

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware we are now communicating more and more with parents via email rather than post. This will become our main method of communication. It is our intention that from Monday 11th February we will be sending all letters, reports, grade cards and other information via email only. If you have not already provided the school with an email address please email mgreen@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk.

Attendance

We continue to work hard as a school to raise the profile of attendance and the link between good attendance and excellent performance at GCSE. It is vitally important that we continue to work in partnership with parents to ensure that our attendance remains high so that students continue to make excellent progress at Pittville.

Reporting Absence

Parents of students in ALL year groups 7-11 should report an absence by leaving a message on the following phone number 07715083948 or by emailing achieve@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk and making it for the attention of Attendance.

Cashless Payments for Meals and Trips at Pittville School

Following the upgrade of our cashless system we would like to inform you that from 17th June 2019 we will no longer be accepting cash payments for meals, trips or other goods sold through school. Once you have logged in to this account you will be able to pay for any items, trips or meals at school. This system will also be used to give consent for trips, workshops etc. If you have any difficulty accessing your unique account please contact the finance office on 01242 548702 or 01242 548714

SEND Donations

We would love to develop the areas of our school that support students who have social, emotional and mental health needs to make these spaces more inviting and comforting. As you may be aware, educational budgets are tight! So, if you're planning on donating or recycling any previously loved sofas, armchairs, rugs, chairs or tables, we would be grateful if you would consider us! Please email achieve@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk. Thank you so much!

Readathon Competition Results

This year, Pittville School raised £380 as part of the 'Readathon' This goes towards books and the vouchers we get for doing this are used prizes for students. Year 7 and 8 tutors will continue to raise the importance of reading by continuing silent reading during tutor time. A massive well done to 7Li2 (Mr Cameron's tutor group) who won the decorating the door competition with a splendid idea of 'Billionaire Boy' and to 8Ab2 (Miss Fry's tutor group) who won the reading photo competition. Finally well done to Heather Smith (7Ab1) who raised £55 on her own during the Readathon.

Friends of Pittville School News

Friends of Pittville School have a busy Summer Term coming up:

- On 19th June, we have our next 'Bag-2-School' collection. Please send any unwanted clothing, bags, shoes, belts, soft toys and small cotton bedding items into school on that date. We run a collection service for those who cannot deliver their bags to the top car park on 19th. Please contact Beth Gifford on bethcanton@hotmail.com to arrange this. Any bags brought in before that date should be left in reception for us to store until 19th June.
- We will be providing refreshments at the Year 7 'Play-In-A-Day' (date to be confirmed)
- We will be running (no pun intended) a tuck-shop for Sports Day on 3rd July
- We will be serving Afternoon Tea for the Year 6 Parents and their children on 5th July
- On 8th and 9th July, we will be selling refreshments and raffle tickets at the Summer Musical Concerts

We need help with all these things, so if you can, please help by:

- donating raffle prizes
- offering to help out at an event
- baking cakes for us to serve to the Yr6 Parents, to welcome them to our school
- donating unwanted uniform for our second-hand uniform stall, which we run at various school events

Please contact us on pittville.ptfa@gmail.com. Have a lovely break!

Year 10 Food and Nutrition Group trip to Gloucestershire College

The GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition students were invited to Gloucestershire College training restaurant for a meal and tour of the facilities. This was an excellent opportunity for students to taste and see good quality food plated as well as experience food service and see what is on offer at the college.

Livingstone House Charity Fundraiser

Mr Litherland is in training to tackle some hilly terrain this summer when he runs two marathons in one day to raise money for Livingstone's house charity, Heidi's Heroes. He is taking part in the Heineken Race to the Tower, a 52 mile, 24 hour Ultra Marathon across the Cotswold Way from Whiteshill near Stroud to Broadway Tower.



Mr Litherland will be taking on this challenge on Saturday 8th June and has set up a Virgin Just Giving page where he hopes to raise money for such a fantastic cause by inviting people to sponsor him.

If you wish to sponsor him then please follow the link below to his Virgin Just Giving page. <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/heidisheroes>

Good luck to Mr Litherland with his Cotswold Challenge.

Pittville's Swimming Team Achievements

On Tuesday 7th May, 10 students represented Pittville School in the Cheltenham and District Schools Swimming Gala at Cheltenham Ladies College. The students were absolutely amazing, competing against many schools, including grammar and private schools. As usual their behaviour was impeccable and efforts were outstanding. The overall results for the girls was 6th, beating Cheltenham College, Bournside and Tewkesbury. Individual notable achievements were; Eleanor Lloyd placed 3rd in 50m backstroke, 2nd in 50m frontcrawl and 4th in 50m butterfly and Hannah Nishamura coming 1st in all races for her age group. For the second year running Hannah broke the school's record for backstroke. She now holds the record for Year 7 and Year 8. Pittville Swimming Team: Henry Young, Freddie Cox, Finn Whitlow, Rosemary Morris, Gulia Luca, Alex Winters, Hannah Nishamura, Evie Weller, Molly Owen, Eleanor Lloyd.

Leadership Academy

On Monday 20th May, a group of year 9 students went to Hartpury College with Mr Nicholls to complete a coaching practical as part of the Leadership Academy. We wish them good luck completing the other elements that they are taking in the summer term.

Malawi 2020 Trip

Further to the 2 information evenings we held about the prospective Malawi 2020 trip, we are pleased to confirm that the trip will be running in October 2020 as discussed. We are planning a further information evening during next half-term to introduce some details about the country and culture.

Project Rugby

A selected group of students have been participating in 'Project Rugby' which is a run by Premiership Rugby in collaboration with England Rugby. These sessions are being delivered by Harvey Skelton, rugby coach and community rugby development officer for Gloucester, and Gloucester rugby legend Terry Fanolua.

Mobile Phones in School

Please may I take this opportunity to remind parents and students of the correct procedure for students contacting home during the school day. The expectation is that students come to the main reception/student reception and/or speak to a member of staff to ask permission to use a phone. I would like to direct you to the school website to see our mobile phone policy in full. In particular the following section of the policy:

Rules for the Acceptable Use of a mobile phone in school by students:

Students are allowed to bring mobile phones into school. If they choose to do so it is on the understanding that they agree with the following limitations on its use, namely:

- Mobile phones must be switched off and in the bottom of student bags from the moment they pass through the school gates in the morning to the moment they leave the school gates at the end of the school day.
- Mobile phones must be switched off at all times during the school day whilst students are on the school premises including in lessons and at break and lunchtimes. It is not acceptable for phones merely to be put on silent or pager mode.
- The only exception to the above is where a member of staff instructs a student to use their mobile phone in a lesson to support the learning in that particular lesson.
- The phone must be kept out of sight at all times.

'Wear Wellies Day' – Stokes House Fundraiser

On 24th May, Pittville School held a house fundraiser for Winston's Wish. This is a national fundraising event with the idea is the fact that children often 'puddle jump' through their grief – meaning at one point they can be really happy; the next in tears. Students came into school with their own footwear for the day if they brought in £1 which will go to Winston's Wish.

Students in the Medical Room

If students are unwell they are to go to reception to speak with a first aider. The decision to phone home should always be made by a first aider. Students should not phone parents to ask to be collected.

Performing Arts trip to New York – February 2020

We are now in the position where we need to collect and collate students' passports details for students who are going on this trip. These details are for the tour company and at this stage we don't need to keep passports but do require scans and copies in order to complete the flight information. Please could all passports be brought into school by Friday 5th July and given to Mrs Haidon in the Finance Office to be scanned and photocopied for our records.

GROWs Opportunity

Is your child currently studying GCSE physical education, have an interest in human biology or just love sport? Maybe they play for a sports team, help out or coach, enjoy going to the gym or just do their own thing to stay fit and healthy. If any of the above sound like your child or if they are interested in finding out more about the science or sport in a fun and practical way they should come to our FREE taster experience in May half term. Taking place on 28th, 29th and 30th May (half term) students will visit two local universities and an international performance centre where they will get hands on with professional standard equipment and take part in engaging activities.

Register interest at www.grows.ac.uk/sport

Inter-House Maths Competition

Inter-house competitions involved 84 students from Years 7, 8 & 9 completing a maths relay in teams. Results were:

Year 7 1st - Abb, 2nd - Sto, 3rd - Ast, 4th - Liv

Year 8 1st - Ast, 2nd - Liv, 3rd - Abb

Year 9 1st - Ast, 2nd - Liv, 3rd - Abb

We also entered students into the UK Maths Challenge last month with the following notable results:

Gold certificate and invitation to compete in next round - Kieran Hurley

Silver certificate: Sophie-Louise Faulkner, Peter Pehkonen, Theo Flintham, Adam Parsons, Ed Whalley

Bronze certificate: Cerian Mellor, Oscar Wills-Johnson, Hannah Nishimura, Frederick Cox, Evie Hallas
Ceitidh Macleod, Max Schilder, Henry Young, Rosemary Morris

Parent Forums

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended the recent Parent Forums. The evenings were very positive and we received some valuable feedback. We intend to post a summary of the meetings and follow up actions on the website in the next few weeks.

Events and Trips coming up

- Monday 3rd – Friday 28th June – Year 7 – 10 Internal Exams
- Monday 3rd or Tuesday 4th June – Year 10 River Windrush Trip
- Wednesday 5th June – Year 7 Trip to Cheltenham Science Festival
- Friday 28th – Sunday 30th June – D of E Sliver Award: Assessed Expedition
- Sunday 30th – Monday 1st July – Year 10 Arras Trip
- Wednesday 3rd July – Sports Day

Best Wishes



Mr Gilpin
Headteacher