



PBA WEEKLY BULLETIN

A message from Mrs Linehan

Reflecting on the past week, it has been a privilege to see our core values truly brought to life by our students. The tangible sense of ambition and community spirit permeating the school is a testament to the culture of excellence we foster here. It has been inspiring to witness such dedication across all year groups, and I am proud to share the following highlights and updates.

One of my favourite moments this week was hosting a special celebration for the pupils in Years 5–10 who achieved the highest average Attitude to Learning scores last term. We met for warm pastries and 'Principal's Hot Chocolate' to celebrate their successes. It felt great to personally encourage these students to continue with their current level of enthusiasm, engagement, and energy. It is a joy to be Principal here and to recognise how fantastic our students are with sweet treats and a well-deserved celebration!

Meanwhile, the competition is heating up in Key Stage 2! This week we launched our new annual Times Table Rockstars Competition. Classes will be "battling" it out over the coming weeks in a series of fun filled rounds encouraging them to practise this essential skill. We are introducing additional lunchtime clubs for extra practice and offering a multitude of rewards. The students are even taking on my Senior Leadership Team in coming weeks! I can confirm my team are likely to be busy practicing at home in order to keep up with the children's lightning-fast maths skills.

A special mention goes to our Year 11 students who have been working incredibly hard, revising and preparing for their final set of mock examinations which take place just before the half-term break. We wish them the very best of luck! To support them, their timetable will alter slightly next Tuesday and Thursday to accommodate special revision workshops in English and Maths. Keep up the great work Year 11— we are right behind you.

Our Year 9 Debate Team represented the PBA fantastically at the Model United Nations event hosted by Samuel Whitbread Academy. The team engaged in high-level debates focused on the complex topic of denuclearisation. They spoke particularly eloquently and represented us with maturity and intelligence. We are delighted to report that multiple certificates were awarded to our students—a massive well-deserved congratulations to them!

We look forward to welcoming families next Thursday for the Year 9 Progress and Options Evening (5th February), a real milestone in the academic calendar. Following the recent informative assemblies on all potential subjects, this key event offers vital advice and guidance to support students as they finalise their GCSE choices. We are eager to see you there to ensure every student feels confident and fully supported in making these important decisions.

Computing

Learning to code is the same as learning a new language and is one of the fastest growing occupations in the world. The critical thinking and problem-solving skills learnt when coding is important outside of computer science also.

If you would like to encourage your child to develop more Computing skills, with a specific focus on coding they could come to Coding Club (KS2 Tuesday lunch and KS3 Monday lunch). Our current focus is on Artificial Intelligence.



Or they could try the coding games on the following websites:

Compute it

<https://compute-it.toxicode.fr/>

Blockly (by Google)

<https://blockly.games/>

Hour of Code (lots of options)

<https://hourofcode.com/uk>

Code Combat

<https://codecombat.com/>

Puzzlers World

<https://puzzlersworld.com/>

Bebras

<https://www.bebras.uk/>

We Are Recruiting!

Please see our list of current vacancies on our recruitment page:

<https://mynewterm.com/school/Pix-Brook-Academy/147081>



EdShed Results

Well done to everyone who completed their EdShed homework this week!

Here are the top scoring classes.

Top Spelling Shed Groups¹

#	Group	Score
1.	Morpurgo	118,928,474
2.	Shakespeare	111,836,974
3.	Austen	55,561,558
4.	Blackman	53,836,545
5.	Pankhurst	50,819,863
6.	Attenborough	45,461,313
7.	Churchill	35,924,168
8.	Zephaniah	29,629,538
9.	Tolkien	27,579,525
10.	Turing	23,618,482

Top MathShed Groups¹

#	Group	Score
1.	Austen	8,247,116
2.	Blackman	7,458,644
3.	Zephaniah	4,402,771
4.	Pankhurst	1,243,149
5.	Angelou	795,813
6.	Morpurgo	643,996
7.	Tolkien	581,469
8.	Churchill	544,357
9.	Nightingale	257,577
10.	Turing	0



The Battle of the Bands

THE AMPS HAVE COOLED... ROUND 1 IS COMPLETE!

Wow! The energy in the PBA "arena" has been electric! A massive well done to everyone who logged in and earned points for their class—the scores are looking impressive!

Don't put those air guitars away yet... ROUND 2 STARTS RIGHT NOW!

Who will top the charts this time?

Year 5 Results

Turing vs Nightingale

Winner: **Turing!**

Top 5:

1. Blake	1. Ace
2. Walter	2. Archie
3. Arlo	3. Jackson
4. Jack N	4. Arthur
5. Ryan	5. Harlowe

Attenborough vs Pankhurst

Winner: **Attenborough!**

Top 5:

1. Euston	1. Charlie
2. Anaya	2. Pippa
3. Archer	3. Ella
4. Hannah	4. Huey
5. Oliver	5. Zurishaddai

Shakespeare vs Churchill

Winner: **Shakespeare!**

Top 5:

1. Jaya	1. Chester
2. Cooper	2. Cavan
3. Xavier	3. Jacob
4. Juan-Carlos	4. Isaac
5. Lucy	5. Saiyan

Year 6 Results

Morpurgo vs Blackman

Winner: **Morpurgo!**

Top 5:

1. Logan	1. Emerie
2. Tommy	2. Isabella
3. Dehan	3. Mia
4. Eli	4. Freddie
5. Dylan R	5. Dylan P

Austen vs Angelou

Winner: **Austen!**

Top 5:

1. Eve	1. Jovan
2. Pippa	2. Eoin
3. Bodie	3. Oliver
4. Zaaim	4. Jayden
5. Charlie	5. Eva

Tolkien vs Zephaniah - Winner: ?

In a rather shocking twist... this match ended as a draw! Both classes scored **1233** team points! Therefore, both classes will receive the winning praise points AND a point on the KS2 results table!

Zephaniah	Tolkien
Top 5:	Top 5:
1. Tete	1. Jack
2. George	2. Seb
3. Veer	3. Alfie
4. Blake	4. Riva
5. Aiden	5. Eloise

Magic Maths

Mrs Murphy's maths group in Year 6 have been having fun consolidating their learning on equivalent fractions.



Homework - Years 7 & 8

Year 7 Homework Timetable

Subject	Teachers	Set	Due	Homework Tasks	Duration
English	MCL, CCN, SCS, HHE, LMN, NLE	Monday	Monday	Various - pre reading and research on topics which we are studying. Some SENeca tasks.	1 hour PW
Maths	SPL, CSN, OCE, DMN, JMN, NRA, RJN	Friday	Friday	Sparx maths	30 mins - 1hour
Science	EAS, JHL, FCK, SHS, HCK, CAY, JSK	Monday	Monday	Various tasks - Knowledge organiser, creative task or google form revision quiz for each topic	30 minutes - 1hour
History	EBE, CBN, SBS	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom	30 mins
Geography	IPE, EIP, SBS	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Various tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom	30 mins
French	DSD, IPS	Once per week	1 week to complete	Various tasks: eg. Quizlet, learning vocabulary, answering questions, worksheets, quizzes	30-40 mins
DT/Food Rotation	Miss Kinnear	Any lesson on the rotation	1 week to complete	Food- Sensory evaluation	20 minutes
Art	Mrs Poxson Mrs Young Mrs White	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Practical art tasks connected to the current project.	30 minutes
Computing	Mrs Brant & Miss McGuigan	All	1 week to complete	Two mandatory homeworks per unit in Computing (6 units per year) Optional homeworks for challenge.	20 minutes
Drama	Mrs Jones	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Key term quizzes	10 minutes

Year 8 Homework Timetable

Subject	Teachers	Set	Due	Homework Tasks	Duration
English	SRS, MCL, RSN, CCN, LMN, SCS, HHE	Monday	Monday	Pre- reading & research into topics which we will be studying. Some SENeca tasks. Consolidation of learning.	1 hour
Maths	SPL, CSN, OCE, DMN, JMN, NRA	Friday	Friday	Sparx maths	30 mins - 1hour
Science	EAS, JHL, FCK, SHS, HCK, CAY, JSK	Monday	Monday	Various tasks - Knowledge organiser, creative task or google form revision quiz for each topic.	30 minutes - 1hour
History	EBE, CBN, SBS	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins
Geography	IPE, EIP	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Various tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins to an hour
French	DSD, IPS	Once per week	1 week to complete	Various tasks eg: Quizlet, learning vocabulary, answering questions, worksheets, quizzes.	30-40 mins
DT/Food Rotation	Miss Kinnear	Food rotation	1 week to complete	Food- Sensory evaluation.	20 minutes
Art	Mrs Poxson Mrs Young Mrs White	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Practical art tasks connected to the current project.	30 minutes
Computing	Mrs Brant	All	1 week to complete	Two mandatory homeworks per unit in Computing (6 units per year) Optional homeworks for challenge.	20 minutes
Drama	Mrs Jones	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Key term quizzes	10 minutes

Homework - Years 9 & 10

Year 9 Homework Timetable

Subject	Teachers	Set	Due	Homework Tasks	Duration
English	SRS, MCL, SCS, RSN, CCN, HHE	Monday	Monday	Pre-reading & research into topics which we will be studying. Some SENeca tasks. Consolidation of learning.	1 hour
Maths	SPL, CSN, OCE, DMN, JMN, NRA	Friday	Friday	Sparx maths	30 mins - 1 hour
Science	EAS, JHL, FCK, SHS, HCK, CAY	Monday	Monday	Various tasks - Knowledge organiser, h/w sheet, exam questions, revision cards, Seneca.	30 minutes - 1 hour
History	EBE, CBN, SBS	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins
Geography	IPE, EIP	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Various tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins to an hour
French	DSD, IPS	Once per week	1 week to complete	Various tasks: Quizlet, learning vocabulary, answering questions, worksheets, quizzes.	45 mins
DT/Food Rotation	Miss Kinnear	Food Rotation	1 week to complete	Food- Sensory evaluation.	20 minutes
Art	Mrs Poxson Mrs Young	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Practical art tasks connected to the current project.	30 minutes
Computing	Mrs Brant	All	1 week to complete	Two mandatory homeworks per unit in Computing (6 units per year) Optional homeworks for challenge.	20 minutes
Drama	Mrs Jones	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Key term quizzes.	10 minutes

Year 10 Homework Timetable

Subject	Teachers	Set	Due	Homework Tasks	Duration
English	SRS, MCL, RSN, SCS, CCN, EDN	Monday	Monday	Researching topics which we will be learning about. Revision tasks to prepare for mock exams and consolidate learning.	1 hour
Maths	SPL, CSN, OCE, DMN, JMN, NRA	Friday	Friday	Sparx maths	30 mins - 1 hour
Science	EAS, JHL, FCK, SHS, HCK, CAY	Monday	Monday	Various tasks - Knowledge organiser, h/w sheet, exam questions, revision cards Seneca.	30 minutes - 1 hour
History	EBE, CBN, SBS	Weekly	1 week to complete	Tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins - 1hr
Geography	IPE, EIP	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Various tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom. Including revision and practice exam questions.	1-2 hours
French	DSD, IPS, VLS	Once per week	1 week to complete	Various tasks: Quizlet, learning vocabulary, answering questions, worksheets, quizzes, revision, exam practice.	1 hour
DT	Mr Fleckney	When required	1 week after setting	Tasks to support the learning in class. Exam question practice. Research and design tasks for practical lessons.	30-60 mins
Art	Mrs Poxson Mrs Young	Every week	1 week to complete	Tasks to support the development of the students' coursework portfolios, for example preparing for lessons e.g. taking photos, artist research etc., working on artworks that have been started in class and presenting work into sketchbooks.	1-2 hours
Business	Miss McGuigan	10B- Thurs 10D- Tues	10B- Thurs 10D- Tues	Business context research task building a bank of mini case studies of businesses of their choice).	20mins
Philosophy	Mr Collins	Monday	Monday	Propello task + similar revision activity.	30 Mins
BTEC IT	Mrs Brant	10A/IT	1 week to complete	Weekly Know It All Ninja learning and quiz.	20 mins
Food	Miss Kinnear	10A Mon/Thurs 10B Weds/Thurs	1 week to complete	Food- Sensory evaluation for practical. Theory based exam style questions.	20 minutes 30 minutes
GCSE PE	Mr Dawson	Friday	1 week to complete	AO1 content - recap of learning within class, 6-9 mark exam style questions, case studies linked to current issues in sport.	30 minutes - 1 hour
Drama	Mrs Jones	When required	1 week to complete	Learning lines, key term quizzes, set text knowledge tasks, group rehearsals.	10 minutes to 1 hour
Music	Tim Weed	Monday	Monday	Practice Journal, Listening questions.	

Homework - Year 11

Year 11 Homework

Subject	Teachers	Set	Due	Homework Tasks	Duration
English	SRS, MCL, RSN, EDN, CCN	Monday	Monday	Revision and consolidation tasks to prepare for mocks and GCSEs.	2 Hours
Maths	SPL, CSN, DMN, JMN	Friday	Friday	Sparx Maths	1hour
Science	EAS, JHL, FCK, SHS, HCK, CAY	Monday	Monday	Various tasks - Knowledge organiser, h/w sheet, exam questions, revision cards, seneca.	30 minutes - 1hour
History	EBE CBN, SBS	weekly	1 week to complete	Tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins -1hr
Geography	IPE, EIP	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Various tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom. Including revision and practice exam questions.	1-2 hours
French	IPS, VLS	Once per week	1 week to complete	Various tasks eg: Quizlet, learning vocabulary, answering questions, worksheets, quizzes, revision, exam practice	1 hour
DT	Mr Fleckney	Every Week	1 week after setting	To continue with the NEA design folder. Completing pages from the lessons and acting on teacher feedback to support the work. GCSE Mock paper practice prior to scheduled mock exams.	1-2 hours
Art	Mrs Poxson	Every week	1 week to complete	Tasks to support the development of the students' coursework/exam portfolios, for example preparing for lessons e.g. taking photos, artist research etc., working on artworks that have been started in class and presenting work into sketchbooks.	1-2 hours
Drama	Mrs Jones	When required	1 week	Learning lines, key term quizzes, set text knowledge tasks, group rehearsals.	10 minutes to 1 hour
Business	Miss McGuigan	11A / 11D Weds	11A / 11D Weds	Business context research task (building a bank of mini case studies of businesses of their choice).	20mins
BTEC IT	Mrs Brant	11B/IT	1 week to complete	Weekly Know it All Ninja learning and quiz. Revision tasks.	20-40 mins
Food	Miss Kinnear	11C Mon/ Thurs 11D Tues/ Weds	1 week to complete	Food- Sensory evaluation for practicals Theory based exam style questions COURSEWORK also will have homework attached to it.	20 minutes 30 minutes Time limit will be set in lesson
GCSE PE	Mr Nicholl	Friday	1 week to complete	AO1 content - recap of learning within class, 6-9 mark exam style questions, case studies linked to current issues in sport.	30 minutes - 1 hour



Year 11 GCSE Subject Interventions

To support our Year 11 pupils with their ongoing examination preparation, subject interventions will be running as per the timetable below.

We greatly value your support and encourage you to speak with your child about the importance of attending their intervention sessions and positively engaging with the reward card initiatives.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Prep (8.00-8.40)	English (SRS) 216 Geography (IPE) 231 Science (FCK) 251	English (SRS) 216 Maths (SPL) 233	English (SRS) 216 Geography (IPE) 231	Science (EAS) 250 Science (JHL) 201 Science (SHS) 224	Year 11 Assembly
Lunch (1.30-2.00)	Business Studies (NMN) 141 Maths (CSN) 239	French (VLS) 157 French (IPS) 039	History (CBN) 106	BTEC DIT (EBT) 140 Maths FSMQ (SPL) 233 Maths (DMN) 238	
Period 7 (3.05-4.00)	Art, Craft and Design (KPN) 126 PE (RNL) 204	Geography (EIP) 230	Compulsory triple science lesson (SHS) DT (WFY) 052 Food (HKR) 204	Staff Training	Drama (LJS) Drama Studio

6th Form Applications Reminder

This is a friendly reminder that - if you have not already done your application - deadlines for 6th Form places are fast approaching!

Sam Whit: Mon 2nd February 2026

Model UN Debate

On Tuesday 27th January, four keen debaters, Layla, Lucy, Quinn, and Etele, headed for Samuel Whitbread ready to represent the views of South Africa as to if 'nuclear weapons should be phased out to open doors to a peaceful future'. A total of ten countries were entered into the debate.

Students had to formulate an opening speech, questions for the other delegates, and a conclusion before the day had even started!

On the day, we arrived eager to make our mark and represent the views of South Africa - the first country to disarm their nuclear weapon arsenal.

Before the debate took place, we had presentations from Dr Alan Lee, CEO of BEST and Dr Ben Nutt, lecturer from the University of Hertfordshire. We learnt about the role of the United Nations and the importance of exploring political relationships.

Soon after, Pakistan took the stage to first present their opening argument. After hearing from several others, including China, France and Finland, Lucy and Quinn took to the stage to present the opening argument and found themselves to be the only country without an instant barrage of questions - a small win from the offset! Etele then had to select which of the questions he wanted to pose and identify which country he needed to ambush. At this point, the USA and UK really found themselves under fire. At lunch, students had to take the opportunity to form as many alliances as possible. They did such a fantastic job that one of the awards they managed to scoop up was for the 'BEST Alliance Forming'. After lunch, Layla presented her convincing, compelling, and comprehensive conclusion.



The ten countries then found themselves split into two halves and had to work together to create a resolution. Here, it was important that individual voices were heard whilst also engaging with the opinions of the wider group. Layla became a clear leader here, proposing some fantastic methods that would support the disarmament of those with nuclear weapons still in place. For her astounding efforts, she picked up the award for 'BEST Leadership'. Not only this, but the overall efforts of the group shone through and so the award for 'BEST Resolution' was also awarded to Pix Brook.

Overall, the students strengthened their skills in debating, forming relationships with students of various ages, and quick thinking to conquer any questions that were fired their way.

They definitely did both Pix Brook and South Africa proud!

Please note: all long hair should be tied back for PE lessons, and piercings should be covered or removed



Winter Sport

A quick reminder that when lessons are timetabled to be outside, we will head outdoors unless the weather is unsafe or extremely poor. With this in mind, please ensure students are fully prepared with the correct PE kit, even if they are injured but able to change — this helps avoid students getting wet in their uniform before returning to class.

As the weather continues to change, students should have a **Pix Brook PE jumper** and **bring both football boots and trainers** so we can adapt to indoor or outdoor sessions as needed. Shin pads are essential for anyone taking part in football or hockey.

You can find the full PE kit list here: [Pix Brook Academy PE Kit List \(page 5\)](#).

PE Department Update

It has been another busy and exciting week in sport at Pix Brook Academy, with lots of fantastic opportunities for our students to get involved, compete, and develop their skills.

GCSE PE Moderation

We have continued with our GCSE PE moderation series, with handball being moderated this week. This means we have now successfully moderated netball, basketball, and handball. These sessions allow staff to carefully assess performance using set criteria to ensure our students are graded accurately and fairly.

Please note that the football moderation scheduled for 05/02 will now be **rescheduled to Wednesday 11th March** due to the school Open Evening taking place. Thank you for your understanding.

Football Success

Our Year 5 boys' football team continued their unbeaten run, securing excellent victories against Arnold and Holywell. A huge well done to all involved! The final fixtures take place this coming Monday, and we wish the team the very best of luck.

Please note: all long hair should be tied back for PE lessons, and piercings should be covered or removed

Badminton Competition

On Tuesday, our KS2 students competed in their first district badminton competition. This was a brilliant opportunity for both boys' and girls' teams to experience competitive sport. Many of the players had only previously played at our before-school badminton club, so it was fantastic to see such clear progression and confidence as the matches went on.

We are now looking to host an in-house badminton tournament at Pix Brook Academy next half term to continue developing these skills.

Curriculum Update

Students have now moved on to their second sport of the half term. Please do take the time to speak with them about their PE lessons and current assessment levels — it's a great way to keep them motivated and engaged. Please check the kit list (<https://www.pixbrookacademy.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=835&type=pdf>) to ensure that students have the correct kit for the activity that they are taking part in. A curriculum plan can be found on the display board in the PE area so students can know what activities are coming up.

Looking Ahead – Supporting Sport at PBA

At Pix Brook Academy, we are passionate about encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle and pride ourselves on offering as many sporting opportunities as possible, both within the curriculum and through extra-curricular clubs.

As we attend more external competitions, we want our students to look and feel professional when representing the school. We are currently seeking sponsorship for Cross-Country and Athletics vests:

- 20 KS2 vests
- 20 KS3/4 vests

These will help our students feel part of a team and take pride in representing PBA. If you, or someone you know, may be interested in sponsoring this, please do get in touch.

We are also keen to expand our strength and conditioning provision. While we do have some equipment, we are always grateful for additional donations, such as:

- Dumbbells
- Olympic bars and weight plates
- Rowing machines
- Treadmills

Any support would be hugely appreciated and directly benefit our students.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of sport at Pix Brook Academy. It's been a brilliant week, and we're looking forward to many more!



Clubs and Societies

Our sports clubs and societies aim to give the pupils a range of activities and interests to enjoy.

Please note: the Sports Clubs are likely to change termly, and are usually linked to the current competition schedule.



PBA Extra-Curricular Sports (Jan - Feb) 2026

	Before school 7.45-8:15	Lunch 1 – 12:40 – 13:10 (KS2) No need to get changed	Lunch 2 – 13:30 – 14:00 (KS3) No need to get changed	After School: 15:05 – 16:00 Other fixtures will take place during the term - this may affect the club timetable
Monday				Y5/6/10 - NETBALL TRAINING (PSU) Y5/6 - GIRLS FOOTBALL TRAINING (AJK) Y5/6 - BOYS FOOTBALL TRAINING (SPE/SLY) Y11 - GCSE PE INTERVENTION (RNL) Y9/10 - RUGBY TRAINING (MDN) <u>Y5 - FOOTBALL FIXTURES</u>
Tuesday	KS2 - BASKETBALL SPORTSHALL (RNL)	Y5/6 -TABLE TENNIS MAIN HALL (SLY)	Y7 - INTER-FORM BASKETBALL SPORTSHALL (RNL) Y8 - TABLE TENNIS DANCE STUDIO (JSK)	Y7/8 - RUGBY TRAINING (MDN) Y7/8 - GIRLS FOOTBALL TRAINING (AJK) Y9/10/11 - HANDBALL (RNL) <u>Y10 NETBALL FIXTURES</u>
Wednesday	KS3/4 - BADMINTON SPORTSHALL (RNL) INVITE ONLY		Y8/9 - BADMINTON Sports hall (JSK) GCSE PE WORKSHOPS INVITE ONLY (ROOM 206) (RNL)	Y5/6 - RUGBY TRAINING (OCL) <u>Y5/6 NETBALL FIXTURES</u>
Thursday			Y10/11 - GCSE PE TABLE TENNIS MAIN HALL (MDN) Y8 - INTER-FORM BASKETBALL SPORTSHALL (RNL)	GCSE PE MODERATION SESSIONS (RNL/MDN/PSU) <u>STAFF MEETINGS</u>
Friday	GCSE PE TABLE TENNIS MAIN HALL (AJK) GCSE ACRO-GYMNASTICS / DANCE DANCE STUDIO (PSU)		Y9 - TABLE TENNIS MAIN HALL MDN) Y8 - FUTSAL SPORTSHALL(WRB) INVITE ONLY	



PBA Extra-Curricular Clubs (Jan - Feb) 2026

	Lunch 1 – 12:40 – 13:10 (KS2)	Lunch 2 – 13:30 – 14:00 (KS3)	After School: 15:05 – 16:00
Monday		KS3 Code Club 140 (EBT)	KS3 and KS4 Prop, Set and Costume Design 126 KPN Dance Club Dance Studio (JS)
Tuesday	KS2 Top Trumps 107 (EMY) KS2 Coding Club 140 (EBT)		KS3/4 Drama Club (Pix Brook Players) Main Hall (JS) Year 5 Homework Club Year 5 classrooms
Wednesday	KS2 Mindfulness 110 (CBS)	KS3 eSports 140 (EBT)	Year 6 Homework Club Year 6 classrooms Year 7 Homework Club Room 206
Thursday	Top Trumps (JRW) KS2 EdShed 016 (OCL) Drawing Club 127 (MYG)		Whole school choir Music Room (TWD)
Friday	Games Club 015 (SPE)	Y10 & 11 GCSE Art Club 127 (MYG)	

Drum Lessons

Drum Lessons are available every Monday and Tuesday to students of all ages and abilities! Whether you would like to pursue grades or achieve your own personal goals.

Becca Robinson – beccadrums@gmail.com



Singing Lessons



I have more than 15 years experience teaching children of all ages in a wide range of musical styles.

My style is fun and friendly with many of my pupils taking public exams and successfully auditioning for singing courses at a range of reputable post-school institutions.

For further details, please speak to Mr Weed via school or contact me direct on 07905 225825 or eleanorpugsley@gmail.com

Piano Lessons

Piano Lessons

Boris Peck is a classically-trained conductor, violinist and pianist offering in-school piano lessons.

Spaces are currently available for new students. Weekly lessons (20 or 30 minute sessions) will be taught on one of the keyboards in school.

Please contact Boris via email at boris_peck@hotmail.com, or phone 07884 057278 for more information.



Brass and Wind Lessons

BRASS & WIND LESSONS

Learning to play an instrument opens up a world of musical expression and creativity. It offers a unique way to develop musical skills while improving focus, discipline, and teamwork.

At Pix Brook, we currently offer lessons on Drums, guitar, piano, violin, and voice. In our efforts to expand this provision, we would like to start offering brass and woodwind lessons. At this point we are looking to see if there is enough interest within the school to facilitate a teacher coming in.

The instruments to choose from would be:

- Brass:**
- horn,
 - trombone,
 - trumpet,
 - tuba.

- Woodwind:**
- bassoon,
 - clarinet,
 - flute,
 - oboe,
 - saxophone.

The cost of the lessons ranges from **£11 per lesson to £24** depending on the length of lesson and whether it is taught individually or as part of a group.

If your child is interested in starting lessons, please let me know by email (tweed@bestacademies.org.uk)

If there is enough interest, we will look to set this up in the near future.

Thank you for considering this exciting opportunity.

We are excited to be looking at offering lessons in brass and wind instruments in school.

If you would be interested in signing your child up for lessons, please contact Mr Weed:

tweed@bestacademies.org.uk



Pix Brook Academy Safeguarding Team

We are here to keep you safe

Who can you speak to if you feel worried?
Any Adult

Our Dedicated Safeguarding Lead or Any Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Their special job is to listen, support and help you at any time of the school day.

If you feel unsafe or you have any worries/concerns that you feel you cannot speak to a member of staff about, you can send an email to: pba-safe@bestacademies.org.uk



Mrs Smith
Designated Safeguarding Lead

You can speak to us:

- if you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it's not important)
- if someone has hurt you physically, emotionally or mentally
- if you are being threatened or forced to do things
- if someone has done something to you without your permission
- if you feel unsafe in school, at home or when you are out and about
- if you feel uncomfortable in any way
- if you know of another pupil who is worried, upset or being hurt (even if they have told you to keep it secret)
- if you are scared or worried about going home



Mrs Dapin
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (SLT)



Mrs Hapworth
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (SLT)



Mr Crisswell
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Year 5



Mrs Murphy
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Year 6



Mrs Stevenson
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Year 7



Miss Kinear
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Year 8



Mr Cook
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Year 9



Mrs Mannion
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Year 10



Mr Fleckny
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Year 11



Mrs Jackson
PP Coordinator & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

School Safeguarding Team

If you have any concerns, please contact our Safeguarding Team.

Online Safeguarding

The infographic discusses the connection between social media and mental health, specifically focusing on appearance. It includes sections on 'What parents need to know about SOCIAL PRESSURES LINKED TO APPEARANCE', 'ONE IN 10 APPEARANCE AND MENTAL HEALTH', 'A BOLD OPINION', 'AFTER SCHOOL ONLINE APPEARANCE', 'MULTIPLE PROTECTORS FOR THE PARENTS' MANUAL', 'Safety Tips for Parents', 'QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER BEFORE TALKING TO YOUR CHILD', 'DON'T GO COLD TURKEY', 'BE COMPLIMENTARY', 'DAILY APPRECIATION', 'EMPOWER THE STORY', and 'WHEN TO GET HELP'. It also provides contact information for the National Child Helpline.

Mental Health Information

Supporting young minds. A new resource for parents and carers. Visit www.centralbestschools.gov.uk/resources-for-parents-carers

Talking to Your Teenager. Getting teenagers to talk openly about what's bothering them can be hard. Make these tips to help get them to bring you about their worries.

BEST Parents Mindfulness Course

FREE Mindfulness Course for Parents & Carers. INTRODUCING MINDFULNESS IN 5 ONLINE SESSIONS. Open to ALL Parents & Carers of BEST students, this course provides a taste of mindfulness, exploring key themes and practices to support you in your everyday life.

- Improve your sense of wellbeing • cultivate calm and self-compassion
- Reduce stress and anxiety • learn to manage thoughts and emotions skillfully
- Be more present and effective • live life more intentionally, less reactively

SPRING TERM 2026 DATES
Thursdays: Feb 26th • Mar 5th • 12th • 19th • 26th
Choose your preferred time:
12.15pm-1.30pm or 6.30pm-7.45pm

with Will George
BEST Mindfulness Coach

TO REGISTER
and view the course introduction video
visit bestacademies.org.uk/mindfulness
(places are limited and offered on a first come, first serve basis)

Ivel Valley Family Bulletin

Click [here](#) to access the bulletin online



2026

February

Thursday 5th
 Friday 13th
 Wednesday 25th

Options and Progress Evening for Year 9
 Non Uniform Day for All Years
 Vaccinations for Year 8

March

Monday 2nd to Thursday 5th
 Friday 6th
 Monday 16th
 Thursday 19th
 Friday 20th
 Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th

Mock SATs for Year 6
 Celebrating World Book Day - Whole School
 Planetarium Visit for Year 5
 Year 7 Progress Event (early finish years 7-11)
 DoF Silver Award
 Progress Evening Year 6

May

Monday 11th - Thursday 14th

Year 6 SATs

COMMUNITY

NEW PLAYERS NEEDED

STOTFOLD JUNIORS U10 LILACS ARE LOOKING FOR NEW GIRLS TO JOIN THE SQUAD THIS SEASON. IDEALLY SOMEONE THAT IS EXCITED TO PLAY IN GOAL, BUT EVERYONE WILL BE CONSIDERED. WE PLAY IN THE BEDFORDSHIRE FA GIRLS LEAGUE, WITH MATCHES ON SATURDAYS AND TRAINING ON WEDNESDAYS. IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A NEW TEAM OR CHALLENGE GET IN TOUCH!

JUNIORS

MATCHES SATURDAY MORNINGS
 TRAINING WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

MORE INFO:
 nick_jones07@yahoo.co.uk
 www.stotfoldjuniorfc.co.uk

30% OFF!

PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS
 more fun, more friendships, more smiles during the February Half-term
MONDAY 16TH - FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

Book today

YOUR NEAREST HOLIDAY CLUB

WATERBURY, HEN CHU, GOLF CLUB	WINDING WATERS, GOLF CLUB	WINDSOR ACADEMY, BOSS CHURCH, BOSS GOLF
TIME: 9:00 - 12:00pm	TIME: 9:00 - 12:00pm	TIME: 9:00 - 12:00pm
AGE: 4-11 years	AGE: 4-11 years	AGE: 4-11 years
AREA: Bedfordshire, Year 1	AREA: Bedfordshire, Year 1	AREA: Bedfordshire, Year 1

WE REALLY CHALLENGE YOUNGIES!

Our Holiday Clubs keep children active, safe, and entertained throughout the school holidays.

Join us this February as we offer a wide range of fun activities including sports, performing arts, and games, all at a special value. There's something for every child to enjoy this half-term!

Book online for a holiday full of excitement!

CLUBS ARE BETTER WITH FRIENDS!

TREAT YOUR FRIENDS TO 30% OFF! AND GET 30% OFF YOUR!

From £25.00 to £17.50 (before 30% January)

Book now

Pandington Sports Centre
Stotfold 16-20th February

MBF Sports Ltd Football Camps

Age 4-15 Years

School Holidays
 Monday - Friday
 Start: 10:00am
 Finish: 1:00pm
 Early Drop: 9:00am
 Pickup: 12:45pm
 £5 per day

- Qualified Coaches with DBS & Safeguarding
- Fun Sessions & Matches
- Merch, Trophies and Awards
- Childcare Vouchers Accepted

Contact Information: 01295299410 / 01295299412 / info@mbfsports.com

Discounts Available

AGED 6-12

GIRLS RUGBY TALK TERM CAMP

Ran by Saracens Foundation

LETCWORTH RUGBY CLUB

TUESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY

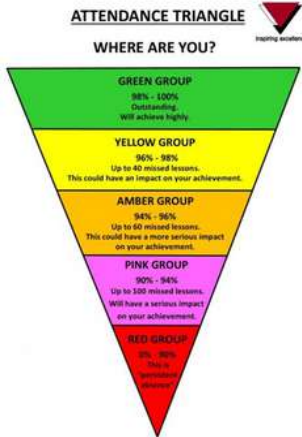
SARACENS FOUNDATION INSPIRE HER

LETCWORTH FC TRAINING TOGETHER

THURSDAY 22ND JANUARY

SARACENS FOUNDATION INSPIRE HER

Reporting an Absence



Absences need to be reported daily by **8am** either by phone or email. If you have an appointment booked, please send supporting evidence to PBA-Absence@bestacademies.org.uk and confirm the time of collection. On the day of the appointment you will need to provide your child with a signed letter in order for them to leave the class to meet you in reception. **We will no longer be issuing collection passes.** Children need to be collected by a nominated adult from reception.

Contacting School

A reminder that **all queries** with regard to Pix Brook Academy students should be emailed to pixbrook@bestacademies.org.uk or call the office on **01462 416243**.

Please do not use our Social Media platforms to request information about or contribute to conversations with regard to our students.



If you need to get a message to your child/children during the school day, please contact Reception. Teachers are unable to pass on messages during the school day. Our Reception team will take the message and deliver it to the pupil(s) involved. **Please call or email the office on 01462 416243 or pixbrook@bestacademies.org.uk**

NHS Guide to childhood illness



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrca.de/minfec>.

Medication in School



If your child needs to have medication in school please ensure that you bring it to the main office and fill out the required forms. **Children are not permitted to carry medication around the school.**

Medication may include: Calpol, Paracetamol, Antihistamine

Menus



Our lunchtime menus are available to view on our website:

<https://www.pixbrookacademy.co.uk/page/?title=Our+Food+Provision&pid=40>

Drop Off and Collection Time Parking

We ask parents to avoid **parking next to the carpark entrance or on the road junction near the football club** during morning drop off and afternoon collection time.

This junction is particularly busy during school pick-up, and parked cars create hazards for both children and drivers. We would also remind you **not to use the Staff Car Park** when dropping off or collecting children.

Thank you for your understanding.



No Nuts, Please

Please be reminded that we are a **nut aware school**: please **do not** include nut products in your child/children's snack or packed lunch. This includes Nutella.
Thank you.

Body Sprays and Perfumes

We would like to remind you that **body sprays and perfumes are not permitted** in school, as the use of the sprays can affect people suffering with asthma. Please send your child/children in with roll on deodorant **only**.



Use of the Cycle Paths

The foot- and cycle-paths near the school get very busy before and after school. Please remind your children that the paths are shared with members of the public, and that the children should be courteous towards others when travelling to and from school.



Road Safety

Please be aware that the new bus stop, Etonbury and Pix Brook, is on a narrow stretch of pavement which is often busy during the school run. Please remind your children **not to sit with their feet in the road**, when waiting at the bus stop, as this is a safety issue.



BEST Academic Calendar 2025/2026



School Holiday ■

Bank Holiday ■

Pupil Day ■

Training Day ■

September 2025							October 2025							November 2025							December 2025						
Mon	1	8	15	22	29		Mon	6	13	20	27		Mon	3	10	17	24		Mon	1	8	15	22	29			
Tue	2	9	16	23	30		Tue	7	14	21	28		Tue	4	11	18	25		Tue	2	9	16	23	30			
Wed	3	10	17	24			Wed	1	8	15	22	29		Wed	5	12	19	26		Wed	3	10	17	24	31		
Thu	4	11	18	25			Thu	2	9	16	23	30		Thu	6	13	20	27		Thu	4	11	18	25			
Fri	5	12	19	26			Fri	3	10	17	24	31		Fri	7	14	21	28		Fri	5	12	19	26			
Sat	6	13	20	27			Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	1	8	15	22	29		Sat	6	13	20	27			
Sun	7	14	21	28			Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	2	9	16	23	30		Sun	7	14	21	28			

January 2026							February 2026							March 2026							April 2026						
Mon		5	12	19	26		Mon	2	9	16	23		Mon	2	9	16	23	30	Mon	6	13	20	27				
Tue		6	13	20	27		Tue	3	10	17	24		Tue	3	10	17	24	31	Tue	7	14	21	28				
Wed		7	14	21	28		Wed	4	11	18	25		Wed	4	11	18	25		Wed	1	8	15	22	29			
Thu	1	8	15	22	29		Thu	5	12	19	26		Thu	5	12	19	26		Thu	2	9	16	23	30			
Fri	2	9	16	23	30		Fri	6	13	20	27		Fri	6	13	20	27		Fri	3	10	17	24				
Sat	3	10	17	24	31		Sat	7	14	21	28		Sat	7	14	21	28		Sat	4	11	18	25				
Sun	4	11	18	25			Sun	1	8	15	22		Sun	1	8	15	22	29		Sun	5	12	19	26			

May 2026							June 2026							July 2026							August 2026						
Mon		4	11	18	25		Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	6	13	20	27	Mon	3	10	17	24	31				
Tue		5	12	19	26		Tue	2	9	16	23	30	Tue	7	14	21	28	Tue	4	11	18	25					
Wed		6	13	20	27		Wed	3	10	17	24		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed	5	12	19	26				
Thu		7	14	21	28		Thu	4	11	18	25		Thu	2	9	16	23	30	Thu	6	13	20	27				
Fri	1	8	15	22	29		Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri	7	14	21	28				
Sat	2	9	16	23	30		Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	1	8	15	22	29			
Sun	3	10	17	24	31		Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	2	9	16	23	30			

Term 1 – 75 days. Term 2 – 55 days. Term 3 – 65 days. = 195.
 Pupil contact will amount to 190 of the 195 days. Schools will be closed on 5 of the 195 days. In accordance with Teachers' Conditions of Service, five days will be used to enable teacher training to take place.

Training days set are as follows: 1st September 2025, 2nd September 2025, 5th January 2026 and 13th April 2026. Training day 5 will be made up of several twilight sessions determined by individual schools.

BEST Academic Calendar 2026/2027

School Holiday ■

Bank Holiday ■

Pupil Day ■

Training Day ■



September 2026							October 2026							November 2026							December 2026						
Mon		7	14	21	28		Mon	5	12	19	26	Mon	2	9	16	23	30	Mon	7	14	21	28					
Tue	1	8	15	22	29		Tue	6	13	20	27	Tue	3	10	17	24		Tue	1	8	15	22	29				
Wed	2	9	16	23	30		Wed	7	14	21	28	Wed	4	11	18	25		Wed	2	9	16	23	30				
Thu	3	10	17	24			Thu	1	8	15	22	29	Thu	5	12	19	26		Thu	3	10	17	24	31			
Fri	4	11	18	25			Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri	6	13	20	27		Fri	4	11	18	25				
Sat	5	12	19	26			Sat	3	10	17	24	31	Sat	7	14	21	28		Sat	5	12	19	26				
Sun	6	13	20	27			Sun	4	11	18	25		Sun	1	8	15	22	29		Sun	6	13	20	27			

January 2027							February 2027							March 2027							April 2027						
Mon		4	11	18	25		Mon	1	8	15	22		Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	5	12	19	26				
Tue		5	12	19	26		Tue	2	9	16	23		Tue	2	9	16	23	30	Tue	6	13	20	27				
Wed		6	13	20	27		Wed	3	10	17	24		Wed	3	10	17	24	31	Wed	7	14	21	28				
Thu		7	14	21	28		Thu	4	11	18	25		Thu	4	11	18	25		Thu	1	8	15	22	29			
Fri	1	8	15	22	29		Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	2	9	16	23	30			
Sat	2	9	16	23	30		Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	3	10	17	24				
Sun	3	10	17	24	31		Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	4	11	18	25				

May 2027							June 2027							July 2027							August 2027						
Mon		3	10	17	24	31	Mon	7	14	21	28	Mon	5	12	19	26	Mon	2	9	16	23	30					
Tue		4	11	18	25		Tue	1	8	15	22	29	Tue	6	13	20	27	Tue	3	10	17	24	31				
Wed		5	12	19	26		Wed	2	9	16	23	30	Wed	7	14	21	28	Wed	4	11	18	25					
Thu		6	13	20	27		Thu	3	10	17	24		Thu	1	8	15	22	29	Thu	5	12	19	26				
Fri		7	14	21	28		Fri	4	11	18	25		Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri	6	13	20	27				
Sat	1	8	15	22	29		Sat	5	12	19	26		Sat	3	10	17	24	31	Sat	7	14	21	28				
Sun	2	9	16	23	30		Sun	6	13	20	27		Sun	4	11	18	25		Sun	1	8	15	22	29			

Pupil Contact Days: Term 1 – 70 days. Term 2 – 53 days. Term 3 – 67 days. = 190.
 In accordance with Teachers' Conditions of Service, five days will be used in addition to the 190 pupil contact days to enable teacher training to take place.
 Training days set are as follows: 3 September 2026, 4 September 2026, 4 January 2027 and 9 April 2027. Training day 5 will be made up of several twilight sessions determined by individual schools.