



# PARENT BULLETIN

## 12 Oct - 16 Oct 2020: Week 1



### Update from the Local Authority

The county council is urging pupils aged 11 and over to wear face coverings on school buses, throughout the journey, to help prevent the spread of coronavirus and keep children in school.

It is the law now for everyone aged 11 and over to wear face coverings on public buses and is currently advisory on school buses. However following reports that many high school aged children aren't following the advice, Lancashire County Council is stressing the importance of wearing a covering on all forms of public transport including school buses.

As well as asking parents to encourage their children to wear face coverings on school transport, they can also help reduce transmission of the virus by:

- Providing hand sanitiser for their child to use on boarding and after getting off the bus.
- If they pay bus fare in cash, having the right coins to minimise the need to handle change.
- Reminding their child to keep a safe distance where possible.
- Avoiding mixing between households indoors and keep outdoor mixing as low as possible.
- Only using public transport only for essential journeys like school, work and health appointments and try to stay and shop locally.

It is estimated that around half of pupils live within 2 miles of their school and, where they can, families are being asked to arrange for pupils to walk or cycle.

The current Switch to Cycling campaign is looking to build on an increase in people cycling during lockdown with lots of helpful information and advice for anyone thinking of cycling.

For help and advice on preventing the spread of coronavirus visit

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/your-health-and-wellbeing/coronavirus/>

For more information on walking and cycling and the Switch to Cycling campaign visit

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/active-travel/>

### When to get a test (update from the Government)

If you have coronavirus symptoms, you need to get a test done as soon as possible. You need to get the test done in the first 8 days of having symptoms.

Book a visit to a test site to have the test. Or order a home test kit if you cannot get to a test site.

- On days 1 to 7, you can get tested at a site or at home. If you're ordering a home test kit on day 7, do so by 3pm.
- On day 8, you need to go to a test site. It's too late to order a home test kit.

# Year 7 Messages

Next Thursday would have been the Year 7 Transition Evening. This is an event where we report on how pupils have settled into high school, after their move from primary school. Under current restrictions we will not be able to hold this in school but Form Tutors will be sending an email to parents and carers on Thursday 15th October with an update

# Year 8 Messages

No messages this week

# Year 9 Messages

## Duke of Edinburgh Award

Parents should have received a letter to sign up their pupils for the expedition section. This costs £50, a £25 non-refundable deposit is required but the remaining balance is to be paid by february 2021. Pupils are in the current groups for the final time next week and will be given their sign in for the eDofE app before moving onto a new project after half term. These projects will allow them to complete the three sections of the award. Letter is [here](#), You can also pay on SCOPAY. Well done to all pupils who have got involved so far. Miss Greaves



## YEAR 9 DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD



Conservation work



Origami



Watercolour Painting



Musical Instruments



First Aid



Wellbeing Workshops



Sports Leadership



## Year 10 Messages

There are a number of free work experience opportunities that Year 10 students (and indeed Year 11 if they are not too busy!) might want to consider over half term. Completing a virtual WEX week gives students something to talk about in college or job interviews and imparts valuable employability skills, which will be so important in the years to come. Email me for a full list of the options:

[pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk](mailto:pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk)

## Year 11 Messages

There are a number of free work experience opportunities that Year 10 students (and indeed Year 11 if they are not too busy!) might want to consider over half term. Completing a virtual WEX week gives students something to talk about in college or job interviews and imparts valuable employability skills, which will be so important in the years to come. Email me for a full list of the options:

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We would usually hold an information evening for parents and carers in the first half-term. Due to current restrictions we are unable to hold the event in school. However, we will provide you with detailed information, including the latest guidance on GCSEs, next week. This will be emailed directly to Y11 parents and carers.

## Careers

[https://www.mi5.gov.uk/careers/opportunities/school-leavers?adhoc\\_referrer=20135191661302](https://www.mi5.gov.uk/careers/opportunities/school-leavers?adhoc_referrer=20135191661302)

MI5 are offering **degree apprenticeships**, based in Manchester (or London). Click the link above to find out more about the various roles on offer. You can apply at the age of 17 years 6 months - no university, just straight into training with no student debt, a great wage and the knowledge that you are part of a vital team.



**SECURITY SERVICE**  
**MI5**

Ever wondered what an engineer does? Could you see yourself exploring outer space, protecting the environment, designing apps or developing cures for diseases? Engineers do all this, and more!

<https://tomorrowsengineers.org.uk/meet-the-future-you-careers-quiz/> Find the future YOU - loads of career ideas that you may not have realised came under the STEM umbrella.

<https://medicmentor.co.uk/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/>

The application window is still open for the amazing virtual work experience opportunity with Queen Elizabeth's Hospital in Birmingham. This is one Saturday a month for six months, with the opportunity to interact with doctors. If you are serious about a career in medicine, this is something you should not miss.

Career of the Week is again focusing on STEM careers, with Epidemiologist being featured. We have all heard so much about these people over the past few months - but what do they actually do? And how do you get to be one? Click the link on the website to find out more ...

<https://www.parklandsacademy.co.uk/students/career-of-the-week>

Don't forget that there is a Parklands Careers Twitter account - @PHSCareers1

I am hoping to launch a new initiative shortly: 'Ask the Expert' - a series of short video clips (or Powerpoint slides) which feature people in business talking about their career: how they chose it, what they had to study, what the best parts of their job are and what a typical day might entail. If any parent/carer has a particularly interesting or unusual career, and fancy themselves as the next Brad Pitt or Angelina Jolie, please get in touch and I can tell you more! ([pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk](mailto:pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk))

## Apprenticeship Notifications

You can pre-register **NOW** to be first in the know for BAE Systems apprenticeships. The application window opens on November 1st (and closes on February 28th 2021). If you are considering applying to BAE, make sure you start thinking about your application statement as soon as possible. It is a fairly long application form which asks for full answers (about team working, problem solving etc) - you can not just put one sentence answers. Click this link to pre-register:

<https://www.baesystems.com/en/careers/careers-in-the-uk/apprenticeships>

If your application is accepted, you will be sent an aptitude test to complete online and if successful, you will be invited to interview/assessment. Don't miss out on a chance to work for a top company and start a fantastic career, as well as gaining a Level 3 qualification (equal to A levels). Business, craft and technical apprenticeship opportunities - it's not just engineering!

# Whole School Messages

School closes on Friday, 16th October for half-term. We reopen on Monday, 2nd November.

## Perfect 3s

Has your child continued to achieve the perfect 3 since the start of term? There are **364** pupils with the perfect 3!

Year 7: 67 pupils  
Year 8: 83 pupils  
Year 9: 69 pupils  
Year 10: 73 students  
Year 11: 72 students

### Who had the perfect 3 last week?

**Year 7: 131 pupils**  
**Year 8: 142 pupils**  
**Year 9: 124 pupils**  
**Year 10: 131 students**  
**Year 11: 131 students**

Please congratulate your child if they are one of the perfect 3s! All BfL scores can be found in the Edulink app.

## Poundland

It is disappointing and rather embarrassing to report that Poundland in Chorley have now banned Parklands pupils. This is due to a very small minority of pupils. The overwhelming majority of our pupils are polite, caring, and would not dream of behaving in such a way as to be banned from a store.

**Secondary School Admissions** - the closing date for places for year 6 pupils is the 31st October. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Haslam.

**Parent Forum** - Due to the current restrictions we are limited with how we consult with parents. I am looking at a Parent Forum via Google Meet. If you are interested in being part of this please email Mrs Haslam on [shaslam@parklandsacademy.co.uk](mailto:shaslam@parklandsacademy.co.uk)

[Weekly Notice Board](#) for Learning Support

## Supporting parent-carers of children & young people experiencing mental health difficulties

Click [here](#) to view details about virtual workshops.

## How you can help Parky, our rescue hedgehog

We are collecting the following for Parky

1. Old Fleeeces
  2. Old fleece blankets
  3. Old dressing gowns
  4. Old towels
  5. Chicken Flavored Cat Food
- NO WOOL ITEMS**

Drop off your donated items in the boxes provided located at the Food Drop Off Zones in each bubble area





# Whole School Messages

## Message from Leaders Unlocked

We are currently recruiting young people to join the **Lancashire Youth Commission on Police and Crime** – an exciting initiative in partnership with the **Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Lancashire Violent Reduction Network (VRN) and the Police**. The Youth Commission enables young people to **support, challenge and influence decisions about policing, crime and violence reduction in Lancashire**. The Youth Commission allows **young people to get involved and have their say about policing, crime reduction and approaches to prevention** where they live.

**The Youth Commission will explore urgent issues affecting young people in Lancashire**, such as reducing offending and re-offending, improving the relationship with the police, and anti-social behaviour.

**The Youth Commission is aimed at young people aged 14-25 years** who want to make a difference to their community. **We're looking for a diverse group of young people from different backgrounds and life experiences** to take part, including those who have **direct experience of the criminal justice system**.

**This is a brilliant opportunity for young people to gain new knowledge, skills and experiences**. Members of the Youth Commission will play an important role in helping to run consultation events and **gather the opinions of other young people about policing, crime and reducing offending and re-offending**.

**All documents needed to apply for this opportunity are linked [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)**. We've tried to make this process simple and accessible for everyone. We would very much appreciate it if you could encourage any young person who you feel would benefit from this experience to apply, and support them to fill out the application if needed.

**The application pack can also be accessed via this link: <https://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/lancashire-youth-commission/>**

**Application deadline is: 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

If you have any questions about the Youth Commission, please feel free to contact either:  
**Kaytea Budd-Brophy: [kaytea@leaders-unlocked.org](mailto:kaytea@leaders-unlocked.org)**  
**Ali Roberts: [ali@leaders-unlocked.org](mailto:ali@leaders-unlocked.org)**