

NEWSLETTER

PSA AUTUMN 2023



HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

I'm delighted to extend a warm welcome to all of our stakeholders, old and new.

This newsletter captures the achievements, growth, and collaborative spirit within our school community over a successful first half term. Your dedication and support for our students are highly valued and greatly enhance the educational journey for our young learners.

Autumn brings a sense of change and transition and our new Year 7 and 12 cohorts have made a wonderful start at PSA. It's a time for exciting developments, enriched learning experiences, and a renewed commitment to nurturing each child's potential.

Please take a moment to read this newsletter, where you'll discover insights into our projects,, inspiring student accomplishments, and the collective efforts of our young talented educators.

Thank you for trusting us with your children's education. Let's make this autumn a season of learning and success for all our students.

Warm regards,
Mr Sahota

KEY DATES

KEY DATE	EVENT
Sun 12 Nov	Bandi Chorr Celebrations
Mon 13 Nov	Late start for students 9.30am
Tues 14 Nov	Bandi Chorr and Diwali Celebrations at school
Wed 15 Nov	Students visit to Nursing Home
Thu 16 Nov	Sixth Form Open Evening
Mon 20 Nov	Year 11 English and Maths PPE1 begin
Thu 23 Nov	Student trip to Dementia Concern
Sat 25 Nov	CCF Trip to Royal Grammar School
Mon 27 Nov	Staff Inset - school closed for students
Thu 7 Dec	Parent Forum
Thu 14 Dec	Year 11 Parents Evening
Fri 15 Dec	Last of Autumn Term - 12.00pm dismissal

SCHOOL EVENTS

PSA AWARDS EVENING



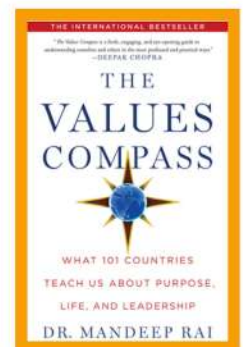
A night of celebration and achievement unfolded as our first annual School Awards Evening honored our exceptional students for their outstanding accomplishments. The event saw beaming parents, proud teachers, and elated students come together to applaud the remarkable talents and hard work displayed throughout the academic year.

The evening began with a beautiful Sukhasan in our Gurdwara as we welcomed parents from all around. Our guests were then treated to some light snacks and refreshments before taking their seats to watch the show!

Our Guest of Honour spoke with humility and inspiration. Dr Mandeep Rai began her career in private banking at JPMorgan, and later worked for the United Nations, the European Commission, and grassroots NGOs before setting up the UAE's first media venture capital fund. She is the author of *The Values Compass*, a fresh, engaging and eye-opening guide to understanding ourselves and others in the most profound and practical ways. She lit up the evening and we thank her for supporting Mr Sahota in awarding our students their accolades.

The audience were also treated to a brilliant performance from two of our students, Sukhmani and Jasleen who lifted the crowd with their immaculately rehearsed piece of theatrical movement.

Congratulations to all, we look forward to many more Awards Evenings at the school.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH - CRYSTAL ASIGE

The theme this Black History month was 'saluting our sisters', to launch Black History month in school we were extremely lucky to be visited by Kenyan Senator Crystal Asige. Senator Crystal Asige is also an Award-Winning Musician, Diversity Equity & Inclusion Consultant, Disability Rights Advocacy, Inclusive Mobility Practitioner and a Public Speaker.

The Senator gave a powerful talk to our students. Within this talk she spoke about her disability, the challenges she has faced and some she still continues to face. She spoke about how she has overcome challenges, and how she works to overcome the challenges in front of her. She spoke to our students about resilience and having the ability to adapt to situations and to build yourself up.



Over the years the Senator lost her eyesight and now is fully blind, whilst speaking to the student she discussed how she has navigated her way throughout this life changing experience. How faith has helped guide her and how the people around her have supported her. She spoke about the importance of believing in yourself and working hard to pursue goals, how easy it is to make excuses but the importance of not doing that.

"If you think you see it all, you do not see all there is to see"

“Unbelievably inspirational”

CIRCUS TRIP

On Fri 29th Sept, we had our first fun filled rewards trip for our Year 7s who have displayed outstanding commitment to the school values, the PSA way and to their education in the first few weeks of the academic year. Our trip was to Leo's Circus workshop at Singh Sabha, where the selected pupils experienced 2 hours of circus activities, which involved acrobatics, juggling and elevated hula hoops. Throughout this amazing experience our pupils tried things for the first time and embraced every opportunity that was given to them by the team of highly experienced coaches. The children were filled with excitement throughout and had an amazing time.



“Had a blast at the circus skills event! Juggling was a bit tricky, but I caught on. Still, trying something new was a total win. The circus has more to offer than I thought.”

REMEMBRANCE DAY

We are so impressed by this Remembrance Day poem written by Jasneet in Year 7. It is a powerful and moving tribute to the soldiers who have fought for our freedom. Thank you to this young poet for sharing their work with us. It is a powerful reminder of the importance of peace and the sacrifices that have been made to protect it.



The Sowing Soldier



The poppies that grew,
The soldiers that flew,
Fighting a war,
Marching through the muddy floor.

We will remember
them.

Sadness year and all that pain,
The constant sound of guns reign,
Loud bangs as they sleep,
All the memories we will keep.

We will remember
them.

The soldiers gawed,
They fight so hard,
Uniforms, heavy, torn and split,
As the bombs came down and lit.

Remember those who fought,
Remember those who died,
We will remember them.

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP

On Thursday 9th November, Ms. Kaur took students to the Slough & Eton Enterprise College for an event on Climate Change organised by the Oxford diocese. The students participated in a range of activities from prayer to workshops to presentations on how we as a community can protect mother Earth.



They heard from the Bishop of Reading, as well as Kamran Mukhtar a specialist from the Bahul Trust from the Islamic faith. We were one of five schools that were included in the dialogue. Our students were motivated and inspired to participate by educating and presenting the school community with new ideas to recycle, reuse and reduce waste at PSA!!

“Climate change is like our generation's exam, and the Earth is counting on us to pass”



MACMILLAN BAKE SALE SUCCESS

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

We started our term with great determination to raise awareness on health and wellbeing amongst our school community and raise funds for charity. From the efforts of our staff, parents and kind students we managed to raise £330 for Macmillan Cancer.

Families were baking together and we were inundated with donations from the whole school community. Thank you for your constant support and participation

POST 16 OPEN EVENING

We look forward to welcoming Year 11 students from PSA and the local area to our Post 16 Open Evening on Thursday 16 November. On the evening there will be an opportunity to hear from Mr Sahota and Mrs Randhawa and meet our subject specialist staff to help guide you with your option choices.



Pioneer Secondary Academy
welcomes you and your family to our

Post 16 Open Evening
5.30pm - 7.00pm
Thursday 16 November 2023

Pioneer Secondary Academy | Hollybush Hill, Stoke Poges, SL2 4QB |
Tel: 01753 662 009 | Email: office@psa-bucks.com | Web: www.pioneersecondaryacademy.com



SIKH ETHOS

PARK AVE VISIT

At the end of the summer term our students performed Kirtan in Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara Southall, which is the largest Sikh place of worship outside of India. They were chosen to sing as a tribute to the founder of the Basics of Sikhi organisation.



They were very well received by the larger community and their performance reached international audiences from around the globe via the social media platforms. As a result we have been invited to perform in three other places of worship in the coming academic year. The students who do seva continue to thrive and are an asset to our school and the community.

PERI TEACHERS

We have been fortunate to invest in new brand new instruments for the Gurdwara. We are privileged to have found some very professional, humble teachers who are exceptional in teaching vocals, tabla, dilrubah and harmonium.



Our students have been working very hard to excel and improve themselves by putting in the hard work and practice at lunch time and after school.

I am very excited to see them develop their skills further and look forward to sharing recitals with you in the near future.



BANDI CHORR CELEBRATIONS

You are cordially invited:



BANDI CHORR CELEBRATIONS

a family fun day for all

**Sunday 12th November at
Khalsa Primary School Slough**

2pm Gates open for family **Fun Fair** and inflatables
(2pm to 4pm rides will be half price)

4pm to 5pm Kirtan by Khalsa Primary School

5pm to 6pm Kirtan by Pioneer Secondary Academy

6pm Reharaas Sahib

6.30pm Kirtan Katha in Panjabi and English by Bhai Vijay Singh

8pm Professional Fireworks Display

9pm Fun Fair closes

**Exhibition & candle-lit vigil by Sikh Relief
for Bandi Singhs (Sikh Political Prisoners)**

Tea, pakore and langar will be served

For details & stall enquiries: Onkar Singh 0773 7749556

PSA WAY

INTRODUCING THE PSA WAY!

Introducing the PSA Way. A fresh initiative inspired by the valuable input of our pupils and dedicated staff. Our collective vision for PSA pupils has come to life this term, and the enthusiastic response from both students and staff has been uplifting.

We believe that by embracing these new skills and attitudes, we can bring the spirit of Chardi Kala to our school. We can feel the PSA Way as we walk around round school. #PSAWay

The PSA Way

Chardi Kala
A mindset full of positive energy, rising spirits and happiness

Be kind
Do your best
Lead by example
Speak clearly
Challenge yourself
Reflect
Accept others
Take initiative
Be thankful
Be on time
Have empathy
Participate
Take responsibility
Ask questions
Be ready to learn
Work together
Follow instructions

Respect Aspire Integrity Seva Equality

BITEBACK

BITE BACK 2030

10 Year 8 students are taking part in a very exciting governmental initiative called Bite Back 2030. Bite Back 2030 is a youth-led movement for a healthier, fairer food system across the UK and across the world. Our Year 8 team will lead our school in ensuring healthier food is served at break and lunch time while working with students from other schools in protecting the health of millions of children by halving childhood obesity by 2030.

“We Are Bite Back We believe every young person deserves access to healthy, nutritious food, no matter where they live — but right now, that’s not our reality. We lead on impactful campaigns to promote child health. Join Our Movement.”



“Watch this space, there will be lots of changes coming soon in the canteen.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.BITEBACK2030.COM



STUDENT COUNCIL

After many applications and student interviews, the student leadership team has been successfully appointed. Congratulations to the following students:

Head Students:

- Premleen Purewall
- Ruhani Singh
- Saabir Kher
- Shivane Ralhan

Be a reader, tomorrow



Seva reps:

Year 12

- Simran Kaur
- Sukhveen Kaur
- Amanjit C
- Dilip Devsi

Year 7

- Amrit Kaur (7GU)
- Amrit Singh (7HE)

Year 8

- Harpal Bhachu(8HE)
- Kushi Kaur Sagoo (8RU)
- Gurkiran Kaur (8GU)

Year 9

- Ajay Singh (9RU)
- Riya Kondal (9RU)
- Harjaap Singh (9HE)

Year 10

- Taranjeet Kaur (10A)

Year 11

- Jujhar Matharoo (11WA)
- Navjot Narwal (11WA)
- Jaiya Khuttan (11GU)

Form reps:

Year 7

- Hridyaa Sharma (7WA)
- Jiya Kaur Padda (7HE)
- Samraj Sandhu (7GU)

Year 8

- Ikroop Singh
- Samraj Garcha
- Mia Griffiths
- Aashirt Singh

Year 9

- Raman Grewal
- Veer Dhutti
- Keerath Madaan
- Mya Panesar

Year 10

- Harleen Natt (10a)
- Gursharan Kaur (10p)

Year 11

- Simran Khalsa
- Harman Mand /Harleen Javanda
- Simrit Somal
- Alizay Younis

Wellbeing reps:

Year 12

- Jasveen Kaur
- Bhavandeep P
- Mikeal H
- Sharon B

Year 7

- Snehdeep (7WA)
- Avneet Kaur Khatra (7GU)
- Zorawar Singh Sarai (7HE)

Year 8

- Mannat Ghorta (RU)
- Jasmeen Dhaliwal (RU)

Year 9

- Ajay Singh (9RU)
- Riya Kondal (9RU)
- Harjaap Singh (9HE)

Year 10

- Aryanshi Kataria (10S)

Year 11

- Ambrus Hencz (11WA)
- Simrah Khan (11WA)
- Harleen Kaur (11GU)
- Karina Bhachu (11WA)
- Savreen Rhandhawa (11GU)

The student leaders have been working together to create action plans. The Head students have worked with the equality reps, wellbeing reps and Seva to come up with these ambitious plans.

STUDENT COUNCIL CONTINUED

Equality reps:

Year 12

- Satnam Singh
- Pahuldeep Singh
- Shabegh Bal

Year 7

- Mehtaj (7WA)
- Navneet (7HE)

Year 8

- Navroop Kaur (8GU)
- Karanbir Mahil (8HE)

Year 9

- Navkiran Nawal (9RU)
- Gurshaan Jhattu (9HE)

Year 10

- Komalpreet Kaur (10S)
- Harveen Sidhu (10S)



The week commencing 30 October, the Seva / Charity reps started their first funding raising activity. The money they raised will go toward purchasing food for the Christmas food bank. Well done to Gurkiran (entrepreneur in the making) in Year 7, who took a lead role in organising and resourcing the fund raising.



“Young leaders are not just the future; they are today's architects of positive change, rolling up their sleeves to build stronger communities through action, not just promises”

HOME LEARNING

Our home learning timetable offers Parents and Carers guidance on how much time should be spent on home learning.

This is of course only a guidance, students may choose to exceed this.

Additional to this, there are links to online resources which can be used by students at home to support their learning.

Subject	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
English, Maths, Science, MFL*	Once a week- guidance time to complete <i>at least 20 minutes</i> per subject	Once a week- guidance time to complete <i>at least 25 minutes</i> per subject	Once a week- guidance time to complete <i>at least 30 minutes</i> per subject
History, Geography, Design and Technology, Art, Religious Studies, ICT, Drama and Music*	Once a fortnight- guidance time to complete <i>at least 20 minutes</i> per subject	Once a fortnight- guidance time to complete <i>at least 25 minutes</i> per subject	Once a fortnight- guidance time to complete <i>at least 30 minutes</i> per subject
PE	Once a half term guidance time to complete <i>at least 20 minutes</i> per subject	Once a half term guidance time to complete <i>at least 25 minutes</i> per subject	Once a half term guidance time to complete <i>at least 30 minutes</i> per subject

Subject	Year 10	Year 11
English, Maths, Science, MFL*	Once a week- guidance time to complete <i>at least 60 minutes</i> per subject	Once a week- guidance time to complete <i>at least 60 minutes</i> per subject
History/Geography, Religious Studies, Option Subjects*	Once a fortnight- guidance time to complete <i>at least 60 minutes</i> per subject	Once a fortnight- guidance time to complete <i>at least 60 minutes</i> per subject

Y11 SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

A small group of Year 11 students are going to be selected to participate in our new scholar programme that will focus on:

- How to attain a Grade 9
- Developing public speaking skills
- Visiting Universities
- Meeting industry experts

We hope to roll this out to other year groups at some point too!



SIXTH FORM

CONGRATS SIXTH FORMERS



Congratulations to Year 12 for their outstanding start to their Post-16 journey! Their strong work ethic and commitment to their studies have been truly inspiring. The term began with a crucial induction, which featured a guest speaker from the fields of Law and Business, offering valuable insights to the students. The emphasis on study skills and their application in both lessons and private study periods is commendable.

Throughout this half term, the focus on learning, careers, opportunities for service, and employability workshops with the M&G groups has been exceptional. It has indeed been a busy but incredibly rewarding first full term.

A special shout out goes to our Head Students, Ruhani, Shivane, Saabir, and Premleen. We eagerly anticipate the remarkable accomplishments you'll achieve this year. Keep up the fantastic work Year 12!

YEAR 12 DENTISTRY CLUB

Year 12 Medicine/dentistry application club - a dedicated hub for aspiring medical and dental students who are eager to turn their dreams into reality. Our club is a roadmap to guide you through the intricacies of applications, personal statements, and entrance exam preparation.



One of our club's standout features is our focus on crafting compelling personal statements. Our experienced mentors, comprised of current medical and dental students as well as professionals, provide personalised guidance on articulating your unique journey and motivations. Through one-on-one sessions and workshops, we help you transform your experiences into narratives that resonate with university admissions teams, ensuring that your personal statement is not just a document but a powerful reflection of your passion for healthcare and we are here to ensure that you don't just succeed, but thrive in the competitive world of medicine and dentistry admissions.

GREAT START!

LETTER FROM HEAD OF YEAR 7

From the very first of the academic year, we witnessed the transformation of these bright and eager students into confident and engaged ms of our school community. The transition from primary to secondary school is undoubtedly a significant milestone in any student's life, and our Year 7s have embraced this journey with an admirable spirit of adaptability and enthusiasm. They have adapted well and showed remarkable resilience, embracing the PSA way and showing their respect to the school's values in every lesson.

In their first month at Pioneer Secondary Academy, our Year 7s have exhibited remarkable energy and a commitment to learning that is truly commendable. They have not only navigated the challenges of a new environment but have also seized every opportunity to grow academically, socially, and personally.

I hope our Year 7s continue to thrive at our school, and take on challenges with both hands and develop new skills that they can then utilise in other areas of their lives.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you as parents for choosing Pioneer Secondary Academy and we hope you continue to recommend our school to friends and family.

Mr Field

Head of Year 7



SPORTS FIXTURES

FIXTURES

- Monday 13th November - U-13 girls football v. Hershel Grammar
- Monday 20th November - U-13 girls football v. Ditton Park Academy
- Monday 27th November - Year 7 football v. Trevelyan
- Tuesday 28th November - SEND Boccia Festival



RESULTS

No victories in our recent fixtures, but well done to all those who have participated and shown dedication in training and resilience in matches.



- Thursday 21 Sept - Year 11 netball v. Westgate
- Wednes 4th October Y10 basketball vs Beechwood
- Thurs 5th October U16 netball vs Ditton Park
- Mon 9th October U16 football vs Beechwood (a)
- Wednes 11th October Y8 fencing festival @ Grove academy
- Thurs 12th October U16 netball vs Beechwood
- Mon 16th October Y7 football vs St Edward's (a)
- Tues 17th October Y8 basketball vs St Joseph's (a)
- Thurs 19th October U16 netball vs Langley Grammar
- Mon 6th Nov U15 girl's football vs Herschel Grammar
- Tues 7th Nov Y10 basketball vs St. Josephs

HOMERUN APP

HELP REDUCE TRAFFICE AND CO2 EMISSIONS



We are excited to be partnering with HomeRun to provide a secure, digital platform that will help connect our school community, enable shared and safer school travel, and create a cleaner, greener school.

We kindly ask every parent member to register for the service and complete the simple onboarding questionnaire, which will enable us to understand existing school travel methods - this should take no longer than 3 minutes. By way of thanks, HomeRun will enter every person who signs-up from our school in November into a prize draw to win one of five £50 Amazon vouchers.

Use our secure sign-up link to register now: <https://www.homerun-app.com/launch/pio9750>. We have shared all parent and staff names and email addresses with HomeRun in order to make the service secure and private for our school.

Once registered, you will be able to download the HomeRun App from the iOS or Android App store, which allows you to:

- See which other families live nearby and contact other parents securely to arrange shared active travel or carpools.
- Find travel buddies and remotely monitor your children's journeys to make their school run safer and give you peace of mind.
- Create a less congested school run, meaning cleaner air, healthier lungs, a more pleasant environment around the school, and reduced CO2 emissions.

You can find out more information on HomeRun's website, and if you have any further questions, please email info@homerun-app.com.

Thank you in advance for helping to improve our school travel and become a greener school.



MERIT LEADERBOARD

Congratulations to our Tuor Groups with the most merits! Well done!



Congratulations to all our students achieving merits this term! See below for our top winners!

Respect		
Nihal	Bains	7HE
Muhammad	Nourdeen	8WA
Priya	Mahil	9RU
Zain Ali	Mahmood	10P
Aaron	Chhokar	11HE
Jeevan	Lall	6A

Aspiration		
Prabjot	Kaur	7WA
Navroop	Kaur	8GU
Rajneet	Bhogal	9GU
Gurkirat	Kainth	10A
Lahkan	Padda	11GU
Anwar-Ul-Haq	Hussain	6A

Integrity		
Teigan-Ann	Hobbs	7GU
Anmol	Dhillon	8GU
Fateh	Pannu	9HE
Prabhgun	Singh	10S
Ajuni	Sandhu	11HE
Amanjit	Chanuniya	6A

Seva		
Teigan	Ann Hobbs	7GU
Gurkiran	Kaur	8GU
Harry	Elmes-Matthews	9WA
Simran	Bansel	10A
Avneet	Heer	11GU
Simran	Kaur	6A

Equality		
Kayden	Deol	7RU
Gurveena	Aulakh	8GU
Al Arif	Suenu	9WA
Sachpreet	Benning	10S
Jovin Singh	Virk	11HE
Amarjeet	Bhail	6A

Respect
 Aspire
 Integrity
 Seva
 Equality

For the latest news, follow us on our Socials!



@PSA_BUCKS