



# Pitsford School



## THE PITSFORD POST

FRIDAY 18th OCTOBER 2019

# Welcome

Half-term has finally come and it is getting nice and cold out there. Scottish as I am, I love the winter and as October locks arms with November and the months dance towards Christmas I do like the nights drawing in, the mornings getting crisp and the year slowly coming to a close. This break comes at a good time too: as I walk around school I see happy but tired faces all around, students and staff, and I think a chance to recharge will be just what this doctor has ordered. So think then of me and Mrs King who will be off in Berlin with the cream of the Pitsford School Sixth Form touring that magnificent city and wringing out of it every last drop of culture and fun during week one of the break! It has been a great half-term in the Junior and Senior schools, crammed to the brim with events, trips, sports and concerts. Among the many things that have delighted me, I'd like to mention this week's fantastic Tag Rugby tournament where we hosted visiting schools and fielded two teams of our own. It was a magnificent event, rugby (and Pitsford) were the winners and it was exactly what I love to see in our beautiful school. I am pleased to have the opportunity to thank Mr Auckland and Mr Kefford for organising it, Mr Cole for working at it and my crack team of Sixth Form boys (Lewis G, Robert C, Matthew W and Nicholas P) for making it run smoothly. An unalloyed triumph.

After half-term, as you know we have our Bonfire on the 3rd and then Stargazing on the 6th. I hope you can make one or both as they will be great fun and a perfect way to start the second half of the term. By the way, following the mantra of forewarned is forearmed, bear in mind that next month will be 'Movember' where the school will look to raise awareness of male health issues and raise some cash as well. To that end, I will be growing a moustache and I hope my senior boys and some staff and parents will join me. A mowser is not the best look for me, so be gentle and be reassured I know what I am doing; it is all in the best of causes.

Enjoy your break and I hope that you get plenty of nice sweets when you go out on Hallowe'en!

See you in November!

*Dr Walker*

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## Happy Retirement Mrs Rhodes!

After an amazing 29 years of service to Pitsford School, and in what is bittersweet news, Mrs Rhodes from the office is retiring. Mrs Rhodes has helped over 1000 pupils and seen off all previous headmasters (and a lot of staff!) in her time here.

Mrs Rhodes has been integral to the running of the school and we will miss her greatly. Have a wonderful retirement and come back and see us again soon!



**Pitsford** School

THE PPA PRESENT

# Bonfire Night

SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 FROM 5.30pm

DRINKS

HOT DOGS

BURGERS

SPARKLERS

GLOWSTICKS

TUCKSHOP

PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE TO:

[PPA@PITSFORDSCHOOL.COM](mailto:PPA@PITSFORDSCHOOL.COM)



Pitsford School, Pitsford, Northamptonshire NN6 9AX

## The Kits and Squirrels go on a Trail



The Kits and Squirrels went on a cross curricular walk on Monday afternoon to find '5 little leaves so bright and gay dancing about on a tree one day'. Counting, poetry, art, Autumn and— of course - fun!



## Roman Chariot Racing!



In keeping with their project on the Romans, J3 designed and raced their own chariots. A timed lap resulted in the quickest model chariot in history being piloted by George S in 11.2 seconds!



## J5 Turn Biologists...



J5 enjoyed a visit to the biology lab last week and were absolutely fascinated with what they could see under a microscope. Don't they look dressed for the part! Thank you to the Biology Department for hosting this session.

## Leadership Award

Here are the new J5 and J6 Leadership Team proudly receiving their badges in assembly. They are working together with Mrs Ball and Mrs Jeffrey to think of ways to make changes to and improve the Junior School.



## J4 Pizza Express Visit!



To link with their work on Passport to the World, J4 had a fantastic morning discovering more about Italian food and learning how to make a classic Italian dish - pizza!





Pitsford School

# Star Gazing Live at Pitsford School

In association with

The Northampton Natural History Society

Wednesday 6th November 2019 from 7– 9pm \*

Free of charge

Open to the Public



\* Please note this event is weather dependent. Kindly check our school website for confirmation \*

# Junior School Tag Rugby Tournament Monday 14th October



With the eyes of the world on Japan; many people saw the devastation of Typhoon Hagibis take precedence over the Rugby World Cup last week. With the RFU core values in mind, all the pupils gathered to pay their respects to those affected by the typhoon with a minute's silence.

Over 70 children took to our 1st XV pitch; drenched by the rain and caked in mud but warmed by the team spirit and enjoyment of the occasion.

The welcome speech was easy as the tournament followed an inspirational weekend of sport: Eliud Kipchoge completed the first ever sub 2 hour marathon breaking Paula Ratcliffe's marathon record and, of course, Japan itself -the host nation who knocked out the Scots to reach their first ever World Cup Quarter Final. In what was a spine tingling moment the World Cup anthem "World in Union" was played in the Sports Hall perfectly echoing Pitsford's rugby ethos.

Pitsford fielded two teams on the day; Pitsford Blues and Pitsford Gold. Both had excellent afternoons, running home try after try after try with one side not losing a single game all afternoon. Both teams performed excellently.

It was fantastic to see so many people enjoying the outstanding facilities here and the event was superbly supported—with many a brollie and raincoat working hard! Thanks to our very own wonderful parents, supporting parents and staff from the visiting schools and of course the amazingly resilient children who played in conditions which were about as bad as they can get for a game of Rugby.

A special mention must go to our Sixth Form pupils who both refereed and organised an outstanding day. They were a shining example of our school where the pupils gave up their own time to support our younger pupils. Lastly, thanks to the parents who assisted with the Pitsford teams on the day as well.

The hot bacon rolls were a most welcome sight at the end of the day and rarely have we seen children's tournament medals awarded so justly. After all, the children exemplified Rugby's core values: Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship.

What a wonderful afternoon. Well played to all.

By Mr Kefford.



# Harvest Festival Thanksgiving Service

What a beautiful day we had last Wednesday 9th October for our Junior School Harvest Festival. The children sang beautifully with a particularly lively Harvest Tango from the Chamber Choir! We heard readings and poetry by children from J3 to J6 and listened to Revd. Trott speak about the importance of saying "thank you". The Harvest table was laden with donations which have gone to support the Northampton Food Bank.



# Job Vacancies at Pitsford School

## Registrar

The Registrar is responsible for effectively managing the Admissions process from initial enquiry right through to the pupil joining Pitsford School. This includes maintaining relevant records and statistics, and generating all correspondence on enquiries, prospectus requests, registrations and applications, meeting prospective parents and their child to discuss matters pertaining to their admission and keeping appropriate records.

The role will also involve actively working with the Head of Marketing and other members of the SLT in all activities to achieve pupil intake at all entry levels to meet recruitment and awareness targets.

Closing dates for the application is 1st Nov 2019

## Data Administrator

As Data Administrator you will be a key member of the schools administration team with specific responsibility for inputting and managing the school's management information system (SIMS) and VLE (Firefly), providing support for SLT, parents and teachers across both the Junior and Senior school.

You will also oversee the reprographics function within the school, assisting teachers and SLT when required and ensuring everything runs smoothly.

Closing dates for the application is 1st Nov 2019

Pitsford School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

To apply for either of these roles, please visit:

<https://www.pitsfordschool.com/about/employment-opportunities>



Pitsford School

The PPA proudly present the

# *Christmas Shopping Evening*

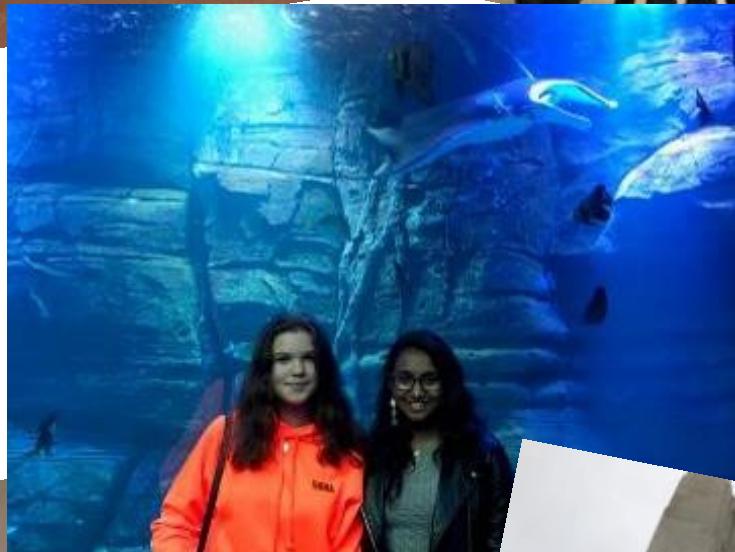
Friday 22nd November 4pm–8pm at  
Pitsford School Sports Hall, NN6 9AD

Entrance by donation\* and includes a mince pie  
and a glass of prosecco or a hot drink

\*all donations support the work of Pitsford School PPA

-Fabulous stalls to buy all of your Christmas gifts -

# Year 9–Boulogne French / History Trip



Last week we went on the Year 9 French/ History trip. On the first day we arrived at school and got onto the coach to France. As soon as we arrived, we went straight to a cider farm where we had a tour from the owner and tested some juice flavours including apricot, cloudy apple and grape, after buying an awful lot of juice we got back on the coach and went to our hotel.

On the Tuesday we went to the world war one trenches where we were given a tour through the old communication tunnels and got to look around the trenches and went to a small museum. Later on, we had some free time where we were set loose in town to stuff our faces with waffles.

The next day we went to the French school to meet our pen friends and to show our amazing presentation in French, we then went to the Nausicaa Sea Life Centre. We went around and saw a HUGE fish and got to touch the sting rays, as well as watching a sea lion show.

The next morning, we went to have a pastry demonstration with a crazy baker only to get scared to death every time he hit his rolling pin on the table. After that we went to a quarry that the Canadians used during the war to ambush the Germans and in the afternoon, we went into town for more shopping. In the evening some of the braver people tried the escargot at dinner, before bed we had a rather entertaining disco to end our trip.

By Libby K



# Rugby Reports from Mr Kefford and Mr Cole

Next half term there are some minor adjustments to the rugby fixture schedule:

The Under 18 game V Bishop Stopford game has been re-arranged for Tuesday 26th November with a 14:30 KO at Pitsford after Bishop were forced to cancel through National Cup commitments.

The Under 15's RFU National Cup match has forced our fixture against Oakham to be re-arranged. The Under 15's are now playing Robert Smythe on Thursday 7th November with a 14:30 KO away from home in a crunch match. The Oakham game where we have taken the opportunity to ensure the re-scheduled game is now hopefully a better match up is now Thursday 21st November with a 14:30 KO. We still await our fixture in the U15 Northamptonshire Cup.

Finally Year 7 & Year 8 have added Peterborough High School to their fixture list at home with a 14:30 KO on Wednesday 27th November which is their last fixture before House Rugby and the Pitsford Run fill the last two weeks of term.

## U12's v Loughborough Grammar School (away)

### Wednesday 9th October

The U12's travelled with the U13's & U15's to Loughborough Grammar School. The boys started slowly and were soon facing an uphill task - we appeared to be a little shell shocked. Loughborough dominated the collisions and therefore the scoreboard. Half time couldn't come soon enough as the boys looked out of it both physically and mentally. However, after some inspirational words during the break, the team appeared to be rejuvenated and were the first to score after half time.

Iolo and Adriel both crossed the line in quick succession sparking a comeback of sorts. Loughborough soon found their feet and established some momentum again which saw them cross the line a few more times. Overall, the boys showed at times what they were capable of however it was little and often against a dominate side like Loughborough in order to make any real significance to the score line.

Man of the Match- Iolo R (always giving his very best!)

## Pitsford U15's v Loughborough Grammar (away)

### Wednesday 9th October

As coach, I was truly inspired by the U15's conviction, spirit and camaraderie during their game against Loughborough last week.

With the world cup anthem ringing in their ears, the depleted side drew inspiration from the lyrics:

"Searching for the best in me, I will fight what I can beat. If I win, lose or draw. There's a winner in us all"

The first half produced a cracking game of rugby with Loughborough notching up 19 points against Pitsford's 7 points. But what a 7!!

Despite many laboured moments in the second half, the side couldn't match the performance of the first half.

Loughborough raised their game and utilised the bench well during the second half although it didn't detract from the team spirit bubbling throughout the match and the performance definitely didn't feel like a loss to the 15 boys involved.

The next round of the Under 15 Bowl has now be drawn with the Year 10 side taking on Robert Smythe School which is scheduled for 14:30 KO on Thursday 7th November. Time to prep now for that big one.

Final Score 53-7 loss

Man of the Match: Finn CF - he sparked it all off!

## Year 8 v Akeley Wood (Home)

### Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October

Tuesday's game started fairly evenly, with the first 10 minutes being a well-balanced match. Unfortunately Akeley went from strength to strength and Pitsford did not produce their best day.

Pitsford play had regressed somewhat and tackles around the legs were replaced with grabs around shirts and in attack – for some reason the direction of play seemed to be backwards. On occasion, honesty is the best policy and a frank post match review was well received by the team: they themselves know they can do much better.

Akeley was a very good side and thoroughly deserved their victory but we would've preferred a closer margin to come 2<sup>nd</sup>. On a positive note, it was great to see Zak A and Ianto T get their first run outs of the season and also brilliant to see Neer P make his school debut. A return to form after half term would be brilliant.

Final Score 5-45

Man of the Match: Not awarded.

## U12's vs Akeley Wood

### Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October

The boys kicked off with much anticipation, however, it wasn't long before Akeley were dominating possession, territory and the score line. Iolo, Ted, Adriel and Oliver S started to come into the game but this wasn't enough to cover the rest of the team against a very confident and able Akeley side. After a bit of a pep talk at half time, the boys showed a little more grit and determination. Highlighted by Ted, who crossed the white line with several of Akeley team on his back! Overall, a disappointing day though! I hope the boys take stock of the last two matches and hit the training pitch with a little more desire to improve our match day performances.

Man of the Match- Ted R- AKA- The steam roller!

## 1<sup>st</sup> XV v Akeley Wood 1<sup>st</sup> XV

### Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019

In a nail biting finish, the Pitsford team couldn't quite steal the victory from Akeley as they hammered away at their try line in the dying minutes of the game. An excellent close game of rugby saw both teams pressurise the other well with Akeley being perhaps the deserved winners after they stretched the Pitsford defence very wide on several occasions.

Pitsford put together several good passages of play with the backs making good individual breaks in the first half, with the electric pace of Alex R and sharp footwork of Josh N troubling the Akeley Wood defence, but the support play of the team wasn't quite firing to convert these to points.

Two unconverted tries led one unconverted try from Tyler S at half time with Akeley just in front 10-5. With a huge tackle from Ben V perhaps a focal point of the half, it was big!

Pitsford improved again in the second half but to their credit so did Akeley, who managed to work some space to increase their lead to 15-5. In testament to Pitsford's character the team increased their pressure again and really rallied to get back into the game setting away Vlad C and Robert C who needed to be illegally stopped to halt his race up field. The pressure led to penalties and Pitsford capitalised on these with Jacob O crashing over taking the score to 15-10 with just 5 minutes to play. Olly W missed his kick, meaning this game saw him miss his first two kicks of the season, uncharacteristically given his form.

In the last 5 minutes the atmosphere could've been cut with a knife as wave after wave of Pitsford attack pushed to win the game but the strong Akeley defence held firm. This saw the team again heartbreakingly beaten by just one score for the second game running. Hope we can reverse these close results quickly.

Final Score 10-15 loss.

Man of the Match: Nick P - an inspired performance from the second row.

## **Year 9 v Bedford School Cxv**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

The rain cleared for Pitsford to take on Bedford at home. Both teams were straight into their games scoring a try a piece, with Bedford crossing followed by Luca M who had an excellent game, racing away to add Pitsford's first of the afternoon. 7-7.

Bedford nudged the score board again, this time not converting for a 12-7 lead. Their forwards were carrying the ball well—absorbing lots of Pitsford defenders in their wake.

Pitsford now started to move the ball well and released Luca M who expertly evaded the would be tacklers, to cross for his second. Ned B converted this effort from wide out 14-12 to Pitsford and an excellent game on our hands.

The half time talk looked to focus on this last play and encourage Pitsford to play wider where they were making large gains. The team got straight to this with yet another McLaren break this time off-loading to Sami S who made the simple dot down. Ned B again with the extras 21-12.

The team were now playing very well with Harris C pulling the strings at 10 while Toby C was involved in everything and lots of players seemed to rise in confidence with Anthony M producing an excellent performance.

Pitsford extended their lead again as Luca M crossed for his hat trick of tries for the afternoon taking the score to 28-12 with Ned B showing a high skill level to convert his 4<sup>th</sup> kick of the afternoon.

Pitsford pressed at the end of game to seize victory, which at this stage either of the two sides could have rightfully claimed. However Bedford managed to turn over Pitsford in their effort to grab the win and kicked out to secure the game.

Final Score 28-31 loss

Man of the Match: Toby C - I was surprised there was just one of him at the end of the game.

## **Year 8 v Loughborough Grammar School**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October** Report by Alfie C

On Wednesday we played Loughborough Grammar School which is a large boys school. We travelled with the U12 and U15 teams. Mrs Kirk was the coach for the match giving us words of inspiration before the warm up. Ben as Captain led the team in the warm up and on the pitch.

We started the game full of nervous energy and from the kick off we were put under pressure by a strong opposition. We were pinned in the 22 particularly in the scrums. The pressure in scrum partly due to the fact we had some players missing.

At half-time we were 8-0 down and Mrs Kirk kept rallying the troops. In the second half we gave a better performance as the team grew in confidence and we only conceded 4 more tries.

The best bit at the end was the teas.

Thanks to Mrs Kirk for travelling with the team.

Final Score: 60-0

Man of the Match: Ben O - who made lots of tackles.

## U12 Netball Team Match Report

The Year 7 netball teams competed in the local invitational tournament at Moulton on October 3rd. With 2 team demonstrating how far they have developed over the last few weeks—both as individuals and teams. It was fantastic to see so many smiling faces and supporting parents.

"Emotions were mixed as we got ourselves ready in the changing rooms. We motivated each other assuring ourselves of a win, or a good challenge.

Plans about the game continued on the bus journey as we sang our hearts out on route to Moulton. When we arrived, apprehension filled the air and painted the sky with our mixed emotions. The venue had amazing weather representing the final glimmers of sunshine for the year.

Mrs Chacksfield showed us our starting line up and everyone was ready to play. The first two matches were a blur as there was some professional passing throughout the groups. Group A and B were off to a flying start so they scored many goals in the short time that we played. Everyone was so supportive on and off the pitch, "Come on Pitsford!" shouted parents and our coach.

Next we played another team and made a few changes to the line ups so we could play the very best in the match. We were a bit downhearted when things didn't work out but we pulled through in the end. Our last match was against one another and everyone tried their best to bring something to the table. Group A was placed 2nd and Group B was placed 6th. It was a lovely day at Moulton and we all played well together as a team."

By Nana A-M



# U16 Netball Team Match Report by Tianna

On Tuesday 15th October the year 11 Netball team travelled to Duston School for their first fixture as a team this year.

The game was extremely close and the team played very well, despite being three players down.

The final score was 17-15 to Pitsford and the player of the match goes to Ruby H. Well done to everyone involved!



# Notice Board

## Host Families Wanted

We are seeking families, who would be willing to host international students whilst they are studying at Pitsford School.

For further information about becoming a host family at Pitsford School, please contact Mrs Judy Ross, Headmaster's PA, by emailing [jross@pitsfordschool.com](mailto:jross@pitsfordschool.com)

### FAVOURS HOLIDAY CLUB

OCTOBER HALF TERM  
Contact: [holidayclub@favoursdaynursery.co.uk](mailto:holidayclub@favoursdaynursery.co.uk)



Dates	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 28th OCT - 1st NOV	<b>DIWALI</b> Clay Lanterns Rangoli Decorations Coloured Rice Patterns Vegetarian Snacks	<b>HALLOWEEN</b> Mask Making Balloon Lanterns Broomstick Decs	<b>AUTUMN</b> Pumpkin Decorating & Carving Shortbread Shapes Leaf Printing	<b>HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS</b> Facepainting Gory Gloop Party Games FILM - PM	<b>BONFIRE NIGHT</b> Bonfire Biscuits Decorations Artwork Toasted Marshmallows

Please note that involvement in the above planned activities are entirely through the child's choice and is NOT compulsory.

**AVAILABLE EVERY DAY:**  
Board games, books, hama beads, loom bands, art & crafts, baking, football, ball games  
Outdoor activities are always available as we make use of Pitsford Schools beautiful grounds

Please DON'T FORGET your water bottles and packed lunch  
AM and PM snacks will be provided by us.





### Guitar For Sale!

1 x quarter size acoustic guitar (77cm long) in good condition and includes some spare strings and a light-weight carry case with straps for carrying on your back. £15.

Please contact the office or Miss Grose if you would like more information.



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County Youth Choir

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£10-16 adults, £10 children

Tickets available from the Derngate box office

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[www.NMPAT.co.uk](http://www.NMPAT.co.uk)

## Pilates at Pitsford School

All very welcome to attend this brand new Body Control Pilates class with BCP teacher Lola Adekanmbi.

"Whether you're looking to tone, strengthen and stretch your body, or relax and focus the mind – one Pilates class per week can make a huge difference.

The class is there for you, so do come and try it out."

Wednesdays: 8.30-9.30am Junior School Hall

£8.50 per class, as per t&c's

e-mail: [natalie@pilatesbynatalie.co.uk](mailto:natalie@pilatesbynatalie.co.uk)  
web : [pilatesbynatalie.co.uk](http://pilatesbynatalie.co.uk)



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OCTOBER HALF TERM SPORTS CLUBS  
19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER - 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2018

ASHTON FDS	BUCKWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL	93% ATTENDANCE IN 2017-18 REGULARLY COMING TO CLUBS AND PLAYING IN COMPETITIONS	SPACESTRTER HOLIDAY SPORTS CLUBS 98% ATTENDANCE IN 2017-18 REGULARLY COMING TO CLUBS AND PLAYING IN COMPETITIONS
HOLIDAY CLUBS MONDAY - FRIDAY 10.00AM - 12.00PM 12.00PM - 2.00PM 3.00PM - 4.30PM	HOLIDAY CLUBS MONDAY - FRIDAY 10.00AM - 12.00PM 12.00PM - 2.00PM 3.00PM - 4.30PM	GET INVOLVED DAILY IN BODY CHALLENGE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CLUBS ADDITIONAL DETAILS AVAILABLE	GET INVOLVED DAILY IN BODY CHALLENGE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CLUBS ADDITIONAL DETAILS AVAILABLE
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£4.50	£4.50	£4.50	£4.50

BOOK NOW AT [WWW.SPACESTRTER.CO.UK/OCTOBER2018](http://WWW.SPACESTRTER.CO.UK/OCTOBER2018)



**2019 RUGBY CAMPS**

## OCTOBER HALF TERM

FRANKLINS GARDENS

29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> October

3-DAY CAMP

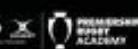
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