

We also had the brilliant Bude Trip, an amazing opportunity for our students to enjoy watersports and adventure activities (as well as a few cream teas and ice creams) in Cornwall.

We would like to say a huge well done to all of our students that have been awarded gold badges for 100% attendance for the whole year!



Link to Shout Out

Year 9

As Year 9 comes to an end, Mrs Brooks and I wanted to take this chance to convey our immense pride in all the Year 9 students. You've been truly amazing! Here are a few highlights from this final term.

A group of outstanding students have spent many hours, and given up weekends setting up events such as the colour run to raise over £2,000 for the ABC charity.

Students have been involved in a cake sale to raise money for an LGBT+ charity.

Year 9 students have helped to set up a Mental Health and Wellbeing group.

Five Year 9 students were part of the treble-winning Girls Un14 football team (a HUGE achievement).

This year I have seen the vast majority of you step up to the plate and demonstrated the PCS values proudly. Here are a few ways in which you have done that.

Aspire: You have all engaged maturely and enthusiastically with making your GCSE option choices this year. You have worked incredibly hard in these subjects to set yourself up as best as you can



for Y10 where you will be completing GCSE units in these subjects.

Believe: Many of you have pushed yourself this year to engage with our 'think hard' strategies in lessons and have shown grit to complete more challenging work. Lots of you have achieved 100% attendance (or close to it), and have challenged yourself to come to school even when it might be tough! I have been especially impressed with the number of Y9s I have seen presenting and developing their public speaking skills in lessons this term, despite many of you finding this scary!

Contribute: I could write pages on how phenomenal our year group has been at contributing. From fundraising, DofE, advocating as mental health and wellbeing mentors, to performing in shows and music events. The list is endless, and we are very proud of you as a school for all that you do. Please keep it up!

Achieve: You have engaged well with formal assessments this year, as well as end-of-term tests. These will stand you in good stead for going into a GCSE year. Many of you have far exceeded your expected progress which was reflected in your most recent reports, and others have reflected really well on these reports and have actively engaged to address any areas of learning you need to improve.

Despite all this amazing work, I would like to give you some things to focus on when you return to school in September:

Maintaining the correct uniform fosters a sense of unity, pride, and respect within our school community. It helps create an atmosphere that is conducive to learning and encourages everyone to feel like an integral part of the school's identity. Tuck those shirts in!

Limiting mobile phone use during school hours is essential for staying engaged in the learning process. Being fully present in class ensures that you can make the most of the educational opportunities provided.

Regular and punctual attendance plays a fundamental role in academic success. Attending classes consistently allows you to follow the curriculum effectively without any gaps in learning, actively participate in discussions, and keep up with your studies. Consistent attendance is the key that unlocks the door to knowledge, growth, and countless opportunities.

As you step into Year 10, remember that these seemingly small actions hold immense power to shape your future. By embracing these practices, you demonstrate responsibility and a commitment to your growth and development.



[Link to Shout Out](#)

Year 10

Dear Year 10 families,

As the year draws to a close Ms Didcote and myself would like to take the opportunity to share some of our highlights from across the year. The Year 10s have most certainly kept us on our toes but make each day different from the next which keeps things interesting.

There have been so many moments over the last 11 months that have brought massive smiles to our faces

and hopefully theirs. Even during the tough times and long days, the resilience shown by most has been uplifting.

It has been another fun-filled and busy term here at PCS and our Year 10 students have been offered a wide range of opportunities, which they have embraced with such enthusiasm and vigour.

We were delighted to be able to offer students work experience opportunities this year, and Year 10 represented us, themselves, and you, brilliantly in their placements. I received nothing but positive feedback from the employers. It was also a real pleasure to listen to the pupils recounting their experiences and talk about their varying daily responsibilities from the different roles they undertook. Some clearly had some eye opening experiences and light bulb moments - the realisation of how tough going to work each day can really be. When we tell them that their school days really are the best times of your life, I think they are starting to believe us :0)



An enormous thank you needs to go to Mrs. Pellett, Mrs. Newman and Ms. Turner, for all the hard work they put in behind the scenes to make this happen, and to the many parents who arranged placements for their children. Ms Turner and the careers team have also organised many workshops with outside speakers, college presentations, college fairs and helped support the students with college taster day information. The students have had so many opportunities to support this next stage in their education but please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.

There have been so many highlights for us as a year group this year. The things that stand out the most are:

- Seeing you change and mature - some, not all yet :0)
- Watch the focus in lessons improve and the understanding of how important it is to do your best.
- Having enthusiastic conversations about their work experience and what college and college courses they want to apply for. So many have been rewarded with Saturday jobs which speaks for itself.
- The careers they are aspiring for and the passion to succeed.
- U16 girls football team winning the Eastbourne schools partnership league. They absolutely smashed it!!
- The fantastic GCSE performances at the Dance show, so emotional and expressive.
- The attitude and application towards their end of year exams.
- The commitment of Yr10 students who help out every Friday morning at the PCS run. What better way can a teenager show a positive attitude by getting up earlier than necessary to come and support the PCS family with the running of this event.
- Pupils application and perseverance to complete the Roedean Academy programme.
- Seeing the Yr10s rally round to represent PCS at the Townsports Athletics competition. Especially those who willingly performed in events that they would not normally compete in. Such amazing team spirit.
- The race for the new student president - 5 fantastic students wanting to put themselves forward to represent the student body. All 5 are excellent candidates.

Even though it has been a fantastic year, there are still some areas, I believe as a year group, we need to focus on in the coming new term:

Attendance:

I have found this year quite challenging with the amount of absence across the year group. In order for the students to achieve their potential they need to be at school each and every day so that they are not missing out on important learning.

Their Yr10 and Yr11 attendance record is asked for by the colleges when they are applying to courses next year.

If their attendance is lower than expected (without good reason), this may put them at a disadvantage. If they are able to show an improvement in Yr11 this will be looked on favourably.

Homework/Intervention sessions:

I have had many conversations over the year with students who very openly and honestly tell me that they do not complete much homework.

Please can I ask that you support us and your child in understanding the importance, especially in Yr11, of completing homework and revision tasks.

I would expect most students to be completing either some homework or independent revision every night during Yr11.

This will help solidify the content and learning from lessons and help prepare them for the mock and real exams.

Pupils may also be invited to intervention sessions. It is vitally important that your child does not miss these opportunities so again, please can I ask for your support in encouraging your child to attend as many of these as possible.

Mobile phones/airpods:

The school policy remains the same regarding mobile phones and airpods.

I am becoming increasingly concerned at the number of students who are making poor choices regarding these rules.



The main concern is the interruption to learning that occurs and the lack of focus that is given to the task in front of them. Y11 is a short year in terms of days that the students have in classrooms and in front of their teachers.

Each and every hour is vitally important and pupils cannot afford to be distracted by texting and social media.

Please can I ask for support again in reiterating the importance of focusing in lessons and giving all their energy to producing the best work possible.

As the year draws to a close and Year 10 becomes Year 11, there are often staffing changes within the Pastoral team.

It is my pleasure to tell you that myself and Mrs Didcote will be staying with the year group and completing their journey through the school with them.

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I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Didcote for all her continuous hard work each and every day. Ms Didcote is often the face of the year group on a day to day basis due to my teaching schedule.

I would be unable to do my job without her and I know the pupils appreciate her support as much as I do. I would also like to thank Mrs Duncan who stepped in to support myself and the year group at the start of the year.

We were very grateful to have had someone who could just step into the role so smoothly and be ready to support the pupils with hesitation. Mrs Duncan has continued to offer support to pupils when she sees they need it throughout the year in her new role. Both Mrs's D's have been such an asset so thank you again.

I feel that as a year group, we are in such a fantastic position to tackle the challenges that will face us all in Yr11. We know our pupils and our families, the pupils and families know us and together we will join forces to achieve great things.

I hope you have a fantastic break, enjoy some time with family and friends and I look forward to seeing the students in September ready to work hard and revel in their achievements.

See you all soon

Miss Leggett and Mrs Didcote



[Link to Shout Out](#)

