



PARKLANDS BULLETIN

Week 1

10th - 14th March 2025



Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

This week Year 11 have had interviews for Runshaw College, and have conducted themselves really well. Runshaw were very impressed with the way that pupils performed in their interviews, and many Year 11 pupils will now be looking forward to continuing their studies at Runshaw next year. Compass Bloom also visited on Monday and delivered an assembly to Year 11 about how to deal with exam stress, so hopefully they will feel ready and prepared for their forthcoming GCSE exams.

On Thursday next week we will be holding our Specialisms Evening for Year 9 pupils and their parents and carers. The evening will take place in school from 6 - 7.30pm. Pupils and their families will have the opportunity to listen to presentations by the Leaders of the Specialism subjects and to ask any questions in order to help them to make their decisions about which subjects to choose for their GCSEs next year.

Friday next week is also Comic Relief Red Nose Day, and pupils will be able to take part in a school-wide game of Bingo in order to win some prizes! Friday is also World Down Syndrome Day, and pupils and staff are asked to wear odd socks on this day to help to raise awareness of this syndrome. This day is chosen to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome which causes Down Syndrome. Odd socks are chosen as chromosomes look like socks under a microscope! As well as the socks, there will also be a chocolate tombola and sweet stall to raise money for the East Lancs Down Syndrome Support organisation who support many families across Lancashire.

Regards,

Mrs. Batson
Headteacher

Whole School Messages

Key Dates - March

- 20th March - Y9 Specialisms evening 6:00-7:30 pm in school
- 21st March - Comic Relief Day - Pupils in full uniform but they can wear odd socks. If they bring a £1 they can have a bingo ticket for the whole school bingo game. Also any other cash and they can enter the chocolate tombola.
- 21st March - Comic Relief Day - more information to follow
- 25th March - Parent Forum 6pm
- 27th March - Iftar Evening

Year 11 Easter School April 2025

This will run during the Easter break to help prepare for the upcoming summer exams. Details are provided in the letter linked [here](#). We will be holding an assembly for Year 11 students on Monday morning to go through the details with them.

Please note the deadline for booking places is **Tuesday 2nd April**. As we arrange staffing based on the number of bookings, we cannot offer any flexibility on the deadline.

Year 11 Revision - Week 2 for 17th March

If you are removed from a revision session due to poor behavior, you will likely lose access to future sessions in that subject. This decision will be made by the Curriculum Leader with the support of the Senior Leadership Team. Revision sessions are a privilege, and both the teachers leading them and the students attending have the right to a positive learning environment.

Week 2	Subject
Monday	Religious Studies
Tuesday	Option C
Wednesday	
Thursday	Maths

Core Subjects	Option A	Option B	Option C
English Maths Science RS	French Geography History Art Dance Health and Social Music Photography GCSE PE	Computer Science French Geography History Art Drama Engineering Food and Nutrition Business Studies Health and Social	Computer Science Geography History Creative Media Triple Science Design Technology Engineering Food and Nutrition Music Tech Connect

Electric Scooters

Due to UK law, privately owned electric scooters are generally not permitted for use on public roads, pavements or cycle paths. Therefore **E-Scooters are not allowed on school premises under any circumstances.**

Attendance

As you know, we are committed to ensuring all pupils meet government attendance guidelines. To make this clearer for everyone, we are now focusing on the number of days missed rather than percentage attendance.

Below is a table outlining how attendance percentages translate into time lost across a whole school year.

At Parklands, we expect pupils to maintain **at least 97% attendance** to support their learning and success.

Attendance Percentage	School Weeks Missed	School Days Missed
89.5%	4 weeks	20 days
92.1%	3 weeks	15 days
94.7%	2 weeks	10 days
97.4%	1 week	5 days

This week, our new Attendance Manager and I have been speaking with pupils who have missed 15–18 days since September—equivalent to three weeks of learning. These conversations are not disciplinary but rather an opportunity to understand any challenges pupils may be facing and explore how we can support them in improving their attendance.

We understand that illness and medical conditions can impact attendance, and we fully appreciate those circumstances. However, we also have a responsibility to help pupils understand the impact of absences on their education.

This week, we will also be meeting with pupils who have missed **9–14 days** since September.

Thank you for your ongoing support. By working together, we can help our pupils achieve their full potential.

Sara Haslam

Assistant Headteacher & Attendance Champion

Attendance

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 123 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	Attendance % last week	Attendance % this year so far
Australasia	92.4%	93.1%
Asia	93.9%	94.6%
Europe	94.3%	94.6%
South America	93.8%	94%
Africa	94%	94%
Whole School	93.2%	93.5%

A quick reminder, 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.

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: 59 pupils to date

Year 8: 58 pupils to date

Year 9: 46 pupils to date

Year 10: 53 students to date

Year 11: 45 students to date

All: 261 students

How many had the perfect 3 in the previous week?

Year 7: 158 pupils

Year 8: 160 pupils

Year 9: 128 pupils

Year 10: 155 students

Year 11: 135 students

All: 736 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: 147 pupils

Year 8: 122 pupils

Year 9: 98 pupils

Year 10: 131 students

Year 11: 106 students

All: 604 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](#)

**Learning Support Board**
Week Commencing
17th March 2025

"Never confuse a single defeat with a final defeat."
F. Scott Fitzgerald

LANCASHIRE LOCAL OFFER Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Local Offer in Lancashire

Have You Heard the News?
It's a busy week ahead. On Tuesday, a Holocaust visitor is in school to talk to our year 7s. Also on Tuesday, year 9 will be completing their Learning Challenge Week surveys - a sign that summer is on its way. On Thursday, year 9 have their GCSE Specialisms Respect Day with the accompanying parents' evening at 6pm. Learning Support remains based in N17.
Learningsupport@parklandsacademy.co.uk

**Inspire Club Quiz**

Who is this famous American film star?
Last time's answer: Clint

Joke of the Week

Did you hear about the butcher's van?
It's an old banger!


Perseverance
/pə'sɪ'vɪə(ə)n(s)/noun
Continuing in an opinion or course of action in spite of difficulty or opposition.

**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

PE Update week beginning 10th March 2025

Another busy week in the PE department and the weather is finally starting to warm up! 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 Boys Football Hospital Cup away at Balshaws. A great display of teamwork from our year 7 team. They fought hard but unfortunately came away with a 0-5 loss. Lots of things to work on in training for next time!



Year 7 Netball Chorley District Tournament -Finally the weather was good enough to play! The squad played teams from St Michaels, Holy Cross, Southlands and Bishop Rawsthorne away at Holy Cross. Some difficult matches against Holy Cross and St Michael's but the girls worked hard and came away with 3rd place for the A team and 2nd place for the B team. Well done!



Year 8 Netball Chorley District Tournament - The long anticipated tournament could finally be played due to some decent weather! The team has been working hard in practice and it certainly paid off! They met some fierce competition against St Michael's, worked hard with some great teamwork and secured a 3rd place finish overall. Well done!

Year 8 Football Competition at home against St Michael's. The team displayed real grit and determination against a tough opponent. They showed real team spirit. Well done!



Whole School Messages

Year 9 Girls and Boys Chorley District Handball Tournament - Now coined Handball Tuesday our year 9 teams both played in the district tournament. Both teams are fast becoming skilled at this relatively new sport to the district with the boys securing a 3rd place. Well done! We are very proud of you..



Year 9 Football at home against Holy Cross. A valiant effort from the 10 players who played the match with only a 4-0 defeat. Well done for those players who turned up and represented Parklands proudly.

Y11 GCSE Dance - Last weekend our GCSE Dancers had a trip to London. And what a fantastic weekend it was with the glorious weather too! Saturday was for sightseeing, shopping and shows in Covent Garden. The girls watched 'Mean Girls' the musical and 'Six' the musical. On Sunday they attended Move It! Dance convention in Excel London where they participated in dance workshops with Gianna from Dance Moms, Layton Williams and Disney! They were also able to watch performances from all of the major dance companies from across the U.K., they even bumped into one of our alumni Ella who was dancing with Preston College. This was a fantastic opportunity to get careers and further education advice.



Whole School Messages

Broadening Horizons Event

On Thursday we had 12 Yr 9 and 10 students chosen to represent our school to attend a **"Broadening Horizons Event" at Inspire Youth Zone**. There were several companies from various companies in trade to share their knowledge and expertise and offer advice and get our young people involved in creative activities in engaging workshops. The aim of this fantastic opportunity was to support and inspire our students about what they could do in the future, help them discover new skills, interests and career opportunities and explore their potential. For our Yr 9's, this was a good opportunity to step beyond the classroom and get a taste of what the future could hold and to think about their forthcoming option choices if they wanted to follow a particular route in industry. Our Yr 10s are already thinking of apprenticeships and college applications and courses as they will soon have the opportunity for taster days at Wigan & Leigh and Runshaw College. This event will hopefully have allowed them to explore potential career paths and support students who are not yet engaged or inspired by traditional education. Thanks to Miss Burrill for organising the group and supervising , along with Mr Williamson. Our students were amazing and well behaved and seemed to get a lot out of the day.

Mrs Fairhurst

PROM - Incentive (half termly)



- BfL average 2.95 and over - 1 point
- Attendance 94% and over - 1 point
- No social strikes - 1 point
- No lates - 1 point
- A suspension will clear all points for the half term.

From today until exams finish.

You will need **18 points** to be eligible for prom.

There will be opportunities for you to gain extra points by attending revision sessions, Easter School and using Class Chart points.
Extra points available for 100% attendance and perfect '3' BfL.

Whole School Messages

Community Iftar Event – Please Join Us!



Date: Thursday 27th March





Time: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM



Location: Parklands High School (Main Hall)

We invite students, families, and friends to our Community Iftar as we break fast together to support our fasting Muslim students.

 **Tickets:** £3 per person – available from Miss Rhodes (in N24) 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 Miss Rhodes 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 questions please email Miss Rhodes (srhodes@parklandsacademy.co.uk)

KS3 Religious Studies: Exploring Abrahamic Religions

This term, KS3 students are exploring the rich traditions and beliefs of the Abrahamic religions. Here are some questions to discuss with your child/children this week:

Year 7: Judaism

- What are Bar and Bat Mitzvah?
- How do Jews celebrate Bar and Bat Mitzvah?
- Why are these ceremonies important?



Year 8: The History of Christianity

- Why did the Church split in 1517?
- What did this mean for Christianity in Europe?
- Who was, and what changes did he introduce?



Year 9: An Introduction to Islam

- What are the Five Pillars of Islam?
- What is the impact of the Shahadah (declaration of faith) on a Muslim's everyday life?
- Why do Muslims pray five times a day, and how does this affect their daily routine?

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

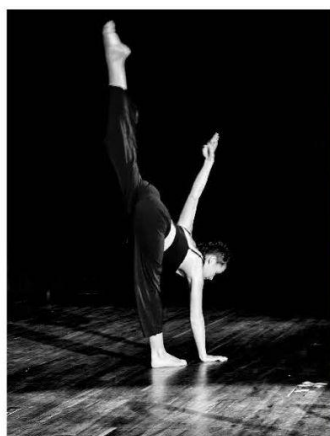


Dancing through Life Film Premiere



Wednesday 19th March 3pm - 5pm in the hall

**Refreshments for sale - cash only
All cast and crew are welcome.**





21st is World Down Syndrome Day

MARCH

Sweet stall

Chocolate tombola

Help us to raise money for this great cause

Odd sock day



When babies are created, they receive 23 chromosomes from their mum and 23 chromosomes from their dad. For most of us, that's a total of 46 chromosomes.

Chromosomes carry the genetic information for all of our characteristics in a molecule called DNA.

About 1 in 1,000 babies are born with Down Syndrome. This is caused when the body's cells produce an extra copy of chromosome number 21 to give a total of 47 chromosomes.

There will be activities all next week to support Down Syndrome awareness day on the 21st March. Sweet cones are going to be on sale for £1.50 and there will be a tombola on Friday you can get 5 tickets for £1. There is also a raffle with great prizes to be won as well as a "guess how many sweets" in a jar to be won.

All proceeds will go to the East Lancs Down Syndrome Support organisation who support many families across Lancashire.

A huge thank you to Grandad Jim's Sweet Shoppe who have supported this great cause. This store sells a range of tasty treats from old-fashioned favourites to new sugary surprises.



Our Eco group meets every Tuesday lunchtime in S15. We are currently working on the Green Flag award where we have to meet certain criteria to show how green we are as a school.

We are very proud of our new solar panels. These are beginning to work but need time to embed to fully reach their potential. As many of our school community will know, we had 370 solar panels installed to various roofs around our school site, these went live and began to produce energy at the end of January. Below is a little insight as to how our panels are performing so far. As you can see we are investing in our sustainability goals along with saving money on our energy bills, with solar energy replacing around 16% from the main grid.

Our Solar Story so far.....



We would also like to make you aware of a House Competition we are running that is incorporating Chorley Council's anti-litter campaign. It is open to all students with the winning entries being entered in the Chorley Schools competition. The winning entry will be seen all over the borough, helping to keep our environment clean and tidy. Please see details below

Please get involved with this initiative as a Form or an individual.
Competition open to ALL years.
#GBSpringClean

Design a poster that could be used across the Chorley borough to raise awareness of littering and keeping our communities tidy

**JOIN THE
GREAT BRITISH
SPRING CLEAN**

Love where you live
21 March - 6 April 2025

Competition Rules

- Posters must be in portrait orientation.
- Posters must include a clear anti-litter slogan
- Closing date- 2nd April (entries to Mrs Dewhurst)
- It is a House Comp!



**Chorley
Council**

Whole School Messages

Easter Hamper Raffle



Win a fabulous Easter Hamper Raffle. Tickets are £1 and are available via SCOPAY and from Mr Johnston in the Library. The draw will take place on Thursday 3rd April. All proceeds will go to the Peru Crew expedition. Thank you for all your ongoing support with our fundraising, we really appreciate it.



RESPECT | EMPOWERMENT | COLLABORATION

Aspirational Futures Multi Academy Trust
Chorley Business & Technology Centre |
Building N2 | Room 9 | Euxton Lane |
Chorley | PR7 6TE
Email: admin@aspirationalfutures.co.uk
www.aspirationalfutures.co.uk

Are you interested in a career working with children in a primary or high school?



Could you be our next

**TEACHING ASSISTANT /
LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT?**



Qualifications

You may need basic literacy and numeracy skills (usually grade 4/C at GCSE) in English and maths as a minimum. We will provide you with ongoing training and development.

Working hours

Teaching Assistants work during the school day, usually from 8.30am to 3pm (this may vary by school).

Salary

Salaries are dependent on hours worked, experience and skills. For example, working 37 hours per week during term time you could earn at least £1,741 gross per month. Part-time hours may also be available.



Skills

Reading, writing and numeracy skills
A positive approach to working with children
Flexibility and adaptability
Patience and empathy
An understanding of a range of children's needs
Team working skills



Want to know more?

For more information about working with our children, please come along to our information event at **Parklands High School** on **Tuesday, 29th April at 10am.**



Click [here](#) for more details.

HR and Finance Officer

Ref: SCH-AFM-0025

Establishment: Aspirational Futures Multi Academy Trust

Location: Aspirational Futures MAT Central Office, Euxton Lane, Chorley PR7 6TE

Salary: 27268.66 – 31066.89

Department: ADM

Job Type: Full Time

Closing Date: 17/03/2025 13:00

Interview Date: 26/03/2025

Start Date: As soon as possible



Parklands Preloved uniform

Pass it on, don't throw away,
A uniform's here to save the day!
Keep it going, let it flow,
Helping pupils as they grow.

Please send any preloved uniform into school
to Mrs.K O'Reilly.

Thank you.

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

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGible.



The National College

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**