

26 March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of this half term, I would like to thank you for all your continued support as we work together to continue the school's rapid journey of improvement. The whole school community continues to respond extremely positively to our high expectations and learning habits.

Learning Habit – Attendance and Punctuality

As we approach the summer term and GCSE examinations for Year 11, it is important for me to remind you that there is a clear link between attendance and student outcomes at end of year assessments and GCSEs. The school expectation is that students attend 100% of the time. There is no reason for children who attend Birkenhead Park School to attend less than their peers at other schools across the country. Your child will compete against these other students to gain the best GCSEs possible and the surest way to undermine your own child's success is to allow them to take time off. We need to continue to work together to improve the life chances of the children who attend Birkenhead Park School.

Attendance – Easter Eggtravaganza

It has been amazing to see so many families and students receive a range of special attendance rewards for achieving 100% attendance this half term. We have been holding award assemblies this week and the prizes will be issued on the last day of term, Thursday March 28.

New Year 7 Cohort of 2025

It was a pleasure to welcome our Class of 2025 into school last week to meet leaders and teachers. The new Year 7 cohort is full and oversubscribed. This is the start of our partnership and we are excited to welcome new and existing families into our school community.

Year 11 Spring Break Masterclasses

Year 11 students will be sitting their final examinations shortly after we return from Spring Break. It is therefore vitally important that all students revise and study over the two week break to ensure that they are well prepared for this extremely important stage in their lives. To support with their revision, we have arranged masterclasses to take place in school over the Spring Break. It is not too late for Year 11 students to improve their grades and we would ask you to work in partnership with us to support your child to attend these sessions. Further information and timetables have been shared with parents and students.

Y9 Options and Year 11 Parents' Information Evening

We were delighted to see so many supportive parents and carers, alongside our students, at the recent Year 9 Options and Year 11 Parents' Information Evening. We hope you have gained an understanding of the extensive academic and pastoral support available for your child, and we are grateful for your ongoing support at such a crucial stage in your child's education.

Positive Class Charts

I'm delighted to announce that I have been sending home numerous letters to students who have earned the most positive points on our class charts. These achievements reflect not only their academic excellence but also their positive behaviour, homework, and thoughtfulness toward our school community.

As parents and carers, your support and encouragement play a vital role in supporting these achievements. We are really grateful for working with us to develop these important learning habits. Once again, I want to congratulate all the students for their outstanding efforts and achievements. Please continue to look out for more positive letters every week!

Year 7 Conway Trip

On Monday, fifty of our wonderful Year 7 students embarked on an outdoor educational visit to the Conway Centre in Anglesey, North Wales. Over the past few days, our students have been participating in a diverse range of activities aimed at developing teamwork, resilience, and character. These have included raft building, zip wire, and canoeing. Each opportunity has challenged our students to develop new skills in this outdoor setting. I am eagerly awaiting their return to school on Thursday to learn all about the trip.

Blackpool Trip – Tuesday July 16 2024

We have planned an exciting trip day to Blackpool Pleasure Beach on Tuesday, July 16. The primary objective of this trip is to reward students who consistently meet our high expectations and learning habits. More detailed information about the trip will be communicated by your child's year leader after Spring Break.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We have been thrilled to see a significant increase in the number of students engaging in our extracurricular activities, such as rugby, chess, textiles, and drama and dance clubs. I also want to say a huge congratulations to the Year 7, 8, and 9 Rugby teams, who were successful in winning their respective Wirral School's Rugby Plate tournament. Other notable successes include the Y9 and 10 basketball team and the Year 7 football team; both teams won convincingly in their fixtures against Wirral Schools.



Family Fun night

Our family fun night, which takes place on Tuesdays between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., has continued to grow every week and we have seen an increasing number of families participating in a range of activities, including HITT classes, trampolining, football, and dodgeball. I encourage you to come along and join in the fun-packed event as it serves as a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together.

Please contact our school games organiser, Mrs. Carys Barnes, for further details or just come along on Tuesday.

cba@birkenheadparkschool.com

Learning Habit: Perfect Uniform

I understand that the two week break may allow some students to explore their personal appearance choices. While this is appropriate, it is essential that they return on Monday April 15 to meet our uniform and appearance policy. Your cooperation in reinforcing this message is greatly appreciated.

Must Know Challenges

The must know challenges have been issued to out Year 7,8 and 9 students. These challenges are designed to encourage students to revisit and reinforce the important information that has been taught this half term.

Mobile Phones

I would like to remind everyone of our school's no mobile phone policy. The strategy plays a vital role in ensuring the safety of our students and maximising learning time. Your ongoing support and cooperation are greatly appreciated

Finally, it's been a busy term and I am very appreciative of our staff here at BPS who have worked tirelessly to enable all these wonderful events to happen. Thank you once again for working with us to continue the high standards that we are proud to associate with our school. We hope that you and your families enjoy a restful Spring Break.

We look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Monday April 15, and we expect all students to be in the building by 8:30am.

Best wishes,

Peter Mee
Head of School

Ambition **AND**
EXCELLENCE
FOR ALL

www.birkenheadparkschool.com

Head of School: Peter Mee
offices@birkenheadparkschool.com
Park Road South, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH43 4UY
Tel: 0151 652 1574

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