



# THE PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

## Weekly Parent Bulletin

Week Commencing 4th March, 2019 - Week 1

### SCHOOL CALENDAR

| Date          | Event   |
|---------------|---|
| Tues 5th Mar  | Year 9 Links to a Life Science Workshop 9.00am-12.50pm  |
|               | Year 7/9 Rugby v Pilton (home) 3.30-5.30pm              |
| Weds 6th Mar  | GCSE Food practical exam                                |
| Thurs 7th Mar | GCSE Food practical exam                                |
|               | World Book Day  |
|               | Free IT Parent/Child Workshop 4-6pm Part 2              |
|               | Year 8/10 Rugby v Pilton (at Pilton School) 3.30-6.00pm |

### 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.

### LETTERS ISSUED THIS WEEK - BY EMAIL/POST

Check below to see if you have been sent a letter

| Year | Topic                              |
|------|------------------------------------|
| 7-9  | Activity Day Google Form - Emailed |

### HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Welcome back after the half term break during which we were blessed by some amazing weather. I hope you found time to read our latest edition of Park News, another bumper edition which reflected on the work of students and staff over the previous few months. This week we have seen many activities resume and I am sure they will feature in the next edition of Park News.

#### Wisepay Balance

Can I remind all parents about our change to the overdraft facility for Wisepay and school lunches. Currently the school is owed around £2,500 in school meal overdrafts which is not sustainable. From 4th March the maximum overdraft will be £2.30 per student; if a student does not have sufficient credit on their account they will not be able to purchase items from the canteen. Can you please check the balance on your accounts and top up as appropriate. Another reminder about our change to service times in the canteen, with effect from next Monday the canteen will stop service at 1.30pm and 1.25pm for the fast food area.

#### Energy Drinks

Can I also take this opportunity to remind parents that energy drinks are not permitted in school. Whilst we have not seen many students with these over the winter period, with the warm weather now seems a sensible time to remind parents and students that they are not permitted in school. We are currently installing a further water dispenser and would suggest that a strong reusable water bottle is a better purchase. School council are currently looking at sourcing 'Park School' bottles that can be sold to students to use with our water fountains.

#### Bus Turning Circle

Another item raised at our student school council meeting just before half term was the use of the bus turning circle by parents. Please note this area is for buses only. I appreciate

that to drop off in the main car park

adds another two minutes to a journey, however using the bus turning circle at peak pick up and drop off times creates issues for buses and student safety therefore please avoid using this area.

*Gareth Roscoe - Headteacher*

### LOST PROPERTY SHOES

There are a number of lost property items, especially shoes and coats, currently being held in Pupil Reception. If your child have lost an item that was unnamed, please ask them to check to see if the item has been handed in.

### CHARITY FASHION SHOW

The Charity Fashion show with was originally planned for 1st March has been put on hold due to the School Hall being unavailable. We will let you know when a new date has been agreed.

### KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

The MoMo challenge has hit the headlines again; for general advice about keeping your child safe online, please read the advice sheet below.

[Advice to Parents re Momo Challenge/Keeping your child safe online.](#)

### ACTIVITY DAYS - EMAIL

An email was sent to parents/carers of children in years 7-9 today. Please look out for the email and discuss with your child their activity day choices and complete the form by Friday 15th March. Those students attending the France, Barcelona or Torquay residential do not need to complete the form.

## KS3 INFORMATION

### WORLD BOOK DAY ACTIVITIES

World Book Day is on Thursday 7th March and we have always tried to make this an inspiring fun filled day with lots of exciting activities and competitions planned.

We have asked KS3 students (Years 7-9) to come dressed as a book-related character, with a prize for the best dressed student. Those who do not wish to take part, should wear their school uniform. Staff will also be taking part in dressing up, with a prize for the best dressed department.

Each KS3 tutor group will take part in a "Our tutor as a book" competition, with a prize for the best display.

The day for KS3 will consist of a 'Big Write' challenge, meaning that they will be writing a complete short story across their lessons. The best story from each year group will win a prize.

## SCHOOL TRIPS

Please note all cheques should now be made payable to 'The Park Community School' and not 'Devon County Council'.

### MADRID TRIP - YEAR 9 AND 10

There are spaces available for the GCSE Spanish trip to Madrid, 14th - 17th February 2020. The trip is a fantastic opportunity to practise listening and speaking in Spanish as well as experiencing the culture of this historic and interesting capital city.

The trip is open to any Year 10 students who currently study Spanish, or Year 9 students who are hoping to study GCSE Spanish. Please see Miss Harvey in MFL1, or email [aharvey@theparkschool.org.uk](mailto:aharvey@theparkschool.org.uk) if interested. Spaces will be open for a limited time.

### BARCELONA TRIP

One space has become available, if interested please see Miss Harvey in MFL1, or email [aharvey@theparkschool.org.uk](mailto:aharvey@theparkschool.org.uk).

Please ensure you return the completed trip forms as soon as possible, to pupil reception.

### FRENCH TRIP 2019

Could parents please ensure they complete and return the two forms to pupil reception as soon as possible.

### NEW YORK JULY 2020



There is still time to apply for a place on this trip. A non-refundable deposit is required as soon as possible for £200.

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](#)

### BUDE/TORQUAY RESIDENTIAL

Could parents/carers kindly ensure you keep up to date with the regular monthly instalments.

## FRIENDS OF PARK

### SCHOOL OF ROCK - DVD

A DVD has been created for our students amazing 'School of Rock' performance, in December.

On behalf of Friends of Park they will be available for sale at £5 per DVD in a clam shell case with graphic design on the DVD surface. (providing we receive orders for the minimum order quantity of 50)

We would like to establish how many copies are required, before we place an order - if you would like a DVD, please complete the google form, to reserve your copy.

[DVD ORDER FORM](#)

Please respond by Sunday 10th March.

DVDs will be produced in-house if the response is low (no design printed on the DVD surface).

When ready DVDs will be available for collection from the School Office.

## CHARITY NEWS

### GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND COLLECTION

If you have too much small change, please remember we are still collecting loose change eg 1p, 2p, 5p in the tutor Dog Kennels for Guide Dogs and the competition to name and meet the puppy is still running until the end of the year. Thank You.

*Mrs O'Callaghan*

## KS4 INFORMATION

### YEAR 10 WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITY

Calling all year 10 students - are you interested in learning more about artificial intelligence? There is an opportunity for year 10 students to attend a residential at Exeter University 8th-11th April for £165. It is aimed at year 10 students whose parents have had no university experience.

Students will take part in projects where they will explore the world of artificial intelligence, a branch of science which deals with helping machines to find solutions to complex problems in a more human-like fashion. Please see or email Mrs Mills if you are interested and meet the criteria.

Email: [amills@theparkschool.org.uk](mailto:amills@theparkschool.org.uk)

### PETROC COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Petroc have their last open event on **Saturday 9th March**. This is a day of tailored sessions, and gives interested students an

opportunity to explore one subject in depth, by means of a talk or a demonstration – a bit like a Taster Day.

It's a great opportunity for students who have not yet applied, or those that have applied but changed their mind/want a second look at the subject to be sure. Also good for A-level applications who may be thinking about swapping a subject. We also welcome Year 10 to come along to start looking at options for Taster Day/options next year.

Register online at [www.petroc.ac.uk/events](http://www.petroc.ac.uk/events)  
Click here to view the [Petroc Open Day Flyer](#)  
Click here to view the [Petroc Open Day Session Flyer](#)

## 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.

## YEAR 11 WELLBEING/MINDFULNESS CLUB

Mrs Scott and Miss Barton will be running a well-being lunch group every Friday in room MFL3. Students can bring packed lunch or sandwiches.

## CAREERS ADVICE

### YEAR 9 AND 10 NHS CAREERS

There are still two places available for the visit to the hospital on Friday 8th March. This is now open to Year 9 as well. Please can students collect a letter from Pupil Reception on Monday 4th March to be returned on Tuesday 5th March.

### CAREER PILOT

[www.careerpilot.org.uk](http://www.careerpilot.org.uk)

Career Pilot 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.

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 BTECs, A levels or Apprenticeship routes.

A Parent Zone section exists 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](http://www.parentzone.careerpilot.org.uk/parent)

### CAREERS INTERVIEWS

Year 10 Careers Interviews with Natalie from Careers South West start on Wednesday 13th February. If any parent/carer feels their child in Year 10 would benefit from a careers

interview in the next few weeks, please email their name to Mrs Thomas ([stthomas@theparkschool.org.uk](mailto:stthomas@theparkschool.org.uk)).

## SPORT UPDATES

### PE KIT SPONSORSHIP REQUESTS

As our various teams have reached so many finals some kits are starting to show wear and tear. As such, our sports teams would appreciate updated kits. We will be contacting local businesses shortly to sponsor a team kit so that our students can look smart and so feel good at every sporting event. We are looking for sponsorship for the Netball, Football and Rugby for each year group.

If you would like to receive further information about sponsoring a kit, please email [jgreenaway@theparkschool.org.uk](mailto:jgreenaway@theparkschool.org.uk), or Tel: 01271 373131 and leave a message for P.E. Teacher Mr Greenaway, to return your call.

## THE GO-KART SPRINT SPONSORSHIP REQUEST

Students of The Park Community School are participating in a project run through the STEM guild which inspires young people to be the engineers of the future.

The Greenpower project comprises of: building a go-kart, working in a team and then racing it against schools/organisations.

Key elements to our success are teamwork, initiative and fundraising to enable the project to keep going. So far we have received sponsorship from John Fowler, Class Charts and Siemens totalling up to £850 to date, we, however, still have a long way to go with a target of £1400!

On **9th March**, we are planning a sponsored push of the go-kart from Barnstaple to Instow along the Tarka Trail. We are doing this to showcase our car, along with raising funds to support the project.



So far we have assembled the chassis, attached the wheels, the steering mechanism and attached the wishbones; yet we still haven't faced the most difficult challenge, which still lays ahead: attaching the motor and making it drive with a press of a button.

We are really excited to be part of this project and look forward to racing the car in the summer!

Students involved will be asking staff and students to sponsor the Go-Kart Sprint from Monday 4th February. If parents/carers would like to sponsor the project directly, please get in touch with Mr Worsfold via email [rworsfold@theparkschool.org.uk](mailto:rworsfold@theparkschool.org.uk)

*Many thanks,*

*Mr Worsfold - Technology Teacher*

The poster is a vibrant, multi-colored graphic. At the top, it says 'Sponsor us to push our go-kart from Barnstaple to Instow on the Tarka Trail' in a teal, cursive font. Below this, the title 'THE GO-KART SPRINT' is written in large, bold, pink capital letters. A teal banner contains the text 'EVEN SPARE CHANGE HELPS!' in white. The date 'DATE SATURDAY 9 MARCH 2019' and start time 'START TIME 9 AM BARNSTAPLE TARKA' are in purple and pink. On the left is a black steering wheel icon, and on the right is a go-kart icon with a driver. At the bottom, it says 'THE PARK SCHOOL STEM GUILD' in blue. The background has a dark blue starry pattern and various geometric shapes in teal, pink, and white.