

PARKLANDS BULLETIN WEEK 1 10th - 14th November 2025



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers.

On Sunday Chorley held its annual Remembrance Ceremony in Astley Park. This was, as ever, a wonderful community event; thank you to all of our staff and pupils who attended and represented Parklands in a variety of ways. There is more information, and some photographs, later in this bulletin.

This week several of our pupils also attended Chorley Library as part of their role in judging the Lancashire Book of The Year. We are delighted to have been chosen for another year to be a part of this prestigious event. The children are actively involved in the judging process, and they take their role very seriously. They read all of the shortlisted books and choose their favourites for the award. We are always delighted to be involved, and it is another element of our focus on the importance and value of reading.

Today is Children In Need, and we are holding our fundraising events next Friday. It will be a non-uniform day for all pupils and the suggested donation is £1. Next Tuesday is Year 8 Respect Day; the focus for this day is Personal Responsibility. Regards,

Mrs. Batson Headteacher



Anti-Bullying Week

Throughout this week forms have been having discussions on the topic of anti-bullying, specifically on the theme of using 'Power for Good'. Each form has discussed ways in which they can use the power they have to positively impact other people, leading to a wonderful turnout for Positive Noticing Day! On Wednesday, students were given the opportunity to write positive comments to give to other students and wear them with pride.



Year 8 will have a Respect day next week about 'Personal Responsibility'.

They will do sessions about how to recognise and protect themselves from financial harm online, the danger of vaping, respectful relationships and the law around their own online behaviour.

All materials used in these sessions will be available in your child's Secure Google classroom at the end of the day if you wish to use them to start discussions with your child about any of these subjects. There will also be information about where you or your child can get help about any of these topics.

Year 11

Hopefully, you've seen the Year 11 tracker that the pupils received this week. Every pupil has met with their HAL to discuss, and I also met with several students who have made an excellent start to Year 11, achieving 100% attendance and perfect 3 BfL scores.

A reminder that you can view all tracker reports on Edulink under the '**Documents**' section. We are now in a crucial half term, with the Mock Exams starting on **3rd December**. This week's assembly highlighted the importance of thorough preparation for these key exams.

Our morning and after-school tuition programme has begun for selected pupils, and the quiet revision space in A11 is open every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 3:00–4:00 pm.

Kind regards, Mr Metcalf

Key Dates - November and December 2025

- Thursday 20th November Year 8 Tracker Report home
- Friday 21st November Children in Need Non-Uniform Day
- Thursday 27th November KS4 Presentation Evening for our 2025 leavers, 6:00–7:30pm
- Friday 28th November Cheerleaders Christmas Party, 6:00pm
- Tuesday 2nd December KS3 Reading Evening, 5:30–6:30pm (more information to follow)
- Wednesday 3rd December Flu Vaccinations (Years 7–11) and Year 11 Mock Exams begin
- Thursday 11th December Year 7 Christmas Disco
- Friday 12th December Christmas Jumper Day
- Tuesday 16th December Year 11 Mock Exams finish
- **Thursday 18th December** Year 7 Christmas Cinema Reward Trip and Years 8–11 Christmas Trip to the Trafford Centre.
- Friday 19th December It's CHRISTMAS! School finishes at 1:00pm

School reopens Tuesday 6th January for pupils.

School Menus

To see our school menus, please click here. Next week will be week 3.

Y9, Y10 and Y11 same day detentions

Please be aware that if your child should receive a **BfL 1 or 0** they will be required to serve a same day detention after school from 3pm until 3.30pm. We hope this sanction may lead to an improved focus and better behaviour in lessons. We will endeavour to notify you by text message should your child need to attend the detention, however please be aware this may not always be possible depending on the time of day. For example, if your child receives a 1 or 0 during their P5 lesson we may not be able to notify you ahead of picking your child up at the end of the day. You can also monitor your child's BFL on the EduLink app under the 'Attendance' section.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Could Your Child be Eligible for Free School Meals?

Check eligibility and apply via Lancashire County Council:

Free School Meals - Lancashire County Council Lancashire.gov.uk

If you do apply, please also email Miss Rhodes (Assistant Head) srhodes@parklandsacademy.co.uk

PP Funding

Dear Parents and Guardians,

If your child qualifies for PP funding, you have been emailed the link to a survey. Please complete at your earliest convenience. Thank you to all who have completed this so far.

Miss Rhodes (Assistant Head)

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

From January 2026, the school will be updating the trip subsidy for students eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) or the Pupil Premium (PP) grant.

We are proud to offer a generous subsidy for trips, much higher than many other schools, but to ensure it remains sustainable, the annual allowance per student will change as follows:

- FSM students: Reducing to £150 per academic year
- PP (non-FSM) students: Reducing to £100 per academic year

Important Details:

- Reward trips will remain 50% subsidised for both FSM and PP students.
- Curriculum trips that are compulsory as part of the course will continue to be fully funded.

Why this Change is Necessary:

- Adjusting the allowance enables us to support more students and offer a wider variety of trips.
- By reducing the allowance, we can maintain the quality of our trips year after year.
- This change also helps us adapt our interventions and provide alternative forms of support for our students.

Action for Outstanding Deposits:

If your child has a planned trip and the deposit has not yet been paid, please ensure it is submitted by **31 December 2025**. Deposits not received by this date will be subject to the new allowance rates in 2026

For any questions about trip funding or your child's allowance, please contact pupilpremium@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Miss Rhodes

Pupil Premium Lead/Assistant Headteacher

Is Your Child a Young Carer?

If you think your child may have young carer responsibilities, or if you'd like to make us aware, please get in touch.

Please email Miss Rhodes (Assistant Head) <u>srhodes@parklandsacademy.co.uk</u> with the following information:

- Child's name
- Year group
- Who they care for
- How frequently they provide care
- Anything else you would like us to know

While young carer status does not come with additional funding, it does ensure your child is recognised and supported in school.

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 388 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	93.8%	93.9%
ASA	94.8%	95%
EUR	95.5%	95.1%
SAM	94.2%	94.9%
AFR	95.1%	95%
Totals %	94.7%	94.7%

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**.

First Half Term Attendance

Last year, we asked our children what prize they would most like... and they voted for a Non-Uniform Day — so that's exactly what we've delivered!



Congratulations to Belgium Form!

They achieved the best attendance for Autumn 1 and earned their very own Non-Uniform Day on Monday.

Well done!

Absence Reporting

Please remember that if your child will be absent from school due to illness, you must report the absence as early as possible on the morning of the first day they are away.

To report an absence relating to sickness or a late arrival please use the following.

- Call: 01257 264596 and select option 1. If prompted to leave a message please ensure you are advising of the child you are calling for, their form and their year group as well as details of the absence.
- Edulink: Select 'Absence Reporting', complete start date and time, end date and time and give a detailed reason for absence, the paperclip can be used to attach confirmations if required.
 Absences due to illness need to be reported each day of absence.

To report a medical appointment where your child will miss a period of school please follow the above steps but ensure that you are giving at least 24 hours notice before the appointment. If you have an emergency appointment where this notice cannot be given please call and hold for reception and a member of the office team will be able to assist you. Please note, we are unable to authorise a full day of absence for a local appointment.

For any other absences, please complete the leave of absence request form which can be found on the attendance section of our website.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain accurate attendance records and ensure the safety of all students.

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: 119 pupils to date Year 8: 93 pupils to date Year 9: 96 pupils to date

Year 10: 101 students to date Year 11: 88 students to date

All: 497 students

How many had the perfect 3 in the previous week?

Year 7: 164 Year 8: 148 Year 9: 144 Year 10: 151 Year 11: 158

AII: 765

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: 174 Year 8: 135 Year 9: 139

Year 10: 130 Year 11: 141 All: 719

Students, please click the link to see what clubs, trips and activities are happening in school Parklands Bulletin



Learning Support

Learning Support - Every Minute Counts: The Importance of Being in Lessons

We want every student to make the most of their learning time. Even a few minutes missed from each lesson can quickly add up and have a big impact on progress.

For example, if a child misses just 5 minutes from every lesson each day, that adds up to around 4 hours

of learning lost every week. Some students are missing as much as 16 minutes per day as they are arriving late and/or leaving early. That's the equivalent of over 7 hours of learning time lost every week.

We fully appreciate that sometimes students need time to reset, reflect, or take a short break and these

moments are important for wellbeing. However, we also want to highlight just how valuable lesson time is

Every minute spent in the classroom contributes to a stronger understanding, better progress, and greater

confidence in learning.

It is our job to work together to make sure our students are present, ready, and making the most of every

learning opportunity.

Ms Williams

SENCo

Weekly Learning Support Board - please click here



Remembrance events

On Sunday morning, our head students, together with Miss Partington and Miss Sullivan, joined other local high schools for the Remembrance commemoration. It was a moving service, reminding us of the importance of honouring those who have served their country. Our students represented the school with pride, and it was wonderful to see so many current and former pupils taking part in the parade and in attendance.





On Monday, students in Years 7–10 took part in the Remembrance Assembly. This year's focus was on the important role animals have played in times of conflict. Ms Lewis Brown shared the remarkable story of *Wojtek*, a brown bear who "served" alongside Polish troops during the Second World War. Miss Partington also explained the significance of the purple poppy and why remembrance holds a special place in our school community.

On Tuesday morning, Year 11 students attended their Remembrance Assembly. At 11 a.m., Miss Partington and her Year 7 class laid a wreath in the school's Remembrance Garden. All pupils across the school observed a minute's silence in their lessons, as they had done during the assemblies, to honour those who have served and sacrificed.





This Week in KS3 Religious Studies

Welcome back! This week in KS3 RS, our students have had a fantastic start, continuing to explore some big questions and ideas. To help spark meaningful conversations at home, here are some discussion questions you might like to explore with your child:



Year 7 – Ultimate Questions

- What do you already know about Hinduism?
- What does Hinduism teach about the origins of the universe?
- What evidence supports these beliefs?



Year 8 – Prejudice and Discrimination

- What do Christianity and Islam teach about equality?
- Why might religious people feel strongly against racism?
- How should religious people respond to racism?

Year 9 - Human Rights and Social Justice

- Who is Malala Yousafzai, and why is she such an important figure?
- Which other famous people have campaigned for social justice, and what did they do?
- How can we take inspiration from these people to make a difference in our own communities?



Bingo Night







Christmas Reward Trip Year 7

Dear Parents and Carers,

To celebrate and recognise the good behaviour, effort, and achievements of our Year 7 students this Autumn term, we are delighted to offer a trip to Reel Cinema in Chorley to watch the Christmas movie - Home Alone.

Date: Wednesday 17th December 2025

Cost: £5 per student. For pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium the cost will be £2.50

This payment covers cinema ticket only. Students may wish to bring additional spending money for popcorn or sweets.

Timings:

- Depart school at approximately 2:00 pm for a 3:00 pm start of the film
- Please collect your child from Reel Cinema at 5:00 pm or alternatively if they usually walk home, they may do so.

Dress code:

Students may come to school in appropriate non-school uniform for the day.

Payment details:

- Deadline for payment: 3:00pm on Friday 12th December 2025
- Payment link: https://www.scopay.com/parklands-lancashire
- Please note: Payments are non-refundable.
- By making payment, you are providing consent for your child to attend the trip.
- Please ensure your child's medical information on Edulink is up to date. If you need to update details, email: admin@parklandsacademy.co.uk
- Your child's place will only be secured once payment has been received.
- If you require online payment login details, please email your child's name and form to: admin@parklandsacademy.co.uk

There are 160 places available, and the trip will close once all places are filled.

Eligibility criteria:

As this is a trip organised through staff goodwill, it is open to students who have shown consistent good attendance, behaviour, effort, and progress.

We will use the Points system to determine eligibility. Students can earn up to 8 points during the Autumn term, and will need at least 6 points to qualify for the trip.

Christmas Reward Trip Year 7 cont'd....

Criteria	Requirement	Points
Behaviour for Learning (BfL)	2.95 or above	1
Attendance	95% or higher	1
Lates	0	1
Social Strikes	0	1

Each criterion is measured for both Autumn halfterms

Maximum 8 points

Behaviour expectations:

This trip is designed to be an enjoyable reward, but safety and conduct remain our top Priorities.

We ask that you remind your child of the importance of respectful and responsible behaviour throughout the trip.

The school reserves the right to withdraw a student's place at any point up to and including the day of the trip if behaviour, attitude, or attendance do not meet expectations. We appreciate your full support in this matter.

We look forward to what promises to be a fun and memorable afternoon for our students. Warm regards,

The House Achievement Leaders

Shine for Sally

The Parklands KS3 & KS4 Dance Teams will be performing at Shine for Sally, a special charity fundraising evening held in loving memory of Sally Cornes, who sadly passed away while she was in Year 9 at Parklands.

This will be a wonderful evening of song and dance, celebrating Sally's life and spirit through the talents of our pupils, alongside performers from Gillies Mar-Jan Stage School and Curtain Call Theatre School.

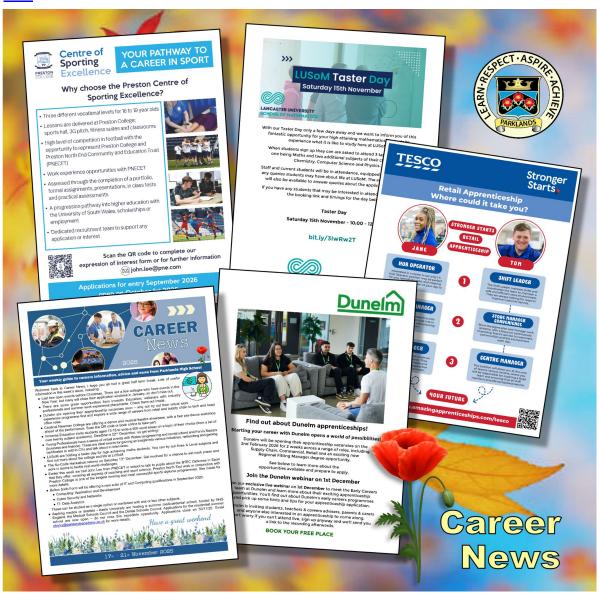
The event promises to be uplifting, moving, and suitable for the whole family.

Come along, show your support, and help us raise funds for two fantastic causes — Derian House Children's Hospice and Milly's Smiles — as we come together to shine for Sally.



Careers

Click here for career news



As always, lots of really useful information in Career News. There are a few college open events coming up, then that's it until after Christmas, and some colleges close their application windows in January as interviews start then. Please have a look at 'The Ultimate Guide to College Applications', available on the school website (click here), for answers to all your questions and instant links to college application sites.

There's also news of apprenticeship schemes at Tesco and Dunelm; webinars with industry professionals via InvestIn Education; an essay competition; virtual work experience opportunities; medical and dental conferences and work experience with Medic Mentor; a residential medical/dental summer school with Keele University; a taster day for high achieving maths students at LUSoM - and of course, career of the week, inspired this week by the visit by John Lee of PNECET to talk to students about the sports diplomas they offer. Happy reading!

ADHD AWARENESS EVENING

26TH NOVEMBER AT 6:00PM - 8:00PM

PARKLANDS HIGH SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO ATTEND AN EVENING OF INFORMATION ALL ABOUT ADHD AND ADOLESCENCE

- The ADHD parent workshop will be a practical and engaging session that aims to provide
 parents with a clear understanding of what ADHD really is, separating facts from common
 misconceptions, and show how ADHD affects children at school and home.
- Parents will gain clear, research-based insights and easy to use strategies to support their child's learning and wellbeing.
- The workshop will be delivered by Lydia Brooks, an Assistant Educational Psychologist who
 currently works for ed-Psychology Solutions, an educational psychology service that helps
 identify and meet the individual and complex needs of young people across Lancashire.
- Lydia has a Masters in **Developmental Disorders** and has supported children with a wide range of special educational needs in nursery and school settings.

All parents welcome!

Please contact Lisa Williams SENCo if you would like to attend.

Email: lwilliams@parklandsacademy.co.uk



A Reindeer Run for Derian House A



After school on Monday 15th December, we will be walking to Derian House Children's Hospice in Astley Village and back to help raise money and awareness for this wonderful charity. Everyone will be wearing festive reindeer antlers and spreading plenty of Christmas cheer along the way! Each participant will also receive a little Christmas treat. The cost to take part is £2.50, which should be paid via Scopay by Monday 1st December. Thank you for your support in helping us make a difference this Christmas!

Monday 15th December

£2.50 entry (on SCOPAY)
You get some Reindeer Antlers and a sweet treat at the end!

Help raise money for Derian House.
Run, walk, crawl or dance your way round our route!





For parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities.

Join us in a safe, understanding space to share your concerns and receive updates from:

Lancashire Parent Carer Forum & Lancashire SEND IAS



Chorley Duke Street Family Hub 51 Duke Street, Chorley, PR7 3DU



Monday 17th November



1:00pm - 2:30pm

For more information email: nikih@keycharity.org.uk













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.