



PARK NEWS

Principal's Message – Ms Mohey

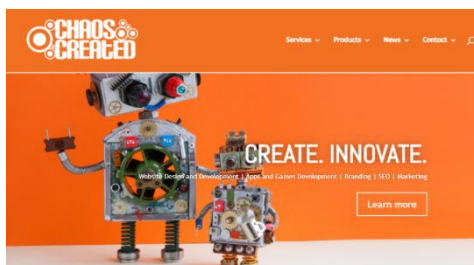
This half term has been a busy and vibrant period at the academy and we have started to return to normality. We have seen external speakers, virtual tours, the return of trips and a broad extracurricular programme. It has been fantastic to see students embrace the many opportunities available to them and develop a sense of fun and excitement. We look forward to continuing to offer these experiences. As you walk around the academy, you see students engaged in their learning and taking part in a variety of activities. The students are starting to take responsibility for their own learning and are developing in confidence. We hope you enjoy reading through the newsletter to see a sample of the activities taking place this term.

We hope you all have an enjoyable and restful half term holiday.

Year 9 Coding Workshop

On Friday 11th February, the Year 9's took part in an online coding workshop organised by the computing department. This gave them an insight into how computer programmers write code for games and other programs. The session will be delivered by an external company Chaos Created who walked the students through the process of creating a game through a virtual video call.

The students were given a real sense of what coding involves at GCSE level computer science, as they will be required to produce a program to solve a problem if they select the subject at GCSE. The platform has the ability for students to be able to share code directly with the team if they get stuck, or if they have any questions. This was a great opportunity for the students to learn code in a practical manner from real professionals in the industry and many expressed their excitement at learning these new skills.



National Apprenticeships Week

National Apprenticeships Week took place during the week commencing 7th February. Students were able to explore the benefits of apprenticeships and what their options are in the future.

There are a wide variety of different resources which have been posted on our website under 'News'. If you believe your child may decide to opt for an apprenticeship at their end of Year 11 and 13, these resources are a great starting point.

Students can ask for advice and support from our Careers Lead, Ms Harris.



Parent's Forum

Our next Parent's Forum will take place on Wednesday 16th March, where parents and carers can discuss a specific topic with the Principal and other members of the Senior Leadership Team.

If you wish to attend, please email info@park-aspirations.org.

PE Update - Year 8 Borough cup semi-final fixture vs Northwood

After a very positive quarter final match where Park dominated play and played some outstanding football we were drawn against the group favourites Northwood in the semi-finals. It was always going to be a tough task with many of their students playing for academies. The match started very slowly for Park and within 10 minutes we were 3-0 down. After a personnel change and a restructure in formation we started to calm down on the ball and get back to playing some good football.

In the second half, Park were dominant and it looked likely that a strong comeback would be on especially after Logan pulled a goal back early on.

Man of the match was Khalil for exceptional defending against clearly their best player, he was strong, commanding and didn't miss a tackle! Special mentions to Ayo for controlling the midfield and keeping play moving, a very smart centre midfield performance. Lounis for outstanding dribbling, attacking play and work effort and finally Mickey for some crucial saves that could have made the score line a lot worse.

We are now unfortunately out of the cup but we will be finishing off the year with some friendlies and have no doubt we will make the final next year! Excellent effort from the boys and a great achievement to reach the semis!

**Food Bank Drive 2021**

A Big **THANK YOU**



Park Academy West London

Thank you for supporting Yiewsley & West Drayton Foodbank.

Your donations during December 2021 came to 585.65g which will make a BIG difference to local people in crisis.

Yiewsley & West Drayton foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust's UK wide foodbank network.

Registered Charity Number: 1171141 | Registered in England and Wales

Yiewsley & West Drayton
foodbank

English Update

World Book Day - 3rd March 2022

The aim of WBD is to celebrate reading, introduce you to new books, and hopefully inspire you to read more.

There are a range of activities that you can get involved in and hopefully have fun!

Readathon

- 30 students from Year 7 – 8 will be trying to read a certain amount of pages during the school day.
- Money raised will go towards new books for our library and those who sign up to the Readathon can pick the books we buy!
- If students want to take part, please see Miss Batten in 2G4. She will give you a sponsorship form and explain arrangements for the day.

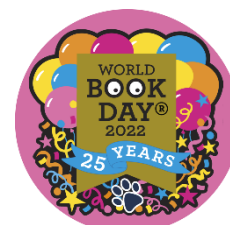
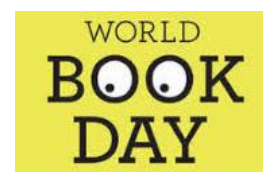
Teacher Dress Up

Teachers will be dressing up as characters from books. If you can't guess who your teachers are dressed up as, ask them! Then find out a little more about the book that inspired their costume.

AM time

AM time will be packed with exciting activities to celebrate World Book Day.

- Guess the book
- Who's Reading?
- Book Quiz (prizes for winners from each year group. Please return to Miss Hann by 4th March)
- WBD Assembly
- English careers
- Decorate your AM room door in the style of a book



The Library

A variety of activities will also be available for students to take part in in the library Break 1, such as:

- Blockbusters
- Literary Jenga
- Create a reading tree, or book bunting

All students will receive a WBD book token and you can buy a brand new book for just £1!

Skills Builder



Next half term our skills focus will be **Aiming High** and **Staying Positive**.

For activities you can use to support your child to develop these skills at home, visit:

<https://www.skillsbuilder.org/homezone>

Year 11 Exams Update

As a means to support Year 11 students across the country, following the disruption caused by the pandemic, the Government have announced that students will receive additional support this Summer. It has been announced that in February 2022, schools will be informed of 'advance material' on the content of some GCSE, AS and A level exams.

Once this has been received from exam boards in the coming weeks, we will share this with students, to ensure they have sufficient time to revise specific topics in preparation for their examinations this Summer.

At Park, we will do everything we can to support students as they prepare for their exams, including providing revision materials, interventions (both afternoon and half term) and outstanding teaching and learning across all subject areas.

Year 11 Intervention Timetable

After half term, Year 11 will have access to the following Interventions after school – these are a great way for students to consolidate their learning and revise key topics:

Monday – Maths
Tuesday – Science
Wednesday – English
Thursday – Open
Friday – Open

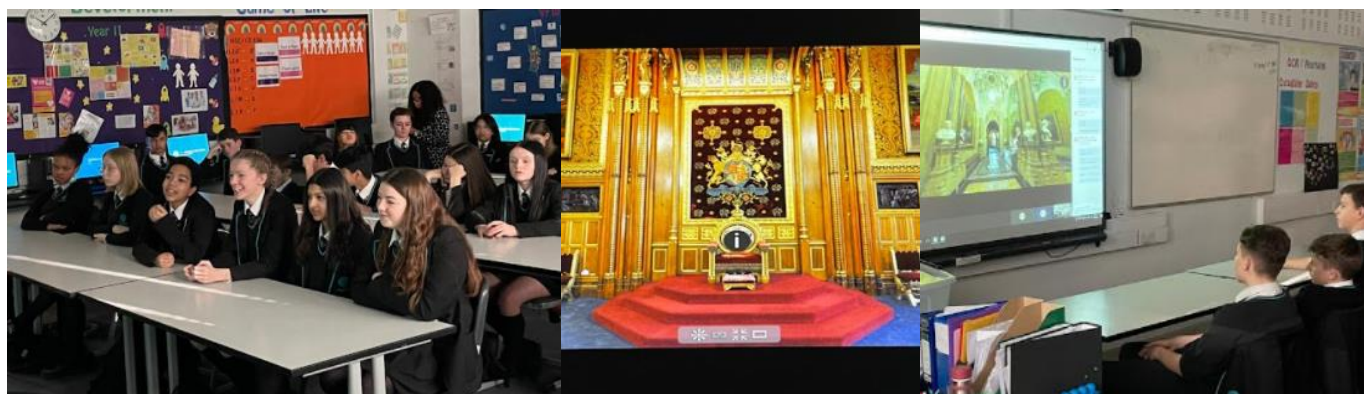


Open Interventions will be used for Options subjects; staff in these areas will inform you directly if your child should be attending on these afternoons.

Year 9 Parliamentary Workshops

A selection of Year 9 students participated in virtual Parliamentary workshop where they went on an interactive guided 360° online virtual tour of The Palace of Westminster. During the hour long session they explored rooms such as the House of Commons and the House of Lords. They also developed their understanding of democracy and learnt about how the UK Parliament works.

Students were really engaged in the workshop as they discussed how laws are made and how bills are created. We're hoping that we can visit The Palace of Westminster in person soon.



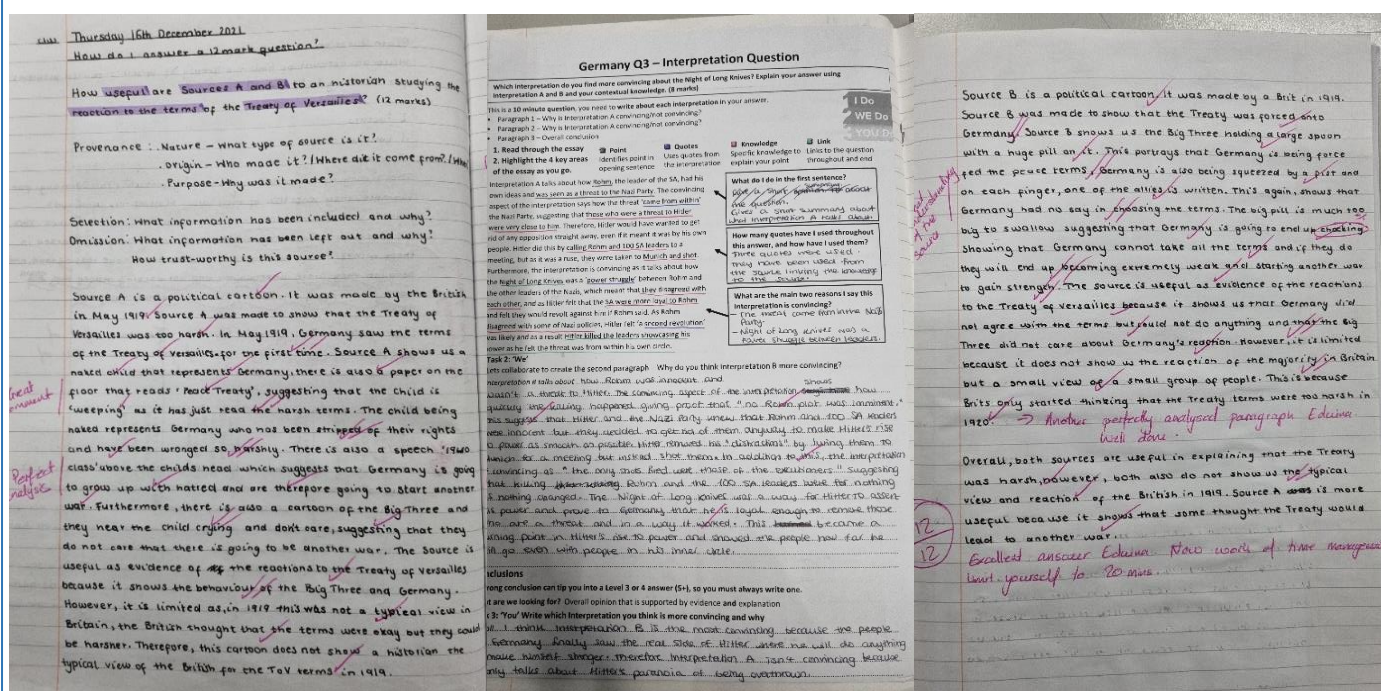
In History...Castles (Year 7)

Year 7s have been learning about the Norman Conquest and how they maintained control when they took over Britain in the 11th century. One way this was done was through castles and the year 7s were tasked with creating their own castles. Have a look at some of the amazing castles they have produced!



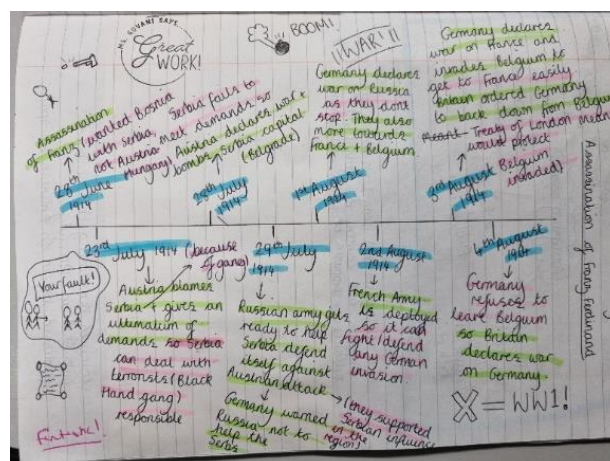
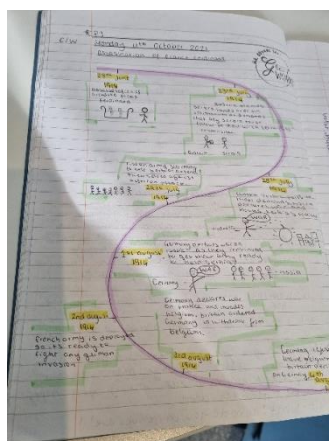
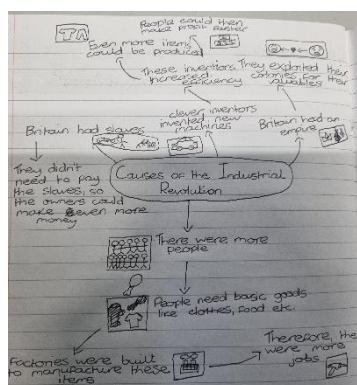
GCSE Exam Questions

GCSE students have been hard at work practicing for their upcoming mocks and exams. They are refining their skills in how to answer these questions and are doing a fantastic job. Well done!



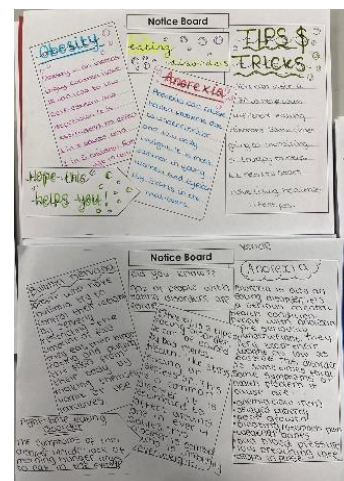
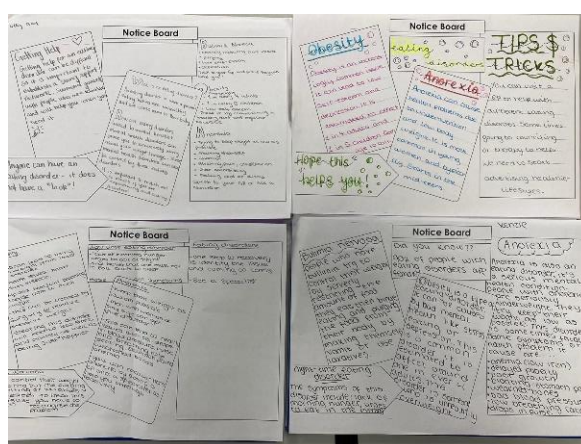
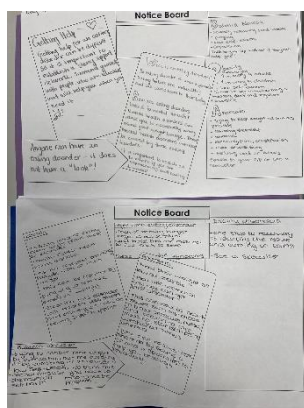
Revision Tips – Dual Coding

The revision technique for this month is dual coding. Dual coding is when you not only create a piece of work with writing and words, but you also add a picture next to that point so that you can retain and recall this information after a long period of time. Look at some of these amazing examples that the students have used below.



In PSHCE...Eating Disorders (Year 9)

In Year 9 PSHCE, we identified the different types of eating disorders and their symptoms. Students created a notice board to go up on display to raise awareness about the different types of eating disorders and their symptoms and give a range of advice on what students should do and who they should talk to both in school and online!



Humanities Club!

Humanities club is the celebration of all the great subjects which form the humanities department. Humanities club is structured in a debate style format, where it provides opportunities for students to discuss and debate specific topics and questions which form the specific subject areas within humanities. For example, the issue of climate change (Geography), issues pertaining to young people (PSHCE) and religious ideologies and their impacts on society (Religious Studies & History), all of which have vast cross-curriculum opportunities.

Humanities club aims to improve our students overall civic engagement pertaining to issues which have engulfed society, to improve the students' confidence in speaking, researching & debating and to create greater autonomy amongst students in taking responsibility for their learning. Tuesdays afterschool in the 1F Library until 4:05pm!

Maths Update

Maths Club at Park is full of interesting activities that aims to develop students' problem solving skills and logical thinking skills. Each week there are new areas of maths to discover such as Albert Einstein's logical puzzle, a pi song to remember up to 100 digits of pi, card games such as blackjack, mini competitions to assess our basic maths (see figure 1 below of a countdown activity).

Students are also more than welcome to do their homework (see Figure 2) and share their ideas on maths knowledge.

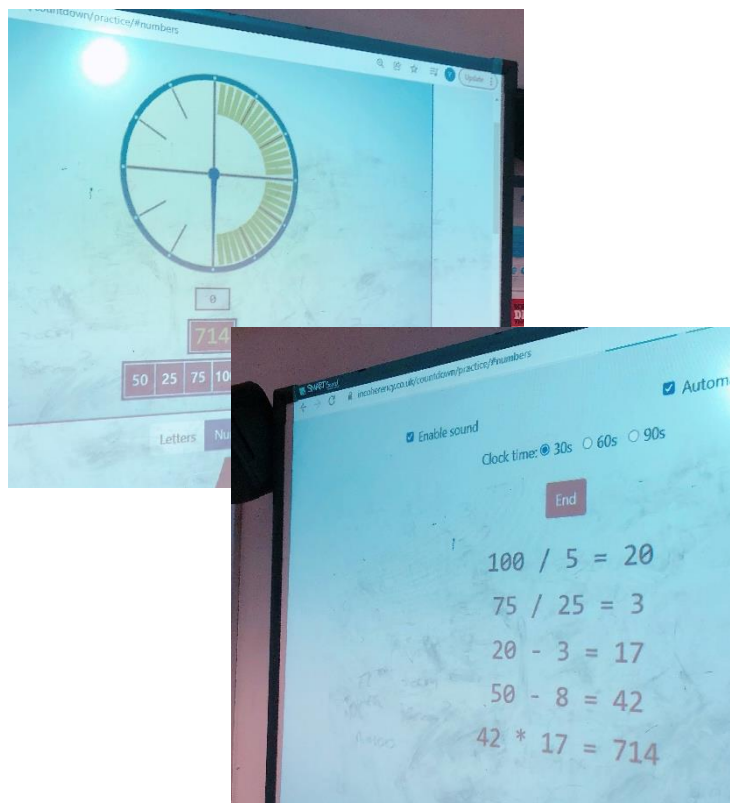
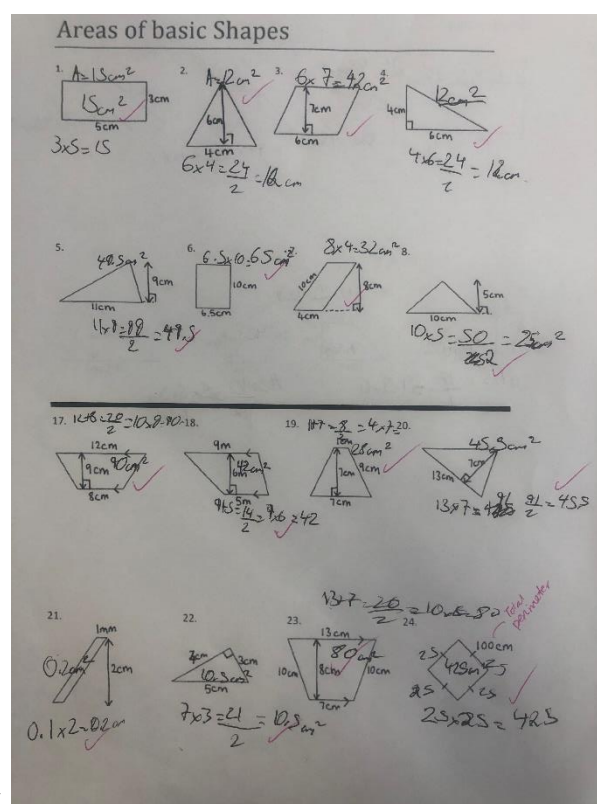


Figure 1: Countdown activity on the left, to see who gets to the closest (or exact) calculations. On the right, using basic maths operations within 30 seconds. Students earn points the closer they are to the answer and the student with the highest score wins a prize.

Figure 2: An excellent piece of work by a student in year 7 showing their working out.



Bake Sale Success

On Thursday 10th February, the Academy held a bake sale for The Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation, who visited to perform their story to Year 9 students.

Thank you to all members of our community for donating and baking cakes, as we raised over £70! Great work to all involved!

We look forward to another great bake sale soon!



PSHCE Deep Learning Events

Prison? Me? No Way!

On Monday 31st January, our Year 8 students participated in a real-life learning experience, to help reduce risky behaviour and prevent them from becoming involved in crime. The sessions encouraged the students to think carefully about the decisions they make throughout their lives so that they can achieve their full potential.

Students first visited a life sized and fully furnished prison cell which replicated living conditions and cell contents. Then they listened to a Q&A talk from an ex-prisoner who shared real life stories about the impact of prison life and crimes has had upon them, family, victims and their future life aspirations. The sessions gave our students the knowledge and confidence to take control whilst making positive choices that avoid becoming involved in crime.



SORTED - County Lines Workshop

On Wednesday 2nd February, our Year 10 students participated in a real-life learning experience about County Lines. County Lines is where illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police and local authority boundaries and usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs.

The 'County Line' is the mobile phone line used to take the orders of drugs. Importing areas, regions where the drugs are taken to, are reporting increased levels of violence and weapons-related crimes as a result of this trend. The best advice given by SORTED was to trust your instincts. Even if someone is not involved in county lines drug dealing, they may be being exploited in some other way, so it is always worth speaking out. The sessions gave our students the knowledge and confidence to take control whilst making positive choices that avoid becoming involved in county lines.



Daniel Spargo-Mabbs – 'I Love you Mum – I Promise I Won't Die'

On Thursday 10th February, Year 9 students watched a performance of 'I Love You Mum – I Promise I Won't Die'. The play tells the story of Dan, a 16 year old boy, who persuaded his mum to let him go to a party. However, instead of going to a party, Dan and his friends went to an illegal rave in Hillingdon, the first time he'd been to such an event. At the rave Dan accidentally took a lethal amount of MDMA (ecstasy). What Dan took was twelve times stronger than had caused deaths in the past. The other four boys were fine, but whichever of them had had that bag would almost certainly also have died. It just happened to be Dan. The Year 9 students were gripped by the story and really enjoyed the opportunity to see some live theatre. The students then took part in a short workshop focused on educating them about different types of drugs.



Meet the Professionals Event

On the 19th January we invited Ryan DSouza, an Engineering professional within the Aviation Industry, to meet our Year 12 students. The meeting was conducted online and afforded the students an opportunity to learn about the industry as a whole, his personal experiences during his career and what a typical day looks like for someone in his position. He gave the students an insight into the entry requirements and what students would need to achieve should they aspire to work within aviation.



Students also had the opportunity to discuss the challenges that the industry currently faces in particular in a post Covid world. They also discussed how the industry might recover and develop in the future.

He mentioned the benefits and the skills that are built up over time while working within this sector discussing the different companies operating within the market and the different opportunities they present - Inspiring our students to consider Aviation and Engineering as a career option.

The event was a great success with students engaging in the discussion and asking a variety of questions enabling them to gain a greater understanding of Engineering within the Aviation sector as a whole.

Independent Careers Advice

On the 24th January, Park Academy West London welcomed our new Independent Careers Advisor. Margherita Rickwood joins us from The Education Development Trust who are a key partner in our Careers Education Programme. She comes with many years of Careers Advisory experience and will be providing independent careers advice to students on Tuesdays and Wednesdays ongoing.

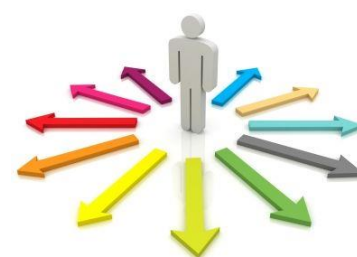
Initially students who are at key transition points in their education will be allocated the first appointments with all students being able to access appointments by request as time moves on. All sessions are documented and action plans created, enabling the students to have greater control over their goals and aspirations.

Year 9 Options

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing outstanding Careers Education we provided every year 9 student with a 'Choices Interview' during January.

Each student was given an appointment with a senior member of staff to discuss the student's plans for GCSE choices and how that relates to their future career aspirations. Advice and support was given to ensure that students were able to meet the deadline for the GCSE choice applications and students were able to request further support.

A Careers Club is now in place every Thursday break 1 in the Careers Office in the 1G corridor, to enable students to spend time discussing and developing their future plans for education and careers.



Health and Social Care

Sixth Form Health and Social Care

After weeks of preparation, revision timetables, exam question advent calendars and a host of different revision techniques our Year 12 and Year 13 students completed their first official examinations. We wish them all the best when they receive their results in March - lessons are now fully focused on meeting coursework deadlines.

Sixth Form Health and Social Care UCAS

Thinking about university, job applications, and next steps?

Make your application stand out by completing volunteer work/work experience. While this is difficult during this time, Allied Healthcare Mentors are offering online sessions to give you an insight into different professions with Health and Social Care.



Find more details at www.alliedhealthmentor.org

Drama News

On Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th February 2022, the Year 11 Drama GCSE students sat their Presenting and Performing Texts exam. Students performed extracts from *The Pillowman* by Martin McDonagh and *The Exam* by Andy Hamilton.

Students created costumes and set for their performances, used lighting and performed in front of a live audience of their peers.

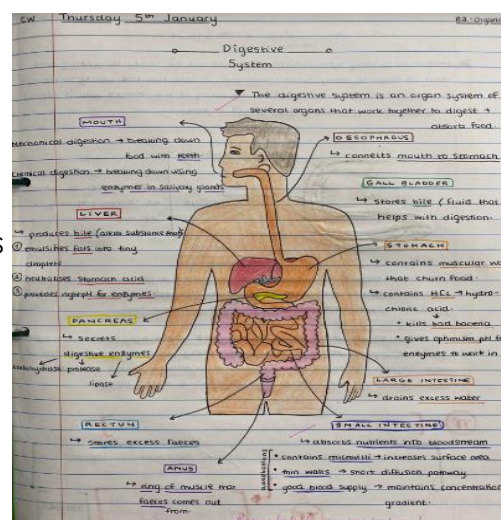
All students performed excellently, with some outstanding characterisation and staging. Mr Taylor was very impressed with student's commitment and enthusiasm – well done to all!



Science Update

Student Work of the Term by Ms Shah

This work was completed by Year 10 Elda Kaceli during a lesson on the Human Digestive System. Elda used her artistic skills to illustrate the diagram and completed it with annotations of the function that each organ plays within this system. Ms Shah said "cross curricular activity implementing Art, at its finest!"



Science Museum Trip by Mr Khan

Students in KS3 this term went on a trip to the Science Museum in London. This was a fantastic opportunity to spark curiosity, thinking and questioning of scientific phenomenon, as well as exploring the museum. Not only did they learn about key scientific discoveries in the 21st century, but also build cultural capital. Mr Khan said "this was a fantastic opportunity to build cultural capital for our students!"



Space by Ms Edgar

As Head of Physics, I am excited to congratulate Dev, Abou, Ajay, Sumit, Yli, Alice, Victoria, Netania, Divleen, Elda and Naveed in Year 10, on being selected to join the galactic research team at UCL (University College London), where they will work with the team to try and discover why some stars are born in some galaxies but not others. The team will analyse data from different satellites across the Globe and in Space to see if they can find a trend to explain this phenomenon.

International Women and Girls in Science Day at Park Academy by Ms Ali

The 11th February is a globally recognised day that marks the achievements and participation for women and girls in science. It seeks to further the continuing efforts for promoting equal opportunities and empowerment of women and girls. As part of Park's efforts to support our female students and staff members, we celebrated this day on Thursday 10th February with a day's full of interactive lessons centered around influential women who have shaped the world of science. One woman who was the main theme of the day's lesson was Jeanne Gang, a world-renowned architect who has designed the 3rd tallest tower in Chicago of 356m and has the tallest building in the world designed by a woman.

Students worked as a team of engineers and were set the challenge of constructing their tallest tower with spaghetti sticks, tape and string. The winning team(s) were able to build a tower that was completely freestanding and was able to withhold its structure for a total of 2 minutes. This exciting challenge provided students with greater insight to the inner workings of engineering such as the importance of trial and error and they learned more about STEM careers.

To continue the celebrations of this special day, a competition was held for students to create a fact/file poster on one influential woman in science. Closing entries will be 25/2/22, with 1st, 2nd and 3rd winners to be announced in the following week. Ms Ali wants to build aspirations in the girls at Park in Science.

Art – Royal Academy of Art Workshop

In January, we were fortunate enough to have a workshop for our Year 11 Art and Design students, provided by The Royal Academy of Art. Students explored a variety of different techniques and ideas, and were able to get 'hands on' with trying them out for themselves!

The workshop was provided after one of our students won a competition back in 2020. The resident artists who visited, commented on the exceptional talents of our students and were impressed with the dedication and hard work of them all.

It was a unique experience, and one our students will not forget!



Upcoming Events

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Friday 11 th February | End of Half Term |
| Monday 21 st February | Start of Half Term for all students |
| Tuesday 22 nd February | Year 10 Brunel University Trip (Group 1) |
| Wednesday 23 rd February | Year 7 PSHCE Workshop |
| | Coronavirus Vaccinations |
| Thursday 24 th February | Year 10 Brunel University Trip (Group 2) |
| | Year 10 Parent's Evening (further details to follow) |
| Monday 28 th February | Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams begin |
| Thursday 3 rd March | Year 9 Parent's Evening (further details to follow) |
| | World Book Day |
| Friday 11 th March | Year 9 St Mary's University Trip |
| Monday 14 th March | Pi Day (events at school) |
| Tuesday 15 th March | Year 12 UCAS Exhibition Trip |
| Monday 21 st March | Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 Gambling Awareness Assembly |
| Tuesday 22 nd March | Year 10 Brunel University Trip (Group 3) |
| Thursday 24 th March | Year 10 Brunel University Trip (Group 4) |
| | Academy Showcase |
| Wednesday 30 th March | Year 8 Vaccinations |
| Thursday 31 st March | Year 11 Parent's Evening (further details to follow) |
| Friday 1 st April | End of Term for Easter Holidays (12:30pm finish) |
| Tuesday 19 th April | Start of Term for all students |

| Time | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| AM 7:45am to 8:20am | Table Tennis (All) (BCO) Sportshall | Table Tennis (All) (KDR) Sportshall | Table Tennis (All) (NCO) Sportshall | Table Tennis (All) (KDR) Sportshall | Table Tennis (All) (BCO) Sportshall |
| Break 1 11am to 11:30am | MFL Board Games (All) (MFL Dept) 1G9 | | | Careers & Futures (All) (VHA) 1G16 | Foreign Languages Film Club (All) (MFL Dept) 1G9 |
| After School Monday to Thursday 3pm to 4pm Friday 1:30pm to 2:30pm | Football (Yr 9 & 10) (JMA) Astro Netball (All) (NCO) Sportshall Fitness (All) (BCO) Dance Studio | Dance (All) (NCO and Blue) Dance Studio Fitness (All) (MNE) Sportshall Humanities Society (Yr 7 & 8) (Humanities Dept) 1F Library Book Club (ALL- 1st of every month) (EHO) Library DT Club (Yr 10 GCSE students <u>ONLY</u>) (DGA) 3G2 | English Games Club (All) (AGU & LHA) Library | Basketball (All) (MNE) Sportshall Football (Yr 7 & 8) (KDR) Astro Instrumental Club (Yr 7 & 8) (CSI) 4F1 Drama Club (All) (RKO) Drama Studio Math Magicians (All) (YYA) 2F12 Art Club (Yr 7 & 8) (DGA) 3G3 | Basketball (All) (MNE) Sportshall Football (Yr 11 & Sixth Form) (KDR) Astro Cooking Club (All) (EHA) 3G6 |
| <div>  <p>Park Academy West London</p> </div> <div> <p>January to March 2022 Extra-Curricular Timetable</p> </div> | | | | | |