



27 January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this finds you well.

Bar Mock success

We had some very exciting news this week, our Bar Mock team won their national heat which means they will be progressing to the National Finals. Our team competed against well prepared and able school teams from Essex to Cornwall, many of whom are as experienced as PHSG in the Bar Mock challenge. We are anticipating that the National Finals will be held at the Royal Courts of Justice in Westminster where we will be joined by our fellow Trust school, The Rochester Grammar School who also won their national heat.

Industrial action

As a reminder, teachers from across the country will be taking part in industrial action scheduled for Wednesday 1st February 2023. Year 7 and year 11 students should attend school as normal. In addition, we have booked places for our vulnerable students and the children of key workers who requested a place. We have contacted parents individually (of vulnerable students and key worker parents) to confirm that a place has been booked for their child. All other PHSG students will be learning from home on 1st February.

To support students learning from home, teachers will be posting their lesson presentations on teams and students will work independently on the tasks set. Teachers will be online to provide written answers to any questions students may have. Students will be able to post their questions on teams and teachers will write responses. We thought students would be more comfortable with this rather than asking their questions live on video. If a teacher is taking part in industrial action, there will not be any work set. If this happens, students should use the material



already posted on teams to prepare for forthcoming assessments or use their knowledge banks to self-test the core information that they are required to learn.

UKMT Intermediate Challenge

On Thursday 2nd February, our intermediate Mathematicians (year 11 and under) will compete in the national UKMT Maths challenge. Armed with just a pencil and their own problem solving skills they will face a series of multiple choice puzzles and problems. We have a fantastic track record of medal winners at PHSG and we are looking forward to seeing how our amazing mathematicians get on next week.

Parent, teacher and friend's association (PTFA) message

Please see below a message from the chair of our wonderfully supportive PTFA.

The PTFA has been supporting the school for a long time and I have been privileged to have been part of it for several years. The PTFA has raised money to help enrich the children's experience at school. Unfortunately, since the pandemic we have not been able to engage enough new parents to help run the PTFA. Current PTFA members are reaching the end of their children's time at PHSG and have naturally been thinking about stepping down from their roles on the association. We will have to draw the current PTFA to a close very soon as we will not have enough volunteers to run it. However, we are hopeful that a new group of parents would come forward to relaunch the PTFA and continue from where we left off. I am very happy to answer any question parents may have around being part of the PTFA and encourage people to complete the Teams form that the school will be sending out.

If you would like to be part of the relaunch of our PTFA and feel you could volunteer in some way, please do complete the [form here](#). The form also gives parents the opportunity to ask our current chair any questions they may have.

Very best wishes



Simon Underdown.
Headteacher.