NEWSLETTER

PSA SUMMER 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you were able to read my letter dated 17 July, which contained important information for September and a thank you to all who have supported the school community this year.

And now, the fun stuff!

This newsletter is a celebration of everything that makes Pioneer Secondary Academy such a special place. Over the past term, our students have embraced opportunities both inside and outside the classroom, from celebrating our Sikh faith and values through Vaisakhi and Chabeel, to achieving academic success, giving back to the community, excelling in sport, raising money for charity, and representing the school with pride wherever they have gone.

As you read through these pages, I hope you enjoy seeing the many ways our students continue to embody our RAISE values and make us incredibly proud every single day.

Have a lovely summer break.

Mr Keshani
Headteacher



KEY DATES

20 Jul	20 to 21 July - Inset Day
13 Aug	A Level Results Day
20 Aug	GCSE Results Day
31 Aug	Summer Bank Holiday (regional holiday)
1 Sep	INSET DAY - No pupils in school
2 Sep	Year 7, 11 and 12 pupils return
3 Sep	All pupils return

EVENTS AT PSA

Vaisakhi

Pioneer Secondary Academy celebrated Vaisakhi with a series of memorable events, giving students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Sikh faith, culture, and the values of service, equality, and community.

Celebrations began in school with Nishan Sahib Seva, where students and staff respectfully lowered, washed, and rewrapped the Nishan Sahib. Led by the Panj Pyare, the ceremony included prayers and beautiful Kirtan performed by our students. Throughout the day, pupils also took part in a special assembly in the Gurdwara to learn about the significance of Vaisakhi, before coming together to enjoy Langar prepared by our wonderful canteen team.

Our celebrations extended beyond the school gates as staff and students represented Pioneer Secondary Academy and Khalsa Primary School at several community events. Over the Vaisakhi weekend, both schools hosted a popular stall at Vaisakhi on the Square in Trafalgar Square, where visitors enjoyed family-friendly activities while learning more about Sikh values and traditions.

Students were also honoured to be invited to Sky Studios in Osterley for the Sky Sikh Network's Vaisakhi celebrations, hosted by former PSA student and Sky News Reporter, Amrit Singh Mann. They confidently spoke about the meaning of Vaisakhi during a live interview, performed Ardas and Kirtan, and enjoyed a behind-the-scenes tour of the Sky News studios.

The celebrations concluded at the Slough Nagar Kirtan Samagam, where both schools once again hosted activity stalls for families from across the local community. It was wonderful to see so many current and former students visiting throughout the day, helping to make the event a fantastic celebration of community spirit.

We are incredibly proud of all of our students, who represented both schools with confidence, respect, and maturity throughout every event, while sharing the values and traditions of Vaisakhi with the wider community.













Chabeel Day



On Tuesday 16 June, PSA commemorated the Shaheedi of Guru Arjan Dev Ji by serving Chabeel to parents, carers, students, and staff. It was heartwarming to see the whole school community come together in the spirit of seva, demonstrating care, respect, and gratitude.

Guru Arjan Dev Ji, the fifth Sikh Guru, became the first Sikh martyr, standing by the values of truth, faith, and equality. During His martyrdom, Guru Ji remained calm, resilient, and focused on Vaheguru, accepting God's will with humility and grace.

The tradition of serving Chabeel (a sweet, refreshing drink) reminds us of Guru Ji's strength and compassion, especially during the summer months. It also reflects the message of Guru Arjan Dev Ji's shabad:

"Tera kiya meetha lage, Har Naam padarath Nanak mange." - (Your actions seem so sweet to me. Nanak begs for the treasure of the Naam, the Name of the Lord.)

We would like to thank everyone who took part and supported this seva. A special thank you to Commonwealth Coaches for their kind donation and, our student sevadars who served with dedication, kindness, and humility throughout the afternoon.

We look forward to continuing this beautiful tradition again next year.

Prom

On Thursday 2 July, we celebrated our amazing Year 11s at their prom! After working so hard on their GCSE exams, it was a pleasure to see them enjoy themselves and make more memories with friends and teachers. We wish them all the very best for the future - we're incredibly proud of them and can't wait to see the amazing things they'll accomplish.



PSA VISITS...

Oxford University

We're proud to announce that fourteen of our Year 7 students recently celebrated completing The Scholars Programme with The Brilliant Club.

This prestigious programme gives pupils the opportunity to experience university-style learning while still at school. Guided by a PhD tutor, our students explored the topic of gender and peace while developing their research, critical thinking, and academic writing skills by writing their own dissertations.

The programme concluded with a graduation ceremony at Magdalen College, University of Oxford, where two of our students confidently delivered a speech reflecting on their experience.

We are incredibly proud of every student for their hard work, dedication, and maturity throughout the programme. Their achievements are a fantastic reflection of their commitment to learning and academic excellence.





SPECIAL GUESTS

Flex Singh

We were delighted to welcome Flex Singh to PSA on Tuesday 23 June. Flex shared his inspiring journey from being a shy, quiet child to becoming a successful movie director, actor and producer. He spoke about how the Sikh values of Daya (compassion), Dharam (righteousness) and Seva (selfless service) have guided him throughout his life and inspired him to bring the first Sikh superhero to life in his film, The 9th Master.

Our students were captivated by his story and enjoyed watching exclusive clips from the London premiere of the film. His message of resilience, believing in yourself, and staying true to your values left a lasting impression on everyone. A huge thank you to Flex Singh for the positivity, inspiration and encouragement he brought to our school. We are grateful for the time he spent with our students and hope they continue to pursue their dreams with confidence and determination.





Year 6 and Year 12 Students

PSA recently welcomed both our future Year 7 and Year 12 students for two exciting taster days, giving them a glimpse into life at the academy ahead of September. On Wednesday 8 July, our incoming Sixth Form students arrived dressed for business and ready to learn, taking part in lessons including Sociology, Mathematics and the Sciences. They also attended a careers session exploring Post-16 and Post-18 opportunities, helping them make informed choices about their future studies.

It was equally exciting to welcome our new Year 7 pupils on Tuesday 7 July. They embraced the day with enthusiasm, met staff and classmates, experienced life at PSA, and took part in a range of activities designed to prepare them for the transition to secondary school. Before leaving, they were given transition work to complete over the summer to help them make a confident start in September. We look forward to welcoming both year groups back in September and wish them every success as they begin the next stage of their educational journey.





PSA ACHIEVEMENTS

PSA Awards Evening 2026

Our annual Awards Evening was a wonderful celebration of student achievement and talent. It was a proud moment for parents, carers, staff, and students as we came together to reflect on the successes of the 2025/26 academic year.

The event began with a beautiful piano piece from of our students, setting the tone for an uplifting evening. One of our teachers then gave a warm welcome, building excitement as the awards ceremony got underway.

We were honoured to be joined by our Guest of Honour, Pritpal Kaur (popularly known as Hula Hoop Kaur and the oldest British Asian to do the London Marathon 2026) and her daughter Minreet Kaur (award-winning journalist). Their powerful speeches moved us all, and inspired everyone in the room to prioritise their health and fitness.

Awards were presented for outstanding achievement across every subject, along with special recognition for students who truly embodied our Sikh values and RAISE values throughout the year. The evening was made even more special by a range of student performances, including our students' Hemkunt Keertan Competition award-winning performace.

The final award of the evening was the Headteacher's Award; a prestigious recognition of outstanding achievement. Well done to Mansirat, who received this year's award. Our Headteacher delivered an amazing speech highlighting their dedication and contributions to school life, which captured why they were such a deserving winner.

The evening concluded with two of our students presenting Pritpal and Minreet with special thank-you gifts, followed by plenty of smiles and photos with staff and families.

A huge well done to all of our award winners. Your dedication and achievements continue to inspire us all. We can't wait to see what you do next!









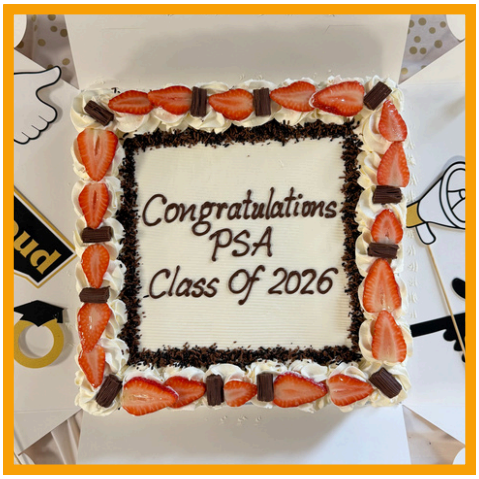
Class of 2026

May 2026 was an emotional time at PSA as we said goodbye to our Year 13 students and celebrated the final official day in school for our Year 11s.

On 15 May, our Year 13 students marked an important milestone as they finished their time at PSA. From goodbye video messages from their teachers to signing shirts and enjoying lunch together in the Sixth Form common room, it was a day full of laughter, reflection, and lasting memories. We wish them every success for the future and can't wait to see where their next chapter takes them.

Meanwhile, our Year 11 students celebrated their final official day on 22 May before continuing with their GCSE exams. The day began with a special spiritual assembly, followed by lunch and cake in the canteen. Students then enjoyed a leavers' assembly, where they reflected on their journey together and watched farewell messages from current and former teachers. The celebrations ended with photos, shirt signing, and plenty of memories shared with friends.

We are incredibly proud of both year groups for everything they have achieved and wish them every success in the exciting journeys ahead.







Over £500 Raised for Read for Good

As part of the National Year of Reading 2026, our pupils took part in a sponsored Readathon with Read for Good. The charity provides books and author visits for children in hospital, helping to bring comfort, creativity, and joy to young patients during difficult times. The Readathon encouraged our pupils to discover the joy of reading while supporting a wonderful cause. Thanks to their fantastic efforts and the generosity of our school community, they raised an incredible £586.90. A huge well done to everyone who took part and helped make such a positive difference!

Year 10 Work Experience

Our Year 10 students completed their work experience placements in July, gaining valuable real-world skills and an insight into a variety of different careers. It was fantastic to hear about their experiences and everything they learnt. One of our students even completed their placement with our own PSA IT team. A big thank you to Vacosa for supporting and mentoring them throughout the week, as well as to all the other organisations that welcomed our students. Well done to all of our Year 10s for embracing the opportunity to learn and representing the school so well.

Hemkunt Keertan Competition Winners

We are pleased to share the outstanding achievements of our PSA students (entering for the first time) at the Annual Hemkunt Keertan Competition, held on Saturday 4 July at Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Southall. This highly respected competition welcomed participants from across the UK, all competing for the opportunity to qualify for the finals in the USA. We are proud to announce that PSA students were awarded first place in both categories entered: the 10–13 age category (out of 13 teams) and the 14–18 age category (out of 11 teams).

These achievements reflect the months of dedication and discipline of our students and their teacher, Mr Singh, whose guidance and support have been instrumental in their success. The students performed using traditional Tanti Saaj (heritage string instruments), including the Dilruba, Rabab, and Tabla.

We extend our sincere congratulations to all of our students on this amazing accomplishment and thank them for representing PSA so brilliantly.



£1,000 Raised for Khalsa Aid

A determined group of our Year 13 students took on the incredible challenge of climbing Mount Snowdon in support of Khalsa Aid in June. Through their teamwork, resilience and commitment to helping others, they successfully raised an amazing £1,000 for this outstanding charity!

Khalsa Aid provides vital support to communities affected by natural disasters, conflict, poverty and humanitarian crises around the world. We are incredibly proud of our students for pushing themselves to reach the summit while raising funds that will help Khalsa Aid continue its life-changing work across the globe. Their achievement is a wonderful example of our RAISE values taught at PSA. A huge thank you to everyone who donated and supported this challenge.



SPORTS

National School Sports Week 2026

As we look back on National School Sports Week 2026, we are incredibly proud of how our students embraced the opportunity to develop the skills, inspiration, and memories that will help them stay active for life. This year's activities truly highlighted what modern Physical Education is all about: community, inclusivity, and real-world connection:

- Wimbledon & the LTA: For hosting an unforgettable reward trip to the championships. One of our students shared that it was "a wonderful experience that successfully broadened my perspective on tennis and, most importantly, encouraged me actually to start playing the sport."
- The British Racing School: For bringing Newmarket directly to the classroom with an incredible virtual jockey and PT experience. Students described this as a "really cool and incredibly fun new experience" that was "highly inspiring, as it opened up exciting future opportunities, such as the potential to visit Ascot."
- The Creative Academy Slough: For smashing stereotypes with a high-energy "Boys Can Dance" hip-hop masterclass.
- The England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB): For organising the first-ever Women's test match at the Marylebone Cricket Club.
- Slough School's Plate Semi Finals: The PSA boys football team did brilliantly and showed great teamwork.

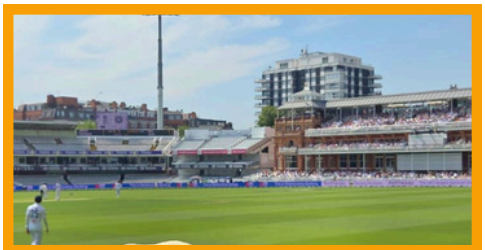
Additionally, our annual Sports Day was a resounding success. We were delighted to receive feedback that "it was a very enjoyable day for most because it was more inclusive than last year."

Thank you to everyone who made these events possible. We look forward to continuing to build these fantastic pathways for our students in the upcoming academic year.

If you would like to support the PE department further, please consider viewing our Amazon wishlist: https://amzn.eu/06H2PeTK



WIMBLEDON



WIMBLEDON



SPORTS DAY 2026



SPORTS DAY 2026



FOOTBALL TEAM

Great British Summer Savings

The Great British Summer Savings scheme is running from 25 June to 1 September 2026, offering a range of discounts to help families save money over the summer holidays.

The scheme includes reduced VAT on a variety of family days out, including attractions such as soft play centres, adventure parks, theme parks, theatres, cinemas, and children's meals at participating restaurants. In addition, children aged 5 to 15 in England can travel free on local bus services throughout August.

Families can also find information about other available support through the Government's Cost of Living Help programme.

For more information about the Great British Summer Savings scheme and how to access these offers, please visit the Summer Savings website.

The Sikh Games 2026

From 31 July to 2 August, we're excited to be returning to the Sikh Games, where our talented students will be participating in a range of sporting competitions. We can't wait to cheer them on as they showcase their teamwork and sporting skills.

We'll also be sharing a stand with Khalsa Primary School, packed with fun activities for children. We'd love to see as many families as possible come along to support our students and visit our stand.

Tickets are free and available to pre-book via The Sikh Games website, so join us for a fantastic weekend celebrating sport, community and Sikh values!



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