



THE PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Weekly Parent Bulletin

Week Commencing 7th January, 2019 - Week 2

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Date	Event
Mon 7th Jan	Start of Spring Term
Weds 9th Jan	Year 10 Parents Evening 4pm - 7pm
Fri 12th Jan	Ten Tors Practice (2 days) - To be confirmed
Mon 14th Jan	Year 11 Mock Exams Start (3 weeks)

FOOD AT PARK

The Spring term menus have been added to our website on our [website food page](#). Main meals are £1.80, and 2 courses are £2.30. Breakfast club opens 8.15am-8.45am.



HEADTEACHER UPDATE

A final thank you to the staff and students who have put on a fantastic production of School of Rock held at Petroc this week. Despite the enforced changes to date and venue for the production, the cast have shown real resilience and proved that 'the show must go on'!

At the end of this term we say 'thank you and goodbye' to a number of colleagues who leave The Park. Julie Button has been our co-head of Mathematics for several years having started working at Park in 2007. Julie is a valued colleague who will be sorely missed by staff and students alike. We wish her well as she takes up a new role as an Assistant Headteacher at Chumleigh School.

LETTERS ISSUED THIS WEEK - BY STUDENT POST

Check below to see if your child should have a letter. (Copy on website or click link)

Year	Topic
All	Letter (emailed from Headteachers of North Devon Secondary Schools)

Another colleague who leaves a large legacy behind is Matthew Street. Mr Street leaves us after working at Park since 2001. During his time with us Matt has taught in a range of areas but it

is in his role as Head of Music that many students and parents will have fond memories. Matt has been 'instrumental' in the development of music education both within and beyond the curriculum, Summer concerts, choirs, Christmas concerts and whole school productions. Matt leaves us to teach a little closer to home as he takes up a new role as Head of Music at Braunton Academy.

Mr Ley was our longest serving member of staff having been an ex-student and working in the Languages department for many, many years. Chris has been dedicated to Park having spent his whole teaching career at the school. During his time he has worked in Pastoral Care, Head of MFL, Trainee Teacher, Mentor and been a School Governor.



Chris moved to a part time teaching role a couple years ago and has made the decision to retire at the end of the term, we wish him well.

Mrs Keates also leaves at the end of the term. Bethan started her association with Park School as a member for the learning support team before studying and qualifying as a teacher. In her time with us Bethan has helped to develop a passion for reading and literacy and been a keen advocate for author visits, Carnegie events and other activities that promote a love of literature. We wish Bethan well.

As a result of some of the changes, we will be welcoming both returning and new colleagues to Park for January. Mrs Sluman returns after her maternity leave as progress leader for years 6/7 and will teach English. Can I thank Mr Hampton for the fantastic job he has undertaken in covering for Mrs Sluman. Mr Hampton returns to his substantive role as Head of Raleigh House meaning Mrs Brierley will return to her role as Deputy Head of Drake after spending the last year as Head of Raleigh. Again, a big thank you to Mrs Brierley for all she has done in this role. Our congratulations go to Mrs Preece in securing her new position as 2nd in Mathematics supporting Ms Vidler and the team.

In January we also welcome Mrs McNeill to teach Music and Mr Cheung to teach Mathematics. We are delighted that both Mrs Tossell and Mr Urwin are on the road to recovery after their period of ill health and are planning to return after the Christmas break.

A final thank you to our parents/carers and wider community for your continued support of Park School. It has been great to see so many parents at the various events, information evenings, productions, fixtures and consultation evenings.

My very best wishes for Christmas and a Happy New year to one and all.

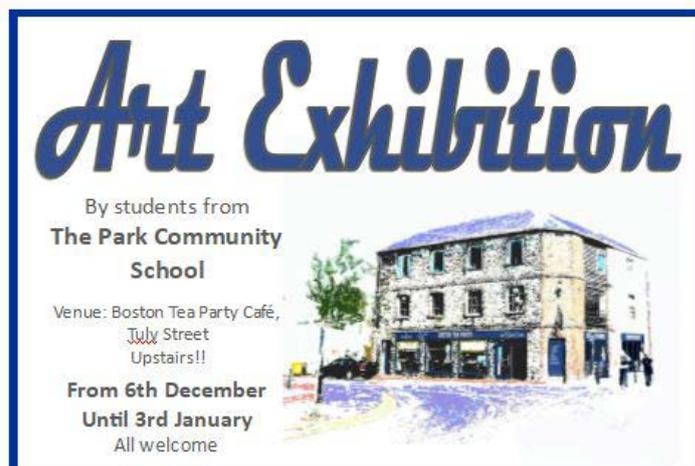
Gareth Roscoe - Headteacher

IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR PUPIL PREMIUM?

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they may also be entitled to a sum of money paid to their school to boost their learning. Please view our google form below and answer three questions to find out if you are likely to qualify. Your responses will be treated in the strictest confidence.

[Pupil Premium Eligibility Form](#)

BOSTON TEA PARTY ART EXHIBITION



As part of the lead into Christmas, the Art Department are displaying a wide range of art and photography work from students of all ages. The exhibition opened on 6th December. If you have the opportunity then please take a break from your Christmas shopping and have a browse, the exhibition ends on 3rd January 2019.

APPRENTICESHIP INFORMATION PACK

Information about the changes that are happening with apprenticeships will be of particular interest to Parents/Carers with students in Years 11 and 9. Year 11 are making decisions on the next steps for September 2019 and Year 9 are making Option Choices after Christmas. Please click here for the [December Parents' Pack](#) with free apprenticeship information for parents.

NETBALL CLUB UPDATE

Netball club starts for years 7-10 from 8th January, please see schedule below. Could all parents be aware, matches are starting from January and all students are welcome to practice but on match days it will be a chosen squad only, that will be advertised via a notice board in P.E.

8th January - Practice all welcome
15th January - Match for squad only
22nd January - Match for squad only
29th January - Practice all welcome
5th February - No Practice
12th February - Match for squad only



CHARITY NEWS

EVERYTHING ELLIE

We have received a lovely thank you letter from Mrs Justeen Easton regarding the fundraising efforts of individuals (Ellen and Hamish) and the school, supporting the Everything Ellie charity. Please take the time to read the [kind letter linked here](#).



Homeless over the Christmas period.

Mrs O'Callaghan - Charity Coordinator

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Thirty-Five tutor groups took part in the 12 days of Christmas, where various food and household items were donated. We collected, in total, over 1500 items, with multipacks being counted as one item. The generosity of our staff, students and families never cease to amaze us!

The tutor group who donated the most items was 7KH who win a prize but there were also fantastic donations from 7KV, 8SG, 9SP, 10JL, 10LT who all donated over 70 items.

Thank you again for an outstanding effort from all who took part. Your donations will make a massive difference to North Devon's

SCHOOL TRIPS

YEAR 10/11 NORTH DEVON LEISURE CENTRE PE OPTION



If your child has shown interest in the North Devon Leisure Centre as a PE option and been chosen to attend their gym, in the first half of the spring term, please check your email for a google permission form and medical form to complete by

the start of the term.

BARCELONA TRIP

Could parents/carers please ensure you return the completed trip forms as soon as possible.

MADRID TRIP

There are a few spaces available, if interested students should see Mrs Harvey in January.

NEW YORK JULY 2020

For those that missed the New York Information evening, please see link to the [New York 2020 Presentation](#)

Students who are interested in the trip can pick up a letter from Miss Vidler or a link is provided here - [New York Letter](#)

A non-refundable deposit is required by 14th January

for £200, with the second payment of due on 14th February. Details about the instalments are explained in the letter.

SKI 2019



All students going on the Ski Trip 2019 should return the Ski Trip forms as soon as possible. Any parent/carer who missed the Ski Trip Information meeting, would have missed collecting several forms issued during the evening, we have sent forms to those parents directly by post.



PARK SCHOOL ALUMNI

Christmas is a great time for getting together with family and friends. If you meet any former students from The Park Community School or Barnstaple Grammar School, please persuade them to join our Alumni and help inspire our current students. We attach our [Alumni leaflet](#) for more information

KS4 INFORMATION

THE YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMINATION

The [Year 11 Mock Exam Timetable](#) is available on the website, under the 'Events' menu and linked here. Please note that students must bring their own equipment as we are unable to supply spare stationery in the exam room, especially calculators and Maths instruments. A full list of necessary equipment (page 4), along with other essential information, is provided in the student [Exam Guidance Booklet](#), which was issued to every student. and also linked here, via our website.

YEAR 11 REVISION SESSION TIMETABLE

Please see link to the current [Year 11 Revision Session Timetable](#). This timetable has started, any future amendments will be uploaded on our website under the "Events" menu. It would be great if parents/carers could encourage their sons/daughters in Year 11 to attend these revision sessions.



COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINE

Reminder to Year 11 Parents/ Carers, applications for College courses close on 31st January 2019. However students really need to

apply this term as their mock exams are in January. If students need a careers interview or help with their application please contact Mrs Thomas (Careers Lead) at the school.

YEAR 10 PARENTS EVENING

Don't forget it's Year 10 parents evening on Wednesday 9th January 2019. A [copy of the letter](#) is available here.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Students that have not heard back from the employer they wrote to need to follow up with a phone call or email to see if they have a placement.

If the response is that the employer is unable to offer a placement this year then the student needs to apply to a different employer. Students have a good version of their letter which they can adapt. Students can access the database of employers who have offered

work experience in the past for contact details.

<http://devon.learnaboutwork.org>

Log In Details:

School Name: The Park Community School

User Name: Park Student

Password: 2121

Students can send their applications themselves by any method, however I have received complaints from employers about students contacting via facebook so I would not recommend social media for an application.

Just as in the competitive job market if parents have any personal contacts then do use them.

CAREERS ADVICE

www.careerpilot.org.uk

Careerpilot is an impartial website that will help parents/carers and students to explore further study and work options. There is helpful information when choosing options at 14 such as GCSE choices, exploring job sectors, identifying skills and creating a profile. All Year 9 students have used this website as part of the careers module leading up to their option choices after Christmas.

Year 11 students have used this website to look at their options at 16, subjects and the jobs they may lead to. Information about Higher Education is helping students make choices between BTES, A levels or Apprenticeship routes.

There is a Parent Zone section on the website to answer parents' questions about the choices available at 14, 16 and 18. Careerpilot has been developed by the University of Bath and is free to use.

www.parentzone.careerpilot.org.uk/parent

