

Before Half Term

Checking the Examination Timetable - Every pupil should have an individual timetable. You may wish to take a copy of this. Some examinations may take place before half term. Arriving in good time for any examination is crucial. A master timetable is on the board outside Miss Read's office.

The End of Formal Lessons: Friday 27 May - Formal lessons end at lunchtime on Friday 27 May. On this day there will be an assembly, a barbecue lunch in the Sixth Form Centre for Year 13 pupils and their teachers followed by entertainment arranged by the Sixth Form Team. There is no formal afternoon school.

Year Book 2011 - Members of the Sixth Form Council have produced a Year Book celebrating those pupils leaving PGS in 2011. Details of how to purchase a copy, as well as order a PGS 2011 Leavers' hooded sweatshirt are in a letter in the Easter mailing and on the School website.

Leavers' Book 2011 - A Leavers' Book will provide a formal record of the Year 13 leavers. One copy will be signed by all the leavers after the service on 25 June. The book will act as a record of the year group for the school archive. It will include a photograph and profile of each pupil together with photographs taken on the last day of formal school. Details of how to purchase this are in a letter in the Easter mailing and on the School website.

Preparing for Examinations - At any school some forms of high jinx before exams may take place. These are generally associated with candidates who underperform. Celebrating before examinations is the worst and least logical of these and strenuous efforts need to be made at the first sign of it manifesting itself. The school reserves the right in exceptional cases to ask disruptive candidates to take their exams at another centre. The 2011 Year Book can be used for farewell remarks from staff and former pupils. This replaces the custom of writing on shirts.

The Headmaster's Private Time (8.20-8.30 daily) - The Headmaster is available to any pupil without appointment. Pupils with concerns about examinations are particularly encouraged to approach the Headmaster if they wish during the examination period, though tutors and subject

are often a better first destination.

After Half Term

Rhythms and Routines - Pupils are members of school until term ends. They are subject to normal school rules at all times and are admitted to examinations subject to these. Candidates who are not in full school uniform may be refused entrance to the examination hall. Any pupil representing the school in any activity is expected to do so until the end of term.

A Level Seminar Week

An A Level revision seminar week will be held from Monday 6 June - Friday 10 June. A seminar timetable will be issued before the half-term break.

Medical Circumstances - The examining boards will, in certain circumstances, give special consideration to a candidate who sits an exam while unwell or in a distressed state. It is crucial that the Head of Examinations, Miss Read, is contacted as soon as possible, *before* the examination. j.read@pgs.org.uk.

Book Return - All books should be returned on Monday 27 June between 10.45 - 11.30 am. School uniform need not be worn.

Leavers' Weekend: Saturday 25 June

All Year 13 Leavers and their parents are warmly invited to attend the Leavers' Service at the Cathedral and signing of the official Leavers' Book followed by lunch on Saturday 25 June. An invitation is enclosed in the Easter mailing and can also be found on the School website.

Leavers' Ball

Thursday 30 June, 7.30 pm until 11.30 pm, the Queen's Hotel, Southsea. Tickets £25. Further details in the Easter mailing and on the website. The cost can be billed to your final fee account if purchased before 10 June.

Sixth Form Open-Air Shakespeare - Enjoy an open-air performance at Hilsea Playing Fields of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* staged by members of the Sixth Form on Thursday 7 and Friday 8 July at 7.30 pm. Tickets from Reception.

Founder's Day: Wednesday 13 July

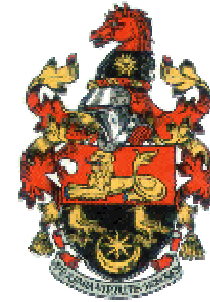
You are warmly invited to attend the Cathedral service at 2:15pm.

Tips for Candidates

1. **Have a timetable.** Make it realistic. Work on a minimum of 8 hours study a day. Allow space for getting behind.
2. **Have breaks.** Have recreational breaks: those who get the best results are generally those who keep their full set of commitments, and who ensure that all their activities, both academic and otherwise, are carefully structured and planned in advance.
3. **Bear the nature of the tests in mind.** If you find timed answers difficult, practise them during your revision programme.
4. **Be honest about weaknesses.** Work out what you find more difficult. Make a list and eliminate the points on it.
5. **Always have a pencil or pen to hand.** The process of revision should be a process of reduction, as you feel more and more confident of what you know, and have less and less to take on board freshly.
6. **Ask for help.** Your teachers want you to do well and have a record of helping people to do well. They are there to help you. Ask them if you need it.

We wish you every success in your A Level examinations.

The Portsmouth Grammar School



The Final Term

A Guide for Parents and Year 13 A Level Pupils