



PARKLANDS BULLETIN

Week 2

12th May - 16th May 2025



Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

This week has been a busy week for Year 11, with 8 GCSE exams taking place. Next week is also a really packed one, with 9 exams taking place. After that, everyone gets a well earned break before we return on the 2nd June.

Year 7 had a Respect Day yesterday, where they spent the day learning about First Aid and healthy living. The day was finished off with a Zumba session in the hall to demonstrate to the Year 7s how to maintain a healthy heart whilst still having lots of fun! We also held Progress Evening for Year 7 last night, and it was lovely to see so many parents and carers in school on such a lovely sunny evening.

As previously mentioned, we are unfortunately in a position where we need to increase the canteen prices. We have not increased prices for several years, and the canteen does not work at a profit. However, the cost to us of both food and energy has risen and we can no longer operate at current prices. Later in this bulletin you will find the new price list, which will come into effect from Monday 2nd June. Where children are entitled to free school meals, the amount credited to their account each day still covers the daily meal deal.

I promised you that I would review the PE kit for warm weather. The warm weather looks set to continue next week, so we will continue with the PE kit. Pupils have responded well to this; however, please could I ask you to remind your children to bring equipment and particularly locker keys. The office has been overwhelmed with requests to open lockers; we will be unable to offer this service next week, other than in emergencies. It is likely that we will be back in full uniform after the half term break.

Mrs. Batson
Headteacher

Whole School Messages

Key Dates - May

- **Friday 23rd May:** Last day of term

Key Dates - June

- **Monday 2nd June:** School reopens

Learning Challenge Week (14th-18th July 2025)

The most fabulous week of the year is nearly upon us! Learning Challenge Week is a project based learning week and it is part of what makes Parklands a **very** special and unique place to learn and work. We are very proud of Learning Challenge Week and you will be invited in to see the culmination of their work during Festival Day.

During this week, Year 7 will be working on their Island Challenge in their House Teams and will be earning huge points towards the house cup!

For year 8 and 9, they will be taking part in a specific challenge, which relates to skills they have identified as ones they need to work on. This week, all year 8 and 9 got their groups for Learning Challenge Week and got a sneak peek of the challenge they will be taking part in and we hope they are excited!

A lot of work goes into this week from all staff and they put so much effort into making their challenges wonderful. Pupils will work on lots of new, different skills and will push themselves out of their comfort zone but, most importantly, they will have FUN!

More information will come in the bulletin nearer to the time.

Year 11

We are delighted to inform you that the **Parklands Yearbook 2025** is now available to order. It is available on SCOPAY for a cost of £22.00. Orders can be placed up to Friday 20th June and the yearbooks will be available for collection on results day on Thursday 21st August.

The class of 2025 had a very different experience to the year groups that went before them, ending primary school and starting high school during the pandemic. They didn't experience the usual conventions that take place to mark the milestones of ending junior school or starting at Parklands. We hope the Parklands Yearbook will go some way to providing you with special memories and a long lasting keepsake from the end of another milestone in life - the end of 5 years at Parklands.

Whole School Messages

Polite reminder - Uniform and Standards

A big thank you to those pupils and parents who are supporting us to uphold our uniform standards. However, we still have a minority of our pupils who are still not getting it right. Please see below some of the areas which are causing us the most issues;

Pupils' hair colour should be of a natural colour - blue and pink are not natural!

Socks should be black or navy and should not be sports socks.

False nails/nail varnish of any description are not permitted.

Makeup is not allowed nor are false eyelashes. Year 11s may wear discreet makeup.

The only jewellery that is permitted is a watch. All other jewellery will be confiscated until the end of the week.

School will be the final arbiter with regards to uniform and standards. Should any pupil continue to disregard our school policy then further sanctions will be applied.

Y9 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.

Year 11

On **Friday 23rd May**, following the morning English exam, study leave will begin. Pupils will be free to leave school at **10:45am**, or at **11:10am** for those with extra time. Pupils will then have a week free from exams to rest and prepare for the remaining exams after the half-term break.

From **Monday 2nd June**, pupils will only be required to attend school for their scheduled exams. **Full school uniform** must be worn for all examinations. During this period, a **study room** will be available in the library for any pupils who wish to revise in a quiet space rather than at home. This facility will remain available until the end of the GCSE period on **Friday 20th June**.

If pupils would like last minute guidance or support from their teachers during study leave, they are welcome to attend their **timetabled lessons**, where staff will be present. Some subjects may also offer final **masterclasses** during these sessions. Individual departments will provide further details as needed.

A few important reminders:

- Please arrive by **8:25am** for morning exams and meet in the dining room. You should be on the concourse by **8:45am**.
- Please arrive at **1:30pm** for afternoon exams via the **Southport Road gate entrance** and be on the concourse by **1:45pm**. There is no need to go through reception.
- If you are arriving at school **after 9:20am**, you must enter via the **visitor entrance on Southport Road** and go through reception. However, there is no need to sign in at reception.
- If you are in school solely to revise, please **sign in at the library** when you arrive and **sign out** when you leave.
- If you are attending a masterclass, please **sign in with your teacher**.
- **Full school uniform** must be worn at all times while on site. This includes for exams, lessons, and revision.
- The **Astley Park gates** will be closed by **9:00am** and will reopen at **2:50pm** each day. If you are arriving or leaving outside of these times, you must use the **Southport Road entrance**.

Kind regards,
Mr Metcalf

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 86 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	90.7%	92.8%
Asia	93.6%	94.8%
Europe	93.2%	94.6%
South America	92.7%	94.3%
Africa	93.5%	93.9%
Whole School	92.4%	93.4%

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: 49 pupils to date

Year 8: 50 pupils to date

Year 9: 39 pupils to date

Year 10: 48 students to date

Year 11: 40 students to date

All: 226 students

How many had the perfect 3 in the previous week?

Year 7: 156 pupils

Year 8: 146 pupils

Year 9: 139 pupils

Year 10: 162 students

Year 11: 162 students

All: 765 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: 139 pupils

Year 8: 114 pupils

Year 9: 94 pupils

Year 10: 126 students

Year 11: 100 students

All: 573 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
19th May 2025

Have You Heard the News?
We've reached the final week of this half-term. GCSE exams are now coming along in spades. This morning there is Chemistry/Combined Science followed this afternoon by PE. English Lit and Computer Science are on Tuesday. On Wednesday, because of a clash, candidates for Engineering must stay in school until the R.S. exam has started at . Good luck everybody.
Learningsupport@parklandsacademy.co.uk

**What is the name of this Carpenter's tool?**

Last time's answer: 2017

"I've noticed when I fear something, if I just end up doing it, I'm grateful in the end."
COLLEEN HOOVER

Local OFFER
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Local Offer in Lancashire

Joke of the Week

Why do lobsters never share their sweets?

Because they're SHELL-FISH!

ALMOST EVERYTHING WILL WORK AGAIN IF YOU UNPLUG IT FOR A FEW MINUTES INCLUDING YOU!

**Follow us on Instagram:**
[psh_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

Shine for Sally

We presented our two chosen charities with the money raised from 'Shine for Sally 4'. They both received £3,000.00 from our amazing total of £6,000.00.

It is lovely to be able to give something back to these two amazing charities who supported Sally & continue to support her family. A huge thank you to everyone involved. We have done Sally proud 💜



Whole School Messages

PE Update week beginning 12th May 2025

A great start to the summer term with glorious weather too! Remember to check out the new summer extra curricular timetable which includes athletics, rounders, cricket, flag football and tennis! Lessons outside will 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 and Girls Football. Two teams were selected to compete in the annual 7 a side Rotary Cup against all schools in the South Ribble district. The girls played fantastic football showcasing great skill and teamwork narrowly missing out on a chance to make it through to the next stage of the competition. The boys played well. Their last game was the highlight with goals, body on the line defending and fantastic saves. Well done to both teams!



Year 10 Boys Football - at home against Holy Cross. What a glorious day for football! The team dominated and won 3-1. Well done!!



Liberia

Country of the week



Capital - Monrovia
Population - 5.453 million
Main religion - Christianity
Leader - Joseph Boakai
Official language - English
Land mass - 111,369
Currency - Liberian Dollar



Liberia is an western african nation bordering the atlantic ocean. It borders Côte d'Ivoire to the east, Guinea to the north and, Sierra Leone the west. Along the coast, beach towns include the port of Buchanan, as well as laid-back Robertsport, known for its strong surf. It is a nation famous for not being colonized by europe. It was a country started by enslaved people freed from America and shares many positive similarities.



Do you have what it takes to win the Science Summer Cup?

Come and compete with the best of our Y9 and Y10 scientists to win the coveted **Science Challenge Trophy**, a certificate endorsed by **Cambridge University** and **points for your house!**

Candidates will sit a **35 minute challenge paper** on content from the first chapter of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

The test will take place in N14 at 3pm on Mon 16th June

Peru Crew Sponsored Walk

Join the Peru Crew on Sat 28th June for a walk on a local route with woods, water and a small hill.

**£5 PER PERSON, PLEASE PAY ON
SCOPAY. FOR MORE INFO, SEE MR
JOHNSTON IN THE LIBRARY**



Wanted: Food Business Owners

The Peru Crew are putting together a community recipe book and would like you to donate a recipe. If you want to be involved, please scan the QR Code opposite and donate £10 to our justgiving page. In return for this, you will get a double page spread in the book featuring your recipe, a photo, and an advert for your business. We are hoping to distribute our book throughout our school community, around Chorley and beyond. If you want to get involved or need more information please contact me on ajohnston@parklandsacademy.co.uk





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.

This Week in KS3 Religious Studies

Our KS3 classes are well on their way through their summer term topics. To support learning at home, here are some discussion questions you could explore with your child this week:

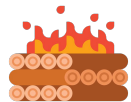
Year 7 - **Wealth and Poverty**

- Which charities are working to end poverty in the UK?
- What do these charities do to help people in need?
- How can young people like you support these charities?



Year 8 – **Life After Death**

- What do Hindu funerals usually involve?
- Why is the River Ganges important in Hindu death rituals?
- How do these practices reflect Hindu beliefs about the afterlife?



Year 9 – **Religion and Life**

- Why do Christians and Muslims believe the world is valuable?
- What is the difference between stewardship and dominion?
- Do you think humans have cared well for the world? Why or why not?



Whole School Messages

A huge congratulations to former Head Studenta Seb Holbert, who is taking on the Lead Role of *Jamie New*, in *Everybody's Talking About Jamie* at the Blackpool Grand Theatre, and Ebony Williams who is playing the part of Bex.

Also congratulations to Jake, playing a named student, in the same production.

This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to their talent and hard work. We're incredibly proud of you all - break a leg!

The show is running from Wednesday 28th to Saturday 31st May with Blackpool and Fylde Light Opera Company (BFLOC).



Click [here](#) for career news.

Get Work Experience in STEM This Summer
Experience a Career in STEM
Summer programmes for ages 15-18
Breaking into STEM industries isn't exactly easy. Competition for top universities and graduate roles is at an all time high, whilst for school students, finding meaningful work experience to refer to in applications has become increasingly challenging in a remote working world.
InvestNI is here to help. We deliver work experience programmes in 10 competitive and desirable STEM fields to enable students to gain a real insight into the world of medicine, engineering, computer science, finance, architecture and many more sectors.
Do you have any STEM enthusiasts looking to gain industry knowledge, experience, skills and contacts? We only have a handful of spaces left for this summer!
Highlights include:
Psychology: receive coaching from elite sports psychologists at the Emirates football stadium; explore mental health treatment at the UK's oldest mental illness hospital, Beitham Royal Hospital
Engineering: experience aeronautical engineering at Lasham Airfield; take apart a petrol engine with mechanical engineers at Europe's largest supercar studio.
Computer Science: work with cyber security experts at Level 39, a hub for tech start-ups in Canary Wharf; visit a state-of-the-art motion capture studio.
Target 3D, to learn 3D modelling software, Blender
Plus many more!
VIEW PROGRAMMES
Reminder: Free webinar next week for students & parents
We'll be sharing top tips on how to find meaningful work experience. Students busy with exams? We automatically share the recording, slides and resources with anyone who registers!

Top 5 Skills to Kickstart Your Career in QA Engineering
Our new 'Top 5 Skills to Kickstart A Career in Quality Assurance Engineering' course is now available for your students.
In this interactive session, students will get to know what Quality Assurance (QA) is, the top 5 skills featured in the role.
The session includes 5 short lessons:
• Getting to know Majella and what a QA Engineer is
• Top 5 Common Skills in QA Engineering
• Getting to know the industry
• The next steps for them
• Exploring what InnovateHer offers more
Things to know:
• Student-led, catered for 13-17 year olds
• Curriculum-based
• Reaches Galatry Benchmarks 4 & 5
• It's free!

Medic Mentor
MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Scan to register!

Get Into Medicine.
CONFERENCE
Our doctors (Chief Mentors) will take you step-by-step through your application to medical school.
This includes:
• Application Timelines
• Interview Training
• Personal Statements
• CV Building
• UCAT Exams
• Extracurriculars
Using Medical Leadership Programmes, Awards programmes and Scholarships to University
To hear from a recently successful applicant on what it takes to make your candidacy to medical school stand out!

e.on Trailblazing heroes competition
This is your chance to champion the sustainability trailblazers leading the way to protect our planet!
Learn about the sustainability trailblazers who are ahead! What skills do they have? And what we can learn from them? We all have the power to create change and build a more sustainable future.
How to enter
Hand your completed entry to your teacher (or home educator) who will send it to us at newsenergyacademy@parklands.com.
Entries must be received by 23 May 2025.
For more information go to: www.eonenergy.com/news-energy-academy/competition-resources.
Need some help to get started? Head to www.eonenergy.com/news-energy-academy for a wide selection of trailblazing skills resources.

CAREER News 2025
Your weekly guide to careers information, advice and news from Parklands High School
Here we are again at the end of another very busy week at Parklands. Earlier this week, Years 7 and 8 experienced a STEM Roadshow with Matt, Sophie and Kat - and Fluffy the robot dog - more about that inside!
Year 8 will also take part in a STEM Day in mid June - details to follow.
• There are various competitions - Wildscreen Ark's nature photography challenge and a Trailblazing Hero competition run by Eon Energy. Perfectly timed as it is World Bee Day next week (hence the graphics on this issue!)
• Lots of virtual work experience opportunities on offer: Medic, Dental and Allied Health Mentor; Microsoft, Channel Four and John Lewis Partnership in conjunction with Get My First Job; plan STEM work experience with InvestNI Education.
• There are a number of really good apprenticeship vacancies this week - you need to create an account on the Gov.UK website, then you can apply for any of the jobs featured.
Work Experience week is rapidly approaching and the deadline for the booklets to be in is Monday 2nd June. I have a limited list of available placements for anyone who is struggling, but don't delay, places are filling fast. The MPCT (Army) placement will go ahead and I have ten spaces available for that. If anyone is interested in the MPCT or the NHS scheme, they need to see me as soon as possible (Top Office).
Year 10 will also visit two colleges in June/July for taster sessions. Pupils have already chosen their options for the days and they will receive individual timetables. These are always great days, allowing pupils to get a real feel for college life and the kind of subjects they will be able to study post-16.
Have a great weekend!
01 - 16 May 2023

Career News

Lots of great opportunities in this week's Career News: competitions, webinars, virtual work experience, apprenticeship vacancies, open days and much more!



Parklands High School Canteen Price List



Price increase from Monday 2nd June

Breakfast Items

Toast 35p
Crumpet 40p
Hash Brown 85p
Cheese on Toast £1.00
Pain au Chocolat £1.00
Cheese Toastie £1.35
Cheese and Ham Toastie £1.50
Sausage Barmcake £1.50
Bacon Barmcake £1.50

Sandwiches

Sandwich £1.55
Wrap £1.80

Snacks

Waffle 85p
Popcorn 95p
Popchips 95p
Flapjack 70p
Cookie 70p
Muffin £1
Slice of Cake £1
Tortilla Chips 95p
Cereal Bar 85p

Lunch Items

Chicken Wrap £1.90
Meal Deal – Healthy Food Option £2.40
Meal Deal £2.50
Jacket Potato £1.20 add a filling for 50p per item
Pie £1.50
Sausage Roll £1.50
Pizza £1.50
Pizza Twist £2.10
Potato Wedges £1.50
Garlic Bread 50p
Panini £2.10
Chicken Pieces £1.50

Chilled

Piece of Fruit 50p
Fruit Pot 95P
Jelly 80p
Yogurt 80p

Click [here](#) for full details.

Site Supervisor

Ref: SCH-AFM-0047

Establishment: Parklands High School

Location: Chorley

Salary: £24404 - £25183

Department: PRE

Job Type: Full Time

Key Stage: Key Stage 3, Key Stage 4

Closing Date: 02/06/2025 12:00

Interview Date: w/c 02/06/2025

Start Date: as soon as possible

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

MINECRAFT

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase, which is typically around £15. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 6 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 14.05.2025



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.

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**