

Before Half Term

Checking the Examination Timetable - Every pupil should have an individual timetable. You may wish to take a copy of this. Arriving in good time for any examination is crucial. A master timetable is on the IB board in the Sixth Form Centre and outside Miss Read's office.

The End of Formal Lessons: Thursday 28 April - Formal lessons end at 3.50pm on Thursday 28 April. On this day there will be a meal at the *O Sole Mio* restaurant at Port Solent in the evening.

Fri 27 May - a barbecue lunch in the Sixth Form Centre for all Year 13 pupils (A Level and those all IB pupils who wish to attend) and their teachers, followed by entertainment arranged by the Sixth Form Team. Timings for IB pupils' arrival to be confirmed.

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. It will act as a record of the year group for the school archive. Copies of the Leavers' Book will be available to purchase. 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 refuse to permit candidates to take their exams at PGS. 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 teachers are often a better first destination.

Rhythms and Routines - Pupils are members of school until Leavers' Day. They are subject to normal school rules at all times and are admitted to examinations subject to these. Candidates who are not in proper uniform may be refused entrance to the examination hall.

Medical Circumstances - The IBO 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 Mr Taylor, the Director of IB, or Miss Read, is contacted as soon as possible, *before* the examination and that supporting medical evidence is obtained where relevant.

Book Return - All books should be returned in the morning of Friday 27 May (if not before) – timings and venue will be confirmed. School uniform should be worn.

After Half Term

Leavers' Weekend: Saturday 25 June

All Y13 Leavers and their parents are warmly invited to attend the Y13 Leavers' Service at the Cathedral and signing of the official Y13 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 midnight, The Queen's Hotel, Southsea. Tickets £25. Further details in the Easter mailing and on the website.

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

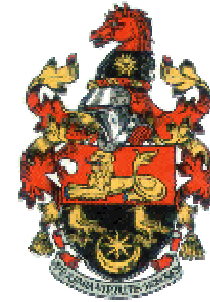
You are warmly invited to attend the Cathedral service at 2:15pm.

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 IB examinations.

The Portsmouth Grammar School



The Final Term

A Guide for Parents and Year 13 IB Pupils