



Parklands High School

Learn | Respect | Aspire | Achieve

parklandsacademy.co.uk

 An Aspirational Futures School



Parent Bulletin

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH 2026

This Month

Headteacher's Message

5 March Years 9, 10, and 11 Behaviour Reports sent home

10 March Ramadan Iftaar Event (17:30 – 19:00)

12 March Year 9 Specialisms Evening (18:00 – 19:30)

13 March Careers Fair

19 March SEND Progress Evening

20 March Comic Relief & World Down Syndrome Day (Odd Socks Day)
More information to follow

.....
2 April School closes at 3pm.

School re-opens on Monday 20th April

This week we have held one of the highlights of the school calendar – the annual dance show. Tonight is the final performance, and it has been a spectacular show so far. Well done to all of the staff and students who have made this such a great event, and good luck for the final night!

On Tuesday next week we are holding our Ramadan Iftar Event. This takes place in the school hall from 5.30 – 7.30pm, and we look forward to welcoming our students along with their families and friends.

On Thursday we are holding our Year 9 Specialisms evening. This is an important event for our Year 9 pupils as they make decisions about the subjects they will take for their GCSE years.

There is further information about both of these events later in the bulletin. We hope that you like our 'new look' bulletin – please let us know what you think!

Warm regards,
Mrs C Batson

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Classchart Champions

	Positive Points Total per House	Student awarded the most Positive Points this week
AFRICA	1746	Daniel W (EGY)
ASIA	1701	Macey G (TIB)
AUSTRALASIA	1765	Leighton Y (WAF)
EUROPE	1798	Kieran N (ITA)
SOUTH AMERICA	1773	Alfie S (BRA)

Perfect 3s

Excellent Behaviour for Learning goes hand in hand with achievement. It is an excellent indicator of how your child is performing in lessons. Who's had the Perfect 3 since we've been back?

How many had the perfect 3 since September? **How many had the perfect 3 in the previous week?**

Year 7: 80	Year 7: 167
Year 8: 65	Year 8: 143
Year 9: 62	Year 9: 157
Year 10: 64	Year 10: 168
Year 11: 70	Year 11: 172
All: 341	All: 807

Please congratulate your child if they have the Perfect 3. All BfL scores can be seen in the Edulink app

How many pupils have a BfL score of 2.99 – 3.00?

Year 7: 162
Year 8: 127
Year 9: 125
Year 10: 127
Year 11: 145
All: 686

Pupil of the Week Awards

23/02/2026 – 27/02/2026

Mathew B (MNG), Layla B (BOT), Kayla B (CIV), Noel B (MRI), Jessica C (BOT), Ella C (URU), Mason C (MAG), Layla C (GUA), Caydence S M (URU), Liam D (SWE), Humairaa D (ARG), Isabella D (NEP), Esme D (MOZ), Jasmine E (HKG), Amelie F (PNG), Jack F (DEN), Molly G (COS), Max G (TIB), Khalil G (NZL), Paige G (BRA), Emily H (BEL), Katie H (PHI), Paige H (BEL), Wade H (NEP)

Liv H (SKO), Dom Kerr (COL), Sienna M (Fij), Nikkita M (PER), Ethan M (MAG), Elizabeth M (EGY), Chiwuike N (NZL), Amy P (PNG), Sophie P (WAF), Es'zmae Pressler (MAG), Jenny Q (JPN), Francesca R (URU), Rahoz S (COL), Chloe S (GER), Layla S (NCL), Evie S (PNG), Maddy S (THA), Ella Stuart (SKO), Annie T (URU), Rebecca T (PNG), Kaitlin W (SWZ), Emily W (SWZ)

THE BIG PARKLANDS PAPER

KURDISTAN * A SPANISH INQUISITION * BOOK CORNER

VOX POPS

Overheard around school

"Being a Spurs fan is character building."

—Mr Metcalf

"I saw a Maggie this morning and that upset my day."

—Mrs Elliott

"I'm just a natural genius."

—Miss Cathey

"I'm not being in that paper."

—Darcie, Y9

BOOK CORNER: Stone Cold

Stone Cold by Robert Swindells is an excellent book that everyone should read. It is exciting and interesting; it also has some really good mysteries and suspense in it. Everyone should read it because it is about murder and homelessness. It will definitely give you something to think about.



Interview | Sevin D

Dispatch on Kurdistan

With Kurdistan in the news at the moment, we talk to one of our Kurdish pupils about this often overlooked nation.

Firstly, where is your family from?

My family is from Rojava (Kurdistan), which is the western part of Kurdistan but located in the northern region of Syria.

What is Kurdistan?

Kurdistan is the historical homeland of the Kurdish people, spread across parts of Turkey, Iraq, Iran, and Syria. Kurdish-inhabited lands were once a country influenced by earlier political systems but were gradually divided, especially after the Sykes-Picot Agreement and the collapse of the Ottoman Empire following World War I. Although Kurdistan is not an independent country today, Kurds have lived in the region for thousands of years, preserving their language, culture, and traditions.

How did you feel about the fall of Syria's dictator Assad?

I do not support Bashar al-Assad because of how his government treated Kurdish people in Rojava. For many years, Kurds faced discrimination, were denied citizenship, and were restricted from speaking their language or celebrating their culture freely. Peaceful protests were often met with arrests and violence. Although my community was not affected as severely because we were under the protection of the Syrian Democratic Forces, a Kurdish-led force that works to protect communities and fight against ISIS and oppressive



regimes, many Kurdish families still suffered under his rule, causing long-lasting harm.

What is happening at the moment in Kurdistan?

In Rojava, the northern part of Syria, there are concerns about political instability following the rise of Ahmed al-Sharaa, who was previously associated with al-Qaeda and was part of ISIS during the conflict. Some reports and fears exist about security risks, including the release of ISIS prisoners and the threat of renewed violence against Kurdish areas. Kurdish civilians in the region continue to face displacement and human rights concerns.

Kurds in Rojhilat, the Kurdish region inside Iran, have faced political repression, including protests that were met with strong government crackdowns under the Iranian Islamic leadership, including the influence of Ali Khamenei.

In Bakur, the Kurdish region inside Turkey, Kurdish language and cultural expression have historically faced restrictions, and many Kurds have struggled to freely learn or speak their

GCSE Specialisms Evening: Thursday, 12th March

We are delighted to invite parents, carers, and students to our GCSE Specialisms Evening next week. This is a vital event designed to help students make informed decisions about their upcoming subject choices.

TIME: 6:00 PM START (7.30PM FINISH)

Location: Main School Hall

Specialism	Room(s)	Staff	Specialism	Room(s)	Staff
Art (1st, 2nd)	E11	Mr Wood	Geography	N28	Miss Walling
Photography (3rd, 4th)	E11	Mr Wood	Health and Social Care	S11	Mrs Weldon
Business Studies	W11	Mr Christie	History	HALL	Mrs Crampton
Computer Science	W12	Mr Miller	Music	W04	Mr Penketh
Creative Media	W12	Mr Miller	Music Technology	W04	Mr Penketh
Technology (1st, 2nd)	S03	Mr McAvey	PE	E22	Miss Groaves
Food (3rd, 4th)	S03	Mr McAvey	Spanish	E23	Mr Stalker
Dance	ANG (English)	Miss Marr	Triple Science	N14	Mrs Eland
Drama	E21	Miss Gray			

The evening is structured to provide both a broad overview and specific subject insights. There will be a brief introductory talk in the hall regarding the specialisms process and key deadlines. After this, there will be an opportunity to visit up to four subjects of interest. The Curriculum Leaders for each subject will deliver short presentations covering an overview of the course content, specific assessment demands and clear expectations for students choosing the subject.

Latest edition of the school newspaper

In this edition we have an explanation on Kurdistan from one of our own pupils, an interview with Mr Herbane, our beloved Spanish teacher, and a great recommendation in our Book Corner.

You can view the full paper [here](#).

You can see past editions [here](#).



[Click for latest Careers News!](#)

This Week in KS3 Religious Studies

Here is an update on what students have been learning in KS3 RS, along with some conversation starters you might like to explore with your child at home.

Year 7: Students have continued to explore "What does it mean to be a Jew in the 21st Century?"

- What is a Bar/Bat Mitzvah and why is it important in Judaism?
- How are a Bar Mitzvah and a Bat Mitzvah different?
- How do Jewish children prepare for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah?

Year 8: Students have been learning about the History of Christianity and reflecting on "Who was the real Jesus?"

- Which source do you think is most reliable for proving Jesus existed - Tacitus, Josephus or the Gospels?
- Why might some people disagree with your choice?
- What are three things that happened after the death of Jesus?

Year 9: Students have continued their study of Islam, deepening their understanding of key beliefs and teachings.

- What is a mosque and why is it important for Muslims?
- Can you name and describe three key features of a mosque?
- What happens inside a mosque?

School Socials

Don't forget to check our Facebook and Instagram pages to see what's been happening this week...

CLICK HERE!



Parklands High School



Parklands High School



PE



English



Europe House



Africa House



South America House

CLICK HERE!

Weekly Learning Support Board

CLICK HERE!

The collage includes:

- Learning Support Board Week Commencing 9th March 2026
- Quote: "Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education." - FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Local Offer in Lancashire
- Joke of the Week: "Why does a hummingbird hum? Because I don't know the words!"
- MARCH: In like a lion... out like a lamb.
- Useful Links:
 - FIND Newsletter
 - GOV.UK Covid-19 Information
 - Headspace (Meditation & Sleep)
 - NCSO19 Mental Health Support
 - Local Offer
 - NHS Urgent Mental Health Helpline
 - Withdrawal Group
- Follow us on Instagram: [pns_learningsupport](#)

Next week...

Secure

- All pupils will learn in Secure next Monday about Neurodivergent week, particularly ADHD. This will also form their assembly, apart from Year 11.

JOIN US FOR THE KS3 EAL FAMILY READING NIGHT!

Dear Parents and Guardians,
At our school, we believe that multilingualism is a superpower. To celebrate the diverse languages spoken within our community, we warmly invite all families who speak a language other than English

at home to our KS3 EAL Family Reading Night. Reading together in your home language isn't just about stories—it strengthens family bonds, boosts cognitive development, and provides a vital foundation for academic success in English.

Why Attend?

- Global Library: Learn how to access thousands of titles in any language via our E-Platform.
- Community: Meet other multilingual families and share reading tips.
- Refreshments: Enjoy tea, coffee, and snacks while you browse.

Whether you are fluent in English or just starting your journey, this evening is for you. Let's work together

to keep your child's love for their home language—and reading—thriving!

RSVP: Please send a quick email to jdonohue@parklandsacademy.co.uk to confirm your attendance for catering purposes.

TUESDAY 24TH MARCH 3:10PM - 4:00PM SCHOOL LIBRARY

انضموا إلينا في أمسية القراءة العائلية لطلاب المرحلة المتوسطة

الأهالي وأولياء الأمور الأعزاء.

نحن نؤمن في مدرستنا بأن تعدد اللغات هو ميزة استثنائية. واحتفاءً باللغات المتنوعة في مجتمعنا، ندعو جميع العائلات التي تتحدث لغة غير الإنجليزية في المنزل للانضمام إلينا في أمسية القراءة العائلية

إن القراءة معًا بلغتكم الأم لا تقتصر على سرد القصص فحسب، بل إنها تقوي الروابط العائلية، وتعزز التطور المعرفي، وتوفر أساسًا حيويًا للنجاح الأكاديمي في اللغة الإنجليزية.

● الموعد: يوم الثلاثاء 24 مارس

● الوقت: 3:10 - 4:00 مساءً

● المكان: مكتبة المدرسة

لماذا يجب عليكم الحضور؟

● مكتبة عالمية: تعرفوا على كيفية (Platform-E). الوصول إلى آلاف الكتب بأي لغة عبر منصتنا الإلكترونية

● مجتمعنا: فرصة للقاء عائلات أخرى تتحدث لغات

متعددة وتبادل نصائح القراءة

● ضيافة: سيتم تقديم المشروبات والوجبات الخفيفة أثناء استمتاعكم بالتصفح

● سواء كنتم تتقنون الإنجليزية أو كنتم في بداية رحلتكم لتعلمها، فهذه الأمسية مخصصة لكم. لنعمل معًا على تعزيز حب طفلكم للغة الأم وللقراءة

تأكيد الحضور: يرجى إرسال بريد إلكتروني سريع إلى uk.co.parklandsacademy@jdonohue

لتأكيد حضوركم (لأغراض تنظيم الضيافة).

The Peru Crew Present...

Chocolate Egg Easter Raffle!

Enter to WIN one of three delicious chocolate prizes!

Draw Date: Wednesday 1st April

Tickets: £1 each, on Scopay or in person in the library

all money raised goes towards the trip to Peru in summer.

BINGO Night

Join us in The Hall at Parklands for an exciting evening with prizes to be won and refreshments available

26th March
6-8PM

4 games for £4. Please pay on Scopay or see Mr Johnston in the Library

All money raised goes towards the Peru trip in summer 2026

Iftar INVITATION

Tuesday 10th March
5:30pm - 7:30pm

We invite students, families and friends to our Community Iftar (in the Main Hall) as we break fast together to support our fasting Muslim students.

Tickets: £3 per person - available from Mrs Kothia (in N23) during school hours. Tickets can be purchased with cash or via Scopay.

Food Contributions: Guests wishing to contribute a (halal) dish are very welcome; please email Mrs Kothia in advance to coordinate.

Fundraising: All funds raised from the community event will be donated to Islamic Relief.

We look forward to sharing this special evening with you. If you have any

CELEBRATING DOWN SYNDROME WEEK

IN SCHOOL!

MARCH 16th - 20th

MARCH 16-19: SWEETS, TREATS & GAMES!

MARCH 20th (Friday):

ODD SOCK DAY!

EVERYONE MUST WEAR ODD SOCKS!
CELEBRATE UNIQUENESS & INCLUSION!

GAMES & FUN ACTIVITIES DAILY!

GOODIE STALL

SWEETS & TREATS SOLD ALL WEEK!

CELEBRATE UNIQUENESS & INCLUSION!

#DOWNSYNDROMEWEEK #LOTSOFSOCKS SUPPORTING INCLUSION FOR ALL

A very busy week in PE from Sporting events to the Annual Dance Show.

To view [CLICK HERE](#)



Manchester Jewish Museum Trip

Tuesday 24th March 2026

- Students will take part in the Holidays 8 Challah workshop, where they will learn about Jewish festivals and traditions.
- They will have the opportunity to explore the synagogue and take part in activities that deepen their understanding of Jewish community life.
- The trip takes place during the school day. You will leave after form time and return before lunchtime (Period 4).
- The cost of the trip is £10. There are 70 places available.
- To secure a place, parents or guardians must pay a £5 deposit via ScoPay. Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Miss J. Sullivan has emailed Year 7 parents with full details.
Please refer to the letter or contact sullivan@parklandsacademy.co.uk for more information.



COME TO THE BOOK FAIR

and earn FREE BOOKS for our school!

11th March - 17th March. On the Concourse outside The Library

Safeguarding – Doki Doki Literature Club! (DDLC)

We are writing to make you aware of an online game titled Doki Doki Literature Club! (DDLC). Although it appears at first glance to be a harmless, cute, anime-style game, it is not suitable for children and contains themes that are disturbing and emotionally intense.

What is DDLC?

Doki Doki Literature Club! is a psychological horror visual novel, originally released in 2017. It begins as what looks like a light-hearted high-school romance game, but the storyline shifts dramatically into dark and unsettling content as the game progresses.

Key Themes and Concerns

The game includes:

- Suicide, depression, and self-harm themes
- Graphic and sudden emotional distress
- Horror elements that become more intense as the story unfolds
- Meta-elements designed to deliberately shock or unsettle the player

These themes are particularly inappropriate for young people and may be upsetting or triggering.

Why We Are Sharing This

- The game is free to download, widely available, and often shared between young people because it appears harmless at first.
- It has no age verification on some platforms, meaning children can easily access it.
- The eSafety Commissioner and various safeguarding bodies have issued warnings due to the game's psychological impact on younger players.

Where the Game Is Available

DDLC is available on:

- PC, Mac and Linux
- Consoles through Doki Doki Literature Club Plus!
-

The game's official warnings state it is **not suitable for children or anyone who may be easily distressed**.

What Parents & Carers Can Do

To help keep your child safe online, we recommend:

- **Monitoring what your child is downloading or playing**, particularly free or anime-style games.
- **Talking openly** with your child about the games and apps they use.
- **Checking age ratings** (DDLC is rated 17+ or 18+ depending on platform).
- **Using parental controls** to restrict access to unsuitable content.
- **Encouraging your child to let you know** if something online makes them uncomfortable or upset.

Weekly Attendance Update

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering a positive and successful learning environment at Parklands, we would like to provide you with an update on the overall attendance across the school. Regular attendance is essential for student success, and we want to share important information regarding current trends, key attendance goals and ways we can work together to support all of our students.

We currently have **121** students who have 100% attendance so far this year. If your child is one of these students please congratulate them and continue to encourage their attendance, it is a great achievement.

House	This Week %	This Year %
ANZ	95%	93.5%
ASA	96.6%	94.4%
EUR	96.5%	94.8%
SAM	95.9%	93.7%
AFR	95.5%	94%
Total %	95.5%	93.6%

Students are expected to be in the school building at 8:25am, heading to form at 8:30am and be in form by 8:35am. If they are arriving between 8:35am and 9:15am for any reason they need to enter through the pupil entrance and be signed in at the Top Office.

Attendance Update: Every Lesson Counts

This term, we are renewing our focus on attendance and punctuality. We know that high attendance is the key to raising GCSE grades, but it also ensures your child remains socially connected, forming better friendships and taking full advantage of our extra-curricular clubs.

How we are supporting your child:

- **FT Check-ins:** Form Tutors will now have a brief "wellbeing check-in" with any student returning to school after time off to ensure they are caught up and supported.
- **Targeted Support:** Students classified as *persistently absent* will meet with a member of SLT or their HAL. These meetings are designed to help us understand how we can remove barriers to their attendance.

We are asking for support from all parents and carers to uphold high expectations. Please ensure your child is in school, on time, every day. Let's work together to maximise their potential!

Did you know?

- 90% attendance sounds good, but it equals **½ a day of school missed every week.**

Over one school year, 90% attendance is **4 weeks of missed learning.**

Please support us by ensuring your child attends school every day.

Table: Attendance vs. Lost Learning Time

Attendance %	Days Lost per Year	Lessons Missed
100%	0 Days	0 Lessons
95%	10 Days (2 Weeks)	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days (4 Weeks)	95 Lessons
85%	29 Days (6 Weeks)	145 Lessons

Attendance Ladder

