



PARENT BULLETIN

5 Oct - 9 Oct 2020: Week 2



Update from the Local Authority

We are seeing an increase in the number of children and staff in schools who are testing positive and we have seen a number of outbreaks. These vary from single cases to sporadic cases in schools but we are also seeing community transmission which is impacting on the number of cases in schools.

It is therefore important that schools, as well as children and families, adhere to the national guidance and advice including any restrictions that may apply in order to keep children, young people and families safe. This means not congregating in large groups outside the school or college and making sure you adhere to the advice on face coverings where appropriate.

It is important that we follow national guidance on the **3 main symptoms**, isolating where necessary and seeking a test. There will be occasions, given we are also approaching winter, when this may not necessarily be Covid related but children will have to isolate – under these circumstances you should follow the same principles as you would if a child had any other infections or colds and remain away from school until they are well enough to return.

Dr Sakthi Karunanithi

Director of Public Health

Half Term Arrangements

The DfE do not currently have plans to make changes to the autumn half term, including asking schools to stay open for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers, but will keep this under review.

Family and friends can also continue to provide informal childcare as long as groups from different households do not exceed six people, irrespective of where gatherings take place.

The informal childcare exemption came into force on 22 September 2020 and applies only in areas with local lockdown restrictions.

Provision for free schools meals is ordinarily term time only and there is no requirement for schools to continue this provision during school holidays.



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Update from the Department for Education

Children aged 11 and over are legally required to [wear a face covering on public transport in England](#), unless exempt for health, age or disability reasons.

In accordance with advice from Public Health England, we recommend that local authorities advise children and young people aged 11 and over to wear a face covering when travelling on dedicated school transport, unless they are exempt. Coronavirus (COVID-19) usually spreads by droplets from coughs, sneezes and speaking. When used correctly, wearing a face covering may reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) droplets in certain circumstances, helping to protect others.

Schools should support local authorities in promoting the use of face coverings when travelling to and from school, and help them to resolve any issues of non-compliance where appropriate.

The [‘Hands. Face. Space.’ campaign](#) urges everyone to continue to wash their hands, cover their face and make space to control infection rates. The NHS has released a [‘Hands. Face. Space.’ video](#) that may be a useful resource when communicating the importance of wearing a face covering on transport directly to children and young people.

Further information on face coverings can be found in our [guidance on transport to school and other places of education: autumn term 2020](#).



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Year 7 Messages

Your child should be bringing home their school photograph proof this week. If you wish to purchase one please can you return the money/envelope, clearly marked with your child's name, by Friday 16th October. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Haslam. Thank you

We are offering all of our Year 7 and 8 pupils the opportunity to purchase a recently published, popular, age appropriate book. Your child may choose more than one book if you wish. The books are usually sold for between £4 and £7. We are selling the books for only £3 each.

The books available are:

A Darkness of Dragons

Check Mates

City of Ghosts

Little Bird Flies

Talking To Alaska

The Haven

The Switch-Up

Real-Life Mysteries

The turnaround for this scheme is quite tight and so books should be paid for on the school's SCOPAY system by 7th October 2020.

Year 8 Messages

We are offering all of our Year 7 and 8 pupils the opportunity to purchase a recently published, popular, age appropriate book. Your child may choose more than one book if you wish. The books are usually sold for between £4 and £7. We are selling the books for only £3 each.

The books available are:

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Year 9 Messages



YEAR 9 DUKE OF EDINBURGH SCHEME



Pupils in year 9 are enrolled on the DofE bronze programme.

8 Classes take part in a carousel of activities, these activities will link in with the physical, skill and volunteering.

They also link with the pupils Cultural Capital passport. These are awards pupils can achieve and will need to apply for positions of leadership in school.



YEAR 9 DUKE OF EDINBURGH SCHEME



Conservation work



Origami



Watercolour Painting



Musical Instruments



First Aid



Wellbeing Workshops



Sports Leadership

Year 9 Messages

Year 9 Leadership Academy

Would you like to increase your chances of becoming Sports Leaders?

PARKLANDS HIGH SCHOOL
SSLT/PREFECT TEAM



Chorley
SCHOOL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP



Leadership Academy 20/21

Open to pupils in year 9

Please collect an application from the PE office

Deadline: 3rd October 2020

The Immunisation team would like to pass on their thanks to all of Y9. *"The nurses have been in school over the past couple of weeks for the HPV jabs and wanted me to pass on how well behaved the students were. They are a credit to the school"*. So well done Y9!!

Year 10 Messages

KS4 Drama pupils have brought home letters this week about ordering replacement or new kits. Please can parents use Scopay and pupils give order forms to Mrs Gray as soon as possible. Thank you for your support.

Year 11 Messages

NHS Test & Trace Covid-19 app is available for 16 year olds to download. You must inform a member of staff if you receive a notification during the day that you have been in contact with a positive case. To support this, the notification itself will advise you that as you are under the age of 18, you should show the message to a trusted adult and self-isolate for 14 days. This means you would need to leave school immediately. You would not need to get a test unless you develop any of the 3 main Covid symptoms.

Geography Students - Every week or two your children are being assessed with timed exam questions in case we have to use these as Centre Assessed Grades. The topics to revise/prepare for are on a Year 11 Google Classroom for the whole year of students who study Geography. Mrs Eastham

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Careers

Exciting news from **Medic Mentor** for aspiring doctors! Medic Mentors have teamed with The Queen Elizabeth's Teaching Hospital in Birmingham (UHB) to offer a completely free virtual work experience programme. This will run one Saturday a month for six months, where students will follow the patient journey of three very different patients from initial appointment through to various treatments. As well as observing, students can interact with doctors, asking questions and discussing their observations. Registration opens on October 1st on the Medic Mentor website (<https://medicmentor.co.uk/>) and the programme will be discussed during the conferences on 3rd and 10th October. Please note: only for aspiring doctors at present, but they are working on something similar for dentists and vets - watch this space!

The National Careers Service holds a live Q&A session every Wednesday from 6pm - 9pm. They also offer advice and guidance on careers, education, employment and training (for any age group) and can be accessed every day from 8am - 10pm on **0800 100 900** <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

Observe GP is an alternative to work experience for aspiring medics aged 16 and over, who are living in the UK. It is a free interactive video platform providing insights into the role of a GP and the wider primary care team. <https://www.rcgp.org.uk/training-exams/discover-general-practice/observe-gp.aspx> Observe GP is supported by the Medical Schools Council as a suitable element of relevant experience to help prepare an application to medical school.

Career of the Week this week (Chemical Engineer) highlights the fact that females are still massively under-represented in certain STEM careers. This is despite achieving fantastic results in GCSE sciences and maths. Yet the earning potential is huge, and the progression route is varied and interesting. Engineering students are second only to medics in securing full time jobs and earning good salaries. It's well worth checking out the link at the end of the post (even though it's from a couple of years ago - not much has changed!) In polling carried out for Tomorrow's Engineers Week, more boys (+9%) reported being encouraged to think about engineering as a career, particularly by parents and according to a British Gas survey, almost half (48%) of young women do not even consider careers in STEM sectors, citing a lack of STEM knowledge (30%), a perception that the industries are sexist (13%), and a belief that STEM careers are better suited to the opposite sex (9%). It's time for that to change! <https://careeroftheweek.wordpress.com/>

Runshaw College is also holding an open event on Thursday 8th October.

Registration for the virtual open event is now live here <https://openday.runshaw.ac.uk/>.

The new and improved virtual open event platform is packed full of 3D tours, staff and student videos, course and college information and opportunities to chat to teachers and support staff via online chat or by phone. The event is registration only and those who sign up to the event will receive a link via email to access the online platform on Thursday 8th October prior to the event going live at 3.30pm. Our Open Evening will have amazing course information, an It's All About You section where you can see how we look after your well-being, as well as brand new student videos, tours & interviews...plus throughout the evening our teachers will be LIVE to answer all of your questions. Don't miss out!

<https://www.runshaw.ac.uk/study-at-runshaw/experience-runshaw/>

Careers

There are a number of virtual work experience opportunities available for students to take part in over the October half term - ideal for the Year 11s who missed out on the summer programme - or for Year 10s who want to get a head start on their employability skills. I will cover all the options in assemblies prior to the end of term and share all the links with students to get involved. Please encourage your child to take part in one (or more!) of these opportunities - they are all free and available in the comfort of your own home! Email pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk for more details

St John Rigby College Student Information Hub and Online Virtual Open Event

At St John Rigby College we are passionate about working with and developing young people. To aid the transition from school pupil to college student we have developed our **Student Information Hub**. Here, you will find a wealth of information regarding the courses, facilities and support on offer at St John Rigby College. You can access the Hub by following the link: <https://hub.sjr.ac.uk/>

Obviously, we would love to be able to meet all of our prospective 2021 applicants and future students in person. Unfortunately, this isn't possible at the moment. However, on **Tuesday 3rd November we will host our first ever Online Virtual Open Event**. You can find out more by using the link: <https://www.sjr.ac.uk>

At this event you will be able to discover even more about St John Rigby College. Explore an outstanding learning environment, meet your future teachers and our current students. The Online Virtual Open Event is a perfect opportunity to gain answers to your questions and find out all there is about SJR college life. To register your interest in attending our Online virtual Open Evening Please click [here](#).

Preston's College is holding virtual open events on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th October, from 4pm - 7pm. Register now on: <http://www.preston.ac.uk/Virtual-Open-Event/>
Speak to tutors, take a virtual tour of the campus and explore the industry standard facilities. You are also invited to check out Career Coach, a new platform that will help you with finding a career path that suits you. Give it a go now! <https://preston.emsicc.com>

Register now for the Wigan & Leigh virtual open evening on Monday 12th October:

<https://wiganleigh.onlineopendays.com/>

Visit the departments you are interested in, talk to staff and students and check out the amazing facilities. There is a great little video on the booking page that shows you some of the areas you can get involved in: from floristry and animal care to engineering and construction, as well as the A Level Honours Pathway.

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses>

This is a great site that offers online courses in just about every topic you can think of - and most of them are completely free. Ideal for parents/carers who may be looking to change career, or for anyone who just wants to learn something new or improve/add to a CV.

On Tuesday 6th October, from 1pm - 4pm, there is a Virtual Jobs Fair (hosted by the National Careers Service). Registration is now open for free access to all events as they happen:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/virtual-jobs-fair-tickets-120027751235>

Apprenticeship Notifications

None this week

Whole School Messages

Coronavirus restrictions in Lancashire. Please use the link below to access the latest information.
<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates/coronavirus-restrictions-in-lancashire/>

NHS Test and Trace COVID-19 app – resources for schools, parents and young people

NHS Test and Trace has launched the [NHS COVID-19 app](#). The app has been launched to help control the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). It will do this by alerting people who may have been exposed to infection so that they can take action.

The app is available to download on smartphones for anyone aged 16 or over. This means that some students in year 11, students in years 12, 13 and in further education colleges will be eligible to use the app and benefit from its features. In addition to the [guidance for schools and further education colleges](#) which we published yesterday, NHS Test and Trace has published [guidance and resources to support the use of the app](#) which are available to download.

Schools and further education colleges may find the [fact sheet for parents](#) useful.

If your child has downloaded the app onto their phone

Your child must inform a member of staff if they receive a notification during the day that they have been in contact with a positive case. To support this, the notification itself will advise them that as they are under the age of 18, they should show the message to a trusted adult and self-isolate for 14 days. This means they would need to leave school immediately. Your child would not need to get a test unless they develop any of the 3 main Covid symptoms.

Perfect 3s

Has your child continued to achieve the perfect 3 since the start of term? There are **441** pupils with the perfect 3!

Year 7: 81 pupils
Year 8: 103 pupils
Year 9: 87 pupils
Year 10: 88 students
Year 11: 82 students

Who had the perfect 3 last week?

Year 7: 132 pupils
Year 8: 147 pupils
Year 9: 117 pupils
Year 10: 120 students
Year 11: 120 students

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

With effect from Monday 5th October cash will only be collected during form registration once per week for those wishing to add money to their child's dinner money account. This will be on a Monday morning only. If you wish to add money to your child's account we would encourage you to use SCOPAY. If you are not yet registered please email accounts@parklandsacademy.co.uk and a link code will be emailed to you.

Whole School Messages

Learning Support Weekly Notice Board

We had a lovely time this afternoon helping Year 8 cousins Alfie and Jenna plant a wonderful Japanese Flowering Cherry Tree (Prunus Umineko).

The tree has been kindly donated to us by BRK landscapes on Runshaw Lane and Alfie's parents thought it would be a lovely gesture to offer it to school for the whole community to enjoy as it grows and flourishes. The tree has been planted at the edge of school by the new gym.

A big thank you to all involved.



This is what it should grow into in a few years!

Dropping children at school by car - Please can you be considerate of local residents when you drop your child at school, do not park on double-yellow lines, mount pavements or block residents driveways. Thank you.

Do you have any magazines that you normally recycle (gossip, music, sport anything will help)? Please could you donate them to the Creative Media department? Year 11 are currently looking at printed and digital publications and would welcome any inspiration. Please give it to your child's form tutor who will then leave them in my tray (magazines will be placed in a box for at least a week before handling by students). Thank you, Mrs Weldon.



Hi all, just wanted to say a massive thank you to everyone who contributed to the final total of £1312.98. Special mention to Mrs Hallam who organised all the staff ordering and Mr Snell and Mrs Haslam who donated the staff raffle prize and the blind cake auction. So sorry we couldn't celebrate in the usual way but here's to when we can!! Thank you all again so so much. Mrs Dewhurst

Another story very close to our hearts here at Parklands is the sad passing of 3 year old Lily Mai Pugh during lockdown. Lily Mai was the sister of Adam and Emma who are currently students here at school. Lily Mai became ill at the start of lockdown and was diagnosed with pleuropulmonary blastoma, a rare chest cancer. It all happened very quickly. Lily Mai's parents have campaigned ever since Lily passed away in July to raise awareness of childhood cancers and the signs and symptoms to look out for. Every two minutes a child is diagnosed, that's approx. 300,000 every year. Sadly, one in five will die. September has been Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and they have already managed to get Chorley Town Hall lit up gold and yellow (the colours associated with the charity).

Today, Friday they have also managed to arrange for Rivington Pike (a place very dear to the family's heart) to be lit up in the same colours in memory of Lily and all other children who have been affected by this awful disease. CDS events who are organising the 'light up' are also putting up a live feed on the night.





This year World Mental Health Day will fall on the 10th October. However, on the 9th October we will be supporting the #HelloYellow campaign run by YoungMinds. We've all been going through a pretty challenging time of late with the local restrictions on our social time, the readjustment to a 'new normal' within schools or the trauma we may have experienced first hand from Covid-19.

To show our solidarity as a school community we will be taking part in the #HelloYellow campaign on Friday the 9th October by wearing something yellow. This can be an item of clothing or something smaller like a badge or bracelet. Looking after our wellbeing has never been more important and too many young people still feel ashamed to open up about how they are feeling. At Parklands High School we work very hard to improve the mental health and wellbeing of our students (and staff) as the more we can show that we care, the more comfortable our young people will feel about talking to someone if they're struggling.

Please help to support our mental health by wearing yellow!

Thank you.

More information can be found at <https://youngminds.org.uk/>

INSPIRE YOUTH ZONE OPEN DAY NON-MEMBERS

For only £5 for the year, you can become an **INSPIRE MEMBER!**

Saturday 3rd October

JUNIORS 4PM - 6PM
SENIORS 6PM - 8PM

Come in and have a tour of our fantastic centre and see all the wonderful activities we have on offer!

To register your interest and book a time, email michael.wilkinson@inspireyouthzone.org



Inspire are holding an Open day this Saturday for potential new members. It's split into 2 x sessions:
4-6pm – for parents/ carers/ professionals of junior children (8-12 years old)
6-8pm – for young people/ carers/ parents/ professionals of senior members (12-19 years, up to 25 years old with a disability)

PE kit

Dear parents and carers,

We wrote to you recently regarding PE kit in light of the current situation. This was to help support students and families, as we cannot use the changing rooms.

However, we have noticed an increasing number of students who are exploiting the situation and failing to conform to our expectations. We need to be clear that PE kit is not a fashionable item, it is part of our uniform.

The following are examples of what we have encountered:

- Branded hoodies and tracksuit bottoms (eg Nike, Northface, Under Armour, Adidas). The whole idea around uniform is to ensure all students can feel equal at school and not embarrassed if they don't own such expensive sportswear.
- We have had a variety of colours, including pale grey and bright green, which goes against the expectation we set.
- Some students have arrived in inappropriate and fashion leggings.

I am sure you can understand how we are trying to be reasonable and support our community through this pandemic, but we are disappointed that uniform expectations are being regularly breached.

Therefore, from Monday 5th October we expect students to wear:

- Their Parklands blazer every day. This includes PE days;
- Parklands PE shorts. The only exception is if they own Parklands Akoa tracksuit bottoms or Parklands Akoa leggings. Students could also wear navy or black tracksuit bottoms due to the cold weather - ideally, unbranded.
- Their Parklands PE top on PE days.
- White socks (ankle or trainer is fine) or Parklands blue football socks on PE days.
- The Parklands Teams or Akoa PE hoodies if they own them. **No other hoodies are allowed** as the heating is now on in school and rooms are warm.

We also expect/will allow:

- GCSE Dance students to wear their PE or Dance kit when they have PE and Dance on the same day. It is their choice. Both are appropriate.
- Students can bring their own hoodies to PE lessons in their bag when it is cold (PE teachers discretion) and they are outside, which will be throughout the winter months.

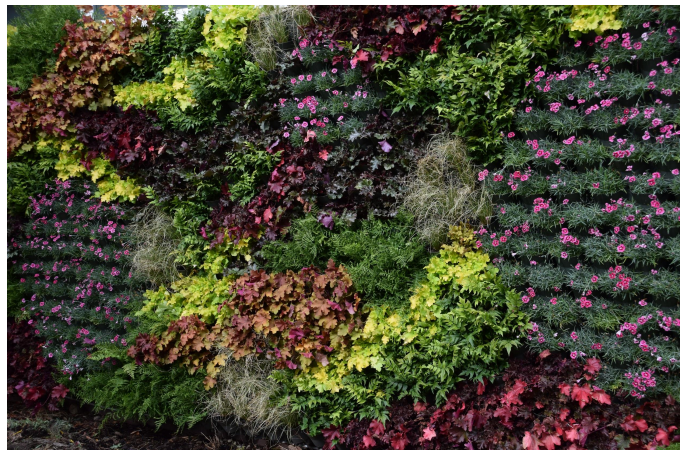
We sincerely hope that you can understand the necessity to ensure PE kit has as high a regard as uniform and that breaches of the above rules will result in sanctions, such as isolation or confiscation of items.

We rely on parental support, which will ensure all students in school are treated equally and that no student feels disadvantaged because their family can't afford the latest expensive sportswear.

Kind Regards

Mr Metcalf

Curriculum Leader of PE



We just want to say an enormous **THANK YOU** to 'Wonderwall' for supplying the plants and popping them in our Living Wall again. Without them we would be unable to keep up with THE maintenance. Managing Director Rick McKeever contacted us when the plants died in the hot weather during lockdown and offered to replace the whole wall. It really makes a wonderful addition to the front of school. Again, thank you so much!