



PARENT BULLETIN

16 Mar - 20 Mar 2020: Week 2



Coronavirus

We are, understandably, receiving enquiries concerning the current situation. This is unprecedented for us and we are following the daily advice and guidance from the DfE, Public Health England and the Local Education Authority.

We are keen to operate as usual. We will follow the advice issued on Thursday by the prime minister to remain open and have cancelled the imminent overseas ski and battlefields trips.

Please be assured we intend to provide the same quality of education for all our students during this public health crisis. However, we are aware that advice may change during this 'delay' phase and are making preparations to enable all students to access education, should the position change.

We are aware that this situation is especially worrying for Year 11 students and their families, with the GCSE exams due to commence in only a few months. There has been no suggestion that the exam season will be affected and so must assume that it will go ahead as planned. The best advice we can offer at this stage is: approach this period as normal- making sure to work hard in every lesson and engage with all revision opportunities; complete all revision and practice tasks and please don't panic. Current guidance is that schools remain open, the exam programme remains in place and it is business as usual.

Nevertheless, we are in the process of making contingencies for the worst case scenario of enforced school closures. Fortunately, we already have a wealth of resources for all subjects on Google Classroom and we are preparing additional resources and equipment packs (for relevant subjects) in case they are needed.

We hope you understand this is a unique position for us and is something we have never experienced before.

The unprecedented nature of this situation means that all agencies involved (government, DfE, Public Health England and the Local Authority) are monitoring developments and regularly updating guidance. We will, of course, comply with the advice and guidance and keep you updated with any changes or developments. Rest assured that your child's education remains our main priority and we will do everything we can to support your child.



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Year 7 Messages

Wonderful news from the RS Department; Freya Taylor and Kate Henderson (Y7) have both been invited to attend an awards ceremony at Runshaw College later this month after submitting entries for the Sophie Scholl competition marking Holocaust Memorial Day in January. Both girls' entries were highly commended by the judges. Miss Rhodes

Year 8 Messages

Y8 Parents Evening 19th March 2020 - Please book your appointments through Edulink. Any issues or you cannot make it please contact houseleaders@parklandsacademy.co.uk Options: The parental consent box on the options online form does not need to be ticked, students should simply save when they have made their choices. I cannot resend emails and codes can only be redeemed once; once validated students should log in from the website (click [here](#)) if they wish to make any changes.

Letters for the Andalucia 2021 trip are available from Mrs Donohue in FRA. This is an amazing opportunity for current year 8 pupils who are picking GCSE Spanish to experience the language and culture first hand.

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1uWXzu61ac_NBWEZkxslI5DBOJddDlahsgbRVoRM01L4

Year 9 Messages

Design & Technology London Trip

Parents pre-trip meeting Thursday 26th March 6pm in the Drama Studio.

Year 10 Messages

Battlefields Trip - Cancellation

Due to the fact that the Government has banned foreign trips for the next four weeks at least, unfortunately the Battlefields trip cannot take place on the original dates. I'm sure parents can appreciate this is a complex situation with many nuances. We are, however, currently looking into rescheduling the trip, and as soon as we have further information we will contact you directly. Thank you, Miss Crabtree

Design & Technology London Trip

Parents pre-trip meeting Thursday 26th March 6pm in the Drama Studio.

Year 11 Messages

Achievement News! Click [here](#) to see the latest edition which focuses solely on year 11 students. We asked staff about how well the year 11s are preparing for their exams - and this is the result! 22 slides of fantastic achievement news about our most senior students!

Year 11 Messages

Further to the information on the front page of this bulletin, we are aware of a number of parental concerns regarding the forthcoming exams. We have been given no indication that there will be any change to the scheduled exam programme; should this change, we are confident that the DfE will not penalise any students, such as using mock exam results or teacher predictions, as these cannot be verified. This is a national crisis that affects all educational establishments and we are sure that measures will be put in place to ensure fairness to all. Should there be any changes, we will communicate with you straight away.



YEARBOOK



Parents and carers.

Please send your 'baby' photos and 1st day of year 7 photos to the email address below!

Please ensure that we can tell it is your child so no newborn photos please.



Deadline to pay 29/03/2020



yearbook@parklandsacademy.co.uk

SAVE THE DATE: This year's **prom** is taking place on **Thursday, 9th July**. Prom is a privilege, not an automatic right. Year 11s are well aware of our expectations of behaviour in order to receive an invite.

GCSE EXAMS - important information

Click [HERE](#) to read a letter sent from Ofqual to schools regarding the upcoming GCSE exams. Please ensure you read the brief sections on exam leaks, mobile phones & smart watches.

This site gives parents and students information about how to be 'exam smart' including guidance on avoiding lost marks and the influence of social media in the build-up to the GCSE exams:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/be-exam-smart>

Individual timetables for exams are available via Edulink. Please select 'exams' and you will be able to see times, dates and all other relevant details.

Design & Technology London Trip

Parents pre-trip meeting Thursday 26th March 6pm in the Drama Studio.

Year 11 Messages



The Dress Lounge

Preloved Boutique Selling/Renting Prom Dresses and Ball Gowns Plus Occasion Wear (for Race Days, Wedding Guests, Cruises etc...)

Have you something gorgeous to sell?
Contact us!
Julia 07977 184165
juliathedresslounge@gmail.com

Opening Times:
Monday - Closed
Tuesday & Wednesday by Appointment
Thursday - Sunday 10.30am - 4.30pm
Opening times are subject to change during public seasonal holidays

 [@thedresslounge.uk](https://www.facebook.com/thedresslounge.uk)  [@thedresslounge.uk](https://www.instagram.com/thedresslounge.uk)

The Dress Lounge Unit 24, Heskin Hall Shopping Village, Wood Lane, Heskin P27 5PA

Year 11 have their Runshaw College interviews next Monday and Tuesday. Every student is invited to attend an interview, just so everyone has a back up option. Nobody can predict what will happen before September with companies offering apprenticeships, scholarships abroad, colleges withdrawing courses for whatever reason - it makes sense to have a Plan B!

When do GCSE exams finish? This is question we are regularly asked by both students and parents as this may be your first opportunity in years to take advantage of a holiday in term time! The exams regulator advises all GCSE candidates to not take a holiday until 25th June; this is just in case there is a national issue with an exam and it has to be rescheduled.

Reminder that the Elevate/ Revision room (A11) is open every day from 3-4pm after school.

Careers

Career of the Week: it's a topical one this week - Microbiologist. There are various routes into this fascinating and important career - check out the website for more details.

A massive thank you to anyone who was involved in last Friday's Careers Fair, whether it was parents/carers manning stands or Careers Ambassadors helping things to run smoothly. It was a fantastic, well attended event that allowed students to meet and speak to employers, training providers and educational establishments. If you would like to be involved in any future careers-related events (mock interviews, assemblies, class talks, speed networking), please let me know: pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Apprenticeship Notifications

Opportunities nationwide for apprenticeships at Audi: Service Technicians, Parts Advisors and Service Advisors. Find out more about the [Audi Apprenticeship Programme](#) online and apply now.

Various apprenticeships advertised this week on www.gov.uk including Childcare at Busy Bees Nursery and Clayton Brook Childcare, IT Support at Abacus Ltd, Maintenance Technician at Redrow Homes, Dental Nurse at Lotus Dental Practice, Admin Assistant at Forbes Solicitors, Fabrication and Welding at Leyland Trucks and Greenkeeper at Wigan Golf Club, amongst many others. 30 March is the closing date for applications for one or two of these, so don't delay! For any help with applying, see Miss Berry.

Don't forget to check out other sites for apprenticeships, such as North Lancs Training Group, Training 2000 or Alliance Learning for example. NLTG are currently advertising a Graphic Design apprenticeship in Bolton at Rockfield Media. Have a look: www.nltg.co.uk/apprenticeship-vacancies/ - Ref: 13278

Whole School Messages

Wonderful news from the RS Department; Freya Taylor and Kate Henderson (Y7) have both been invited to attend an awards ceremony at Runshaw College later this month after submitting entries for the Sophie Scholl competition marking Holocaust Memorial Day in January. Both girls' entries were highly commended by the judges. Miss Rhodes

PE Messages

New Extra Curricular timetable for next half term is available to view [here](#).

PE Messages

Tuesday

GCSE PE Athletics Moderation exam for selected pupils at UCLAN Sports Arena 3-5pm

Year 7 Boys football against Bishops at home.

Wednesday

Year 7 Boys Basketball Chorley Basketball Competition at Southlands

Friday

Year 7 & 8 Girls Football at Bishops

A huge congratulations to our U15 Girls Handball team. The girls won the Lancashire Handball tournament last Friday at UCLAN Sports Centre. After winning the Chorley Schools final against Holy Cross, the team qualified to represent Chorley at the Lancashire tournament.

Now that the girls are the Lancashire champions they will represent Lancashire at the North West games in May.

We have been introducing Indigo, our new careers package, over the past few weeks. Students can log in to Indigo at home or at school, on mobiles, tablets or PCs. There are over 600 careers featured, many with videos or interviews with people currently in those careers. Ideal for anyone choosing their options in Year 8 or thinking about the next step after Year 11, as it also covers universities and allows students to create a personal statement or UCAS statement. There are hints and tips on interviews in all different career sectors, as well as CV advice and a magazine. <https://indigo.trotman.co.uk/default/>

Parent forum will take place on Tuesday 24th March from 6pm until 7pm. Please email shaslam@parklandsacademy.co.uk if you wish to attend. Many thanks

Whole School Messages

Perfect 3s

Has your child continued to achieve the perfect 3 since September? There are **126** in total so far!

Year 7: 28 pupils
Year 8: 20 pupils
Year 9: 28 pupils
Year 10: 21 students
Year 11: 29 students

Who had the perfect 3 in the last week (Mon - Fri)?

Year 7: 143 pupils
Year 8: 123 pupils
Year 9: 111 pupils
Year 10: 133 students
Year 11: 110 students

Please congratulate your child if they are one of the perfect 3s!

SEND

The learning support department is holding a **parents' evening** on the 25th March from 3:15 until 6:00. This will give the team the opportunity to provide feedback to parents on the intervention and support that pupils who have special educational needs and disabilities receive. Please contact the learning support team at learningsupport@parklandsacademy.co.uk if you would like to book in. Many thanks. Lisa Williams

Click [here](#) for the link to the Lancashire SEND Partnership homepage.

For the SEND Local Offer, click [here](#)

The **drop-in service** is offered to parents who wish to meet with a member of the Achievement Team outside of school. Should you have a query or concern please feel free to drop in. The service is offered every Wednesday from 11:30-12:30 at the Asda cafe in Chorley. (N.B. THIS SERVICE WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE 4th MARCH.)

School Nurse Drop-In available every Thursday 1.00 pm - 2.30 pm. Please see Mrs Fairhurst for appointment slips.

Sandcastle Reward Trip - Cancellation

It is with regret that we have taken the decision to cancel the upcoming Sandcastle reward trip scheduled for Thursday, 2nd April. We have taken a large number of phone calls today from concerned parents who are clearly worried due to the current health crisis.

We understand that the students will be disappointed with this but we hope that you as parents/carers understand that we have not made this decision lightly and it has been taken with our students' best interests at heart.

We will be organising refunds for all those students who have paid, however this will not be completed now until after the Easter break. Please bear with us while we get everything together as there are over 175 refunds to organise. Thank you for your understanding.

Whole School Messages



Congratulations go to **Aimee Adamson** for her winning design for our new Inclusion & Diversity flag for the school hall. Huge thanks also go to the following students for their entries: Harry Livesey, Elliot Hunter, Leon Howarth, Ashton Biddell, Evie Roby, Lennon Pilkington, Joshua Gorvett, Matthew Nicholson, Ashton Flevill and Oliver Waring.

The student J8 development group have more Fair Trade ground coffee available for you to buy for £4.60 per bag. This coffee has come straight from Malawi where the growers work in the community of Liwonde, where the secondary school is for whom we are raising funds. The proceeds from the sale of this coffee go straight back to the school we are working with, to help buy resources to keep more children in school. Please do what you can to support the group and purchase your coffee here. If you would like to make a purchase you can provide your child with the money and the coffee is available from myself in S14. Thanks from the J8 group - Mrs Ward