



Pittville School

NEWSLETTER – Term 3 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We've had another busy term at Pittville and I am sure that everyone is looking forward to a rest at half term. Term 4 brings in the hope of warmer, spring weather – we will certainly be welcoming that after some cold weeks this term. I hope that you all manage a restful half term break once it arrives. Attached to this newsletter are details of holiday activities taking place during half term - take a look and access the booking QR code.

I am sure that, like me, you have been shocked and saddened by recent events in Turkey and Syria following the earthquake and its aftermath. As a community here at Pittville we would like to offer support and would urge parents/carers, if they feel able to, to visit the DEC appeal and donate what they can. The link can be found here: <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal> We hope and pray for relief in the region and for those suffering to receive the help and support they need.

Mr Gilpin

Website

We are currently looking at launching a new school website in September. Keep an eye out for more information. As we develop the site, we will keep you informed.

Stonewall Award

We are proud to announce that Pittville School has been awarded a Silver Stonewall School and College Champion Award. It has been a pleasure see the Change Groups and the group of students that meet regularly in Room 1a at lunchtimes.

Mr Apperley-Tibbotts writes, "It fills me with immense pride to announce that we have been awarded a Silver Stonewall School and College Champion Award.

Stonewall have praised the steps we have taken over the past year towards LGBTQ+ inclusion and have highlighted excellent work across many areas, particularly in regards to the enrichment of our curriculum with LGBTQ+ content and the way we support LGBTQ+ students in school.

It is an absolute joy to see our LGBTQ+ students thriving.

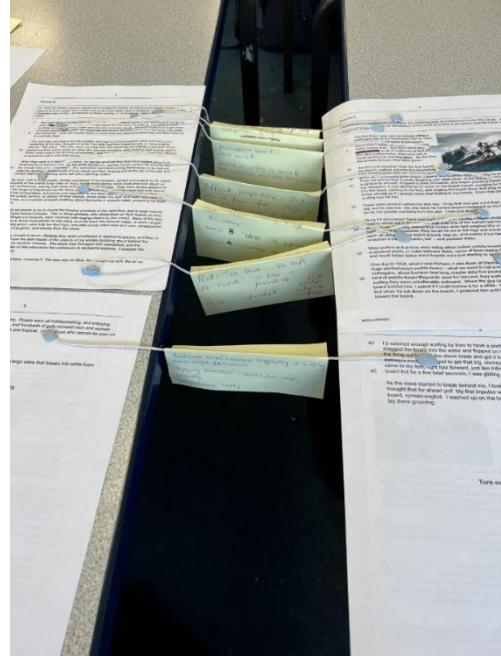
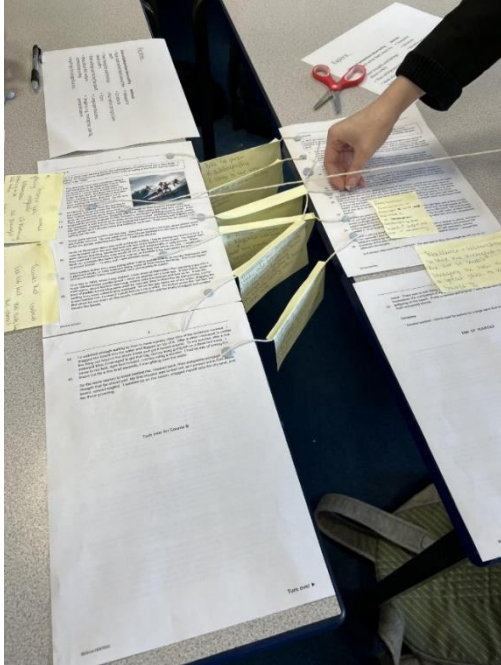
Thank you for your contributions in making this possible and for your ongoing commitment to making Pittville inclusive of our LGBTQ+ community, I am proud to work with you all." Well done to Mr Apperley-Tibbotts and the entire team that have worked so hard to secure this award.

With February being LGBT+ History Month, to commemorate and to celebrate the award a Rainbow Day was held on Friday 10th February seeing staff and students wearing bright colours and the opportunity to donate to the Change group. The 'Rainbow Day' raised over £260 which will fund the Change group's upcoming projects so they can continue to promote equality and diversity across the whole school.



Exam preparation

Over in English, Y11 students have been working hard preparing for exams. The photos below show the efforts made for information retention. It is not too late to come along on Tuesday evenings, after school, in the English department. Great work all, well done. Mr Lowey

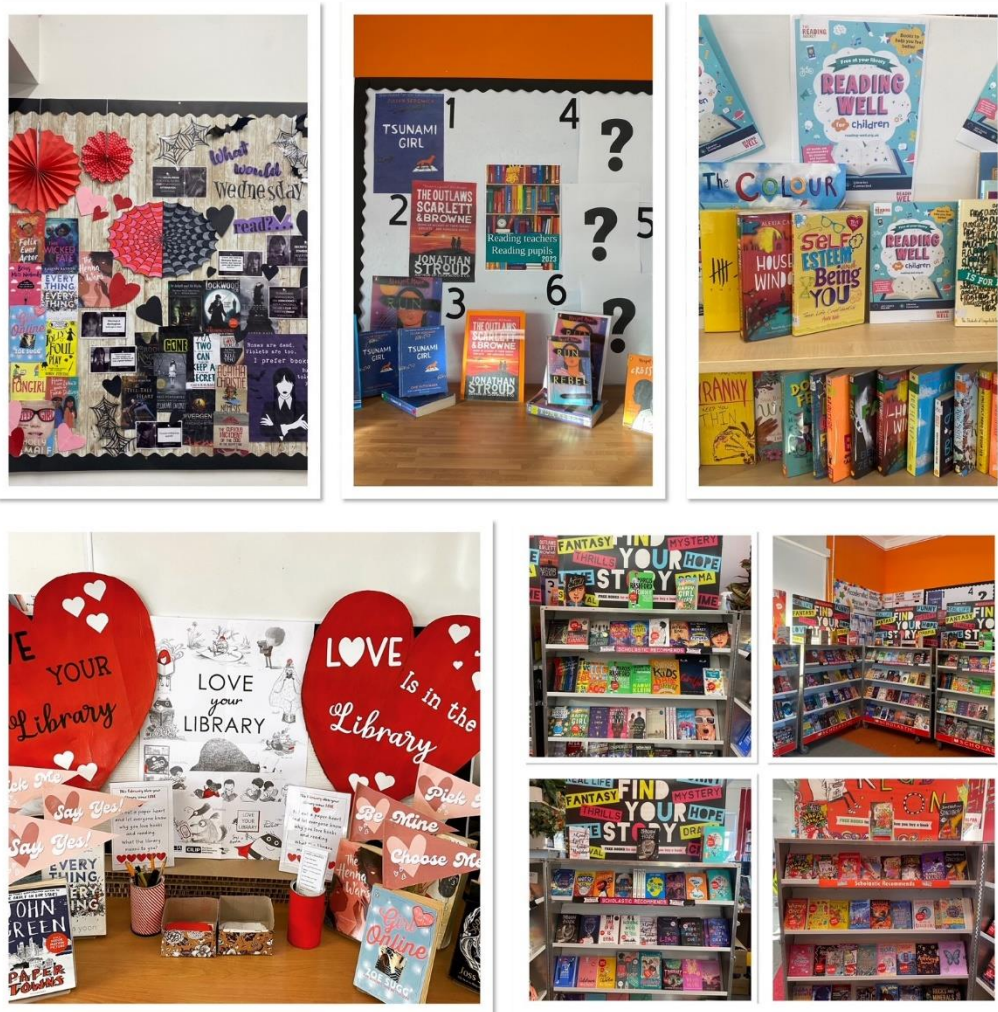


Library news

Huge congratulations to Zach Browne who has read over three million words and is fast approaching four million, keep up the fantastic reading, Zach!

Kate Smith, Louis Addington, Reka Dan and Isobel Davies have all read over two million words. Leah Capewell, Bertie Hall, Lucy Bremer, Bluebell Danaher and Isaac Wildin are also word millionaires, well done to you all.

We have captured some photos of some of the things that have been going on the library lately.



Students have been getting some reading suggests from Wednesday Addams. It has been good fun to think about what Wednesday might read.

The students have been hearing more about the books that have been chosen so far by the Reading Teachers, Reading Pupils initiative from The Cheltenham Literature Festival. These books are available to borrow from the library.

Children’s mental health has been supported in the library by the Reading Well collection, a bespoke collection of books to support student’s mental health.

February is allowing us to show the library some love. It has been great to see students sharing their thoughts on why they love reading and the library.

The school library has hosted a well-stocked book fair and it has been great to see the buzz that this has created. Thank you so much to everyone for your support.

Policies

We have recently published new policies relating to ICT and Internet safety and Relationships and Sex Education. Please use the following link to access our updated RSE (relationships and sex education) policy document: <https://www.pittville.gloucs.sch.uk/assets/Relationship-and-Sex-Education-Policy.pdf> and this link for the ICT and Internet Safety policy

<https://www.pittville.gloucs.sch.uk/assets/ICT-Internet-Acceptable-Use-Policy.pdf> If you have any queries or feedback about the RSE policy, please contact Miss Bottell in the first instance via ebottell@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk

We are currently working on a number of exciting developments with regards to our personal development framework and RSHE (relationships, sex and health education) for 2023-24 and we look forward to sharing information with you all in due course.

Parents/carers need to log onto their Edulink account and go to the consents section and tick the box once you have read the policy. To help navigate edulink the following information may help:

Consents are found within the 'Update Information' section of each child's record, not the parent's record. On mobile devices there is an arrow to flick between yourself and your child/ren, on a laptop you will see icons to choose between. Consents are found by scrolling down to the bottom of the information page. The AUT Parent/Carer Agreement box, that you need to select, is at the top of the list.

More detailed information can be found by clicking this link, which takes you to the page on the Overnet Data knowledge base, showing the process in picture form.

<https://support.overnetdata.com/knowledge-base/how-do-parents-update-their-information-in-edulink-one/>

If you have any queries or difficulties accessing Edulink or the consents section please contact Mrs Green in the first instance via mgreen@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

Safer Internet Day

The 7th February was Safer Internet Day and we marked this event in school by delivering sessions on safe use of social media and managing cyberbullying (Year 7) and how to manage requests to share nude images (Year 8 and above with Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 appropriate resources). Parents / Carers are invited to access The Key Safeguarding Online Safety Hub https://parenthub.thekeysupport.com/?from_OSH where there are a range of fact sheets to support you with regards to managing online safety with your child(ren).

There are further links within the pages to support you to access the wide range of information on this topic. We'd also like to promote with you the Report Remove site here: <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/remove-nude-image-shared-online/> where young people can report images that they may have shared and request that they are removed from online platforms.

This site was promoted to children last week. If you have requests for further advice / support or if you have concerns about your child being safe online, please do contact us via safeguarding@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk with the nature of your concern.

Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week was 6th – 10th February and this event was marked through our RSHE programme and activities that groups completed around this year's topic of Let's

Connect. Further information can be found here: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/> We would also take this opportunity to promote the Gloucestershire On Your Mind site here: <https://www.onyourmindglos.nhs.uk/find-help> where young people can respond to a range of questions in order to receive information about the best mental health support to meet their needs. There is a video here that may be of use: <https://youtu.be/gOVGalQna7s>

The school continue to work with Young Minds Matter and TIC+ and we can refer your child for support at any time. Young people can also refer themselves by texting the YMM Chat on 07480 635723 Monday to Friday, 9am to 4.30pm. As above, if you have concerns about your child and you'd like us to help, please contact safeguarding@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk

Welcome new staff

We are pleased to welcome to our team the following members of staff; Ms Abbatt, Teaching Assistant, Mr Closson, Teaching Assistant, Miss Daniels, Teaching Assistant, Mr McKnight, Teaching Assistant and Mrs Wood, Curriculum Lead – RE. We look forward to getting to know you as the year progresses.

Year 11 Nutritionist Q&A

On Monday, 9th January, after school, 14 year 11 students attended a talk delivered by a local nutritional therapist, Natasha Draycott. Students asked questions to help them with their food preparation and nutrition NEA work where they are having to come up with menus for a cafe that are innovative, nutritious and using seasonal produce. Students also asked questions about current nutritional guidelines, cooking for vegans, how household budgets are going to affect a families' nutrition and if seasonal foods are more nutritious.

This valuable primary research will now be used by them to help make their final menu choices. One student, who wants to make chocolate brownies, was advised to try out adding sweet potato and reducing the sugar content to improve the nutritional value of the dish.

It is great to get professionals from our local community into the classroom to educate our students and learn about careers open to them if they wish to continue with an interest in food and diet. Miss Fry

Year 11 Wednesday workshops

Miss Fry and Miss Trubshaw have started running some practical workshops for Year 11 to support their menu development for their NEA2 exam. The first of these took place in December and seven students learned how to make profiteroles, which are a high-skill dish, and the results were excellent. Please see pictures below.

Future workshops will involve making sorbet and ice-cream in the Thermomix, portioning chickens and practicing other high-skill dishes. Miss Fry.



Great effort Y11.
We look forward to seeing what delights are prepared in future sessions.

Futsal Tournaments

Mr Orton would like to share some outstanding student achievements in the recent District Futsal tournaments for 'B' Teams. Some students represented Pittville for the first time and delivered some excellent performances.

Y8 battled well, just missing out on progressing beyond the group stages. Y9 put on one of the greatest defences displays that Mr Orton had seen in a long while, conceding only one goal in their 4 matches.

Y10 competed on the coldest, wettest, windiest afternoon that Mr Orton had ever experienced. However, according to Mr Orton, what made the afternoon worth it all a hundred times over was that the Y10 Boys turned in some incredible performances and were outright winners of the tournament! Great work and congratulations to all the students that took part, representing Pittville admirably.

Sporting Success

Mr Orton reports that despite the freezing weather this half term it has been a very busy one on the sporting front with a wide range of Pittville teams in varied sporting action. The term started with the annual District Futsal tournaments for 'B' teams with our Y10 boys grabbing the headlines as they won their respective competition. See below for further reports. This term the boys football leagues have kicked into action with Y10 and Y8 making

impressive starts and, at the point of writing, they remain unbeaten. Our netball teams have all been in action and the number of players turning up for training every week and being willing to represent the school, is all very impressive. Extra-curricular attendance is high but there is always room for so many more so get yourselves along. There are opportunities for football, netball, table-tennis, basketball, dance, fitness, cross-country and, for our forthcoming ski trip, specialised ski fit sessions. The extra-curricular timetables are up in the PE department and all tutors have a copy – have a look and get yourselves along. Please remember extra-curricular clubs are for EVERYONE!

We are looking forward to another busy half term as football and netball leagues continue and many more matches and competitions are planned. Keep an eye on the weekly fixtures' announcements.

New Generation of Pittville Leaders!

Pittville has an excellent reputation for developing young sports leaders – our students have organised, co-ordinated and officiated at many events for younger pupils. On Wednesday 25th a new batch of our finest headed off to Hartbury for a day of sports leadership training. Mr. Nicholls reported how 'standout' our group were, and we look forward to seeing them in future leadership action. Well done to Milo Patterson-Brown, Freddie Greenwood, Saskia Howard-Allen, Elsie Darley, Kobe Bowen, Evie Gregory, Lexie Wright and Ben Parker. A special thank you to Louis Holtz and Ben Parker who have given up their own time on Thursday afternoons to help coach the Y7 football teams; they have been fantastic!

Tyler is a future star!

One of our football stars, Year 10's Tyler Wainwright, is in the Cheltenham Town Academy team and continues to impress with recent performances. Tyler still represents the school proudly, when he hasn't got Cheltenham Town commitments, and is obviously a major asset to us. We are all very proud of you, Tyler!

Y11 Boys into Quarter Finals

Our Y11 Football Team travelled to Balcarras on Monday 6th February for a last 16 District Cup Clash with Balcarras. A thrilling game, in which the lead changed hand several times, and was eventually settled by a stunning strike from skipper Will Townsend, which sent our boys through to the quarter finals, where they will play the winners from Chipping Campden or Prince Henry's. Special mention to two great goals scored by Ollie Williams and a match winning save by goalkeeper Ollie Norvill. Well played lads!

Results This Half-Term

Boys Football Y8 'B' Futsal District Tournament – 6th; Boys Football Y9 'B' Futsal District Tournament – 4th; Boys Football Y10 'B' Futsal District Tournament – Champions; Boys Football Y11 'B' Futsal District Tournament – 4th

Netball Y7 'A' v Balcarras (A) Lost 1-5; Netball Y7 'A' v Balcarras (A), Netball Y7 'A' v GA (H) Won 3-2; Netball Y7 'B' v GA (H), Netball Y8 'A' v GA (H) Won 11-3; Netball Y8 'B' v GA (H) Lost 1-3

Boys Football Y10 v Tewkesbury (A) Won 3-0; Boys Football Y8 v Tewkesbury (H) Won 2-0
Boys Football Y9 v Tewkesbury (H) Lost 0-2; Boys Football Y8 v Balcarras (A) POSTPONED
Boys Football Y10 v Balcarras (H) Won 2-1; Netball Y10 v GA (H) Won

Netball Y7 v Cotswold (H) Drew 4-4; Netball Y8 A v Cotswold (H) lost 9-17; Netball Y8 B v Cotswold (H) Lost 0-12; Netball Y8 A v Balcarras (A) lost 8-17; Netball Y8 B v Balcarras (A) lost 0-10; Netball Y9 v GA (H) won 12-3; Netball Y10 v All Saints' Won 16-10; Badminton Y11 GCSE v Winchcombe (A). Mon 06/02 Y11 Boys Football v Balcarras (A) Won 4-3; Tues 07/02 Boys Football Y8 v Cleeve (A) Lost 0-1; Tues 07/02 Boys Football Y9 v Cleeve (A) Lost 1-6.

Thurs 09/02 Netball Y11 v Balcarras (A) Lost; Thurs 09/02 Football Y9 v Balcarras (A) Lost; Thurs 09/02 Y8 Boys Football v Balcarras (A) Lost 1-4; Mon 13/02 Netball v Cotswold (A); Tues 14/02 Boys Football Y8 v Campden (H); Tues 14/02 Boys Football Y8 v Campden (H); Tues 14/02 Girls Football Y10/11 v Balcarras; Basketball Y9/10 v Chosen Hill (A); Thurs 16/02 Boys Football Y10 v Prince Henrys (H); Thurs 16/02 Girls Football Y7 v Balcarras

Fixtures After Half-Term

Tues 28/02 Boys Football Y10 v Bournside (A)
Thurs 02/03 Boys Football Y8 'B' v Chosen (H)
Thurs 02/03 Boys Football Y 'B' v Chosen (A)
Tues 07/03 Boys Football Y8 v Winchcombe (A)
Tues 07/03 Boys Football Y9 v Bournside (H)
Thurs 09/03 Boys Football Y7 A v Chosen Hill (A)
Thurs 09/03 Boys Football Y7 B v Chosen Hill (A)
Thurs 23/03 Boys Football Y10 v Chosen Hill (A)

More fixtures will be added - please check the noticeboards every week

Thrive Students – Cheltenham Borough Homes

Following the success from the autumn, Cheltenham Borough Homes have welcomed some more students to their 7-week work experience placement programme. Mr Watkins is happy to report a fantastic start from this term's students, Tyler, Tyrone and Kane, and how the team from Cheltenham Borough Homes is so impressed with their work ethic and attitude. We look forward to hearing more positive results as the course comes to an end. Well done boys, Mr Watkins.

FOPS News

February 2023 update

It is far too late in the year to wish you all a Happy New Year, but just that from the FoPS team! Christmas, and our last update seems a very distant memory and not a lot of fundraising activity has happened so far this year but a couple of updates in other news.....

The monthly Friday tuck shops have returned with our first being held on Friday 27th January. A frantic mad dash, all raising funds for the pot! Keep an eye out on socials and Edulink for dates of the next one. A date has been agreed for a Year 7 Spring disco - Monday 27th March, tickets will be available in March.

In early January, with help from FoPS, the art team purchased 6 new digital SLRs for the Art & Textiles departments which will be used across the whole school in these lessons. The replaced cameras which had been in the department for a number of years were breaking and could not be repaired. So thank you to everyone who donates anything into FoPS. It really does help many aspects of the school.

Keep an eye out for photography coming out from the art department soon!

Finally, FoPs have a new team running the group. Our new Chair, Izzy, our treasurer Abbie and our Secretary Mandi are all parents of the school spanning most academic years and always welcome new ideas, suggestions and helpers.

A reminder of where you can find us or how to contact us:

Instagram: @friendsofpittvilleschool Facebook: Pittville FOPS (was PTFA) message board
Email: fops.pittville@gmail.com

Student Success

Here at Pittville we are immensely proud of our students and are always happy to celebrate their success and achievements. Head of House commendations have recently been awarded to Poppy Parsons and Molly George, both from Stokes House and from Livingstone House commendations have been awarded to Sylvie Hambling and Chloe Meadows. Congratulations!

It was great to hear that Finn Sutton (10ST2) has been cast as Zack in CODs production of The School of Rock at the Everyman theatre in May/June. Good luck, Finn.

In addition to Head of House commendations we have also issued 67 reward ties for Attitude to Learning grades achieved. Mr Watkins reports how proud he is to present 7 Bronze, 34 Silver and 26 Gold ties and how he looks forward to presenting even more next term. Well done all.

Year 11 Revision Sessions

With the Y11 exams fast approaching the school has been buzzing with the sound of many students attending breakfast, lunchtime and after school revision sessions. Initial revision sessions are taking place for 10 weeks, prior to the next set of mocks. Another timetable of revision sessions will be published, after the mocks, and will lead up to the start of the GCSE exams. Students are able to attend any session, but subjects have requested the attendance of some students, with parental consent, via messages on Edulink. If students are requested to go to Maths or English, they must prioritise these subjects.

As always, parent and carer support are vital in ensuring that we maximise attendance and commitment at these sessions. We thank you for your continued support.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime (30 minutes)	DT NEA support (Rm 41/42) Film Studies (Rm 17)	DT NEA support (Rm41/42) Art support (Rm 46)	History (Rm 31) DT NEA support (Rm 41/42)	DT NEA support (Rm 41/42) Food NEA support (Rm 43/44)	DT NEA support (Rm41/42)
After school 3.15-4.15pm 2.50-3.50pm on Wednesdays	Science (Rm 9,10,11,26) History (Rm 28) Spanish Foundation Tier (Rm 51) DT NEA support (Rm 41/42) Food NEA support (Rm 43/44)	English (Rm 16, 20, 21, 23, 24) Geography (Rm 27) French Foundation Tier (Rm 52) DT NEA support (Rm 41/42) Art support (Rm 46) Business Studies (Rm 1a) Drama (Rm 38)	French Higher Tier (Rm 52) Spanish Higher Tier (Rm 51) Business Studies (Rm 1a) Dance (Hall)	Maths (Rm 1,2,3,4,5,7) DT NEA support (Rm 41/42) IMedia (Rm 43) Health and Social Care (Rm 7b) Music (Rm 35/36) Dance (Hall)	Art and Textiles (Rm 45/46)

Monday 8am – Business Studies revision breakfast (Rm 1a)

Thursday 7pm – Business Studies online revision (Microsoft Teams) from after February half term

TIC+ Free Parent Support Groups

FREE PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS STARTING MARCH 2023

We wanted to share with you details of FREE Parent Support Group that we are running in Cheltenham remotely from March 2023 over a course of 6 weeks, for parents/carers of children between the ages of 11-18 within Gloucestershire. Please note that the courses will take a 2 week break over the Easter Holidays and will recommence afterwards.

Dates	Day	Time	Location	Eventbrite Link
02/03/23	Thurs	1.15pm	Cheltenham	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/477269113767
-		-		
20/04/23		2.45pm		

You are now able to book a place via Eventbrite.

We have already run groups through the last year which have proved really successful and parents/carers' have given us amazing feedback on how helpful, informative and supportive they have found the course. The group is designed to inform and support parents, helping them to understand their child's distress and discover effective strategies to improve their resilience. The group is also an opportunity for parents going through similar experiences to encourage, support and learn from each other in a safe and friendly environment.

Cold Weather Preparation

Although spring is just around the corner it is possible that cold temperatures may continue so can we continue to please ask that students wear a coat over their uniform, on the journey to and from school. As mentioned in previous issues, this is also a good idea for wet weather when students may still be outside during the school day.

Parking

We have received some comments from local residents about parents/carers blocking drives when picking up/dropping off children near to school. We are also concerned that some parking is blocking cycle lanes and forcing students into the road. Can we take this opportunity to remind you of the need to adhere to highway regulations and respect the local community when you are driving to and from our school and to be considerate of cyclists when parking near to the school.

Exam Invigilators

Interested in working in a school and supporting our students?

We are looking to expand our pool of casual invigilators to work under the guidance of the Examinations Officer; the role will involve supervision of students who are undertaking examinations during May and June each year. You may also be required to work at certain other times throughout the year to help invigilate internal school exams.

The post would be ideally suited to applicants who are calm, approachable, reliable and punctual with a flexible attitude and good communication skills. Strict confidentiality will be required at all times in all school matters.

Duties will include supervising pupils taking exams, supervising clash candidates between exam sittings, preparing exam rooms, distributing and collecting exam papers in accordance with the JCQ regulations. This is a casual contract and working hours will be negotiated for each exam period. Hourly rate is £10.60

If you are interested please download an application form from our website www.pittville.gloucs.sch.uk or email jobs@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk

Reporting an absence

Parents of all students in ALL year groups 7-11 should report an absence either by leaving a message on the Attendance office voicemail, 01242 524787, or direct dial or by emailing achieve@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk

Parents should contact the attendance officer on the first day of absence and on any subsequent days. Any students arriving late for school must sign in at student reception with the attendance officer.

Please note any requests for holiday should be directed to the headteacher.

Appointments during school hours

When students are attending an appointment during school time, parents must let school know beforehand. Please either send a letter with your child (who should show it to their tutor and then hand it in at main reception when they sign out) or email achieve@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk detailing the time, what the appointment is for, who will be collecting the student, and the expected time of return.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 2nd March – Y8 Options deadline

Monday 6th March – National Careers Week

Monday 13th March – Y9 DTP vaccinations

Monday 20th March – French Day

Thursday 23rd March – Y11 Exam preparation meeting

Friday 31st March – Ski trip departs

Friday 31st March – End of Term 4

Monday 17th April – Term 5 begins

Stay in touch

Follow us on:



Friends of Pittville:



Pittville performing arts





**YST PRESENTS
FOOD AND FUN HALF TERM ACTIVITY SESSIONS**

**Come and Join us this half term for a
range of fun activities !**

*Lunch
Provided*

Who: Ages 11+

When: Tuesday 21st Feb 2023

Time: 11.30am - 2.30pm

Where: The Vibe, Youth
Support Centre, Coney Hill

Cost: Free***Free***Free

For more info or to book :
E: Julie.shaw@prospects.co.uk
T: 07795266685

YST Healthy Holidays Activity
Session registration





**YST PRESENTS
FOOD AND FUN HALF TERM ACTIVITY SESSIONS**

**Come and Join us this half term for a
range of fun activities !**

*Lunch
Provided*

Who: Ages 11+

When: Monday 20th Feb 2023

Time: 11.30am - 2.30pm

Where: Whaddon youth support
centre, Dart Rd, Chelt

Cost: Free***Free***Free

For more info or to book :
E: Tim.Oliver@prospects.co.uk
T: 07766070341

YST Healthy Holidays Activity
Session registration





**YST PRESENTS
FOOD AND FUN HALF TERM ACTIVITY SESSIONS**

**Come and Join us this half term for a
range of fun activities !**

*Lunch
Provided*

Who: Ages 11+

When: Wednesday 22nd Feb 2023

Time: 11.30am - 2.30pm

Where: Impact youth Support
Centre, Lewis Lane Cirencester

Cost: Free**Free**Free

For more info or to book :
E: Tim.Oliver@prospects.co.uk
T: 07766070341

YST Healthy Holidays Activity
Session registration



YST Healthy Holidays Activity Session registration

