



# PARKLANDS BULLETIN

## 13 - 17 September 2021 : Week 1



### Headteacher's message

Dear parents and carers and students,

It has been an absolute delight to welcome all students back to school this year. The return to *normality* has been wonderful, seeing students from various year groups being able to interact and socialise together. Our new Year 7s have coped very well indeed, finding their way around a very large school and not being afraid to ask staff or students the way to classrooms. Our new Reading initiative is going extremely well, and it's such a delightful way to start the school day.

#### COVID

Today we attended an online meeting with the Dr Sakthi, Director of Public Health for Lancashire, where we received an update on the current situation in our area. Currently, we have 6 active cases, none of which are linked to in-school transmission, but locally the number of positive cases is rising rapidly. Some schools have been severely affected already, so Dr Sakthi asked us to remind everyone of the importance of lateral flow testing twice a week. In addition, he stressed the importance of PCR testing if you or your child displays not only the 3 main symptoms but also symptoms such as headache, sickness and diarrhea, aches & pains - ultimately, anything which makes you feel unwell.

#### Year 6 Open Evening - Thursday, 16th September

Please note that school will close at 1pm. Bus companies have been informed.

#### The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

This falls during our half-term break in the summer term, therefore our day in lieu is **Tuesday, 3rd May 2022**. This will give us a 4-day weekend.

#### Extra-curricular activities

Please encourage your child to get involved! It makes the school experience so much better and is a fantastic way to meet new people and develop skills. There is so much to choose from!

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr Mitchell  
Headteacher



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### Year 7 Messages

Students will change classes with effect from Monday 14th September. Having recently completed the Cognitive Abilities Tests (CATs), the results will be used to determine the new classes. Rather than subject specific tests, the CATs give schools a broader, more rounded view of each child, their academic potential and how they learn. The results help us to create classes with students of similar abilities, decide about the pace of learning and whether additional support or challenge is needed. We will have sets for the core and EBACC subjects (English, maths, science, MFL, geography, history and RS). Some subjects are grouped together, for example maths and science, humanities and MFL. All sets will be stretched and challenged. We have the highest expectations of all groups and ensure they work to the best of their ability. The changes have been explained to the Year 7s during Form Time and the sets will be regularly reviewed

**Welcome to Parklands Evening:** as we were unable to offer this in the summer term, we would like to invite the parents/carers and pupils in Year 7 into school, to meet with Mr Mitchell, Headteacher, your child's Houseleader, and your child's Form Tutor. We believe this is an important part of the transition process from primary school. There is no need to confirm your attendance, and details of the event are as follows:

AFRICA House: Monday, 20th September at 5pm

SOUTH AMERICA House: Tuesday, 21st September at 5pm

EUROPE House: Wednesday, 22nd September at 5pm

ASIA House: Monday, 27th September at 5pm

AUSTRALASIA House: Tuesday, 28th September at 5pm

### Year 8 Messages

Students in year 8 will have the subjects Food, Design & Technology and Computing on rotation for one term at a time. For instance, a student with Food on their timetable this term may move to D&T after Christmas and Computing in the Summer term. This is not unusual in secondary schools as we have limited workshops, kitchens etc and always aim to ensure that we have specialist teachers delivering these subjects within an appropriate workspace.

**Welcome to Parklands Evening:** we would like to invite the parents/carers and pupils in Year 8 into school, to meet with Mr Mitchell, Headteacher, your child's Houseleader, and your child's Form Tutor. Due to COVID we know that many families have never stepped foot inside our school as usual transition activities could not take place. There is no need to confirm your attendance, and details of the event are as follows:

AFRICA House: Monday, 20th September at 6.30pm

SOUTH AMERICA House: Tuesday, 21st September at 6.30pm

EUROPE House: Wednesday, 22nd September at 6.30pm

ASIA House: Monday, 27th September at 6.30pm

AUSTRALASIA House: Tuesday, 28th September at 6.30pm

## **Year 9 Messages**

None this week

## **Year 10 Messages**

None this week

## **Year 11 Messages**

Reminder: it is Assessment Week for Year 11 from Monday, 13th September. Students have been advised by their teachers about this and should ensure they prepare thoroughly ahead of these. Given the disruption that has occurred in recent years, we would like to emphasise how important these assessments are. We are currently advised that exams will take place next year, however should that change as it did last year, these results will form an integral part of our Centre Assessed Grades.

## Head Students' Page

### Milly

You may think that it only takes one interview to secure your role as purple tie. This is not the case. For me, becoming head pupil began from the moment I walked through the pupil entrance. Since year 7, I have thrown myself towards every single opportunity that has been given to me. From science fairs to football matches. From French clubs to house comps. Every little thing counts. As you will read from the others, getting involved in a variety of different clubs and competitions is fundamental to becoming a head pupil. However, the main thing that I believe helped me get to where I am now is sacrifice. I have sacrificed lunchtimes, hours at home and social time. However, I assure you that this was totally worth it. After participating in everything that I could and giving plenty of time to the school, I managed to have a seat in Mr Mitchell's office for the final interview. I was thrilled when I found out that I had managed to secure the role that I had aspired to since year 7. My advice for anyone with hopes of becoming head pupil is simply to get involved and maintain good behaviour. I know that this will benefit you as a person whilst also helping you take one step closer to being where I am today.

### Becca

Hope you've all had an excellent first full week back!

Please remember you can always talk to us if you need help, advice or perhaps are an aspiring head pupil yourself!! We have an email address which is:

[headstudents@parklandsacademy.co.uk](mailto:headstudents@parklandsacademy.co.uk) and we would

love to hear from you about anything, especially if you'd rather talk to us than a teacher. You can also chat to us if you see us around the school - we have purple ties on and

are always happy to talk! If you want a leadership role within school, it's never too late, or too early, to start impressing staff and getting involved. Throughout my years at school I have gone to clubs, been subject ambassadors, always helped out when I can and taken many opportunities to try different things and it's been so much fun!! Having a positive attitude and a willingness to take opportunities that come to you is perfect for a student leadership team position so I hope that you all put yourselves out there and have a go. Hope you all have a great weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday! :))



## Head Students' Page

### Jack

Getting head pupil isn't down to the final interview that you complete in year ten, it's about the years of build-up behind it. Which is why I believe my commitments outside of the school curriculum led me to becoming a head pupil. Over my past four years at Parklands I have always attempted to get involved with a variety of clubs and opportunities that are presented to students, varying from district athletics to county science competitions. Not only is it important to attend extra curricular but to apply myself within lessons as well as being punctual at all times.

### Eadie

How I got my purple tie.... One of the main reasons as to how I got my purple tie is getting involved. All throughout year 7 and 8 I made sure that I joined loads of different clubs and made sure I got myself involved in activities. I took part in sports days, school shows and loads of different school clubs that Parklands has to provide. I also made sure that I helped my House. I joined in with House competitions and did my part to contribute. Throughout my time at Parklands I have maintained a perfect BFL and a good attendance. All of these things contributed greatly to my role as head pupil and they also allowed me to meet new people and make students and teachers aware of who I am and what I am capable of doing.



# Whole School Messages

Weekly Learning Support Board, please click [here](#)

## 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: 201 pupils  
Year 8: 150 pupils  
Year 9: 160 pupils  
Year 10: 154 students  
Year 11: 167 students

**Year 7 - what an incredible start  
you are having with us! Well done!**

**Please congratulate your child if they have the Perfect 3. All BfL scores can be seen in the Edulink app.**

We would like to thank Mrs Jolly for all the hard work, dedication and support she has shown whilst working in our school kitchen for almost 18 years. Her kindness to staff and pupils throughout her time with us has been appreciated by many and we are sad to see her go. We would like to wish you Good Luck with your new ventures, you will be missed!

Click [here](#) to read the Chorley & South Ribble News magazine which contains lots of useful information and resources for parents/carers.

## Flu vaccination 2021/22 for schools: message from the Local Authority

For the 2021/22 flu season, the flu vaccination programme that already includes all children in primary school will be expanded to children in secondary school. Students in years 7 to 11 will now be offered flu vaccination this autumn term. This significant expansion in the COVID19: 07 September 2021 programme is part of the government's wider winter planning to reduce flu levels in the population, and therefore the potential impact on the NHS, when we are likely to see both flu and COVID-19 in circulation. No decision has been made yet about whether this expanded programme will continue in future years. As usual, a local school-age immunisation provider will make contact to agree a date for the vaccination session and the best approach for implementing the programme. A briefing on the flu vaccination programme can be found on [GOV.UK](#).

**SCOPAY** - We aim to be a cashless school so would prefer all transactions to be made via SCOPAY. If you have not yet registered but require a link code, please email [accounts@parklandsacademy.co.uk](mailto:accounts@parklandsacademy.co.uk) and a code will be emailed to you.

When paying for dinner money, please note you cannot purchase any other item in the same transaction. If you would like to pay for a trip and top up your child's dinner money account, then two separate transactions will need to be done.

Starting on Monday 13th September the Fitness Suite will be open to pupils in Y9,10 and 11 from 3-4pm every week day. We have a maximum number of 25 pupils so it is safe and manageable. It is first come first served each day however we have never had more than 25 pupils turn up to use it on one day before. Pupils must be in sports kit to attend with sports trainers on.

## Whole School Messages

On Saturday 18th September the G7 Speakers' and Presiding Officers' Conference will be taking place at Astley Hall. Sir Lindsay Hoyle, Speaker of the House of Commons and MP for Chorley will welcome representatives from the USA, France, Italy, Germany, Canada, Japan and the EU Parliament.

Sir Lindsay has written to us to invite schoolchildren, their teachers and their parents/guardians to come to Astley Park to line the driveway as the Speakers of the G7 drive into the park and arrive at Astley Hall on this very special occasion for Chorley.

- Please arrive at the park by 8.45am to see the arrival party.
- You will need to enter the park via the entrance on Park Road. The Hall Gate car park will be closed.
- This event is free and anyone is welcome to come along.

You are welcome to make or bring flags to wave along the route, and you will be allowed to take photographs.

We look forward to seeing lots of you there to welcome the Speaker's guests to Chorley from across the world.



If you enjoy singing, acting or dancing  
then join the cast of **ELF THE MUSICAL!!**

**AUDITIONS** on Tuesday 14th September,  
2021 at 3:10pm.

All the information you need is on Google  
Classroom. Please use the following code  
to join: **remyy5i**





## PARKLANDS GOT TALENT

**Are you a singer,  
dancer, musician,  
actress, comedian,  
magician or have any  
other special talents?**

KS3 & KS4 winners will receive prizes with the overall winner being the first to win The Sally Cornes Talent Trophy and be crowned the 2021 Parklands got talent winner.

Email:  
Irobinson@parklandsacademy.  
co.uk to submit your entry\*

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Heats will commence from  
Monday 11th October.

Finalists will perform at the  
grand final event on:

**Friday 26th of November at 7pm**

All proceeds to the  
[@sallycancerfoundation](#)



Achievement points will  
be awarded to  
everyone that enters



Don't delay.....  
apply today &  
Shine for Sally!

\*Acts must be no longer than 2.5 minutes.  
Singers must provide their own backing track/ accompaniment.  
Maximum group entry - 8 people.



**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**

**BUSINESS, ACCOUNTING & FINANCE EVENING**



## CAREER NEWS



**CAREER News**

Your weekly guide to careers information, advice and news from Parklands High School

Welcome to the first edition of Career News for the new academic year. This is a weekly newsletter, highlighting dates for college open events, labour market information that shows the jobs that are in demand (and will be in the future), helpful hints and advice, blogs, competitions, links to useful videos and websites - and work experience and volunteering opportunities, apprenticeship updates and vacancies - lots more for everyone from Year 7 to 11 - and beyond!

We will shortly introduce the Year 7s to our careers programme, so that they can start to explore jobs and careers - and the pathways that lead to these careers - so by the time they leave school, they have a wealth of knowledge about the possibilities open to them.

It is really important that the Year 11s try to attend as many open events at colleges as they can - each one offers different options and what suits one person may not suit another. Even if someone is intending to take up an apprenticeship, they need to have a full time college course in place as a back-up. In the next few weeks, Year 11s will hear from all the local colleges and training providers, either in assembly slots or during their Elevate sessions.

Year 10s will hopefully get to take part in a work experience programme during the summer - however, it is never too soon to start thinking about the type of job they would like to start to search for local companies who may offer this type of job. If they leave it too late, other schools may have the same WEX week and get in first!

The date for our annual Careers Fair is Friday 11th March 2022. If any parents/carers would like to showcase their company/career/business at this event, please get in touch. There are usually over 60 exhibitors (colleges, universities, training and apprenticeship providers and employers) and all of Year 9, 10 and 11 attend. It is a brilliant way for students to see the vast range of opportunities and talk to inspirational people.

Email: [pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk](mailto:pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk) if you would like to be involved in any way.

Finally, if there is anything you would like to see covered in a future issue of Career News, please let me know. If you would like children to know more about your particular industry, drop me a line. "You can't be what you can't see" - If children are exposed to lots of diverse careers, they are likely to make a more informed and satisfying choice in the future.

**Have a great week!**

13 - 17 September 2021



Provisional dates for Bolton College school leaver open evenings:

- Tuesday 19th October
- Wednesday 20th October
- Thursday 21st October
- Friday 22nd October
- Saturday 23rd October

There is also an open event on Wednesday 19th October, Thursday 20th October, Friday 21st October and Saturday 23rd October.



**Employability skills**

**Your future in STEM**

success at school

**New 2021/22 STEM and parents' guides coming soon!**

We are delighted to announce that our brand new 2021/22 edition STEM and Parents' Guides will be released digitally on 8th of September. Both guides will be available for schools and parents to access FREE. Just sign up to our mailing list. Here's the link to a special sign-up form explaining the guides:

<https://mailchi.mp/successatschool/parents-careers-guides>

**Parents can sign up here:** To access the guides, parents and carers just need to sign up to our special parents' mailing list. Here's the link to a special sign-up form explaining the guides:

<https://mailchi.mp/successatschool/parents-careers-guides>

### What can you expect?

**Parents' guide:**

This year's Parents' Guide will be our second edition, and has a skills specific theme. This guide has been designed to help parents support their children in making informed decisions about their future, and will benefit from content on topics including:

- Pathways into work, including T-levels, apprenticeships and university
- The importance of employability skills
- The value of work experience placements
- Student finance and choosing student accommodation
- Carers advice do's and don'ts
- 24-day "skills workout" exercises to complete at home, designed to help young people actively develop eight key employability skills.

**PLUS** interviews and guest content from Sky, Institute of Student Employers, Staffordshire University and many more.

**STEM guide:**

This year's STEM Guide explores the full range of secondary and A-level STEM subjects, to help young people to understand more about careers in the STEM field. This comprehensive guide has been designed to showcase just how creative, exciting and rewarding a career in STEM can be. Students will benefit from content including:

- 10 detailed subject pages, each detailing career paths these can lead to and the qualifications needed to get there
- Pathways into STEM, covering T-levels, apprenticeships and university
- STEM in its real world applications looking at innovations STEM has helped us create through history and how it can benefit us in the future
- Case studies and interviews from organisations including TFL, Sky, Royal Horticultural Society and many more

Check out the latest issue of Career News: [Please follow this link for the weekly careers magazine](https://www.parklandsacademy.co.uk/students/career-of-the-week) Information, advice, dates, competitions, LMI, career of the week, work experience and job opportunities - it's all in there! Please do get in touch if you would like to see your industry featured in a future edition: ([pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk](mailto:pberry@parklandsacademy.co.uk))

<https://www.parklandsacademy.co.uk/students/career-of-the-week>

Over 1.7Mb of new data is created every second for every person on planet Earth! So if you like maths, have a logical mind and want a future-proof career - **data analyst statistician** might be the job for you. Check out the link and find out more ...