

July 2009

Dear OP,

Despite early portents to the contrary, the OP Cricket, Rounders and Tennis matches took place on 26 June in balmy midsummer sunshine. The matches were well attended by OP players and spectators and the afternoon culminated with a legendary Hilsa tea.

At the time of writing, we are just a few short weeks away from witnessing the demolition of the science block which has stood on the School site for over half a century. Its newly-commissioned successor will provide us with increased state-of-the-art laboratory space, a superb science theatre, grand atrium and house all the anticipated needs of science teaching for the future. More details can be found on the school website www.pgs.org.uk in section 'Development', item 'New Science Centre'.

Forthcoming Events

Choral Reunion – Saturday 26 September 2009

A reminder about the Choral Reunion which will be held on Saturday 26 September. We would like to welcome back *anyone who has represented the school in a choir*. Please see the enclosed letter for further details.

PGS Open Morning - Saturday 26 September 2009

OPs are warmly invited to bring their families along to the annual School Open Morning, starting at 9.30am on Saturday 26 September. As well as being an excellent opportunity for us to meet you, there are guided tours, presentations and demonstrations showcasing the various activities and departments across the school. Please register your interest in attending with Liz Preece at l.preece@pgs.org.uk

Portsmouth Lunch Club - Thursday 26 November 2009

The annual luncheon for former pupils who live in or are visiting the Portsmouth area will take place on 26 November at 12.30pm in the Royal Beach Hotel, Southsea. If you would like to attend please complete the enclosed booking form and return to the Development Office by **12 November 2008**.

OP Club Annual Dinner - Saturday 12 December 2009

The OP Club Annual dinner on the 12 December will act as a tribute to the late Roger Harris and will be a fitting occasion to celebrate his unparalleled contribution to PGS. The final notice giving full details of the Dinner and a booking form will be sent out in the Autumn.

OP Scout Reunion - Saturday 6 February 2010

We shall be marking the 80th Anniversary of the 42nd Portsmouth Grammar School Scout Troop with a Reunion for OPs who were Scouts or Cubs. Further details will be available in the Autumn but please mark this date on your calendars.

PGS Horizons and OPus

The school newsletter, *PGS Horizons*, will no longer be included in our mailings as it is being replaced in the Autumn by *OPus*, a new bespoke publication for OPs. The first issue will include news about OPs and details of the newly-formed PGS Association, which sees a joining of forces between the OP Club and PGS Development Office. Please keep on sending us news items, photographs, updated details and articles about your activities to Sue Merton (s.merton@pgs.org.uk) and thank you to those of you who have already sent us material.

Issues of *PGS Horizons* can be found on www.pgs.org.uk in the 'News' section. If you would like a copy of the current issue please send an e-mail to Liz Preece (l.preece@pgs.org.uk).

The Weather Lottery

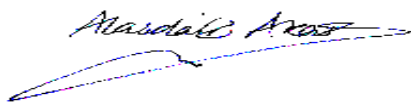
A number of OPs have now joined our new Weather Lottery and there have been several winners, with one fortunate player winning £200, though no £10,000 jackpot winners as yet! Please join through the PGS Website (www.pgs.org.uk); select 'Development' and then from the drop down panel displayed select 'The Weather Lottery'. For those who prefer not to join on-line, a lottery joining form can be downloaded from the website. This is a simple, low-cost and fun way to show your support for PGS, so please encourage your friends and family to join up too.

Climbing Wall Appeal

The Old Portmuthian Club have been delighted by the tremendous response from OPs towards the Climbing Wall Appeal in memory of the late Roger Harris, former pupil, teacher and President of the OP Club. There is still however, some way to go if the project target is to be reached and work can begin on erecting a permanent memorial to Roger's contribution to PGS. If you have not done so already, please can I encourage you to make a donation to the Roger Harris Climbing Wall Appeal by visiting www.justgiving.com/oldportmuthian

Whatever your plans over the coming months, we wish you a very pleasant Summer and hope that you will be tempted to make a note of the forthcoming OP events in your diary. It is always so rewarding for us to hear your news and, most especially, to be able to welcome you back through the PGS archway.

Yours sincerely,



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