



# PARKNEWS

## Park Newsletter - September Edition

I would like to welcome all students, parents/carers and staff back to Park Academy after the summer break and I would like to say how excited I am by the prospect of the new academic year. Although the last few months have been unusual and challenging I can assure you that the academy is ready for an exciting year as it continues to go from strength to strength.

I would like to welcome the following staff to the academy who join us in September as we continue to expand not only in student numbers but in recruiting high calibre and exceptional staff that will allow the academy to grow further.

Ms Bimson - Assistant Principal  
 Mr Beswick - Director of Data and Assessment  
 Ms Batten - English Coordinator  
 Ms Davies - English Head of Key Stage 3  
 Ms Patel - English teacher  
 Ms Nourzad - Science Lead Practitioner and Deputy Coordinator  
 Ms Burke - Science Head of Key Stage 3  
 Mr Gardner - Art and Design Deputy Coordinator  
 Ms Whitcomb - Health and Social Care teacher  
 Ms Flaherty - Head of Geography  
 Mr Mault - Geography teacher  
 Ms Cogger - PE teacher  
 Mr Bouquet - Deputy Coordinator of Business

As I mentioned above our recruitment drive that started early in the year, alongside the improved reputation and performance of the academy, has meant that students will now benefit from a teaching experience that continues to engage, challenge and prepare them for the 21st century. The wealth of experience that staff now possess as well as their drive and determination to ensure the best possible outcomes for all students is something that bodes positively for the future.

I would also like to congratulate both Year 13 and Year 11 students who this summer achieved the best ever results at the academy but more importantly secured the best possible life changing experiences for themselves. All of our Year 13 students either secured a place at the University of their choice with many gaining a place at Russell Group universities or a place on an apprenticeship. Year 11 students also performed brilliantly with nearly 40% choosing to begin Year 12 at Park. This fantastic news confirms the trust that students now have in the academy and a change in the attitudes of our young learners. We look forward to building on this in the years to come.

Last year really saw a transformation in the academy not only in its results but also in the opportunities that students had to develop their cultural capital and personal development and this coupled with our relentless drive for excellence and desire to realise the best for your child will result in a future that holds no limits. Let's keep thinking big and aspiring for amazing outcomes in what I know will be a successful 2020/21.

**Mr Delgado, Principal**



Managing Directors Paula and Steve Kenning of Aspirations Academies Trust



## Park Academy Post-16: Open For Business!

The Sixth form has successfully recruited 45 students this academic year. The pupils have responded very well and maturely to the high standards set out by Park Academy, it has been a week of change as they adapt to the new challenges that post 16 poses. All staff have warmly welcomed the former pupils with delight and look forward to being part of rigorous transition that our new cohort of year 12 face. It is now time for routines, resilience and focus to ensure their targets and ambitions are achieved.

## Sixth Form Enrolment

As the new academic year is well underway, we are encouraging our Year 11 students to think about their next steps. Park Sixth Form is thriving this year, with students studying a broad range of subjects including Art, Business Studies, Medical Science and Maths.

Current Year 11 students will receive information about Park's Sixth Form in an upcoming assembly, including which subjects will be on offer in September 2021. We want our Year 11 students to return to us for Sixth Form, and students should speak to Mr Mohammad for further information, including how and when to apply.



### ‘Roaring success of Park’s Art Department’

Park Academy Art Department has seen a dramatic improvement in progress over the last three years, with superb exam results for GCSE and A Level students. This summer we have seen our creative students scoring Grades 4 to 9 at 95.5% - significantly above National Average. We also have celebrated wins, with Samuel Auckland winning the President Award at the prestigious British heritage famous Art school, The Royal Academy of Arts.

In addition, the Art Department won an artist workshop from the Royal Academy, which will take place in the spring term of 2021 for Key Stage 4 students who are doing Art or 3D Art. The Art Department also moved to the other side of the building where it is developing the Key Stage 3 curriculum. We are happy to say that we are revamping the Food and Design Technology curriculums and expanding curriculum learning at Key Stage 4. This year, we welcome to the team Mr Gardner who is Deputy Coordinator of Art and Design and we are looking forward to the expansion of 3D skills/practical work; for example soap sculpture making.

We are celebrating long-standing teachers as well with Ms Mattis who moves from Head of Art to Co-ordinator of Art and Design, taking on a Community role at Park Academy alongside Mr Taylor, as well as a Pastoral role with Year 10's. We were delighted that our students produced excellent Art work during the Covid-19 lockdown in challenging times. The Art Department also has moved some of its learning onto Google Classroom to connect with students and parents with home learning.

### Jack Petchey Awards

In September, we awarded our 6 Jack Petchey Award winners from the summer term. We received many nominations, and winners were selected by a group of students. Each winner gets an award certificate, as well as £250 to donate to a subject or area of their choice.

- Euan Hlubanyana - donated funds to PE
- Callum Benford - donated funds to Music
- Aaron Chaplin - donated funds to Drama
- Mason Parr-McKivett - donated funds to Art
- Daisy Littlefield - donated funds to Performing Arts
- Ellie Whenman - donated funds to Year 11 for revision



### Take PRIDE in your books

- P**ride in your books means well set out and completed work, legible neat handwriting, no loose sheets and graffiti free books.
- R**emember SPaG
- I**ndependent learning task, homework, classwork and extension tasks must be labelled in the margin
- D**o underline the title, learning objective date and all tasks.
- E**xcellent revision notes that links to the Learning objective or key questions

### Year 7 Transition

It has been an exciting start to term for all colleagues involved in Year 6 to 7 Transition. Our current Year 7 students have settled really well and we are pleased with the progress they are making in lessons. Looking ahead to next September, we have held tours with parents/carers and students, allowing them to have a real insight into Park Academy and what we will offer them. Our website also has lots of Transition information, including a virtual tour and what Year 7 looks like for our students. The deadline for applying for Secondary places is October 31<sup>st</sup> and we look forward to another full 180 cohort in September 2021. If you know of any parents and their children who missed out on a tour, but would like one, please ask them to contact our Reception on 01895 430066 and we will arrange this for them.

### The Holocaust Educational Trust



Our GCSE students will take part in a virtual assembly from a Holocaust survivor working with the Holocaust Educational Trust later this year. Park Academy is thrilled to provide such an enriching experience for our students. This assembly will provide students with a deeper understanding of the time period they are studying in history.

**The Maths Department** is incredibly excited to start the new academic year and the team is looking forward to welcoming everyone back into their classroom.

We now have even higher expectations of our current year 11's and we hope that with the support of our maths team, all students will be in a good position to achieve the grades they need. We will have additional exam practice and past paper work to commence later in the year in the build up to the exams.

Hegarty is up and running with all videos and worksheets readily available to everyone. Work can be set here by classroom teachers to supplement revision and teachers will be checking how frequently students are using the resources to encourage positive revision habits from the offset. Year 11 students are also encouraged to look at websites such as "Maths genie" and "Corbett maths" in order to support their revision and their upcoming exams. Years 7-10 are also able to access Hegarty.

We would like to officially welcome Mr Beswick into the department. Mr Beswick will be teaching KS4 maths as well as being Director of Data and Assessment. We are all excited in working with students to raise attainments and aspirations for all.

**The Business Department is excited to introduce a new member to the team, Mr Bouquet.**

Here is a little about Mr Bouquet:-

I have now been teaching Business & Economics for over ten years in subjects that I love. In my spare time I still play football, most notably playing in Argentina against Boca Juniors. I spent 10 years in politics and actually won two elections in my local area. I have also worked as a Financial Advisor helping people organise their financial needs. I particularly enjoy cooking dishes from around the world, and trying new ingredients. You should ask me the weirdest thing I have tried!

My stand out memory is when I picked up a book and actually realised that it's not that I don't like reading but I had just never found something I really enjoyed reading. So my advice is to pick up a book and have a go, you'll never know what you like until you try.



This year my family and I have participated in "Postcards of Kindness." We selected care homes from a database provided and wrote postcards to the residents explaining what we have been up to that week. It is a great project as it provides opportunities for care home residents to socialise in small groups and discuss the post cards they have received. Some care homes write back and here are a few of the cards we have received:

We are looking forward to encouraging our students to participate in this scheme during this term

Mrs Whitcomb (Teacher of Health and Social/Childcare)

**SEND Department**

Staff in the SEND Department are excited to be back at school with familiar faces and we have really enjoyed meeting our new students. If your child is new and has an SEN need, we will come and introduce ourselves over the next week.

If you were a student last year you might have noticed we have moved rooms! We are now located at the end of the 1G corridor. Due to bubbles, we cannot currently run clubs but we are opening the Tranquillity room for invite-only to KS3 groups during break time and lunchtime. We have also started an online Calm Corner with mindfulness activities for those students that feel a little anxious around this time, watch out for further details in the newsletter next time.

**Science is back on top!**

What an extraordinary year the Science Department has had. The new team came with a mission of building an identity at Park Academy West London for students, staff and also key stake holders.

From the first day running, the department made it a priority to ensure the love of learning science was manifested throughout. The sheer hard work done by students, staff and parent/carers has reflected the biggest improvement in marks, with 62% of students gaining a 4-9 in the subject, compared to 23% the year before and also 100% A\* - C in A Levels.

Below our some of our key success stories:



Coral Denham achieved an outstanding 9-9 in all her sciences. She will now go on to study four A-Levels in Physics, Chemistry, Maths and Computer Science and has plans on going to university



Sabrina Begum has done exceptionally well in achieving A in Biology and A in Chemistry A Level. She is the first in her family to go university where she will now study Chemical Engineering at UCL

The journey is still not over, with the addition of two new members of staff, Sadaf Nourzad and Kirsten Burke, both with extensive leadership experience will only add further dimension to the department. I for one am very excited at what the future holds for science at Park Academy West London.

**ATL** last year celebrated many successes, students took part in opportunities such as a visit to the theatre and sports stadiums. We also had a variety of speakers come in; Tropical Zoo, Oxford University, Criminal Justice Authorities and The Globe Theatre. We even had some students visit the Space Studio to work with various modern technology. Who can forget our first ATL exhibition where all parents and carers were invited to see and speak to students about their assignment work.

Our amazing success last year has enabled us to branch our curriculum into Year 8. It has been refreshing to see and hear how many of our ATL students have exercised their aspirational skills during lockdown. Students such as Claudia Tusha and Komal Padavala have worked tirelessly on their ATL assignments and included their family members in the tasks. It's has been a privilege to speak to so many parents about the unity of home learning during lockdown, the effort parents/carers and students have gone to, to keep the aspirational skills going like sense making, communication, creativity and in particular resilience. We at Park are truly proud of our forever evolving relationships with students and parents/carers. Together we can make a difference to the next generation. We look forward to inviting you to future ATL events to showcase your child's talents.

### Drama Competition Winner!

During school closures, the Drama Department held a competition for students to recreate their favourite scenes from television shows or films. We had some outstanding entries from current students, and Year 6s who were preparing to join us at Park in Year 7.

Mr Taylor and Mrs Bellamy spent a long time deliberating who the chosen winner should be... Congratulations to Tia Pooley-Welch in Year 7 for her fantastic, creative entries, which you can see below. Well done Tia - an Amazon voucher is coming your way! Can you name all of the films?



### Parent Voice Survey

We are asking all parents and carers to complete our short welcome back survey, which can be accessed via our website. The survey will open on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October and close on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October and our staff will consider all responses received. We want to listen to Parent Voice and will discuss any possible amendments; we will then communicate these with you through our website. Thank you.

### COMPETITION TIME!

#### Can you write a better poem than Miss Batten?

There is no doubt that 2020 has been a strange year: on 23<sup>rd</sup> March Britain went into lockdown because of the Corona Virus Pandemic. The Park Academy English Department invite you to share your experiences of this unexpected event in the form of a poem.

Whilst your poem can be completely personal, you might want to undertake some research and write about the inspirational, uplifting and positive stories surrounding the pandemic – yes, there have been some! You could write about acts of kindness, or new ways people found to stay in touch.

**C**aptain (sir) Tom Moore inspired us all by raising over £30 million for the NHS: more than any individual has before.

**O**ur heroes of the pandemic received a weekly celebration; together we stood, applauding their bravery. There's no way they could have done more.

**R**ight now I am proud of the nation and the unity we have shown.

**O**lympics postponed. Concerts cancelled. Everything closed.

**N**ever will I forget the way the world changed.

**A**ir pollution improved. Rivers were cleaned. City traffic emissions were reduced.

**V**irtual entertainment passed the time and helped us stay in touch with our loved ones: TikTok, Zoom and Houseparty to name a few.

**I** am proud of the nation, my family and You for the unity we have shown.

**R**esilience is something we have definitely all achieved

**U**nder the Corona Virus stampede

**S**o now it's your turn to share some good news....

**DEADLINE: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**Entries should have your full name and AM group written on them and be handed to your English teacher.**

#### Prizes:

**1<sup>st</sup>: £20.00 Amazon voucher**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: £10.00 Amazon voucher**

**3<sup>rd</sup>: £5.00 Amazon voucher**

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