

PARKLANDS BULLETIN Week 2 17th - 21st March 2025



Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

Today we have been celebrating Comic Relief and World Down Syndrome Awareness Day. It has been great to see so many pupils and staff supporting us by proudly displaying their odd socks! We have also been selling sweets, and we hosted Easter Bingo this morning. Lots of pupils called 'Bingo' and were lucky enough to win an Easter Egg.

Year 7 attended a special assembly on Wednesday, where they were told all about the Holocaust by a visitor whose father survived a concentration camp during the war. They behaved fantastically, and asked some brilliant and thoughtful questions at the end of the assembly.

Next week we have our community Iftar on Thursday evening. Tickets are available on Scopay and we would love to see lots of families there, whatever their faith. It was very successful last year and we are expecting the same this year. There will hopefully be lots of food and celebration!

Last night we held our options evening for Year 9 pupils, who will soon be choosing their Specialisms at GCSE. It was very well attended and it was lovely to see so many pupils here with their families to listen to presentations by our specialist subjects. Year 9 also have a Respect Day next Thursday, which is based around understanding the law.

Mrs. Batson Headteacher

Key Dates - March and April

- 25th March Parent Forum 6pm
- 27th March Iftar Evening
- 4th April Last day of term. 3pm Finish
- 22nd April First day back of Summer Term
- 22nd April Final Year 11 Tracker reports and reviews
- 24th April Y11 Progress Evening Online

Year 11 Revision

With only 38 days until the first exam for some of our Year 11 pupils taking Photography, revision should now be a regular part of their routine at home. The first whole-cohort exam, English, is in 52 days on May 12th. With this in mind, next week follows a 'Week 1' revision schedule, as outlined below.

Week 1	Subject	
Monday	English	
Tuesday	Option A	
Wednesday	Science	
Thursday	Option B	

Year 11 Easter School April 2025

Easter School will run during the break to help students prepare for their upcoming summer exams. Full details can be found in the letter linked <u>here</u>.

On Monday morning, I held an assembly for Year 11 students to go over the details with them. Please note that the deadline for booking places is **Tuesday**, **2nd April**. As staffing is arranged based on the number of bookings, we are unable to offer flexibility on this deadline.

Mr Metcalf

Y11 Achievement Lead

Year 9 Respect Day

Year 9 will have a Respect day next week about 'Understanding the Law' around topics such as drugs, relationships and smoking next week. We are really pleased to be working with SPOC:Smokefree who are an NHS provider of stop smoking services. They will be running some workshops about vaping as well.

Secure

All pupils will continue their learning about sustainability in Secure next week. We will be looking specifically at food waste and the use of food banks. Resources will be available for parent's to view, via your child's Secure Google Classroom.

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.

Thank you,

Mrs Haslam

Electric Scooters

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

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 117 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	92.2%	93.1%
Asia	96%	94.7%
Europe	94.4%	94.6%
South America	93.9%	94%
Africa	93.8%	94%
Whole School	93.6%	93.5%

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.

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: 58 pupils to date

Year 8: 55 pupils to date Year 9: 45 pupils to date

Year 10: 49 students to date
Year 11: 44 students to date

All: 251 students

How many had the perfect 3 in the previous week?

Year 7: 166 pupils Year 8: 152 pupils

Year 9: 122 pupils Year 10: 145 students

Year 11: 117 students
All: 702 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: 119 pupils

Year 9: 94 pupils
Year 10: 128 students

Year 11: 95 students

All: 583 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



World Down Syndrome Awareness Day

A huge thank you to the student helpers who worked hard in getting the day together. Down Syndrome Awareness Day has been amazing! Pupils got involved and enjoyed eating lots of sweet treats!!

Another shout out for Grandad Jims who also supported this amazing cause! Thank you to parents and carers for your very generous donations. Next week's bulletin will have the exact amount raised!

















Panathlon

Congratulations to our fabulous Panathlon Team for participating in the County Final Xtend program in Blackpool. The team showed great sportsmanship and had a great day too!



Iftar Evening

Iftar Evening (Thursday 27th March): Key messages for attendees:

- Please park in the top playcourt (down the ramp) or outside of the school.
- Please enter the school Hall via the steps on the playcourt and bridge OR top Pupil Entrance.
 The Main Reception will be unstaffed on the evening.
- You will sign in on the concourse.
- The event will start at 6pm.
- We will have spaces reserved for prayer.
- Food and drink donations are very welcome please do bring a contribution to the buffet if you intend to break the fast with us.
- Tickets can still be purchased via **Scopay**, from Miss Rhodes, OR on the door.
- The event will close at 7:30pm.

Community Iftar Event – Please Join Us!

7 **Date:** Thursday 27th March 7:30 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.
- **Pundraising:** 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)

Holocaust Speaker

On Tuesday, Leah Burman from the Northern Holocaust Education Group delivered a powerful and moving personal account to our Year 7 students. Leah shared her family's tragic experiences of the Holocaust, providing a deeply impactful insight into this horrific period of history. This is Leah's second visit to Parklands, and her testimony remains as poignant and thought-provoking as before. We believe this is an essential learning experience for all students, ensuring the lessons of the past are never forgotten.





KS3 Religious Studies: Exploring the Abrahamic Faiths

This term, KS3 students are delving into the beliefs, traditions, and histories of the Abrahamic religions. Here are some discussion questions to explore with your child this week:

Year 7: Judaism

- What is a religious festival?
- What does Pesach (Passover) remember, and how is it celebrated?
- What is the significance of the Seder meal?

Year 8: The History of Christianity

- How was the Bible produced?
- What is the difference between the Old and New Testaments?
- How did the Nicene Creed shape Christian beliefs?

Year 9: An Introduction to Islam

- What is the impact of Zakah (charitable giving) on a Muslim's everyday life?
- Why do Muslims fast during Ramadan (Sawm)?
- How does fasting strengthen a Muslim's faith?





PE Update week beginning 17th 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 Chorley District Basketball Tournament - the squad played teams from St Michaels, Holy Cross, Southlands and Bishop Rawstorne at home. A great performance for their first time representing Parklands. Fantastic drive got them a second place finish! Well done!





Year 7 Boys Football Spring Cup - The team played against Holy Cross and St Michael's. With some great teamwork on display, one win and one loss. This resulted in a second place finish. Well done!

Year 10 Boys Football Spring Cup - The team played against Southlands. A good contest with some great football on display from both teams. We fought hard and won.

This means the team has progressed to the final in the summer. Well done!



Year 10 & 11 Boys Football - This friendly was played against Holy Cross. What a game! Initially losing 4-0 the team brought it back to 4-4...a last minute goal by Holy Cross meant a 4-5 loss. Fantastic effort!

Year 10 Girls and Boys Chorley District Handball Tournament - Their last ever Handball competition representing Parklands. The team played some very strong teams showing some great skill and tactics. After some great attacking plays and some nail biting defending the girls secured a first place which means they are through to counties. The boys secured a joint first finish but unfortunately due to goal difference did not make it through. Watch this space... Well done. We are very proud of you.





We are very proud of all of our pupils and the continued commitment they show. Well done!

Only 7 places remain. Don't miss out!





Wednesday 18th
March 2026 at The
Palace Theatre,
Manchester
@7.30pm

£33 including tickets and coach transfer

Pay on Scopay to secure your place

Only 8 places remain. The deadline to sign up is next week.

Barcelona Dance Trip 2026

Sunday 24th May - Thursday 28th May 2026

All pupils, in current Y7-9, who dance inside and outside of scho 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



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





Peru Crew Makers Market

25th, 26th and 27th November, in the Pacific Hub at lunchtime Pupils will be selling mothers day and easter goods that they have made themselves to raise money for their trip to Peru. Come down and have look, there will be something for everyone. Cash only please.





EASTER EGG RAFFLE

Win one of these chocolate hampers







Tickets £1 from Mr Johnston in the Library or pay on scopay.

Prizes drawn at break on April 4th

PROM - Incentive (half termly)



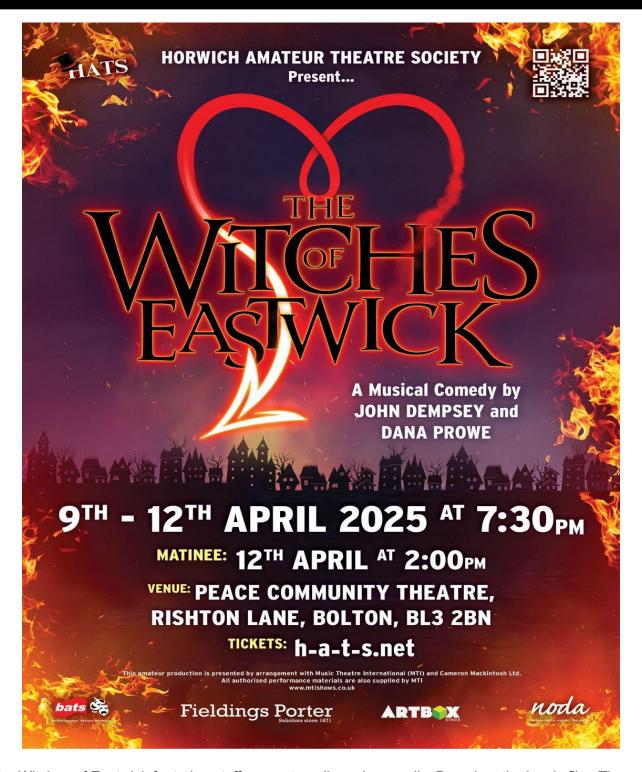
- BfL average 2.95 and over 1 point
- Attendance 94% and over 1 point
- No social strikes 1 point
- No lates 1 point
- A suspension will clear all points for the half term.

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.



The Witches of Eastwick featuring staff, current pupils and ex pupils. Based on the iconic film. Three bored New England housewives, Alexandra, Jane, and Sukie conjure a charismatic stranger, Darryl Van Horne, after wishing for the "man of their dreams," leading to a comedic exploration of their newfound powers and a clash with the devilish Darryl. Book your tickets now @h-a-t-s.net - age recommendation 12 plus.

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

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Livestreaming has become a big part of the entertainment people consume, and what began as a series of gamers sharing their screens has grown into a huge industry packed with personalities - and potential risks for your children. With over 2.5 million people watching Twitch, the most popular streaming service, at any one time, it's important to remain aware of the risks associated with streamers.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

UNDER Some gaming streamers will stick to family-friendly titles, but others will play more violent games that tend to be more popular. Non-gaming streamers could, in theory, discuss just about anything, and some streamers will often stream in revealing outfits.

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NEGATIVE INFLUENCES

While things have improved, streamers are often pold by companies to promote products, and this isn't always stated explicitly. While it's unlikely these goods will be harmful to your child, some streamers and influencers have engaged (knowingly or not) in scams in the past.

FINANCIAL HARM

Streamers will often have donation buttons on their screens for users to submit money. What can start as small amounts can quickly spiral as streamers engage with paying viewers more often, potentially leading to financial issues.

UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Influencers often showcase how glamourous their lives are, making some users feel as though they are lesser. However, it's important to stress that, in many ways, this is an act, or at the very least, not common. Logan Paul, who has been successful as a streamer and influencer, has a Pokemon card worth \$5 million, but this is atypical of anyone working in the medium.

MISINFORMATION

Streamers are, in many ways, just like us - and they can get things wrong or reel off an opinion without having thought about it. Some can simply say awful things to get a rise out of viewers or to sway them to their side of a hot topic.

ADDICTION AND SCREEN TIME

If your child is watching a lot of a particular streamer, it can be just as damaging to their social life as playing too many video games.

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Advice for Parents & Educators

EXPLAIN HOW STREAMING WORKS

For a younger viewer, being a streamer or influencer seems aspirational, but it involves a lot of work and no small degree of good fortune. Streamers are often managed and unable to speak freely due to sponsors, and influencers are just that - influencing young minds, for better or for worse.

DO NOT LOG PAYMENT INFORMATION

Streamers can reward donations with additional content, on-camera "shout outs" and more. If you're unsure about who or what your child is watching, consider avolding linking apyment information. This is especially notable with Twitch which is owned by Amazon and therefore has some crossover.

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of the Daily Star, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the Importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



CHECK OUT STREAMING PLATFORMS

While Twitch was the de facto streaming service for years, YouTube has gained popularity, too. Then there are Kick and Rumble, which have grown in popularity with moves for big-name streamers - despite many being dogged by controversy.

SET SCREEN TIME LIMITS

You can set screentime limits for mobile apps on iOS and Google, but with other platforms like a PC it may be more difficult to keep tabs. Consider checking in regularly to ensure your children aren't watching

Meet Our Expert

The **National** College®

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Source: See full reference list on guide page at: https://nationalcollege.com/guides/streamers











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.

Careers

Click <u>here</u> for career news.



Another packed edition of Career News this week - very much with a focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths).

There are lots of great opportunities on offer from competitions and challenges to work experience and webinars. There is something for every age group from 6-16 (and beyond!)

Congratulations to the current Year 8 STEM team who had their online assessment this week in front of four industry judges. They had to present their project and then answer questions from the judges about what they had learned over the 12 week challenge. They performed really well and have been given excellent feedback from the judges. They also now gain the Bronze Industrial Cadet award and will travel to the University of Liverpool in the summer term to collect their awards and certificates.

Careers

All college interviews in school are now complete. If your child missed an interview, they will be contacted by the college to take part in a telephone interview. For most colleges, attendance at the interview counts as acceptance of the place, but please check emails for some of the colleges who require students to log in to the portal and upload photos or click a link to secure their place. Students should accept all the places they are offered and only make a final decision on the day they collect GCSE results and enrol. Everyone needs a backup option and a lot can change between now and August. If your child decides they want to change the course they have chosen, they can do this at the new student day in July or on enrolment day in August. They also have a few weeks to change subjects/courses after they enrol, so nothing is set in stone at this point.

If anyone has applied for an apprenticeship through a college, please note that the student is expected to source and secure an employer, although the apprenticeship teams at college will help with this. Students will be placed on a full time course from September, with the option to switch to the apprenticeship as and when this is confirmed. That can be at any time of the year, so they may for instance only attend the full time course for a few weeks.

Apprenticeships are advertised on the Gov.UK site: https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship
Students should first of all create an account, then they can apply directly to any of the vacancies on offer. There is a really useful booklet available which describes how to create an account, plus useful hints and tips for interviews: https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices/create-account#

There will be a reminder assembly on Monday for the Year 10 students who will be going out on work experience in July. There are still some students who have not returned their consent letters and although I have handed out well over a hundred booklets, there are very few that have been completed and returned. The WEX week is 14th - 18th July 2025 so I need booklets to be returned by 2nd June, after the half term, in order to check all insurance details and so on.

Booklets are available from the Top Office and all the relevant documents are also on the school website: https://www.parklandsacademv.co.uk/parents/work-experience

Please note that there is no dedicated website of placements, students are expected to find their own placement - however, I can support where necessary with some of our wonderful local businesses and employers. Do not leave it too late though, as other schools will have the same WEX week as Parklands!





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?



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?

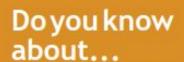
For more information about working with our children, please come along to our information event at Parklands High School on Tuesday, 29th April at 10am.













Free III 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