



WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN

28 Jan - 1 Feb 2019: Week 2



Whole School Messages

Further to the publication of the secondary school league tables, Parklands is delighted to announce that our GCSE results from 2018 place us as the 8th best high school in the whole of Lancashire when compared to similar truly comprehensive, non-selective, non-religious mixed-sex schools. Whilst we are not an exams factory and we provide a holistic education, we are nonetheless proud of the excellent progress of our class of 2018!

Our annual Careers Fair will take place on Friday. Miss Berry, our Careers Leader, has organised 14 colleges, 11 universities, 7 apprenticeship providers, 7 sports related providers and 28 employers to attend. See the careers section at the end of this newsletter.

Our first Curry and Quiz event is being held 7 - 9.30pm on Friday 8th February. It is £5 per person to enter a team of a maximum of 6 people. You will get a meal as part of your entry fee and can bring your own refreshments. All money raised is going to Alder Hey Children's Hospital. Please contact Miss Greaves at ngreaves@parklandsacademy.co.uk if you are interested in entering a team. Deadline for teams is Friday 1st February 2019.

Former Year 11 student, Aedan Duckworth who is currently starring in Channel 4's *Hollyoaks*, popped into school on Monday to drum up support for the National Television Awards as he was nominated as Best Newcomer.

We marked the forthcoming Young Carers Awareness Day (31st January 2019) in SECURE on Tuesday. The aims were to recognise and gain insight into what makes a young carer, to understand the barriers and challenges faced by young carers and the impact on them, both positive and negative. We completed a range of activities and discussions to raise awareness and to help students understand if what they do at home makes them a young carer and how to access help. Links to the [presentation](#), [Lottie's story](#) and the [Life in a Spin](#) quiz are here. This year we included a tick box on our data collection sheet to indicate if your child is a young carer. Based on what parents and carers told us, it appears that we only have a few young carers in school. Should you wish to change or update this information please contact us. More information can be found from [Carers Trust](#).

Are you interested in learning some holiday French? Fancy learning a new skill with your family? Perhaps your child has a younger sibling that wants to start learning a language? All parents and family members (younger and older!) are invited to come along with their children to our **Languages Family Learning Scheme** each week which takes place on **Thursdays** from **6pm to 7pm**. Please email Mr Stalker (astalker@parklandsacademy.co.uk) if you are interested. Merci!

Attendance: Whole school figure since September is 96.4%. Last week 3 forms achieved 100% - Thailand, Solomon Islands & China. Well done! Mrs Fish

Latest from the house competition. All to play for with the ongoing competitions of Duolingo, ePraise points, attendance, BfL. Everyone can contribute to support their house!

House Leader Board	
EUROPE	133
AUSTRALASIA	131
ASIA	130
AFRICA	124
SOUTH AMERICA	123

If you would like to see a member of the Achievement Team, the drop-in service is available each week at Asda cafe in Chorley from 11.30 - 12.30pm.

Year 7 and 8 and language learners from Year 9 and 10 are invited to attend Vocab Gym - a space to practise vocabulary in advance of the vocabulary tests. Please see this [slide](#) for more information

We have been asked to share with you a poster regarding dangerous pills being sold in the Greater Manchester area. Click [here](#)

National Safer Internet Day (SID 2019) is on 5th February and we will be supporting the day with activities for pupils, governors and staff. We would like to give parents the opportunity to do a certified 15 minute training either in school or at home. It would be beneficial to both parents and their children if they could do the training together, hopefully this would open up valuable discussion regarding staying safe online. If you are interested in doing the course please email me (cslater@parklandsacademy.co.uk) and I will be happy to provide you with the link to the training which can be done in your own time. Alternatively the school would be happy to facilitate you doing the training in school with the assistance of one of our pupil digital leaders. I look forward to hearing from you. Ms Slater

Year 7 Messages

Year 7 will take part in their RESPECT day on Tuesday 29th Jan when they will learn about healthy living and disability awareness. We have Daisy UK coming in and pupils will be participating in some exciting activities!

Alice Broadway, a local author, will be visiting school on Wednesday and be working with a range of year 7 and year 8 pupils.

Year 8 Messages

Alice Broadway, a local author, will be visiting school on Wednesday and be working with a range of year 7 and year 8 pupils.

Fantastic opportunity to take part in a European exchange programme to Germany, following many years of successful exchanges. Don't miss out! Open to CURRENT YEAR 8 pupils only. Please see this [slide](#) for more information! Miss Cosgrove

Year 9 Messages

Change of date for parents evening to Thursday, 2nd May.

Year 10 Messages

GCSE Drama students will have a live theatre production and workshop package delivered by a company called Paperbirds on Thursday.

GCSE Dance: the trip to London to watch Everybody's Talking About Jamie departs on Friday.

Battlefields; all pupils have been given health forms. Please fill these out and return them as soon as possible. Please include dietary requirements - it is really important we know in advance, and be as detailed as possible about any medication your child takes. On the front is a sheet with the key information for you to keep including dates and departure times. It also has details of the parents meeting- February 27th at 6pm. Mrs Brown

Geography fieldtrip letters will be going out over the next few days. These trips are compulsory as stipulated by the exam board and pupils will be assessed on this on their Paper 3 exam. Please send the Medical Form back to school. Should you have any issues with the payment please contact me at school. Mrs Eastham

Year 11 Messages

Health & Social Care Unit 3 exam takes place Friday 1st February.

GCSE Drama students will have a live theatre production and workshop package delivered by a company called Paperbirds on Thursday.

GCSE Food & Nutrition students will be having their practical exam on either Monday or Tuesday.

GCSE Dance: trip to London to watch Everybody's Talking About Jamie departs on Friday.

GCSE Art and Photography: students began their exam on 7th January. A letter was emailed home regarding time schedules, expectations and requirements. As a reminder, can you please ensure that students complete weekly set homework. It is vital that all homework tasks are completed as there is not enough time to fulfill the requirements within lesson time alone. Support after school is available Monday -Thursdays 3-4pm for anyone who is struggling to manage their time or requires additional technical support.

GCSE predictions for our Year 11s suggest that this year group could achieve the best ever results in the nine years I've been at Parklands. We expect our 11s to continue working hard, take full advantage of support and intervention, so that we can turn these predictions into reality. They are a wonderful year group who are clearly living up to our school motto, LEARN, RESPECT, ASPIRE, ACHIEVE. Your support at home is crucial during these final few months, and I hope we can continue to work together to ensure our students achieve the success they deserve. Mr Mitchell

Following the completion of the Science mock examinations, topics that were answered poorly have been identified and we have arranged a series of revision sessions to review these topics with pupils. The sessions will take place on the following dates:

Tuesday 5th February 3-4pm: Biology

Tuesday 12th February 3-4pm: Chemistry

Tuesday 26th February 3-4pm: Physics

On each evening three sessions will run; one for students studying Triple Science, one for students studying Trilogy who will sit the higher tier and one for students studying Trilogy who will sit the foundation tier. Pupils will be advised of which session they should attend on the day if they are unsure. This year we are asking that pupils complete a series of exam questions as a prerequisite for attending the revision sessions. This is to ensure that time is used more effectively in the sessions to address the skills and knowledge with which the pupils need the most support. The exam questions will be printed the week before each revision session and pupils will be able to collect them from the Science prep room during the school day. Pupils will not be allowed to attend the revision sessions unless they bring the exam questions with them that they have completed. If you wish to discuss this further please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Ferguson: rferguson@parklandsacademy.co.uk.

The BTEC Hospitality exam took place on Thursday & Friday; many staff, including myself, had the pleasure of tasting their food, and we were all absolutely delighted with how delicious it was. The students have done exceptionally well. Mr Mitchell

Careers

Year 11 college interviews with Wigan & Leigh were held yesterday - well done to all those who were interviewed - staff were impressed by how well prepared pupils were. There is another interview day in February for those who missed out. Runshaw will be interviewing in school 7th and 8th March - please remind pupils to get their applications in as soon as possible!

Year 10 Work Experience: Make sure the Connect app is downloaded so that placements can be tracked. Any issues please see Miss Berry in the Top Office.

Careers Fair: The whole of Year 9, 10 and 11 will attend the Careers Fair next Friday 1st February, between 9am - 1.20pm. Parents are very welcome to attend. I will send out a full list of exhibitors early next week

Apprenticeship notifications received this week

Apprenticeship opportunities: Lots of really good apprenticeships have been advertised in the last week or so (all of which have been emailed to Year 11s).

- BAE Systems (Level 3 Business, craft and technical vacancies) - deadline for applying end of February
- MBDA Missile Systems in Bolton (Level 3 Operations - electrical engineering)
- Leyland Trucks - quite a number available in both electrical and assembly areas
- DXC Technology and South Ribble Borough Council are both advertising for IT/Systems Technicians
- H&A Prestige Bottling and Autocentre Chorley are both advertising for Business/Admin roles

For more information on any of these - please email: pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Although pupils can't start apprenticeships yet, they can start applying at any time, as the selection/interview process can take a number of months. Miss Berry