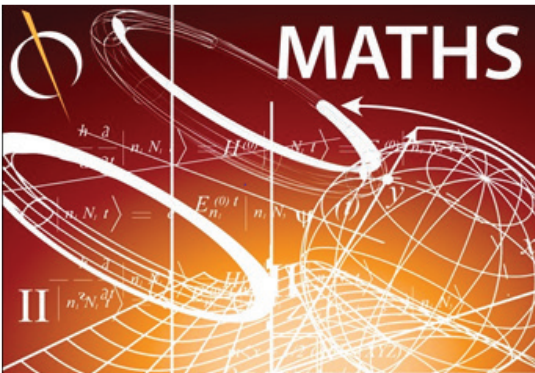




Newsletter 3 - Students Section

Welcome to edition 3 of our countdown to PCS. This week we'd like to introduce you to our Heads of Key Stage 3 Maths and English two people that you will be seeing a lot of!



Hello Year 6,

I hope you are well, I am Mr Ball, the Head of KS3 Maths here at PCS. We in the maths team are very much looking forward to meeting you.



Maths is a subject that goes far beyond what you do in the classroom and teaches you the skills to think creatively to solve problems.

You will all have been working on some fantastic maths at your primary schools and we are looking forward to building on that here at PCS.

In maths we look to study all things numbers related, but also look at building reasoning and problem-solving skills in our students.

We do this by looking at different branches of maths such as number skills, geometry and data.

You will look at techniques and methods that were discovered by famous mathematicians of the past and to help inspire you to become the mathematicians of the future.

I am setting some maths challenges for you to attempt before you even join us:

- Take part in the Maths 100 seconds times table challenge, aim for a score higher than 50 and see how high you can go!!
<https://www.timestables.co.uk/100-seconds/>

- Create a poster showing activities that you, or the people you live with, have done over the summer holidays that required the use of maths, this could be:
 - Time you have spent trying something new.
 - Distances you have covered during your daily exercise.
 - Measuring ingredients when helping with the cooking.

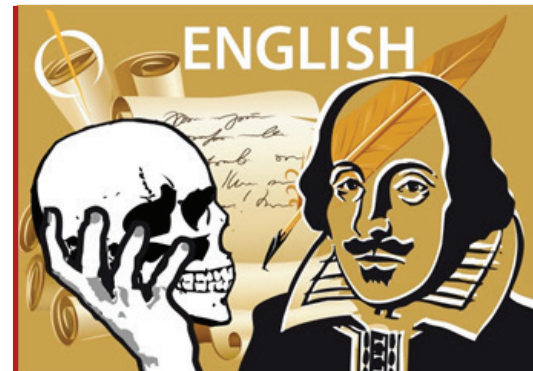
- Learn the names of polygons from 3 sides to 10 sides.

Don't forget to keep your work safe to bring in and share with us. We are looking forward to displaying them in one of our maths classrooms.

Please do enjoy your summer, I can't wait to meet you all.

Best wishes,

Mr Ball and the Maths team



Dear Year 6,

I hope this finds you well. I am Ms Poulton, Key Stage 3 Co-ordinator for English.



On behalf of the English department, we are all very excited to meet you.

English is a core subject that helps you make progress across all of your subjects as it helps you to be a confident reader, writer, speaker and listener. Strong communication skills help you to build relationships with other people.

In English, we combine English Language, the study of language, fiction and non-fiction with English Literature, the study of plays, poetry, short stories and novels.

You will read a wide range of texts from lots of different writers ranging from classic literature like Shakespeare to modern novels like 'Coraline'. You will read poetry from writers all over the world and use your creativity to write your own stories.



You will build on the fantastic writing skills you have developed in primary school to write in a variety of styles to inform, entertain, persuade and describe different topics and issues. Your oracy skills will be important in every single lesson, whether that's sharing your opinions with the person sitting next to you or giving a speech to the whole class.

Reading is a great way to ensure you continue to make academic progress when you are on holiday; it is also a brilliant escape that is good for your mental health and well being.

Reading can be a way to transport yourself to another world with characters you get to know and care about. At PCS you'll have one PDI group a week dedicated to reading your own book. We also do DEAR - Drop Everything And Read - once a week at PCS.

When it's DEAR time, no matter what subject you're in, every student reads their own book for 15 minutes at the beginning of class. You'll need to bring your own book to school each day so you're ready to read.

Every year we do a **PCS Big Summer Read** and ask all of our Y6's, along with all our older students and staff at PCS, to read the same book so you can talk about it with each other when you join us.

Talking about books is fun and it's a great way to get to know new people. With this in mind, we have some challenges for you over the summer!

- We would like you to read for at least half an hour every week - you could make a reading journal,

recording each week what you have read and your thoughts about it. You can find some reading lists on the PCS website if you need some inspiration for books to read.

- Send photos of yourself reading in unusual places (staying safe of course!) and send them in to MsPowell who is our KS3 coordinator; she will be the judge and give prizes out in the first week back:

anna.poulton@swale.at

- We would like you all to attempt The PCS Big Summer Read which this year is *The Elixir* by Lindsay Galvin.

Click here to view it on Amazon.
<https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/0008724504?tag=schoolreadinglist-21>

Have a fantastic summer with lots of reading. We are looking forward to seeing you soon.

Best wishes,
Ms Poulton and the English team



Dear Transition Leader...

I'm worried about starting PCS. What should I do?

Year 6 student Saltdean Primary school

Dear Year 6,

I know you might be feeling nervous about starting PCS. I felt the same way, and that's okay.

I was worried that no one would know about my dyslexia and that I would struggle. But it was fine because my Year 6 teacher at Telscombe told PCS, and all my teachers knew about it.

During my first week, I was scared I wouldn't be able to find my way around the school. It looked huge compared to our small primary school. But after two weeks, I knew my way around.

I was also worried about making new friends because I can be quite shy. But I didn't need to worry.

My mentor group is amazing - even though we come from different schools, we get along well and have become great friends.

My advice is, if you are feeling worried, upset, or anxious about anything, please ask for help.

There are lots of people who can help you, and other students who will show you the way.

Transition leader Year 7



Parent Corner

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you very much for getting in touch with us this week via our email. Many of the questions asked were around the transition events that we were planning.

With this in mind, please see below the events we have planned for you and your child/children this term:

Meet the Mentor Appointments
On either 22 or 23 June, you and your child/children have been invited to come in and meet either a member of the Year 7 team or an experienced member of the Pastoral Team.

Your one to one appointment date and time has been sent out via email so please get in touch with us on the email below if you haven't yet received your appointment letter. Our school uniform suppliers will also be in attendance on these days.

We are aware that many students from Meridian primary school may be on their residential school journey.

We would still like to extend an invitation to Meridian parents to come in and meet with us to share any thoughts or address any questions or concerns you might have about your child's transition ahead of the taster days.

We will also have samples of uniform and order forms available after school on the taster days for Meridian families to come and view.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Taster Days

Monday 29 June & Tuesday 30 June for students in 7T1 to 7T4 tutor groups - mix of band A and band B students.

Wednesday 1 July & Thursday 2 July for students in 7T5 to 7T7 tutor groups mix of band A and band B students.

Any questions or enquiries, please email

PCS-Transition@swale.at

Should your enquiry require the attention of our SEND department, please email:

PCS-SENDDepartment@swale.at