

PSA NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2022



OPEN EVENING

Thank you to all of our staff and students who made our Open Evening a resounding success. We now look forward to welcoming Year 11 parents to our 6th Form Open Evening on **Thursday 10 November**. The image on the right captures a few quotes from the evening.

If you have friends or family interested in joining PSA, please ask them to contact the school to arrange a visit.



"This is not what we were expecting, PSA was not even in our top 3 and now it's our number 1 choice"

Year 6 Parent

"The talk was so inspiring, your kids are amazing, I want to be part of your CCF and come here too, can you please put on adult classes".

Year 6 Parent

"What a buzz, what an atmosphere. By far the best night I have ever seen in this school."

Staff member

THE SIKH GAMES



Deputy Headteacher, Ms Stone with Navjot Sidhu and Nav Singh at the Sikh Games launch

Pioneer Secondary Academy is the first school to sign up as a partner to the Sikh games. We were invited to their launch at Natwest, Bishopsgate where we met with professionals in the sports industry and we will be working with the FA inclusion and diversity manager as well as expert fitness coaches and professionals in the industry. They have agreed to come to our school and run sessions for our students with an emphasis on football and professionalism.

USTAD BALJIT SINGH

The legendary Ustad Baljit Singh ji came with his ensemble to PSA to celebrate the GURPURABH of Guru Ramdas. The students and staff attended a beautiful assembly in which he played classical music with the Dilrubah, Tar Shehnai and Jori (percussion.) The performance was outstanding and the students were given workshops where they were able to try to hold and play the instruments under the guidance of the teachers.

We now have students who are very passionate about Traditional classical Gurmat Sangeet music and ready to learn how to play them during enrichment which we will launch in January 2023.



NOV 8 - GURU NANAK DEV JI GURPURABH

To celebrate the 553 birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev ji we are planning a special event in school. All students will be invited to wear traditional clothing. We will raise money to send one primary and one secondary child to school in India under the EDUCATE PUNJAB project. Our special assembly will be followed by guest speakers from All Faiths and None.

The Ministry of Defense and the Sikh Network will come to share activities with our students as well as our own staff leading drama performances and storytelling, music, art & creativity workshops followed by Guru ka Langar (community kitchen) for all. There will be an interfaith panel of experts from All faiths and none to answer the students' questions on faith, belief and values.

Our students will also be visiting a nursing home and dementia concern in the following weeks to demonstrate selfless service and community cohesion through caring and listening to vulnerable members of our community. We will also provide food to the local Slough foodbank on this day and a group of sixth form students will be delivering and working to support them

ON NOV 8, WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO INVITE PARENTS TO VISIT OUR GURDWARA IN THE MORNING BETWEEN 7AM-7:45 AM. OUR STUDENT SEVADAARS WILL BE LEADING THE MORNING PRAKASH AND SINGING. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR STUDENT VOLUNTEERS TO HELP ESCORT PARENTS THROUGH THE SCHOOL. IF YOUR CHILD WOULD BE ABLE TO ASSIST, PLEASE ASK THEM TO SEE MR REGNIER.

DREAM LIKE ME!

Trailblazer Manisha Tailor visited PSA on the 7th October and provided our Girls Football Team with an invaluable experience. Manisha Tailor started off her visit with an inspirational and informative talk with the girls, explaining her successes and how she chased her dream to get into football, despite difficulties and societal pressures that came her way. This was then followed by a Q&A, with the girls asking her thought-provoking questions, which again fueled stimulating discussions. The girls were then given a signed copy of Manisha Tailor's new book 'Dream Like Me' along with photo opportunities with the QPR coach.

This exciting morning was finally topped off with an exclusive insight into professional football training sessions as Manisha Tailor got the girls football team out onto the field and taught them new skills. Manisha focused on the importance of leadership, communication and resilience in the game through short but effective bursts of activities focusing on technique in group work. It was clear the girls gained a lot of skill and tips from this as they went on to beat a Windsor school 3-2 in a football match the following week!



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Last year students were introduced to the new student leadership team structure. There are a variety of roles for the students to put themselves forward to ensure that they are involved in shaping the future of the school and the school community.

Sixth Form students had to go through a rigorous recruitment process, and have already begun making a mark on the school community by assisting in KS3 and KS4 elections and being present at school events. We would firstly like to congratulate the following students for securing their positions:

- Head Students - Baghael Singh Bal and Tanisha Gadher
- Senior Dep Head Students - Muskan Sharma and Krish Dua
- Deputy Head Students - Amar Kullar Anmolpreet Kaur, Nawal Ahmed
- Prefects - Mitul Sharma, Riya Badyal and Gurpreet Sandhu

These students will be leading projects with the KS3/KS4 leadership team, the roles which they had applied for were:

1. Form Rep - responsible for collecting class feedback, assisting their tutor and feeding back key information for the year group to their class
2. Equality Rep - these students will work together half termly to research injustices in the world, and educate their peers through form activities/assemblies.
3. Seva Champion - work closely with Ms Kaur to do and promote seva within the community
4. Sport Captain - organises teams within the form for various sporting events across the year
5. Charity Rep - event managers for any charity events that we host in school
6. Wellbeing Champion - these students will support the mental health of peers. They will receive ongoing support from a teacher themselves, as well as formal training on how to be a mental health lead

We would also like to congratulate all of the following students for being elected for their positions, and look forward to developing them within these roles over the next year.

Year 7

Role	7WA	7HE	7GU	7RU
Form Rep	Haroop Singh	Jeevan Ark	Mantaj Singh	Isaac Barttett
Seva Rep	Manpreet Kaur	Anaia Gill	Amrita Kaur	Khushi Kaur Sagoo
Charity Rep	Muhammad Nourdeen	Harjodh Batth	Mia Griffiths	Japjeet Kaur
Equality Rep	Amreet Sandhu	Sammy Dhaliwal	Navroop Kaur	Manpreet Randawa
Sports Captain	Siraj Chaudhry	Karanbir Mahil	Amita Soor	Jiya Soor
Wellbeing Champion	Harleen Birk	Harpal Bhachu	Jessica Gill	Daiya Malhi

STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONTINUED

We look forward to seeing how our Student Leadership will help shape and improve the school over the academic year.

Year 8

Role	8WA	8HE	8GU	8RU
Form Rep	Riya Khurl	Harjaap Singh	Jesrina Lasher	Ajay Singh
Seva Rep	Sher Singh	Bhagwant Kukrija	Ranbirpreet Singh	Gurneet Rai
Charity Rep	Sanjana Saini	Esha Ghuman	Harsimran Ruprah	Riya Kondal
Equality Rep	Gurleen Kaur	Harleen Lall	Amneet Sandhu	Navkiren Narwal
Sports Captain	Ruhan Birk	Dhiya Bassi	Phrabjot Kaur	Jiya Uphil
Wellbeing Champion	Manat Deol	Gurleen Kaur	Harsimrit Bilon	Randeep Matharoo

Year 9

Role	9P	9S	9A
Form Rep	Gursharan Kaur	Saroop Kondal	Asheesh Sharma
Seva Rep	Gurnam Singh	Bikramjit Somal	Inayat Singh
Charity Rep	Navraj Bhachu	Rohan Saluja	Mannat Purewal
Equality Rep	Jasleen Singh	Harveen Sidhu	Harleen Natt
Sports Captain	Gurleen Kaur	Sachpreet Benning	Sahib Pannu
Wellbeing Champion	Aryanshi Rai	Joban Malhi	Simran Bansel

Year 10

Role	10WA	10HE	10GU	10RU
Form Rep	Ambrus Hencz	Harjot Mand	Jivan Kang	Jujhar Matharoo
Seva Rep	Angelika Bangar	Manmeet Singh Kaur	Simran Khalsa	Gunjot Saini
Charity Rep	Kismut Badesha	Balraj Bains	Isher Grewal	Simrat Gill
Equality Rep	Satnam Singh	Karanvir Samra	Amar Cheema	Amritpal Kaur
Sports Captain	Anand Bhatti	Amrik Rana	Sumeet Sharma	Charanpreet Chahal
Wellbeing Champion	Simrah Khan	Jovin Virk	Simrit Somal	Karina Bachu

Year 11

Role	11P	11S	11A
Form Rep	Kesser Grewal	Nikhil Shinh	Aaniya Bhui
Seva Rep	Ranvir Singh	Bhavjeet Randhawa	Anand Khalsa
Charity Rep	Avneet Kaur	Bhavandeep Panesar	Sukhveen Kaur
Equality Rep	Jasleen Johal	Amanjit Chanuniya	Gurjeevan Jagdev
Sports Captain	Bakshish Dhingra	Manveer Lall	Shabegh Singh Bal
Wellbeing Champion	Ruhani Singh	Roop Sohal	Lakhrajan Gill

TIPPED FOR STARDOM

Mikael in Year 11 had the unbelievable opportunity to train with the legendary Floyd Mayweather Sr earlier this week, who was very impressed with Mikael's hand speed and coordination.

We cannot wait to see how your journey progresses in your pursuit to become a professional boxer.



BHUPINDER SINGH VISITS PSA

PSA students were privileged to have role model and professional referee, Bhupinder Singh Gill formally launch our referee course. Bhupinder, kindly gave up his time to deliver numerous training sessions to students throughout the day. Students also had the opportunity to ask many questions during the Q&A to see which footballing stars have given Bhupinder the most trouble on the pitch. They were intrigued to learn he will never be allowed to referee a Liverpool game due to supporting them.

Read more about Bhupinder and his inspiring family in this [Sky Sports article](#).

We look forward to seeing Bhupinder referee a Premiership and Champions League match in the near future.

Thank you to Mr Field for coordinating the visit and course.

REFEREES WANTED

Referees are an integral part of football
If you are aged 14 years or over you can join this specialised and important part of our game.

There are plenty of great things about being a referee.

- ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN FOOTBALL
- DEVELOP YOUR MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS
- DEVELOP A NETWORK OF FRIENDS
- KEEP FIT AND GET PAID WHILST ENJOYING THE SPORT YOU LOVE
- GREAT FOR YOUR CV
- ONGOING TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT
- POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

BECOME A REFEREE TODAY

BOYS AND GIRLS ARE WELCOME, THE REFEREE TRAINING WILL START AFTER THE OCTOBER HALF TERM.
SIGN UP TODAY WITH YOUR FORM TUTOR

DON'T BLOW THIS CHANCE



Jarnail Singh flanked by sons Bhups Singh Gill (R) and Sunny Singh Gill (L)

EXPERT UCAS TALK

Jaspal Singh, delivered a personal statement and CV writing workshop to support our Year 13 students in preparation for their applications to University or apprenticeships. During this talk he gave advice on structuring a personal statement, the importance of experiences and how to write about these in a reflective manner. Pupils were given resources for support and access to an online workshop that talks through how to access UK Universities.

'I found this workshop gave me more confidence in my personal statement allowing me to feel at ease with my application towards a medical degree at a range of top UK universities. During the session I was able to edit my personal statement to reference the skills I had acquired to show my suitability for medicine.'

Muskan, Year 13

'It was wonderful to come in and work with the students face to face. I will share links for the monthly workshop which will be of benefit to the students'.

Jaspal Singh

This month sees the students finalise their personal statements and CVs ready for an application through UCAS. Pupils will use unifrog to search for opportunities in apprenticeships and university courses to ensure they select the right course for their future. If you would like to know more about external workshops students can participate in, please contact Mr Kilbane.

WELLBEING

As part of our commitment to wellbeing, students in Y10 were given the opportunity to participate in a relaxing Sound Healing session. Thank you to Mrs Navleen Kaur for coordinating the session.



"THE SOUND HEALING WAS AMAZING. IT HELPED DURING THE DAY TO FOCUS AND I WAS SO RELAXED. THIS HELPED ME TO CALM AND RELAX AND BE A BETTER VERSION OF MYSELF"

AVLEEN, YEAR 10

FOOD AND NUTRITION



As per the Irish proverb, laughter is brightest where food is good! Students at PSA have chosen Food and Nutrition as a GCSE option and are excelling with their culinary skills. They are not only learning how to cook but also hygiene, cleaning and nutrition. In the modern world, nutrition is the key where food is genetically modified, altered and in some cases contaminated. Students are taught the function of every small cooking ingredient in the human body and the science behind it. We have cooked our major topic based meal viz: proteins, scientific aspects of proteins such as Amino Acids and High Biological Value (HBV) proteins and Low Biological Value proteins (LBV) and how to make HBV meal out of two LBV ingredients. In a nutshell our , students are happy because they are cooking good delicious food!

Mrs Bajwa, Food and Panjabi teacher

BOYS FOOTBALL RESULTS

Year 11 football vs Beechwood (0-3)

Year 11 were very excited to play their first competitive sports match of the year and went into the match with a very determined attitude. The primary focus was to cooperate as a team and show courage until the final whistle. Despite three minor lapses in concentration the whole team put in an immense effort and performance throughout the whole match. Well done.



Year 10 football vs Slough and Eton (0-6)

A tough first game for our resilient Year 10s. A half time review of performance redeemed and allowed students to reflect and prevent first half mistakes happening again and the student's second half performance was at a level that all students were proud of.



GIRLS FOOTBALL

On 11th October, PSA's girls football team played Trevelyan Middle School. Each half was going to be 20 minutes and PSA were ready! The game started off quite strong with our girls playing in a 3-2-2 formation. Trevelyan managed to break through after 15 minutes to score the opening goal, but we did not let that stop us. With Trevelyan in possession again, they started the attack. Sneaking past our defence, the Trevelyan striker took a powerful shot but our fantastic goalkeeper, Simran, saved it. The opposition were looking strong, but PSA were even stronger. Shortly after this, Trevelyan scored the second goal of the game. This is when Ms Harb made her first substitution for PSA. The girls kept their heads held high for all of the first half and were starting to attack a lot more. With the motivation to not give up and consistent persevering, Sahib scored a lovely goal from inside the box. Things were really starting to look up for PSA. With less than five minutes left of the first half, we were keeping exceptional possession of the ball. Sahej crossed the ball into the box, to which Eisha beautifully controlled and scored our equalizer just before the half-time whistle!

The second half got underway and Sukhmani was now in goal. Within seconds, PSA had won the ball off of the opposition and were on the attack, yet again! Trevelyan had some major defending to do as PSA were fighting for the win. PSA were giving it their all, determined not to concede another goal. Our girls were playing their absolute hearts out. With Sukhmani making remarkable saves, the defence working as a team and our players upfront creating as many chances as possible, we looked unstoppable. In the 25th minute Jaiya tackled a Trevelyan striker and took a shot from halfway. Unfortunately, it was saved by the goalkeeper who rolled the ball out to the Trevelyan defenders. Ronika ran towards them, forcing the defender to pass the ball back to the keeper which ended up in the goal. With a dreadful pass to the Trevelyan keeper, PSA were now 3-2 up! Our players were full of adrenaline and were determined not to concede for the last 5 minutes. With a foul on Amrita, we got a free kick which Sahib took. She passed to Jaiya who's shot went just over the bar. A Trevelyan winger was about to cross the ball into the box, but Jaiya came through with a lovely slide tackle. As soon as the ball went out of play, the whistle blew. That's when we knew. PSA had won against Trevelyan Middle School. They may have scored the first goal, however, the girls still played at their best. The girls built up their defence, preventing us from conceding any further goals. We showed integrity by using their strong moral principles to lead us to the win. We all worked together and made us winners. We didn't give up, even when we were down two goals in the first half, with one goal in mind, our girls played with resilience and aspired to win the game.

Written by Jaiya Khuttan, Year 10



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

If a business that you are associated with would like to see their company logo displayed on our football kits then we would love to hear from you.

This is a unique opportunity to raise any business profile across the local community whilst supporting the school. If you would like further information about this opportunity, please contact office@pioneersecondaryacademy.com



READING FC VS COVENTRY CITY DISCOUNTED TICKETS

Reading FC vs Coventry FC- Championship League fixture

Pioneer Secondary Academy have been invited to Reading vs Coventry:

When? Saturday 10th December 2022, 3pm

Where? Select Car Leasing Stadium (formerly the Madejski Stadium), Reading, RG2 0FL

Exclusive Ticket Prices:

Child (12 and Under): £1.50
Youth (17 and Under): £3.50
18 to 24: £5.50
Senior (65 and over): £5.50
Adult: £10.50

Should you wish to attend this fixture with friends and family, please fill out this [form](#) and send the correct payment (we are unable to give change, if correct amount is not handed in) for the tickets you have requested in a sealed and named envelope, deadline is Monday 14th November 2022. If payment is not received by 2.30pm on Monday, your ticket request will not be processed.

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

The Languages Department celebrated the first European Languages Day at PSA on Wednesday 12th October. Staff and students were involved in a range of exciting activities throughout the day where they had the opportunity to learn about different languages and culture. A variety of European food was served in the Canteen which everyone relished, from delicious croissants and waffles at breaktime and experienced French, Spanish and German food during lunch.

The School was buzzing with our students talking about languages, food and culture and interacting with all staff members about their knowledge of languages. One of our students commented on how fun it was to learn Greek! A great, successful day!

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Wishing you all the best for a relaxing half term holiday. We look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 31 October.