



PARK NEWS

Principal's Message – Ms Mohey

This year we have seen the academy return to being a vibrant learning environment where students are now able to access all the facilities available to them. The building works on the drama studio and indoor sports facilities hall have now finished and it is great to be able to see students using these facilities again. As we enter the second half of the Autumn term there is a real buzz around the academy as students embrace all of the opportunities available to them. It is great to see a thriving Sixth Form as we now have both Year 12 and 13 students and also high student numbers at KS3. The Year 7 students have settled in brilliantly and are actively engaged in their lessons. We also welcomed to the academy several new members of staff and they all bring the high expectations and demands we expect from our staff to ensure excellent outcomes and engagement from students. The remaining year ahead promises to be full of lots of opportunities for students to continue to develop their personal development at the academy through trips, events, guest speakers as well as innovations in the curriculum for example this year we have seen the launch of the Aspirations Employability Diploma in Year 12. This aims to equip students in the 6th Form with the knowledge, skills, opportunity and experience needed in the world of work. I thank you all for your support and look forward to seeing you soon as our planned events over the course of the year.

Attendance Competition!

Which AM group will have the highest attendance between Monday 8th November – Friday 10th December?

Prize: AM reward breakfast during the last week of term

One prize at Key Stage 3

One prize at Key Stage 4 and 5

Winner will be announced on Monday 13th December

Every Day Counts!



Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

As this newsletter goes to print, we are currently finalising the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal for 2021. We are very proud of our students and community for pulling together to create a vast number of boxes for those less fortunate around the world. We will provide an update on the Appeal through our Social Media Channels, as well as our next newsletter in December!



Jack Petchey Winners September-November 2021

Aidan Bishop (Year 7)

Ciara Thirunavakarasu (Year 9)

Brandon Dawes (Year 9)

Students were nominated for outstanding work, being excellent role models and amazing attitudes.

Congratulations to our winners for this term!



Remembrance Day

On Thursday 11th November, students took part in the national one minute silence, to remember those who fought and died for our freedoms.

Students were able to reflect on the sacrifices soldiers made during the World War, remember those who gave their lives, and consider why it is so important to take part in Remembrance Day every year.



STEM Club (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths)

During the Autumn term many of our KS3 students have taken part in new and exciting STEM challenges that have been on offer every Monday afterschool led by the Science Department. This has allowed students to reshape their attitudes of STEM subjects and develop novel interests by experiencing these subjects outside classroom settings. The STEM club provides the opportunity for students to deepen and extend their understanding of STEM subjects and improve their practical skills through enquiry-based challenges and projects.

These weekly challenges will allow students to develop their knowledge and skills and build towards project work of their choosing. This will then lead them towards exciting opportunities of showcasing their hard work and enter in STEM competitions that run throughout the year and the CREST Bronze, Silver and Gold rewards. This is something we are eager to work towards in the next term.

One of the stimulating challenges students have been involved in so far this term was the Space rover challenge. Students had enjoyed creating their own space rovers that reflect UV light when sent into space. The students put their mental and physical abilities into use for this and the outcomes were truly out of this world! In addition to exploring things from outside planet Earth, students also investigated the world of technology and how it links with science. Students took this further by researching what materials make up our everyday electronic devices and the impact of science involvement in their development.

Some of the future STEM challenges which have been planned for Autumn 2 include:

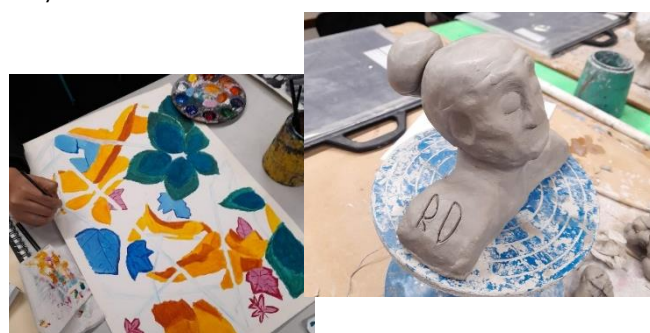
- Fizzy pop challenge - students will be learning the science of fermentation. In this challenge, students will create their own fizzy drink using various recipes. Students will look into the biotechnology of fizzy drinks by investigating pH, ingredients and the amount of fizz and colour. They will then compare their homemade fizzy drink to fizzy drinks you can buy in the shops.
- Magnetic slime challenge - students will be applying their knowledge of the solids, liquids and gases and learn how certain substances will change state due to pressure changes. Students will create a magnetic slime and learn how it doesn't follow the laws of Newton and investigate changes in pressure that will affect how it flows, its thickness, its softness and its magnetic properties.
- Milking it challenge - students will be creating their own form of plastic. Students will get the opportunity to discuss and explore the alternatives to fossil fuels, by making their own plastic from milk and experiment with different materials and their applications. They will learn the process of manufacturing plastic and its impact on the environment and society.

Art and Drama Mock Exams

At the beginning of November, all Year 11 students sat mock exams in all of their subjects.

The Drama students sat a mock of their Presenting and Performing Texts exam, which featured texts such as *The Pillowman* and *The Exam*. Students performed excellently and developed outstanding characterisation in preparation for the final exam in the next couple of months.

The Art and Design students also sat a mock exam, where they created a large piece over 2 days and the work was exceptional. Ms Mattis spoke highly of the work produced by students and some of their work can be seen below. Congratulations to all Year 11 students for their outstanding work throughout the mock exam period – we are very proud of each and every one of you. Students will receive their mock exam results on Thursday 9th December 2021.





KS3 book of the month: When Fishes Flew: The Story of Elena's War by Michael Morpurgo

"This is the first novel in two years from previous Children's Laureate and from the Nation's Favourite Storyteller Michael Morpurgo. Nandi's story is an inspiring tale of personal discovery and belonging, threaded through with the quiet heroism of everyday people. Full of magic, myth and mystery, journey from Australia to the Greek island of Ithaca, and back in time to World War Two... And in true animal-lover Morpurgo fashion, our protagonist forms a friendship with an unusual flying fish."

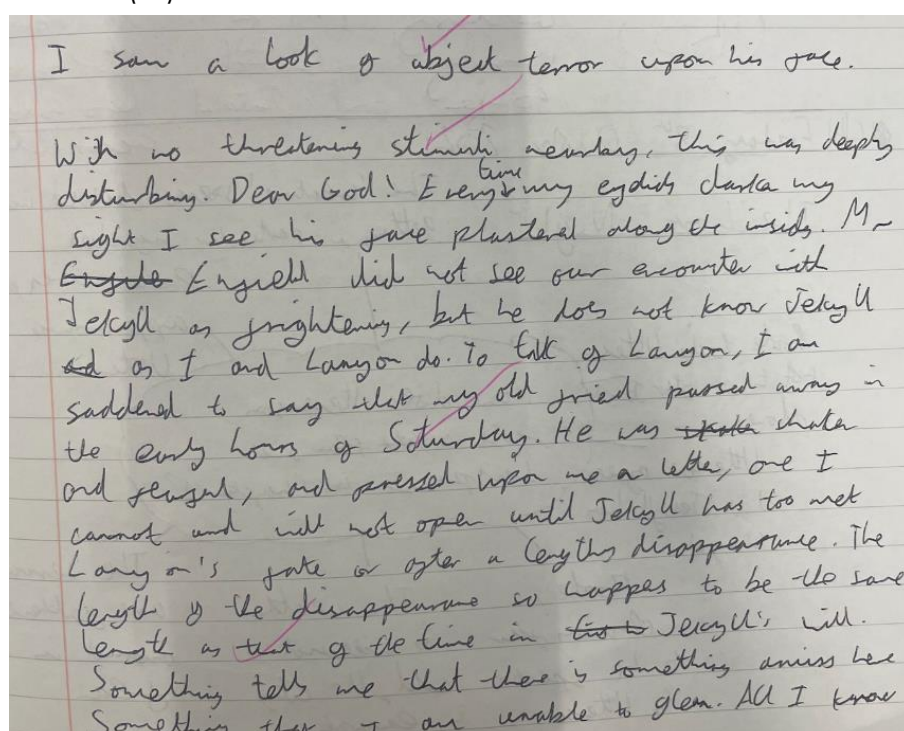


KS4 book of the month: A Single Thread of Moonlight by Laura Wood

"The latest novel from award-winning-author Laura Wood is a fresh retelling of Cinderella. Full of fabulous dresses, balls, high society and a hint of revenge, this story will sweep you away. Our heroine Iris is a strong, inspirational protagonist, as she isn't afraid to take her destiny into her own hands. Laura Wood is a modern day Jane Austen and an expert at telling swoon-worthy romances. A Single Thread of Moonlight comes hot on the heels of the new Cinderella film starring Camilla Cabello, and perfect for fans of Bridgerton. This book is the perfect pick for the winter months leading up to Christmas as it's exactly the heart-warming, enchanting sort of book you want to cuddle up with on a candle-lit, cold evening."

Outstanding work in Year 9!

Students have been reading Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde in English and have excelled in their understanding of complex concepts. Following their reading, students have been developing their creative writing skills. Here is a fantastic example of the high quality work students are producing in class by Morgan Husbands (9L).



Our Annual Christmas Card Competition is back!



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 Ms Mattis / Mr Beswick in the 3G corridor.

Deadline for the competition is Friday 3rd December 2021.

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.



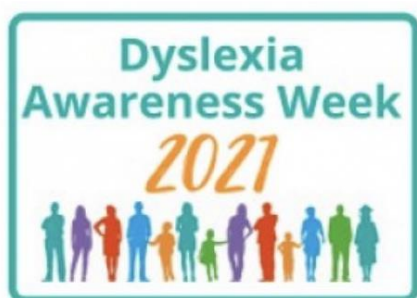
£20 Amazon
vouchers to be
won!

Good luck!



SEND News

The last week of October was Dyslexia and ADHD Awareness Week. Students reflected on celebrating how everyone's brains worked differently, and focused on the strengths these difficulties bring. We are striving towards the understanding that sometimes our greatest difficulty can also be our boldest strength. Students will hopefully have shared with you how many Olympians, performers, and CEOs achieved because of the qualities dyslexia or ADHD gave them.



This week is exam week and we are so proud of the students who we have been supported with Access Arrangements. Most are making use of their time and it is wonderful to see students coming in ready to revise. We are looking forward to celebrating successes when Year 11s get their results back. Please don't forget we are here to help, so do contact us if there are any subjects you feel your child with SEND needs support in. We are looking forward to the first of what we hope will be many Parent Discussion evenings. Next week, we are inviting parents of KS3 students who have ASD to join us for tea and biscuits on 24th November from 4pm - 5pm. You will receive invitations soon.

Sixth Form News

Living Away From Home Day

The Living Away from Home Day provided students with the valuable life lessons they do not normally get in the classroom. Students were taught the fundamentals of personal budgeting, the basics of renting their first home at University or privately, household safety and basic upkeep as well as a cooking workshop.

Students got to keep a small handbook with all the details they learnt which will provide a useful reference for when they do finally take their first steps into living independently.



Kingston University Visit

Students visited Kingston University on the 4th November. They were given a detailed insight into what the university atmosphere is like. They were given a grand campus tour which included their state of the art 5 floor Library which was recently completed. Students also embarked on lab tours for the following courses: Biological sciences, Chemistry, Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Sports Science, and Materials Science.

Throughout the day they were given the opportunity to have authentic conversations with the university ambassadors regarding their experiences and journey to university life. In addition, several workshops were organised for our students ranging from student finance to higher education.

One student said "WOW! Where to begin? Today was one of the greatest experiences I have had in a while. This was my very first University viewing internally where I could look upon the facilities rather than reading them off a website/ image. The financial aid section was something I really needed, which was perfectly summed up in the little time we had (which was my biggest worry about my university transition). Through being given first-hand knowledge, I feel a lot more optimistic and want to push myself in order to meet the best grade I can (ultimately giving me the best chance for success). Because of this, I have added Kingston to my UCAS application, as it left a pretty big impression on me."



Sixth Form Open Evening

On Wednesday 3rd November park academy hosted their annual sixth form open evening. Students and parents flocked to the main hall to engage with various subject leads. Student ambassadors were also present for their relevant subjects to provide authentic advice about the challenges of the courses as well as guidance on achieving success. The Sixth Form talk provided parents and students with a detailed insight into what the next year entails as well as key dates to look out for.

Wednesday 15th December
WB 17th January
WB 7th February

Sixth form application deadline
Interviews for sixth form
Offers of places made to successful applicants

Thursday 7th and Friday 8th July Induction days for all applicants



UKMT Maths Challenges

The UKMT Mathematical Challenge is a 60 minute, multiple-choice exam which is completed by over 700,000 students across the UK. It encourages "mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency" in using basic mathematical techniques to complete problem solving questions. They are designed to make students think. All students who participate will receive a certificate and, to recognize the highest performers in the Challenge, the top-scoring 50% of participants receive Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates. The challenge is completed by students in top set in all year groups and the dates of the challenges are shown below.

Challenges

Senior (Year 12/13) – 10th and 11th November 2021

Intermediate (Year 9/10/11) – 2nd and 3rd February 2022

Junior (Year 7/8) – 27th and 28th April 2022



Upcoming Events

Tuesday 23 rd November	Year 12 & 13 Safe Drive, Stay Alive
Wednesday 24 th November	Year 11 PSHCE Drop Down
	ASD Parent Workshop (4-5pm)
Thursday 2 nd December	Academy Showcase (Time TBC)
Friday 3 rd December	Form Representatives UK Parliament Virtual Visit
Tuesday 7 th December	Year 7 – 11 flu vaccinations
Wednesday 8 th December	Year 9 PSHCE Workshops
	Cucina Christmas Lunch
Thursday 9 th December	Year 11 Parent's Evening
Friday 10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 15 th December	Sixth Form Application Deadline
	Year 7 Pantomime Trip
Thursday 16 th December	Year 10 Computing Workshops
Friday 17 th December	Last Day of Term (12:30pm finish)

Parents Forum

**Wednesday 1st December
5 – 6pm**

We are inviting parents into the Academy to discuss how we maximise opportunities for students at Park Academy.

Any parent that is interested in attending, please email info@park-aspirations.org by 3pm on Friday 26th November.



Food Bank Collection

Our annual food bank collection will be taking place this year between Monday 29th November and Friday 10th December. Donations can be brought into school between these dates and taken to the drop off point.

Last year we had over 2000 items, so we are aiming to beat that this year!



Sports /Fixtures Update

Wow, what a positive start to Extra Curricular at Park! Numbers over the last term have rocketed and now, with our brand new facilities back open, more opportunities are coming! Football has been a huge success at Park, with both Year 8 and Year 11 having had an outstanding start to the season winning their first matches in the Challenge Cup. Year 8's, who missed opportunities last year due to Covid, bonded as if they was a premiership team and won their match against Harrington School 5-1. Rhys Ashman was awarded player of the match for his outstanding contribution and true determination on the pitch. It was great to see the Year 11 boys out on the field in their final year at Park, winning 5-0 against Harlington again. Well done to Catalin Alcaz on receiving player of the match for a great performance and leadership on the pitch.

Dance club has been busy rehearsing their routine for the Christmas show with the help from 'Blue' from Step into Dance. Blue has been a hugely positive influence on our keen dancers and has shared his experience from professional dancing and theatre. The students have loved hearing his stories and allowing them the opportunity to work with him. We can't wait to see the final performance!

With the sports facilities now being open, extra-curricular clubs are expanding. On Mondays, Netball will be back with lots of fixtures planned. Fitness club will now be able to use the gym, which they are very excited about!

Upcoming events: Borough Cross Country on the 24th November.

Park Academy Showcase

On Thursday 2nd December, Park Academy will be hosting their first ever showcase event!

Our students are preparing for the ultimate showcase of talent. Students are working incredibly hard in clubs to develop their pieces for the show. You can expect to see musical performances, poetry, dance, drama and an exhibition of outstanding work from students across a variety of different subjects.

Doors open at 4:30pm for the exhibition and the show starts at 5pm. Tickets are available now at student services £2 for adults/children under 5s are free. Spaces are limited so grab yours now before it is too late!

We are very much looking forward to celebrating the excellent work our students have done over the past few weeks, and enjoying a festive celebration with all members of our Park Academy West London community.

Christmas
SHOWCASE





Autumn Extra-Curricular Activities



Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM 8.00-8.20	Table tennis (All) (BCO) Sportshall	Table tennis (All) (MNE) Sportshall	Table tennis (All) (NCO) Sportshall	Table tennis (All) (KDR) Sportshall	
Break 1 11.00am-11.30am		MFL Board Games (All) (MFL Dept.) 1G9			Foreign Languages Film Club (All) (MFL Dept.) 1G9
After School Monday-Tuesday - Sports - 3.05pm-4.15pm - Non sports - 3.05pm-4.05pm	Football (Yr 7&8) (MMU & KDR) Astro Netball (Open to all) (BCO & NCO) Sportshall Science Club (KS3) (Science Dept.) 3F corridor Book Club (KS3 - 1st monday of every month) (EHO) Library	Rugby (Open to all) (Hillingdon Abbots) Field Gym/Fitness (KS 4+5) (BCO or KDR) Gym/Sportshall Dance (Open to All) (NCO and Blue) Dance Studio Drama Club (Open to all) (RKO) 4F4 Journalism Club (Yr 9/10&11) (RSH) 2G Library Anime (Open to All) (FHY) 2F7	English Game Club (Y7&8) (AGU/LHA) Library	Football (Y9) (KDR) Field Basketball (Boys all) (MNE) Playground/Sportshall Humanities Society (KS3) (Humanities Dept.) 1F Library Instrumental Club (KS3) (CSI) 4F1 Art Club (KS3) (DGA) 3G3 Math Magicians (All years) (Maths dept.) 2F12	Football (KS4 and KS5) (KDR) Astro Basketball (Girls all) (MNE) Playground/Sportshall
Wednesday 3.05pm-4.15pm - Non sports - 3.05pm-4.05pm					
Thursday - Sports - 3.05pm-4.15pm - Non sports - 3.05pm-4.05pm					
Friday 1.30pm-2.50pm					