



# PARKNEWS

## Park Newsletter - December Edition

### 3D Art students firing up ceramics at Park Academy West London



The revival of the UK's ceramic industry in recent years has gone from strength to strength due to programmes such as the BBC's *The Great British Pottery Throw Down* and the *British Biennial Ceramic festival*. This has inspired the Design Department to implement ceramics into their scheme of work. A fantastically resourced Design department means students have access to specialist kilns and clays. Year 11 students were able to produce prototypes in clay from their ideas relating to The Cass Sculpture Foundation 'Looking Back at Me', which is based in Goodwood, Chichester. Some amazing ideas were produced, including a slice of cheesecake, a beef burger, mugs, dinosaurs and figurative sculptures. Ms Mattis has been incredibly impressed with the talent shown by students this term!

### Key Stage 3 Art and Design

#### Positive Highlights

It is assessment week at Park Academy, and students in years 7-9 are flourishing in their Art and Design exams. We're also wrapping up our Key Stage Three projects, and students are beginning to make final pieces. Year 7 are studying the formal elements and are currently learning about the artist Ben Nicholson. Year 9 are undertaking a Pop Art project, and are designing a label for their own Andy Warhol-inspired tin of food!

Here's an example of some year 8 outcomes. Students are undertaking an architecture project, and were tasked with creating a two-point perspective image. It was hard to choose from dozens of amazing examples, but here are some of the very best in the year!



### Message from the Principal Mr Delgado

This half term has seen the academy continue to grow with resilience despite the difficult circumstances that we all face. I have been impressed with the dedication that students have demonstrated on a daily basis and the way in which they have put their learning above everything else. Students have remembered that school is for learning and for developing as an individual and visiting lessons it is evident that this is the case.

During these current times it is vital that students do as much work as possible from home in the form of homework in order to maximise the lesson content whilst also taking care to ensure they are resting properly and getting enough exercise. Staff have amended and adjusted the curriculum to take into account the changes that the lockdown caused and if we all work together now, and going forward, then success is something that will become a reality. Every student has the potential to achieve great things and everyday we are lucky to witness this.

I hope that you all have a restful break and ensure that quality time is spent with those that are close to you. I look forward to 2021 as being a year in which students realise the dreams they have and the staff at the academy support them to achieve this.

**ATL**

**Love, Life or Loss Assignment**

This term students have engaged in two exciting and high impact assignments. Love, Life and Loss for Year 7, and Cafe Culture in Year 8. Despite the fact both assignments included elements of practical, we have ensured that students were able to fully engage with them, and subsequently benefit hugely from the collaboration that ATL offers. Year 8 students have kick-started the assignment by designing the most disgusting sandwich with a budget of £10. We have had some brilliant ones; some of the sandwiches would make your stomach turn, using old fashioned ingredients such as tripe and outdated fish heads. Timeless as it is, these sandwiches could easily pass for a bush tucker trial! Our Year 7 students have learned about our British past through the war years - again timely due to Remembrance. The sharing of stories in the classroom was inspiring. Our students really did themselves and their families proud when referring to their family history and achievements. The personal stories in this assignment allowed students to really discover what is most important in Life.

**PE**

**London Youth Games virtual Cross Country**

KS3 students were delighted to participate in London Youth Games virtual Cross Country event this month. All students participated to the best of their abilities, demonstrating great effort and determination. It was also a great joy to see the sportsmanship and community spirit with students encouraging each other to the finish line.

It also wonderful that so many students have enquired about the extracurricular activities and we aim to start them as soon as possible once government guidelines allow us to do so. In the meantime, stay active and stay safe.



**Social Media – Our Highlights!**



As many of our parents and carers will know from following us on Facebook and Twitter, we have launched a new initiative where we share some of our team's highlights of the week on a Friday afternoon! This is our way of sharing directly with you, and we hope you enjoy them!

**English**

**Writing competition winners announced**

Before the second lockdown was announced, the Park Academy English department set Year 8 a challenge: Can you write a better (Coronavirus) poem than Miss Batten? And they did!

Lots of students entered the competition, sharing their experiences of the pandemic in the form of a poem.

The poems were creative, inspirational, uplifting, personal – and some were even funny. The team were blown away by the imagination and talent of the students who entered.

Picking winners wasn't easy. However, eventually, three were picked.

A massive CONGRATULATIONS to Lottie Taylor, Anzal Rashid and Ciara Thirunarakarasu.

5...4...3...2...1  
 Happy new year!  
 all the people laugh and cheer,  
 enjoying their lives with no fear,  
 if only they knew what was  
 on so near,  
 Then their 2020 future would  
 be extremely clear.

A couple of months pass  
 maybe one or two,  
 a few people caught the  
 flu.  
 but it wasn't that simple  
 if only they knew.

"Breaking news new  
 Corona virus cases have  
 started to spread."  
 people all around the world  
 are dropping dead.

January, february, march  
 ... Next thing we know it's  
 july,  
 people around the world  
 heart broken telling their  
 loved ones goodbye.

"Stay home!"  
 "Social distance"  
 "wear a mask"  
 new rules were being  
 drilled into our brains  
 They tell us it will be  
 fine just to hide their  
 fear and pain,  
 "It will be ok" the  
 say as they pray,  
 will this be the new  
 normal or will it go  
 away?

by: Anzal  
 Rashid

**Key stage 3 Science**

**3D model of a plant or an animal cell**

This autumn term has seen year 7 get very creative with their science home learning. Year 7 have designed a 3D model of either a plant or an animal cell. They had been researching different parts of an animal and plants cells which goes beyond what is covered in KS3 curriculum. I have been delighted by lots of student's hard work which they have produced amazing work. Students made cells out of cakes and jelly and others made them out of boxes, clays and polystyrene balls. Here are some examples of these amazing cells.



**Drama**

**Year 11 Exam Success!**

Despite the difficulties that this term has had, the Year 11 Drama students have powered through and developed some outstanding pieces of Theatre for their exam, which took place on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

Many of the groups decided to use real life themes and issues which has affected us all during this year, and the outcome were some extremely powerful pieces. Some pieces were so emotive, and lots of staff visited throughout the day to wish students luck and watch their work.

Mrs Bellamy said "We are extremely proud of students and what they have achieved this term. Their hard work, high aspirations and dedication will certainly pay off".



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**Structure**

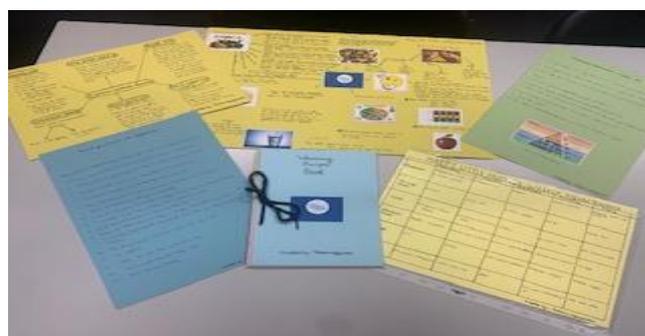
How will I layout and organise my work?  
 How will my paragraphs be organised?  
 Do I need bullet points, subheadings and headings to direct the reader?  
 How does the audience/purpose influence the structure of my writing?



**Child Development Star Practitioners**

Year 10 students have been completing their R019 coursework. Students have to imagine they are creating their own nursery. Once they have created their nursery name and logo they are required to produce training material and posters to give to their staff members and parents. The first topic has been looking at what a healthy diet consists of and how different age groups have different requirements. Students have created posters, fact sheets and weaning booklets for this assignment.

Yuthara Wijyaratna has been awarded star practitioner for her training materials



Katy Orr is awarded star practitioner for excellent effort and detail when completing homework tasks.

**Health and Social Care Practitioners**

Year 10 students have been investigating different job roles in health and social. They have also been studying how humans change through the life stages with reference to PIES. Chloe Hall has been awarded Star Practitioner for her effort in lessons and application of knowledge to case studies.

**Drama – Pantomime Fun Comes to Park**

To celebrate the end of Hillingdon's school term in December, the Compass Theatre is filming a special, socially distanced performance of *Jack and the Beanstalk 2020*, for schools to download and stream to pupils. As we cannot hold our annual Year 7 visit to the Pantomime this year, we wanted to make sure they still got to experience this style of theatre, which always takes place around the festive period. Students have been studying the Pantomime genre in their Drama lessons, to learn all about this exciting tradition and what makes it so successful all around the UK.



Year 7 will watch Jack and the Beanstalk during the week commencing the 14<sup>th</sup> December, which we know will be an enjoyable and positive end to a very successful first term for our new cohort of Year 7 students.

**Parent and Student Noticeboard**

**Key Reminders**

**Covid-19 Good Practice**

We would like to remind parents about Covid-19 good practice, such as washing hands regularly, wearing a mask in communal areas and using hand sanitiser when entering and exiting classrooms. Please speak to your child about this, to ensure they maintain these when at school.

Unfortunately, we have had to request that some students self-isolate after coming into contact with a positive case of Covid-19; we communicate with the DfE and PHE to ensure all guidance we have is up to date and necessary. Can we please remind parents and carers that if a child is sent home to self-isolate, they must not leave the house for any reason, until their full 14 days of isolation are up. We will inform you when their last day is in communication with you.

**Dropping Students to School**

Can we also remind parents and carers that when they need to drop off their child to school, that they need to avoid doing this at the entrances - the front and back, and to not linger/park there for a long period of time. We are extremely proud of the positive relationships we have formed with our neighbours, and need to ensure that we are respectful to them at all times. Thank you all in advance.

**Year 11**

What a fantastic first term it has been so far for our students. They have really raised to the challenge, and are working hard in lessons and interventions. In the past few weeks, we have had well over 60% of the year group attending English, Maths and Science interventions after school, as well as staying on a Thursday to complete coursework. The APP week saw students being assessed on all subject areas, to ascertain what students have learned so far this year, and how we can help them be successful in their exams next summer.

Earlier in the term, students told us they wanted more resources to help them study independently. Our Student Voice listened, and as a result we have provided all students in Year 11 with revision guides for a number of key subjects, to ensure they are able to revise and study at home.

Finally, as students begin to think about their futures and what they want to do after Year 11, we have been working closely with students on their futures. We have a dedicated team of staff who are working tirelessly to ensure every student goes on to achieve their dreams and aspirations!



**Careers**

**Year 9 Roadmaps Assembly**

From the start of year 7 we focus on building skills, attributes and knowledge to help students to achieve their dreams. Helping them to develop their own personal roadmap to a successful future enables the students to see their time here as a crucial step towards their ultimate goals. One of the first independent decisions they get to make on their roadmap is their GCSE options. On 11 November 2020 Park Academy West London Students participated in an assembly focussed on beginning to tackle this first big decision. They explored the different factors to consider when making these important decisions and where they could get help. They also explored ideas around different career types and the skills/studies required for them whilst applying them to their own possible future career paths. All through a fun card sorting activity.

**Year 11 Futures Interviews**

From the 16 to the 27 November each of our year 11 students will take part in a Futures Interview with their Academic Mentors. The purpose of these interviews is to get the students thinking about their next steps as early as possible. Discussing their further education/training options, what their aspirations for the future are and establishing how the school can support them individually to realise those aspirations.

For more details please check out Park Academy West London website - Careers



PARK ACADEMY WEST LONDON

**KS3 Christmas card Competition**

Design a Christmas card for Park Academy for local businesses and schools in the area.

**KS3 Christmas Card Competition**

Design a Christmas card for Park Academy to send to local businesses and schools in the area.

Include colour and mention Park Academy in your design.  
 Submit all designs on plain A4 paper to Mr Gardner in the 2G corridor.  
 Deadline for the competition is Friday 27th November 2020.  
 One winning design will be chosen from each KS3 year group.  
 If your design is chosen, you will win a £20 Amazon voucher.  
 Please include your full name and form group on the back of your design.

**£20 Amazon vouchers to be won!**

**Good luck!**

**Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal**

Operation Christmas Child is a charity run event where people across the world pack a shoe box with gifts to bring joy, love and hope to children in need around the world. These boxes are opened on Christmas Day by children around the world.

**What can I put in my Shoe Box?**

**Special Item** - a toy that a child will immediately love as soon as they open the box, e.g. cuddly toy, deflated football & pump, toy truck, doll (baby, Barbie etc.), musical instruments. You may wish to include a personal note or photo of you or your AM group/ family etc.

**Toys** - items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls or cuddly toys, toy trucks, harmonica, yo-yo, skipping rope, ball, small puzzles etc.

**School Supplies** - Pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks & paper, solar calculators, colouring & picture books etc.



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