



PARKLANDS BULLETIN

Week 2

10th - 14th February 2025



Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

We have had another fantastic and busy term at Parklands. We have had lots of excellent events, but we are glad to have reached the end of this half term and we are all looking forward to a week off.

I hope that Year 11s will find some time to revise and start the last leg of their exam preparation journey. Revision sessions start in earnest after the half term; you will be notified if your child has been invited to attend. Lots of subject areas have already provided revision materials so Year 11s should have plenty of work to be getting on with over the break.

We hope that everyone has a restful and enjoyable break, and I look forward to seeing everyone on our return.

Please click on this [link](#) to complete an online survey about future Progress Evenings.

Regards,

Mrs. Batson
Headteacher

Whole School Messages

Driving near school

Please could we ask that you take care when driving around school. We've had complaints about inconsiderate parking and damage to vehicles during school pick up and drop off times. Thank you.

Notice for Parents/Guardians of Year 7

On Thursday 27th February, your child will receive their first progress report (tracker). They will also meet with their House Achievement Leader to discuss the report.

Please see the [linked letter](#).

Miss. S. Rhodes
Year 7 Achievement Lead

KS3 Religious Studies: Exploring Abrahamic Religions

This term, KS3 students are exploring the rich traditions and beliefs of the Abrahamic religions.

Discussion Questions for This Week:

Year 7:

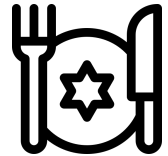
- What do these words mean: kashrut, trefah, and kosher?
- What do Jews eat and not eat?
- Why do Jews follow food laws?

Year 8:

- How were the followers of Jesus treated after his death?
- How did early Christians practice their religion in secret?
- What role did Emperor Constantine play in the spread of Christianity?

Year 9:

- What is the Qur'an, and why is it significant in Islam?
- How was the Qur'an revealed to Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), and why is it believed to be the word of God?
- How is the Qur'an respected by Muslims?



Extra Challenge: Students in Years 8 and 9 are encouraged to test their knowledge by answering questions from the earlier year groups!

Timetable Changes After Half Term

New timetables should have been handed out to students during form time today. If you have not been given a copy, please check the edulink app to see your timetable for the first day back as there may have been changes.

Uniforms and Standards

A polite reminder that all pupils should have the correct uniform for our return. Any loaned items from Inclusion will be logged and repeat offenders will need to sit a weekly detention.

We would welcome any donations of pre-loved uniform too and if any pupil needs an item of pre-loved uniform please let [Mrs K O'Reilly](#) know.

Many thanks for your support.

Whole School Messages

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?

Year 7: 61 pupils to date

Year 8: 58 pupils to date

Year 9: 48 pupils to date

Year 10: 58 students to date

Year 11: 51 students to date

All: 276 students

How many had the perfect 3 in the previous week?

Year 7: 160 pupils

Year 8: 153 pupils

Year 9: 130 pupils

Year 10: 154 students

Year 11: 120 students

All: 717 students

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?

Year 7: 148 pupils

Year 8: 121 pupils

Year 9: 96 pupils

Year 10: 131 students

Year 11: 96 students

All: 592 students

Students, please click the link to see what clubs, trips and activities are happening in school [Parklands Bulletin](#)

Weekly Learning Support Board - please click [here](#)



"Take rest. A field that has rested gives a bountiful crop."

OVID



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Local Offer in Lancashire

Have You Heard the News?

We have reached the final week of this half-term. Over the last six weeks, sunset has moved forward a full hour so spring is surely on its way. For a few of our pupils, there are GCSE Choreography exams on Friday. Best wishes to them. Learning Support remains based in N17. Have a great week. Learningsupport@parklandsacademy.co.uk



Wood fired pizzal

How's pizza going to get a job now?

Courtesy of HB (Year 7)

Tension is who you think you should be.

Relaxation is who you are.



Follow us on Instagram:

[p_h_s_learningsupport](#)

Useful Links

- ADDitude Magazine
- Autism Eye
- Autism Parenting Magazine
- British Dyslexia Association
- The Communication Trust

- FIND Newsletter
- GOV.UK Covid-19 Information
- Headspace (Meditation & Sleep)
- KOOTH Mental Health Support
- Local Offer
- NHS Urgent Mental Health Helpline
- Witherslack Group

Whole School Messages

Key Dates - Monday 24th Feb until Friday 4th April

- 25th Feb - Y8 Second Tracker Review Day - Pupils will bring home tracker and available on Edulink
- 26th Feb-28th Feb - Dance Show in the evening
- 27th Feb - Y7 First Tracker Review Day - Pupils will bring home tracker and available on Edulink
- 6th March - Y8 Progress Evening in school - Appointments to be made via SchoolCloud when released
- 7th March - Careers Fair for Y9,10 and 11
- 13th March - Music Concert
- 20th March - Y9 Specialisms evening 6:00-7:30 pm in school
- 21st March - Comic Relief Day
- 25th March - Parent Forum 6pm
- 27th March - Iftar Evening

Maldives

Country of the week



Capital - Malé
Population - 561,900
Main religion - Islam
Leader - Mohamed Muizzu
Official language - Dhivehi
Land mass - 289 km²
Currency - Maldivian Rufiyaa



The Maldives is an island nation located in the Indian ocean south of India and Sri Lanka. While The Maldives is mainly seen as a hot holiday resort, it has way more history than that. Being a Muslim nation, it observes religious holidays like Ramadan and don't drink alcohol but they do permit the drinking of it to foreigners.

Whole School Messages

PE Update week beginning 10th February 2025

A busy couple of weeks of sport in the PE department! As the weather is still cold pupils can wear base layers UNDER their PE kit if they wish. Lessons outside will still continue unless it is unsafe to do so. Remember, there is no need to sign up just look at the extra curricular timetable, choose an activity, bring a kit and attend!

Year 7 Girls Football - the girls played other schools from across the district in a friendly tournament. They showed some great teamwork and skill and now have lots to work on in training. Well done!



Year 8 Boys Football - two of our year 8 teams played against Applebee Wood school in some friendly matches. The boys represented Parklands superbly and lots of fun was had by all. Well done!



Year 7 & 8 Dodgeball Schools Championships - two teams from both years were selected to represent Parklands in this fantastic tournament. The teams dodged, ducked and dived their way through the day coming 4th and winning the Sportsmanship award! Congratulations, we're very proud of you!



Whole School Messages

PE Update week beginning 10th February 2025

Year 7 & 8 Sportshall Athletics - this is a district competition competing against schools from St Michaels, Bishop Rawstorne, Holy Cross, Southlands and Albany. Two teams of girls and two teams of boys were selected to represent Parklands. A massive well done to the year 8 girls team who placed 3rd and a special mention to the heroes of the night Tom B and Nico who had a tough job due to some of their teammates having to drop out. You did a fantastic job well done! You all behaved impeccably, well done!



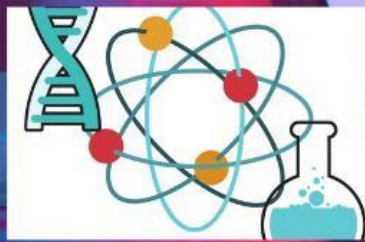
Sports Leaders - a group of year 9 & 10 pupils were selected to help with Chorley SSP and the KS1 Sportshall Athletics competition. Their confidence and leadership skills shone as they did an incredible job #PROUD

We're so proud of the level of commitments shown by all of our pupils, well done!

KS3 Science Club N22



Science club will take place on Tuesday lunch times at 1.35pm
Students from years 7, 8 and 9 are welcome, please sign up at
the main prep-room by Monday if you would like to take part.
Science club will take place in N22



Lunch passes can be collected on Monday and handed in at the club.

Barcelona Dance Trip 2026

Sunday 24th May - Thursday 28th May 2026

All pupils, in current Y7-9, who dance inside and outside of school are welcome to attend!

- Flights to and from Spain
- 4* Accommodation in Lloret De Mar
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner at the hotel
- 4 professional dance sessions
- Visit to Girona
- Visits to the Lloret De Mar Beach
- Bowling
- Full day at the local waterpark
- 1 x tour t shirt



Total Cost estimate £895.

Deposit of £250 required by 28th March 2025
**NOW TAKING DEPOSITS VIA SCOPAY UNDER
BARCELONA DANCE TRIP**



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS & DATING APPS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Dating apps are used to help people find new relationships – whether casual or more long term – matching users based on age, interests, gender and more. Some may consider dating apps harmless to under-18s because they aren't able to use them, but effective age verification measures are quite scarce, and it's been known for young people to end up on apps of this type.

EASE OF ACCESS

The relatively lax age verification process of many dating apps makes them incredibly accessible to children who really shouldn't be using them. This carries the obvious risk of exposing under-18s to a dating scene populated by adults – who may not even be aware of the young person's true age. This is concerning when we consider the 'hook-up culture' common on these apps – with many people using them to arrange casual sexual encounters.

CONTACT AND CONDUCT RISKS

Once someone is active on a dating app, their social media profiles can be linked to the app and might be accessed by others. This can lead to random users 'sliding into their DM's' (sending a direct message) without consent. Complete strangers could start bombarding a young person's inbox with pictures, messages and sexual comments.

SCAMS AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Some young people may feel they've formed a real bond with someone through online dating, but there's always a risk that it's not genuine. Scammers on these apps often build romantic connections with their victims – then once they feel they have their victim's trust, they begin asking for money under false pretences (such as suggesting they meet in person and requesting a 'loan' to cover a train ticket).

UNVERIFIED ACCOUNTS

As with all online interactions, you may not be talking to whom you think you are. Without paying a subscription, users of dating apps can often only view a certain number of profiles at a time. A TikTok trend has advised young people to set their age limit to 80 years and over – putting them in a sparse and more 'exclusive' category to bypass the usual restrictions. Unfortunately, this can lead to matches with someone much older.

PEER PRESSURE

The pressure to be in a relationship can be huge, and many young people use online dating apps as a cost-effective way to meet others. Some users find it difficult to meet people organically due to their lifestyle, and may not have the time or money to go out and socialise. It's also common for young people to set up accounts for their single friends in the hope of finding a match for someone they know.

SKewed PERSPECTIVES

Dating apps can promote an unrealistic view of what makes someone attractive. With such vast options, some users can become both picky and extremely harsh about others' appearance. Ultimately, all you see on these apps are pictures (with no insight into someone's personality), and some young people struggle with the fear of being judged. Even when someone does start dating, there's a persistent paranoia that their partner is only one swipe away from a potentially better match.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK ABOUT DATING APPS

Let young people know that they can talk to you about anything, even something as private as their dating life. At school, the relationships, sex and health curriculum can assist with conversations around healthy relationships, consent and online safety. Emphasise the message that you want to help them make healthy, safe and informed choices. If they feel embarrassed talking to you, make sure they have a trusted adult who can help them.

ENCOURAGE DATA PROTECTION

Empower young people to protect their data and personal information. Explain why including things like their school, age and surname in their profile could potentially be dangerous. Make sure they know never to give out personal details, and that there's no reason for other users to ask for them. If they feel uneasy about a situation online, they need to speak to someone that they can trust.

VERIFICATION STAMPS

Explain that someone using a dating app should only communicate with those who have gone through a verification process. Online dating apps use a variety of methods to ascertain a user's identity, including scanning valid documents (such as a driver's licence or passport). Verification can also involve users taking a selfie to ensure that the photos on their profile match it.

REPORT AND BLOCK

Remind young people that they can always report or block (or both) anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable on any platform. Ask if they know how to do this and offer to help them figure it out if they're unsure. Every app should have advice on how to report or block another user, so be sure young people are familiar with the settings.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings works at RAISE (www.raiseducation.org.uk) in the field of relationships, sex and health education, providing educational, age-appropriate workshops for pupils around the more sensitive areas of the curriculum – including online safety and healthy relationships.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/online-relationships-dating-apps>



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The SEND Partnership in Lancashire would like to include your artwork, words or similar in their new SEND Strategy which will be published later this year

YOUR ENTRY NEEDS TO ANSWER THE QUESTION:

WHAT MAKES ME FEEL INCLUDED?

You can create a picture, a quote, a voice recording, a short poem – however you wish to express yourself!

EMAIL YOUR ENTRIES WITH YOUR FIRST NAME AND AGE TO:

SENDPartnership@lancashire.gov.uk

THERE WILL BE A £20 HIGH STREET VOUCHER FOR WINNING ENTRIES IN THE FOLLOWING AGE RANGES: EARLY YEARS, PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND 16+ THOUGH ALL ENTRIES MAY BE USED



DEADLINE: 31ST MARCH 2025

Whole School Messages

Parent Partnership Survey

[Local Authority Local Offer](#)

[Local Authority SEND Newsletter](#)



Re-launch of the Parent Carer SEND Survey

Lancashire SEND Survey 2024/25 -
Parent Carer version

The Lancashire SEND Partnership logo is at the top of the flyer.

Are you a parent carer?

Have your say about the services your child receives by filling in this survey.

The survey is for families in Lancashire where there is 1 or more children with SEND (aged 0-24 years). It can be completed at any time that suits them.

It helps the SEND Partnership to:

- Listen to parent carers in Lancashire who have a child or children with SEND needs
- Collect feedback from families about their experience of the 'SEND journey' and the effectiveness of support they receive
- Identify gaps, areas for development and strengths within the SEND system

www.lancashire.gov.uk/SEND www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer

A square QR code with a red border, used for accessing the survey.

Parent Carer Survey

Do you know
about...



Free
school meals



If your child qualifies for free school meals,
they will have a **free meal** every school day

It's easy to find out if you qualify –

Lancashire

Website: <https://lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/>

**Pupil
Premium**

Is **additional funding** for our school to
ensure we can support pupils
to **achieve their full potential**

Click [here](#) for career news

First Impressions PHOTOGRAPHY

JOIN US THIS MARCH:

- And gain insights from one of the top photographers in Preston
- Learn new skills
- Showcase your artwork on Winkley Square

Want to know more?
Sign up for a free photo workshop and walk by.

Contacting us at Dave@wudes.co.uk

Our Mission
To empower young people to use their unique perspectives and lived experiences to create impactful educational materials that inspire and support their peers.

Our Vision
A world where young people are heard, celebrated, and given opportunities to showcase their talents and abilities in creative and meaningful ways.

Our Values
Youth-Focused: Centering young people in everything we do.
Creative: Encouraging innovation and self-expression.
Engaging: Designing experiences that captivate and inspire.
Together, we're shaping futures and building a better world.

Rugby Union Advice Morning

Wednesday 19th February 10.00am - 12.00pm

Myerscough College ACADEMY ACE

One evening and high-level advice morning for Year 10 and 11 students. The morning will be held at Myerscough College and will be a fantastic opportunity for students to meet with professional athletes and receive advice on their careers.

Our relationship with Sale Sharks and the RFU provides a unique opportunity for students to meet with professional athletes and receive advice on their careers.

Our courses cover all aspects of the game including psychology, physiology, nutrition, and coaching development. It offers a perfect environment for talented rugby athletes and secure a dream job.

The Advice Morning is a great chance to find out more about the courses we offer under 18 development programme for performance players.

Please sign in at the College Main Reception before making your way over to Myerscough College.



Aim Further · Secure 7

As part of our continued outreach programme of activities and events, we would like to let you know about the upcoming maths revision support programmes we are holding for Year 11 students.

From February, we will be offering a 6-week revision programme tailored towards your students expected maths students expected a grade 7.

Please note, students can only select to attend one of the revision programmes.

CAREER News

2025

Your weekly guide to careers information, advice and news from Parklands High School

Welcome to the last issue of Career News for this half term - and what a busy time it has been. We have had the final of the college interviews for Year 11 with Wigan & Leigh College and last Friday was our Year 11 Mock Interview Day. We had over 30 employers and colleges in school supporting our Year 11 and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive from both students and interviewers. A huge THANK YOU to all the wonderful local employers who supported our Year 11 apprenticeship.

There are further events planned for after half term, including a Parade Challenge event for Year 10 students, 8 students, a Year 11 apprenticeship assembly, a Cyber Tech Challenge with Chorley Council for Year 10 students, and more college interviews with Preston and Burnham Colleges, and of course, the annual Careers Fair for all of Year 9, 10 and 11 on March 7th - and that's just in the first three weeks!

Inside this issue of Career News you will find:

- News of the Santander apprenticeship vacancies, as well as BAE Systems, Tesco, Galliford Try and Leyland Trucks - these are all fantastic opportunities, so check out the relevant links now!
- A photography competition with Invested Education with some fantastic prizes to be won
- Open events at Preston College and QEDs, plus some taster day sessions at Myerscough College for sports students (rugby and football)
- LUSoM are offering talented mathematicians the chance to take part in some amazing online revision sessions for GCSE maths exams - sign up now and see those top grades!
- Young Professionals are showcasing their virtual work experience day over half term with Clifford Chance - one not to be missed if you are considering a career in law.
- Media Mentors are offering a series of free conferences for applying medicine and dentists, plus they have an amazing virtual work experience programme for Years 10 and 11 students to take part in
- Blackburn College are running a Film Academy over the half term for anyone thinking of a career in film and media.

Have a great half term holiday

February half-term edition

APPRENTICESHIP FACTS

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Army offers 39 different apprenticeship standards from Level 2 through to a Level 6 Award Manager Degree Apprenticeship.
- Temporary Apprentices College opened in 1923 and across a total of 10 years there has been 16 Apprenticeship approved right across the UK. Now the first Modern Apprenticeships which led in Initial Trade Training Schools and in the workplace.
- 106,945 soldiers have completed their modern apprenticeships since 2004.
- GCSEs or Functional Skills are not required to join the Army.
- The Army takes on over 6,000 apprentices each year with an impressive 77% completion rate.
- A Level 2 apprenticeship is equivalent to 5x GCSE passes and will take 18-24 months to complete. You earn while you learn.
- GCSEs or Functional Skills are not required to join the Army.

LUSoM Aim Further

Predicted Grade: **8/9**

Interested in studying: **Further Maths**

will be held online, once a week and will begin on **Tuesday 25th February**, running until **Tuesday 1st April**.

Link to book: <https://bit.ly/3ZB8C4x>

LUSoM Secure 7

Predicted Grade: **7**

Interested in studying: **Maths**

will be held online, once a week and will begin on **Tuesday 26th February**, running until **Tuesday 1st April**.

Link to book: <https://bit.ly/3ZB8C4x>

Career News

Lots of useful information in this week's Career News. There are various really good apprenticeship programmes on offer at present, from BAE Systems, Leyland Trucks, Galliford Try, Tesco and Santander. These will all be very popular so don't wait to apply - do it now!

The apprenticeship page will return after half term with lots of local vacancies - and Year 11 have an assembly with ASK Apprenticeships the first week back, when they will explain how to register and apply for vacancies.

Careers

LUSoM are offering a programme of revision sessions for Year 11 students aiming for top grades in GCSE maths: 'Aim Further' (predicted 8/9 grades and intending to study Further Maths A Level) and 'Secure 7' (predicted 7 grades and intending to study Maths A Level). Check out the links in Career News for more information and to register for the 6 week programme.

A massive THANK YOU to all the wonderful local employers who took part in last Friday's brilliant Mock Interview Day with our Year 11. Feedback from both students and employers has been very positive.

The next big event is the Careers Fair on Friday 7th March for all of Year 9, 10 and 11. If parents/carers wish to attend, please let me know: pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk

A reminder that Work Experience week is 14th - 18th July 2025. Year 10 students are encouraged to find their own placements for the week, but I can support if necessary (although there is not a database of jobs/employers to choose from). In the past, students have worked in cafes, shops, offices, garages, garden centres, schools, nurseries, vets ... in fact, just about everywhere! I will shortly be launching the NHS work experience programme and the MPCT (Army) programme - but I am waiting to find out how many I can send this year - watch this space ...

Preston College and Runshaw College will be interviewing in school in March, and if anyone missed their W&L interview, staff will be back to do 'mop-up' interviews.

Year 11 can still apply to most colleges, although one or two have now closed their application window and any late applicants will go on a waiting list with no guarantee of a place. If you want any advice or support with applications or indeed any aspect of careers, please see Miss Berry (top office) or email me on: pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk

All the documents for Work Experience are on the school website:

<https://www.parklandsacademy.co.uk/parents/work-experience>

You will find the employer booklet, advice on finding a placement and much more.