

PARKLANDS BULLETIN 18 Jan - 22 Jan 2021: Week 1



Headteacher's Message

Dear parents, carers and students,

You may have noticed the change of name of this bulletin; this will hopefully ensure that the bulletin is read not only by parents and carers but by our whole student body too. We are frequently asked questions regarding matters which have been mentioned in our weekly bulletin, so please spend time each week perusing the bulletin in order to keep well informed of school information and events. We are firm believers that good communication is essential, and all copies of our bulletins are available on our website under School Life/Parklands Bulletin.

I am delighted to report that student engagement so far with home learning is much better than during the first lockdown last year. Teaching staff are regularly reporting that most students are attending the live Google Meet lessons and submitting their work, which will ensure good student progress is maintained. For the minority of students who aren't engaging as well as they should, teachers are contacting parents and carers which is hopefully helping families keep on top of the work. However, we do know that some families are struggling, sharing devices, and dealing with not only remote learning but also with parents/carers working from home. All we ask is that students try their best, and if at any time you or they are struggling, please do let us know. A reminder of the Houseleaders' contact details are as follows:

Mr Swift - Africa - aswift@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Mr Snell - Asia - csnell@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Mrs Fox - Europe - gfox@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Mrs Dewhurst - Australasia - kdewhurst@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Mrs Haslam (during Miss Burrill's absence) - South America - shaslam@parklandsacademy.co.uk

The final pages of this bulletin recognise excellent levels of effort by some of our students, so well done to those of you who are mentioned! Undoubtedly, there will be many more of you who are doing yourselves proud at home, so please keep up the high standards!

If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals, click here.

Thank you once again for your kind and supportive messages, and for your ongoing support.

Best wishes, Mr Mitchell Headteacher

Year 7 Messages

None this week

Year 8 Messages

None this week

Year 9 Messages

PROGRESS REPORTS

The first progress report of the academic year was shared with parents and carers via Edulink on Thursday. **The report gives an indication of the progress being made in all subjects over the first term.** Please take the time to read and discuss it. Click <u>here</u> for a link to explanatory notes on BfL & Progress descriptors.

We have been really impressed with the effort, attitude and resilience shown up to now and all we ask is that all students make every effort to engage in all their learning, whether at home or in school. Remote learning is in place until the end of this half-term, at least, so we have extended the support we offer by holding weekly catch-ups with Form Tutors and HALs. Please use these as a way of keeping in touch and raising any questions or concerns.

Please read the GCSEPod message in the Year 11 section

Year 10 Messages

Please read the GCSEPod message in the Year 11 section

WaG (Working at Grade) Reports

The first WaG Report the academic year was shared with parents and carers via Edulink on Tuesday. WaGs are the grades that are produced at the key assessment points in their subjects during the first term. It is possible that WaGs will vary depending on the effort, application and outcomes in each reporting period. Please note that Year 10 have another 16 months before their final exams and WaGs are not overall predictions of final GCSE outcomes. Click <u>here</u> for more details.

Year 11 Messages

Well done for your engagement so far with your work! We know it is far from ideal to be working at home during your final year of high school. Although GCSE exams in the summer have been cancelled, we are yet to be informed of how you will be awarded your results. There is talk of mini exams in some subjects and teachers submitting Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs), but no final details of how you will be graded have been released yet. The best thing you can do is complete as much work as you can. Give your teachers evidence of your engagement, evidence of your effort, evidence of your ability, so that we have ample information about you when the time comes to submit CAGs. You've now had two trackers containing WAGs, so you should have an idea about what grades you may achieve, but you must keep on working! Everything you do at home will count, so don't give up, however hard it may be. For more information about WAGs, click on the link in the Year 10 message.

Year 11 Messages

http://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/virtual-open

This link will take you to the **Bolton College** virtual open event page where you will find links to tours of the college, Q&As, application support and every curriculum area explored.

GCSEPod

GCSEPod is a revision website we subscribe to as a school which contains over 4000 revision videos ('pods') in all different subject areas. All Year 9, 10 and 11 students are set up on GCSEPod, however they need to make sure that they have activated their account. See <u>this presentation</u> with instructions about how to activate your account. If you have any problems using GCSEPod, please contact Mr Martin (tmartin@parklandsacademy.co.uk).

Year 11 - you can still apply to colleges (and you should be applying to at least TWO, just so you have a back-up option). Colleges can - and sometimes do - drop courses due to lack of interest or lack of staff, so don't assume that the course you have chosen will definitely go ahead. See if it is an option at another college, especially if it is something you particularly want to do. We are really lucky in this area, there are no 'bad' colleges - they all offer something different, but they all get great results.

Careers

Calling all aspiring medics, dentists and vets - great news from Medic Mentor

We are inviting secondary school students from all years and schools to apply to the Medic Mentor National Medical Essay and Art Competitions. We encourage students with an interest in becoming doctors, vets and dentists to apply because not only is it a fantastic achievement for their CVs, but submissions can also be used to fulfil criteria for the Medical Awards Programme. Therefore, it puts students one step closer to being awarded a scholarship of £12,000 to study medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine at university.

The title for the National Essay Competition is 'Do healthcare professionals have an obligation to improve the health of our planet?'

Deadline: 2nd February 2020 (so get moving!)

If students are not already part of the <u>Awards Programme</u>, they can still get involved if they wish. It is very useful for students because:

1. It puts students in the running for a £12,000 university scholarship.

2. It helps students to focus their efforts and achievements. It is the only place where all of the essential non-academic criteria for university applications are clearly listed and easy to follow.

3. They gain access to application mentoring from doctors, vets and dentists as well as e-learning modules to help them boost their CVs.

4. It increases their chances of getting into medical, dental or vet school.

5. It makes the process more fun and less stressful!

Click on the links below to learn more about the essay and art competition details and the Awards Programme!

https://medicmentor.co.uk/art-and-essay/ https://medicmentor.co.uk/medic-mentor-awards-programme/

Careers

Click <u>here</u> to access a document designed to support schools in the careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) being delivered to pupils in Key Stage 4/Year 11. The information has been provided by post 16 institutions across Lancashire to show their course offer, onsite facilities, support for students and how young people can apply for a place. This information is intended to help support them in the decisions they are making about their futures by showing what each institution is able to provide.

Due to the continuing Covid-19 situation, post 16 institutions are restricted in how they can support schools and young people at this time in relation to offering open events, tours and taster days. With that in mind, the focus of this document has been to provide as many links as possible to things like documents, video clips and course information to make it easier to navigate provider websites.

https://neonfutures.org.uk/case-study/rollercoaster-engineer-ainsley-james/

If you fancy being an engineer - have a look at this video. Ainsley is an electrical engineer and he works on the rollercoasters at Thorpe Park. It might be an area of engineering that you never considered before. Don't forget that STEM subjects are vital for this type of career, so work extra hard in maths, sciences and DT!

Something for parents/carers as well as students

One of the joys of being a FutureLearner is that you can access education from the best universities in the UK (and the world) online, on demand.

<u>King's College London</u> is ranked as one of the top 25 universities in the world. As a leading research and teaching university, they've played a major role in advances that have shaped modern life, including the discovery of the structure of DNA.

Meanwhile, the **<u>University of Manchester</u>** dates back to 1824 and is one of the prestigious Russell Group's top 24 UK research universities. The university is respected across the globe as a centre of teaching excellence and innovative research.

FutureLearn makes world class education from these prestigious universities accessible online. From an **Introduction to Business Management** to the **History of Royal Fashion**, explore more below and enrol now. Most of the courses are completely free and can be completed in your own time.

https://www.futurelearn.com/

Join our student Q&A with astronaut Tim Peake

Don't forget that you can still join the conversation with Tim Peake and find out more about being an astronaut. Live on Thursday 21st January, 5-6pm - follow the link to book your place. Launch your career!!

Apprenticeship Notifications

For anyone who has applied for an apprenticeship through **Wigan & Leigh College**, please watch this short video. You will automatically be offered a full time course in the area you are interested in (ie. plumbing, electrical installation, etc) and once an apprenticeship vacancy becomes available, you will be able to transfer. <u>https://youtu.be/TwzDaTENSiw</u>

https://issuu.com/boltoncollege1/docs/college_connect_issue_1_-_dec_2020_smaller

The link above will take you to the most up to date issue of the **Bolton College** Connect magazine, packed full of useful information and advice.

Training 2000 are holding a Virtual Open Evening in early February. Register now and find out all about their great apprenticeship offers in engineering and manufacturing, dental and health care, automotive technologies, business and accountancy, information technology and scaffolding.

As part of the University of Central Lancs., they can offer direct progression to degree level apprenticeships, so you can earn, learn and study without the debt of university - one to consider after this particular year!

Check out their Instagram and Facebook pages as well for updates and vacancies.

Click this link: <u>www.training2000.co.uk/virtual</u> to register for the Open Evenings on Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th February, between 5pm and 8pm.

British Museum - Explore the British Museum from home. See highlights like the Rosetta Stone in the Egyptian Sculpture Gallery or discover gems like the beautiful textiles in the Sainsbury African Galleries.

Following this current lockdown, I have been contacted by teachers, staff and pupils regarding numerous concerns they have. The pupils have stated they are feeling incredibly anxious, struggling to motivate themselves and also feeling scared about losing family or friends to COVID-19. Next Thursday 21st January at 10am, myself and Dave will be doing an episode of the Mental Health Family Hour to address these concerns. This will be beneficial for all pupils, staff and parents. They will also have the opportunity to ask any questions at the end. They will not be on camera, as it is via Twitch. Please do share this with anyone who you feel would benefit from this.

The link for next Thursday - https://www.twitch.tv/mindsetbydave

There will also be further episodes following this. As always, I will send the recorded link out following next week's webinar.

Kind regards,

Sam Tyrer Prevention and Engagement Lead Nursing & Quality Directorate Lancashire & South Cumbria Foundation Trust

Parklands High School Received the Inclusive School Award Again

Click here to access the news story about our school!



Weekly Learning Support Board

PE during lockdown

Well done to all the pupils who have taken part in PE lessons over the first two weeks of lockdown, it has been fantastic to see what they have been up to. The first two weeks was a class and year group competition with Year 8 winning in the year groups and Miss Greaves' pupils being the most active!

The next fortnight is a new competition about getting your Houses involved and you will be emailed on Monday morning what you need to do.

Remember you can keep up to date with how everyone is getting on via the PE instagram @peparklands

<u>Here</u> are the updates from the first two weeks of lockdown.

Stay safe and active! Team PE



A Parklands Archive Project

2020 Vision - A Reflection on the Year NHS 2020 has been a year like no other. We are living through a unique moment in history and the STAY HOME TO HELP US SAVE LIVES challenges brought about by the ACT LIKE YOU'VE GOT IT COVID-19 crisis have impacted all of society. This global pandemic has affected us at every level: Worldwide Nationally Regionally

- Locally
- Community
- Personally

Through our SECURE programme we plan to mark the most unexpected and challenging of years in our living history by capturing the essence of 2020.

Launched last week with students, we would love families to get involved too.

We would like you to share your thoughts, words, images and experiences so that we can commemorate 2020 for the Parklands Archive.

What did 2020 mean for you and your family?

Click here to find out more and perhaps feel inspired to get involved.

Free School Meals

All families in receipt of free school meals have been sent an email from Mrs Curtis regarding the voucher scheme, which starts again on Monday 18th January. Vouchers will be ordered on Monday by school but we do not know how long it will take for the eCodes to be emailed from Edenred to parents/carers.

If you have not received the email from Mrs Curtis, please email <u>admin@parklandsacademy.co.uk</u>, but we are assuming that all families will want the voucher unless **you advise us** that you wish to continue receiving food from The Bees Country Kitchen.

Any queries, please contact us using the above email address.

Click here to go back to page 1 of the bulletin.



Only a few places remaining! Email MIss Marr at <u>gmarr@parklandsacademy.co.uk</u> for a letter or any more information

Come And Explore Kooth With Us

The following virtual sessions will provide parents and carers with:

- An overview of Kooth and how we support young people's mental health and wellbeing
- · A live demonstration of the service
- A Q&A to ask us anything you want to know about Kooth

To attend please register on the following links.

Thursday 21st January @ 11am-12pm

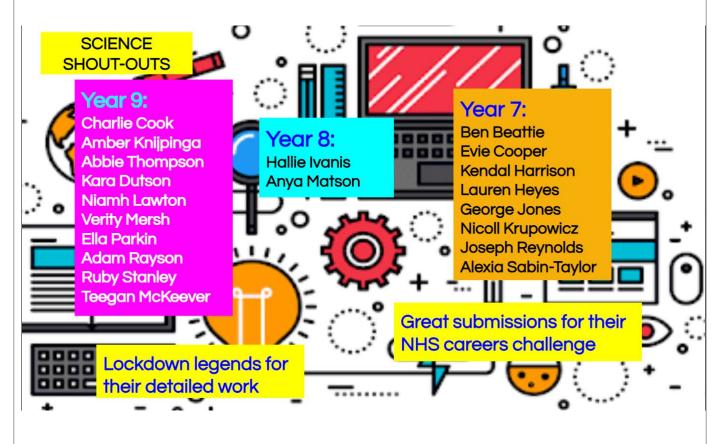
Wednesday 27th January @ 6-7pm

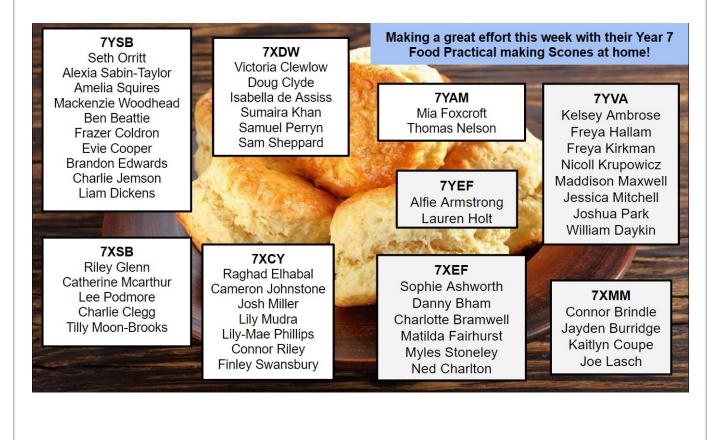


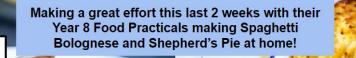
Fantastic work in Year 7 Connect from:

- Cameron J,
- Kienna K,
- Chleo W,
- Cian NY

You went above and beyond with your work on the Holocaust.







8XSB Max Arnold Rhian Brewster Taegan Hartshorn Cameron Mead Josh Tremmil Charlotte Vickers

Ewan Watson Kayla Heyes Kareem Ebaid Scarlett Prendergast Ben Parker

8YSB Ruby-Grace Bower Georgia Cahill Hubert Zachaczewski 8YSB Hubert Zachaczewski Phoebe Lambert

> 8XSB Ruby Clarke Josh Tremmil



Well done the following pupils for producing some amazing work this week. Check out the loom on classroom to see what they did!

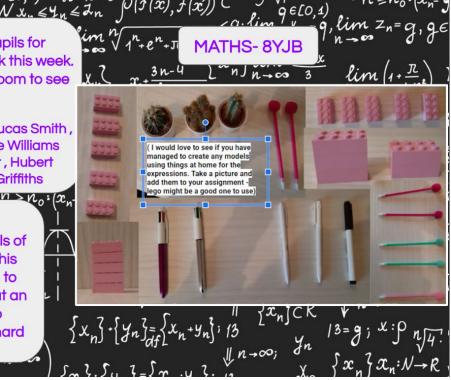
May Upton, Phoebe Lambert, Lucas Smith, Isaac Overend, Ebony - Grace Williams Goodman, Elizabeth Vincent, Hubert Zachaczwski and Isabella Griffiths

+4/ 1...

n>no:

Phoebe Lambert 8YJB

Phoebe created some models of her algebraic expressions this week and was kind enough to share a picture of them. What an outstanding effort, I'm so impressed! Keep up all the hard work Phoebe N->00



Congratulations to the following students in 8YDB for excellent scores on their most recent Accelerated Reader guizzes:

George Pilkington-Lowe **Hollie Atherton Rhys Hutson Thomas Joyce** Leon Parry **Lily Slater Tyler Stevenson**

HC 49

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Keep up the great work! Keep reading!

English

Congratulations to Megan Ashworth in 10YDB for going above and beyond with her English work! You are producing some fabulous work in lockdown and your efforts are really paying off with such great improvements in your writing. Keep up the great effort!



Well done to the following Y8's who all did an amazing job on their recent rainforest assignment. Well done - Mrs Ward

Leon Barlow Seb Holbert Matylda Nurek Emma Rayson Lucas Smith Freya Taylor Ewan Watson Robert Armstrong Grace Caton Emily Fraser Elizabeth Vincent Ebony-Grace Williams-Goodman

Thanks to Luis Campbell in Year 7 who went above and beyond.....

We have been looking at the Ice Age and Glaciation in Geography lessons. Luis sent me a clip he had taken off a documentary which is related to this week's work. Thanks Luis!

Dear Mrs Eastham I'm watching a documentary about the Arctic and Antarctic when a scene comes on talking about the world's fastest glacier. (BBC:frozen planet by David Attenborough)the clip has been attached to this email.

I love it when students show a genuine interest in the subject I love so much!

Mrs Eastham CL Geography