# Purbrook Park School
# Purbrook Park Newsletter

## Week commencing Monday 21st September 2026
## WEEK B


1. **Notes from the Headteacher**
2. **Calendar**
3. **Messages**
4. **New Staff at PPS**
5. **Department Leader Boards & Pupils/Work of the Week**
6. **Christmas Market – Save the Date**
7. **Faith & Festivals this Week**
8. **Year 7 & 8 Careers & Wellbeing Event**
9. **Autumn Enrichment**
10. **Weekly House Attendance and Praise Point Leader Boards**

*Year 10 Netball Teams*

### 1. Notes from the Headteacher

A huge thank you to everyone who helped to make our Open Evening such a great success this week. Please find below a link to Hampshire's admissions page for parents of children in year 6:

https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/applicationprocess/year7

We are delighted to welcome three brilliant new colleagues to Purbrook Park this term – more information below!

With best wishes,

**Paul Foxley**

## 2. Calendar

| Date | Event |
|---|---|
| **Monday**<br>21.09.26 | Individual pupil and staff photographs<br>Staff Briefing – 3.10pm – 3.20pm<br>Department Meetings – 3.20pm – 4.20pm<br>Board of Governors' Meeting – Conference Room – from 6.00pm |
| | |
| **Tuesday**<br>22.09.26 | Year 11 GCSE Dance performance exam all day & evening performance |
| | |
| **Wednesday**<br>23.09.26 | Rome Trip 2026 - Parents' Meeting - school hall – 6.00pm – 7.00pm |
| | |
| **Thursday**<br>24.09.26 | Year 8 & 9 Meet the Tutor Evening – 4.00pm – 8.00pm |
| | |
| **Friday**<br>25.09.26 | Choir - Musical Theatre rehearsal with Hampshire Music Service – period 3 |

## 3. Messages

**Meet the Tutor Evenings**

A reminder that our remaining 'Meet the Tutor' Evenings take place as follows:

| Year Group | Date (4.00pm – 8.00pm) |
|---|---|
| Year 8 & 9 | Thursday 24th September 2026 |
| Year 7 | Thursday 1st October 2026 |

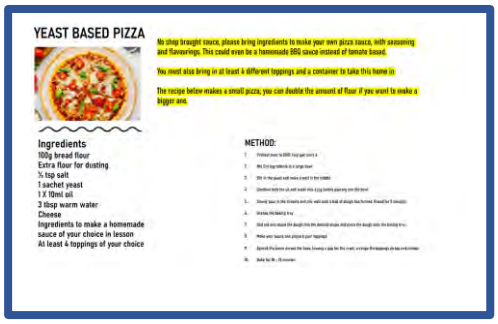
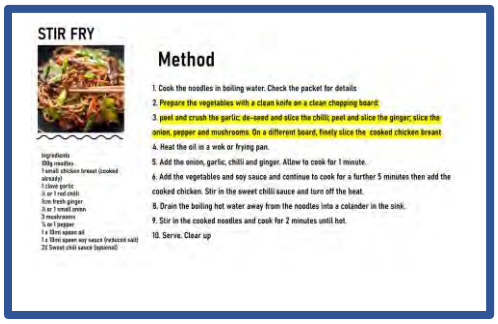
Please take the time to check you are able to access the appointment booking system. https://purbrookpark.schoolcloud.co.uk/ Instructions on making appointments are also available on the school website.

**Rooms for Year 8 & 9 Meet the Tutor**

Year 8 & 9 'MEET THE TUTOR' EVENING – THURSDAY 24th SEPTEMBER 2026

| YEAR 8 | ROOM | YEAR 9 | ROOM |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mr Pickford<br>Miss Waring | MA2 | Mr Blachford<br>Ms Simmons | Conference Room |
| Miss Brailey<br>Miss Turner | MA3 | Mrs Barge<br>Miss Minker | MA7 |
| Miss Miller<br>Miss Granger | MA4 | Mr Strange<br>Mr Herman | MA6 |
| Miss Dorey<br>Mr Bolton | Study Centre | Mrs Botham<br>Miss Broker | MA1 |

**Pastoral Team**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Food Practical Reminders** | <br>  <br> <br>  <br> <br><br>**Mrs Armstrong – Teacher of Food Technology** |
| **Attendance Matters** | **Attendance Matters: Understanding Persistent Absence**<br><br>We would like to highlight the importance of maintaining high levels of school attendance. Pupils whose attendance falls below 90% are classified as persistently absent.<br><br>While 90% may sound high, it actually means a child is missing around half a day of school every week. Over the course of a school year, this adds up to a significant amount of lost learning time, which can affect progress, confidence, and overall achievement.<br><br>Being in school regularly supports not only academic success but also friendships, routines, and wellbeing. We are committed to working closely with families to support good attendance and to address any barriers that may be impacting a child's ability to attend school regularly.<br><br>If your child's attendance is a concern, we encourage you to contact your child's Tutor or Year Leader so we can offer guidance and support. By working together, we can help ensure every child has the best opportunity to succeed.<br><br>*Every day in school makes a difference.*<br><br>**Attendance Team** |

**Science – Celebrating Success**

**Sparx**

The top three Science Sparx users in each year group for the week beginning 7th September 2026 were:

| Year Group | 1st Position | 2nd Position | 3rd Position |
|---|---|---|---|
| **8** | Angel (LWA) | Ethan (WBO) | Edin (FTU) |
| **9** | Felix (CSI) | Reuben (DBL) | Millie (LBA) |
| **10** | Tilly (NSD) | Evan (JMS) | Isaac (TKE) |
| **11** | Megan (JHD) | Ewan (BSO) | Issac (MBR) |

Each of the above pupils have been awarded 25 Praise Points. This academic year pupils have already answered 39,427 questions correctly on Sparx Science!

**Scientists of the Week**

The following pupils have been nominated as "Scientist of the Week" by Mrs Goodchild for their continued hard work and sustained effort within lessons and have been awarded 50 Praise Points: Bobbie (8API) and Zach (10NSD).

**Mr Evans – Lead Teacher of Science**

**RSE/PSHE Curriculum**

**RSE/PSHE Curriculum Review & Feedback Invite**

We believe that a strong partnership between home and school is vital to ensuring our pupils receive a well-rounded, age-appropriate education.

We have recently reviewed our **Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) curriculum** to ensure it continues to support our pupils' safety, wellbeing, and emotional development while reflecting statutory guidelines. We are now inviting all parents and carers to review these materials and share their valued feedback.

**Step 1: View the Curriculum Materials**

Please visit our website PSHE Curriculum page https://www.purbrookparkschool.co.uk/page/?title=PSHE&pid=715 where you can view the curriculum overview, specific year-group topics, and the coverage of the RSE Statutory topics benchmarked against lessons.

**Step 2: Share Your Feedback**

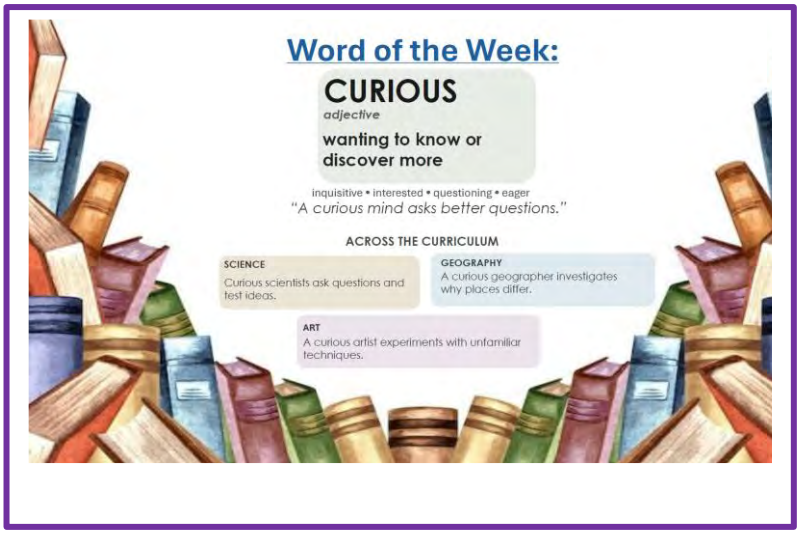
We want to ensure every parent has a voice in this process. Once you have reviewed the website materials, please take a few moments to answer our questions by completing this questionnaire. PSHE Parent Consultation Form – Fill in form

The questionnaire will remain open until Friday 2nd October.

**Mrs Smith – Lead Practitioner for Personal Development**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Kenya 2026 - Portsmouth News Article** | Pupils who took part in the Kenya trip are featured in the Portsmouth News. You can access this lovely article via the following link: https://www.portsmouth.co.uk/your-world/purbrook-park-pupils-make-a-lasting-difference-during-kenya-trip-9002220?fbclid=IwdGRjcAURzdR0ZGNwBQ8uwGNsY2sFDy68cGRvZgVleHRuA2FlbQIxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZAwzNTA2ODU1MzE3MjgAAR7bF748rOzAL4C36a3WmNWKfi1J2mjwOCSzn6pL5eUK2oOMODXo1MVQtH9GbA_aem_N4CIdG6loXDhVUzSq20xjg<br><br>**Miss Cumbo – Lead Teacher of A, D & T** |
| **Careers Update** | **<u>Careers Webinar</u>**<br><br>Sign up: https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/events/navigate-understanding-apprenticeships/<br><br> <br><br><br>**<u>Open Events</u>**<br><br>St Vincent Sixth Form College<br>Barton Peveril Sixth Form College<br>THE PORTSMOUTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL<br><br>St Vincent College, PO12 4QA — 19/09/2026 — 10am to 2pm<br>Barton Peveril, SO50 5ZA — 23/09/2026 — 4.30pm-8.15pm<br>Barton Peveril, SO50 5ZA — 24/09/2026 — 4.30pm-8.15pm<br>The Portsmouth Grammar School Sixth Form, PO1 2LN — 24/09/2026 — 6.30pm<br><br>**Mrs Akhtar – Careers Advisor** |

## English Update



**Ms Evans – Assistant Lead Teacher of English**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Performing Arts Update** | **<u>Performing Arts Diary This week</u>** |

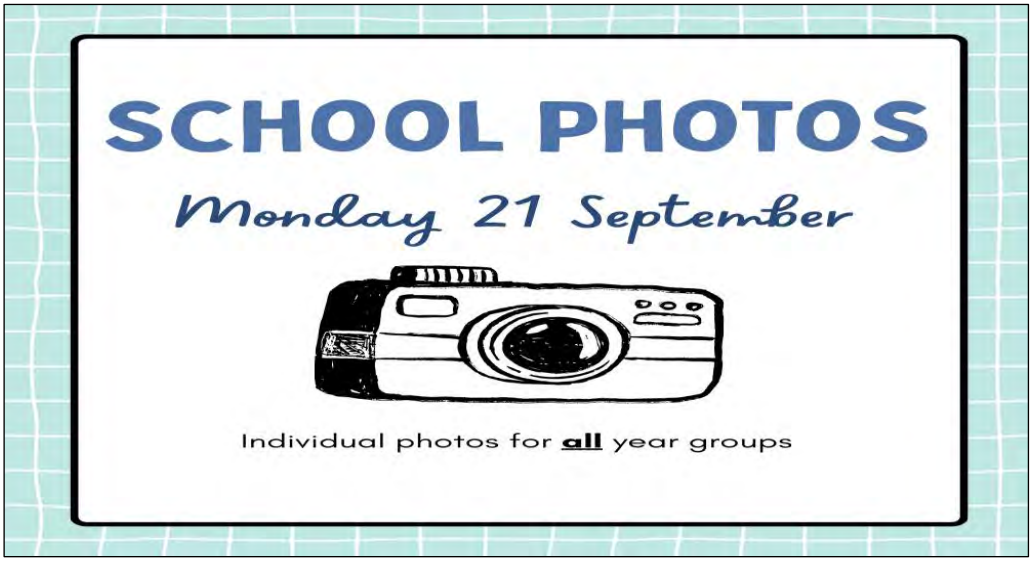
| | |
|---|---|
| 21.09.26 | ***Piano lessons start this week***<br>***'Charlie' scene 5: 'More of him to love' and 'Queen of pop'.***<br>KS3 Ensemble, Cherry, Wonka, Charlie, Augustus, Mrs Gloop, KS4, Violet, Mr B and Chompin Divas. |
| 22.09.26 | ***GCSE dance exam all day - hall***<br>***GCSE dance show evening 6-7pm***<br>***'Charlie' Scene 5 'When Verucca Says' & 'Oompa Loompa' songs.***<br>Cherry, Wonka, Veruca, Mr Salt and Oompa Loompas.<br>Guitar Club 3-4 music department |
| 23.09.26 | ***Singing lessons start this week***<br>***'Charlie' 'When Veruca says' and 5C (p27)***<br>Mrs Green, Charlie, Mike, Mrs Teevee<br>Rock Band - 3-4 music department |
| 24.09.26 | 'Charlie' Run scenes 1-5<br>Everyone in scenes 1-5 plus all Ensemble. |
| 25.09.26 | 11-12 'World of Musical Theatre' rehearsal in Big reh room - music department<br>2:20-3:20- Choir music room |

**<u>Messages</u>**

- Choir - A couple of places left for our 'World of Musical' show - please see Mrs Brook
- Musical Con Trip - Saturday 17th October there is ONE place left

**Mrs Brook – Performing Arts Technician**

**Individual School Photos**




**Pastoral Team**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Netball** | It was lovely to see our netballers back in action again in this year's local league fixtures. Both of our Year 10 teams (pictured on the front of the newsletter) were up first, playing four games against some tough competitors, including some Year 11 teams. As the afternoon went on, it was great to see the teams finding their rhythm again, with some excellent movement down the court, intercepts and shots being made. A special shout-out to Anna, Flo and Charlotte for receiving the 'Best Play' nominations from the opposition teams.<br><br>It was also brilliant to see nearly 60 of our pupils at this week's netball club! If you are interested, please come along and have a go, no matter whether you have played before or not. There will be a range of activities on offer. We look forward to seeing you there on Tuesday!<br><br>**Miss Brailey – Teacher of PE** |
| **Pupil Shop** | <br><br>**Miss Smith – Lead Practitioner PDL** |

# NEW STAFF AT PPS

**Welcome to the following new members of staff who have joined us this term:**

| | |
|---|---|
| | Hello! I am Miss Beames and I am the new cover supervisor at Purbrook Park. Some pupils may already recognise me, as I completed my teacher training here last year, teaching Art, Textiles, and Photography.<br><br>Outside of school, I enjoy painting, reading, and all things creative. I also love visiting historical buildings and landmarks as well as spending time with friends and family over a good coffee.<br><br>I am excited to get to know even more pupils this year whilst providing cover for lessons!<br><br>**Miss Beames – Cover Supervisor** |
| | Hola, I'm Miss Thiara and I'm a new Spanish teacher this year at Purbrook. I love languages, especially Spanish and really enjoy sharing this love and my knowledge with others.<br><br>In my spare time and in the holidays, I love travelling and exploring new places, being outdoors, swimming and scrapbooking.<br><br>I can't wait to meet and get to know you all!<br><br>**Miss Thiara – Teacher of Spanish** |
| | Hi, I'm Mr Blachford and I teach maths at Purbrook Park. My main passion is Portsmouth football club (up the blues) home and away with my 11 year old son.<br><br>In my youth I was heavily into martial arts, pretty good on a horse and have been known to survive the odd gym session. I have resting stern face; say ‘hi’, and I might smile.<br><br>**Mr Blachford – Teacher of Maths** |

## *Sparx Legends of the Week*

**Year 7 – Oakley (7SWI)**

**Year 8 – Teddy (8FMI)**

**Year 9 – Angus (9JHE)**

**Year 10 – Lewis (10AWA)**

**Year 11 – Tyler (10FCO)**

**50 Praise Points for each Winner!**

Week commencing 14th September 2026

# Historians of the Week!

## Congratulations to...

Year 7 – Abbi. L 7CST

Year 8 – Tommy. B 8LBR

Year 9 – Micheal. O 9CBR

Year 10 – Sam. H 10AWA

Year 11 – Keiran. A 11JHD

## Christmas Market - Message from PTFA

Please **SAVE THE DATE** for our Christmas Market on **Saturday 21st November 2026 from 11am until 3pm.** We hope to see you there!

**Raffle Prizes**
Can you help by donating a raffle prize to the Christmas Raffle? Do you run a business that can help or would like a stall ? If you know of any small or local businesses that would be willing to help, please get in touch or drop donations into the School Reception: purbrookparkschoolptfa@gmail.com.

# FAITH & FESTIVALS THIS WEEK

## 19–25 SEPTEMBER 2026

### 19 SEPTEMBER

**RADHA ASHTAMI • HINDUISM**

Celebrates the birth of Radha, who is associated with devotion and divine love.

### 19–25 SEPTEMBER

**DAS LAKSHANA • JAINISM**

Part of a ten-day festival focusing on ten virtues, including truth, humility and self-control.

### 20–21 SEPTEMBER

**YOM KIPPUR • JUDAISM**

The Day of Atonement — the holiest day of the Jewish year, marked by fasting, prayer and repentance.

Begins at sunset on 20 September

### 22 SEPTEMBER

**GYARVI SHARIF • ISLAM**

Commemorates the life and teachings of the Sufi saint Abdul Qadir Jilani.

### 23 SEPTEMBER

**AUTUMN EQUINOX • PAGANISM**

Often celebrated as Mabon — a time of balance, gratitude and thanksgiving for the harvest.

### 25 SEPTEMBER

**TWO FESTIVAL MOMENTS**

**ANANT CHATURDASHI • HINDUISM**

Includes Ganesh Visarjan, marking the conclusion of Ganesh Chaturthi.

**SUKKOT BEGINS • JUDAISM**

A harvest festival recalling the Israelites' journey through the wilderness.

Sukkot begins at sunset

*Festival dates may vary slightly between communities and local calendars.*

# Year 7 & 8 Careers & Wellbeing Event

Pupils in Year 7 and 8 enjoyed a performance from Max Sarre followed by a Careers and Wellbeing talk about building confidence and resilience in achieving your goals and ambitions. It was great to see all pupils getting positively involved, asking lots of questions and being inspired!

# Autumn After School Enrichment

## MONDAY ENRICHMENT CLUBS

Autumn Term • club base • year group • character virtues developed

1 club listed • Base/room • Year group

**School :Production Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**
Main Hall All
Virtues: Teamwork, Confidence

## TUESDAY ENRICHMENT CLUBS

Autumn Term • club base • year group • character virtues developed

16 clubs listed • Base/room • Year group

**School Production: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**
Main Hall All
Virtues: Teamwork, Confidence

**Photography**
Art 7 & 8
Virtues: Creativity, Resourcefulness

**Guitar Club**
MU1 7-9
Virtues: Creativity, Resilience

**Language Nut Support Club**
MFL1 7-9
Virtues: Motivation, Independence

**Textiles Coursework Support**
TX1 10 & 11
Virtues: Excellence, Independence

**Sustainability**
Lab 7 7-9
Virtues: Generosity, Volunteering

**Back to Nature**
Lab3 7 & 8
Virtues: Curiosity, Citizenship

**Dodgeball**
Gym All Years
Virtues: Initiative, Determination

**Netball Club**
Hard Courts 7-9
Virtues: Leadership, Determination

**Strength and Tone**
H3 7-9
Virtues: Confidence, Self-Discipline

**Embroidery**
TX1 7
Virtues: Creativity, Confidence

**Maths Revision**
MA1 11
Virtues: Excellence, Motivation

**Football Manager Club**
MA2 7-9
Virtues: Teamwork, Critical-Thinking

**Problem Solved**
MA5 7-9
Virtues: Curiosity, Teamwork

**Engineering and 3D Design Support**
WS1 10 & 11
Virtues: Determination, Self-Discipline

**Science Intervention**
CM2 11
Virtues: Excellence, Motivation

Choose a club that helps you build confidence, curiosity, teamwork and future skills.

## WEDNESDAY ENRICHMENT CLUBS

Autumn Term • club base • year group • character virtues developed

18 clubs listed • Base/room • Year group

**School Production: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**
Main Hall All
Virtues: Teamwork, Confidence

**Soul Space**
RS1 7-9
Virtues: Justice, Kindness

**Textiles Coursework Support**
TX1 10 & 11
Virtues: Excellence, Independence

**Bible Discovery**
RS2 7-8
Virtues: Authenticity, Empathy

**Languages Support and Intervention Club**
MFL1 10 & 11
Virtues: Resilience, Independence

**Rock Band**
MU1 7-9
Virtues: Teamwork, Confidence

**Duke of Edinburgh**
RS3 8
Virtues: Citizenship, Volunteering

**Basketball**
Sports Hall 7 & 8
Virtues: Teamwork, Leadership

**Team Football**
Field All years
Virtues: Teamwork, Respect

**Trampolining**
Gym 7-9
Virtues: Courage, Creativity

**Engineering and 3D Design Support**
WS1 10 & 11
Virtues: Determination, Self-Discipline

**Triple Science Intervention**
LAB3 11
Virtues: Excellence, Ambition

**GCSE History Revision**
H2 10 & 11
Virtues: Understanding, Critical-Thinking

**Cooking Club**
FD1 7 & 8
Virtues: Confidence, Respect

**Uno Club**
Lab2 7 & 8
Virtues: Friendliness, Respect

**NextGen Leaders**
Careers Hub All Years
Virtues: Ambition, Honesty

**Homework Club**
ENG 7-11
Virtues: Self-Discipline, Inclusion

**How to Revise for Science**
LAB7 11
Virtues: Determination, Self-Discipline

Choose a club that helps you build confidence, curiosity, teamwork and future skills.

# THURSDAY ENRICHMENT CLUBS

**Autumn Term • club base • year group • character virtues developed**

18 clubs listed • Base/room • Year group

### School Production: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
Main Hall  All
**Virtues: Teamwork, Confidence**

### Debate Society
EN1 & 3  9, 10, 11
**Virtues: Authenticity, Citizenship**

### Events and Social
CM1  All Years
**Virtues: Friendliness, Leadership**

### School Newspaper Team
Hi2  All Years
**Virtues: Resourcefulness, Citizenship**

### Languages Excellence Club
MFL1  10
**Virtues: Excellence, Motivation**

### Mindful Colouring
EN6  7-9
**Virtues: Gratitude, Creativity**

### Illustration - Create Your Own Story Book
AR2  All Years
**Virtues: Curiosity, Creativity**

### Rugby
Field  7 & 8
**Virtues: Teamwork, Respect**

### Girls' Football
MUGA  7-9
**Virtues: Teamwork, Respect**

### Cricket Nets
Sports Hall  All Years
**Virtues: Confidence, Ambition**

### Science Intervention
CM2  11
**Virtues: Excellence, Motivation**

### How to Revise for Science
LAB7  11
**Virtues: Determination, Self-Discipline**

### Independent Reading
EN6  7-9
**Virtues: Curiosity, Critical-Thinking**

### Nintendo Club
MA3  8-11
**Virtues: Enthusiasm, Inclusion**

### The Reading Nook
EN2  7-9
**Virtues: Empathy, Authenticity**

### Geography Revision
GE2  10 & 11
**Virtues: Determination, Ambition**

### Dungeons and Dragons
Hi1  7-9
**Virtues: Enthusiasm, Inclusion**

### Sudoku
MA1  7-9
**Virtues: Understanding, Resilience**

Choose a club that helps you build confidence, curiosity, teamwork and future skills.

# FRIDAY ENRICHMENT CLUBS

**Autumn Term • club base • year group • character virtues developed**

6 clubs listed • Base/room • Year group

### School Production: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
Main Hall  All
**Virtues: Teamwork, Confidence**

### Choir
MU1  All
**Virtues: Confidence, Creativity**

### Badminton
Sports Hall  7-9
**Virtues: Kindness, Inclusion**

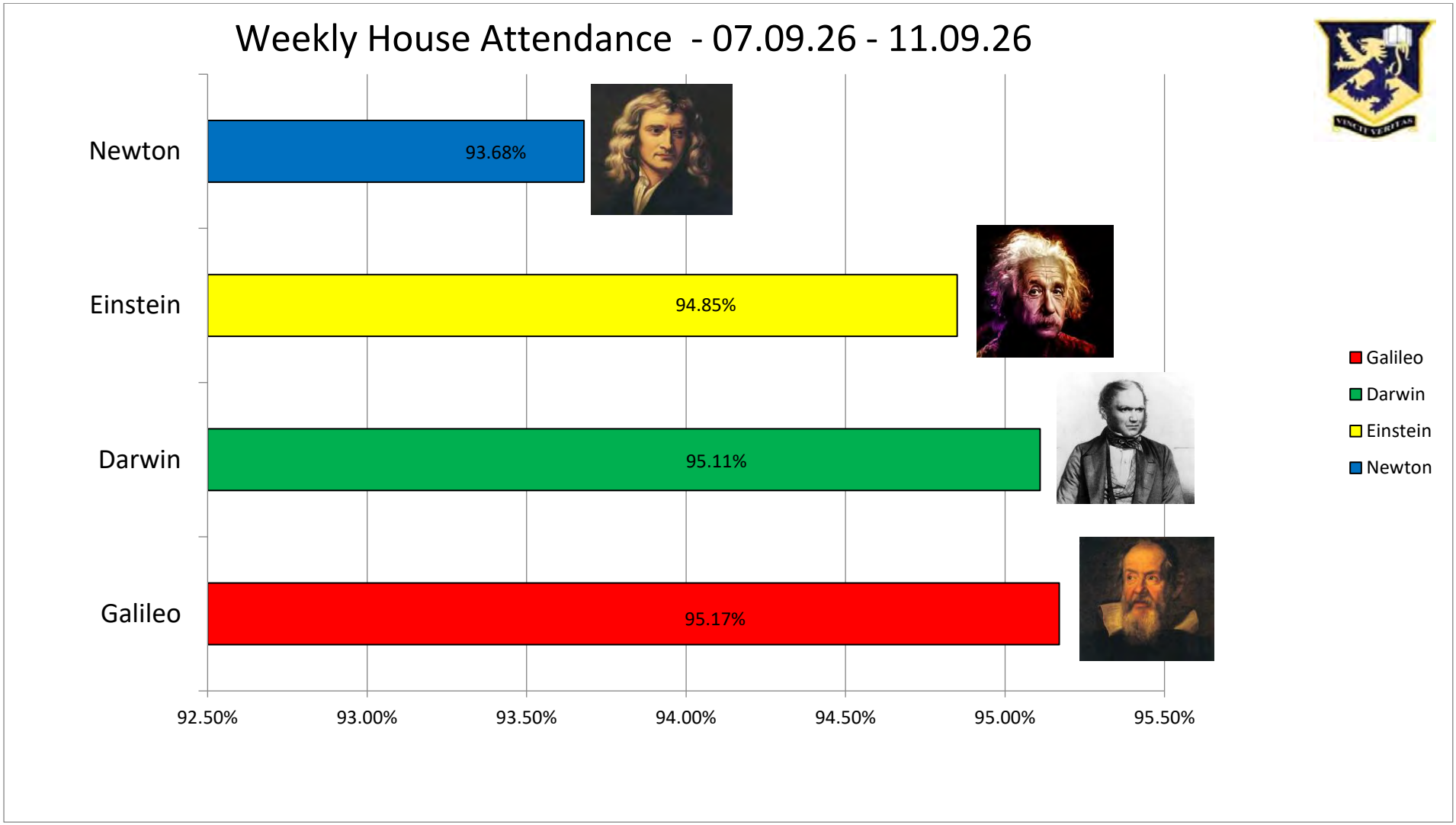
### How to Revise for Science
LAB7  11
**Virtues: Determination, Self-Discipline**

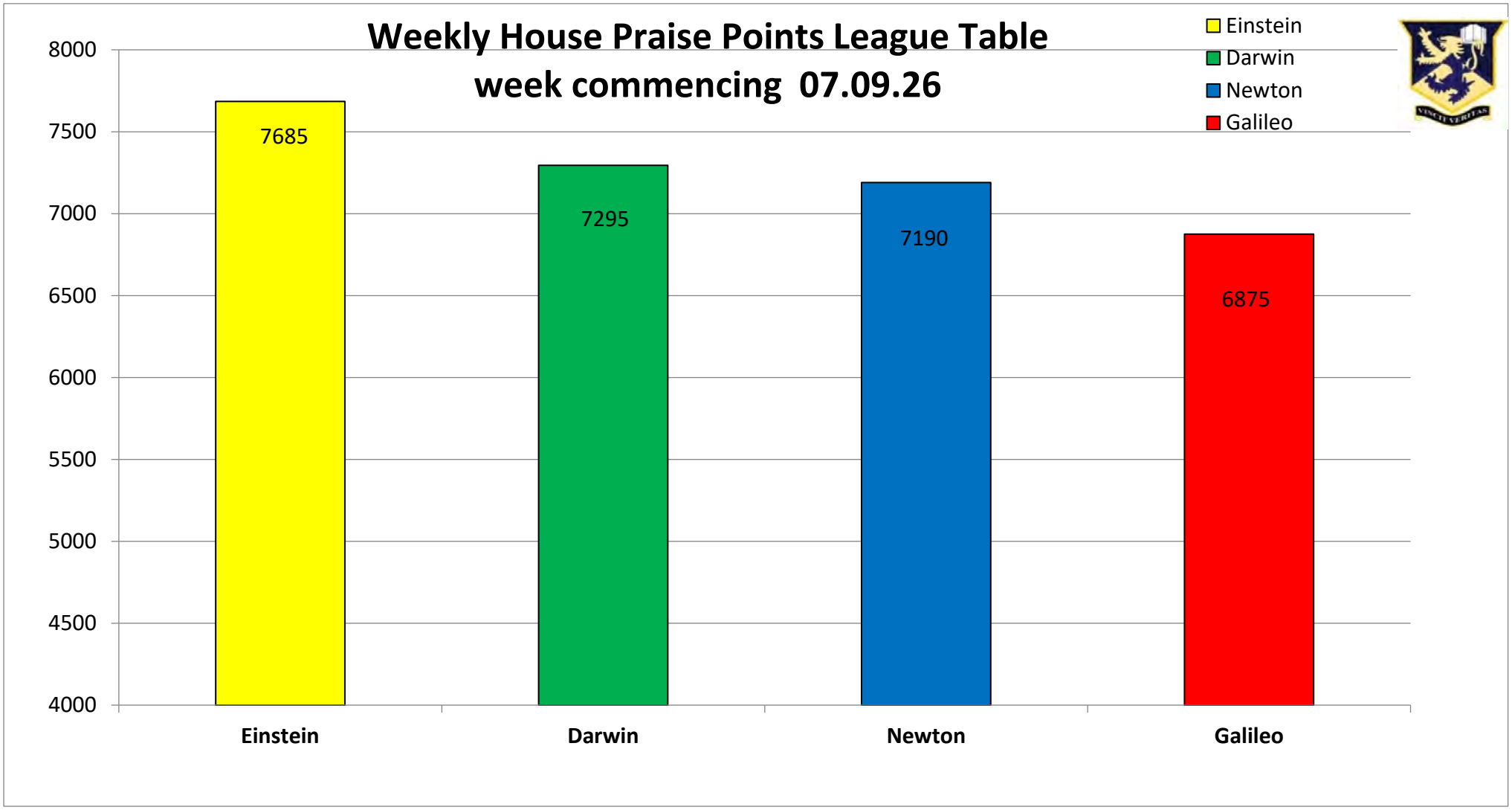
### Homework Intervention
CM2  7-9
**Virtues: Understanding, Resilience**

### Scalextric For Schools
WS1  7-9
**Virtues: Creativity, Curiosity**

Choose a club that helps you build confidence, curiosity, teamwork and future skills.

# Weekly House Attendance - 07.09.26 - 11.09.26




Weekly House Praise Points League Table
week commencing 07.09.26
Einstein
Darwin
Newton
Galileo
8000
7500
7000
6500
6000
5500
5000
4500
4000
7685
7295
7190
6875
Einstein
Darwin
Newton
Galileo

# E- Praise Leaders This Week

| Yr 7 | Year 8 | Year 9 | Year 10 | Year 11 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| River SWI | Artie LBR | Lashawn SSR | Lily AKO | Harvey SAT |
| Penelope EHA | Stanley HDO | Riley LBA | Delphi JMS | Tommy BSO |
| Ella DAR | Aaliyah FMI | Ralphie JHE | Beth TKE | Reggie GEV |

A huge well done to all our E-Praise Leaders. Your efforts make you stand out from the crowd.