



Park Community School

NEWSLETTER

Fortnightly Update

13th May 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

This fortnight's newsletter is full of excitements from the last few weeks at Park. We are proud that our staff have been able to provide these opportunities for students and continue to support them in finding what they love.

Year 11s begin the formal exam season on Monday; we wish them luck and look forward to them completing these final exams to achieve their well-deserved GCSE grades. Parents have been sent information about additional early morning and after school exam briefings to help prepare students to do their best.

Finally, a reminder that we break up for half term on Friday 27 May and return to school on Monday 6 June. During the final half term of the school year, Year 10 will complete their work experience and Year 6 will join us for Freshers' week.



Year 6 Freshers' Week coming soon!
4-8 July 2022

GOOD LUCK

TO YEAR 11

IN THEIR EXAMS!

This year, through Race at our Place, we managed to raise an amazing

£1,336.42

for Cancer Research!

Thank you all so much for every penny!



Year 10 Rap project! Developing confidence with language and performance

The Year 10 Rap project launched this week and what a launch it was! Local rap artists performed, shared the history of rap and explored the fact that rap is poetry.



This event marks the start of a four week project where Year 10 will work with the artists to explore language and poetry and link to GCSE English. Look out for regular updates including information on an evening performance for parents. **Mrs Tonks**



'Finding what you love' Extra curricular clubs this week

Another enjoyable week for extra curricular PE.

Badminton:

It was lovely to have some Year 11 girls join the group this week. The students played singles and doubles games and are showing a real competitive edge when they play one another.

Basketball:

'Coach Winter' led the basketball this week. Brandon was really creative coming up with a variety of shooting and dribbling drills. This has been great for his confidence and he is showing some impressive leadership skills during the sessions.

Fitness:

Fantastic numbers in fitness tonight. All the students have different ambitions and targets they are aiming for. The atmosphere was really positive and exciting.



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Science Trip

On 5 May, 48 Year 8 student scientists visited the Science Museum in London. We explored the exhibits looking at space exploration, medicine through time and the physics of flying. We also viewed a fantastic 3D IMAX film called 'Our Beautiful Planet' which looked at the life of astronauts on the international space station, the challenges of climate change and how we try and find life amongst the stars. **Mr Turner-Norgate**



Sports Ambassadors Celebration Trips



Performing Arts Showcase

Huge congratulations to our wonderful Performing Arts students for their recent performance! We had a wonderful evening of singing, acting and dancing in front of a sold out audience! Clubs continue this term in PA, working towards the next showcase!

Well done to all the brilliant Drama students who have completed their LAMDA exam this term! Students have worked hard learning their scenes and demonstrating a knowledge of performance with a visiting examiner.

Mrs Chilvers





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Greenpower record breaking day

The team were super organised but nervous about the reintroduction of pit stops and driver changes. They absolutely smashed the pit changes with very little practise and nailed it every time.

Race one. All three cars got off well, safely and pushed hard. Keep Up got off quickly and quickly moved up the ranks to the top 10. Chase kept up the pace and was not far behind. We reintroduced our third car for the first time in three years.

Race two. We almost lost Keep Up when setting up the car with the new batteries as a battery terminal was incorrectly fitted which caused our speed controller to melt and catch fire! Luckily we saved the wiring and we had a spare speed controller so the team got to work. An efficient change and race ready again with 20 minutes spare. A great start by all - Keep Up zoomed off with Chase and Team Spirit Two following closely. Keep Up got up to 1st place at one point but lost battery power quicker than expected. Some investigation needed here. Maybe more damage caused by fire than we thought?



52 cars raced in our category.

Race 1

Keep Up 6th 31.2 miles
Chase 7th 31.2 miles
Team Spirit Two 13th 28.2 miles.

Race 2

Keep Up 8th 35.08 miles
Chase 5th 35.16 miles
Team Spirit Two 11th 32.73 miles

So amazing position results overall, but the most impressive thing is our race mileage. Our school's personal best in 10 years! My prediction is that we need to get over 30 miles this season to qualify for the national final. So potentially we may have all three cars in the final already! Fingers crossed!

Mr Payne

STEAM AT&T Girls Competition

The event was really successful with Sofia, Emily, Fern, Carty, Niamh, Lara, Shelby-Rose, Scarlet and Abigail competing in the AT&T challenge against schools in following countries: Germany, United Kingdom, Spain, Belgium, Czech Republic and Slovakia. Their task was to solve a sequence of puzzles to try and collect three passcodes and beat an expert team of cyber criminals. There were three sets of puzzles increasing in difficulty, the challenges contained different types of computing related tasks where students had to use decomposition and logical thinking to crack the codes.

Our fastest team finished in 46:03 min, completing the hardest challenge in only five minutes. Our girls worked well solving the problems and were a great representation for the hard working and independent students we have at Park Community School.

We placed 6th in Europe and 2nd in the UK.

Over 40 teams comprised of approximately 120 girls attended today. The coordinator has said she will be sending some prizes for our winning team next week.

Mr Wray

Welcome to AT&T -
AEWN
Girls Day
2022



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Aim Higher University of Portsmouth trip

Did you know there are 400 universities in the UK, offering 50,000 courses! Here on our doorstep, we have Portsmouth University, a great option to Higher education.

We looked at living away versus living at home, being part of the 140 societies that you could belong to whilst studying at Portsmouth, just like here at Park with the extra curricular clubs that run after School.

There is a vast selection of places to live whilst studying and we looked at the halls of residence. We started to think about independence and what it's like to study at university, starting to prepare your personal statement and collecting all the records of achievement through your time at school.

We looked at well being and mental health – walking or cycling for 30 minutes every day, healthy food, sleeping well, social contact and time management all help to have a positive effect on your mental health.

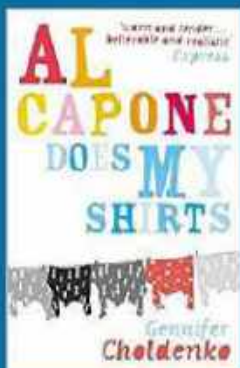
Finally, budgeting is key – students produced some brilliant ideas on how to keep a healthy budget, well done Joey on his budget skills.

Lovely compliments from staff who were so impressed with our Year 8 students, their attitude was engaging and behaviour exemplary.

Mrs Cook



Al Capone Does My Shirts Ginnifer Choldenko



Moose Flanagan lives with his family on Alcatraz Island - home to a high security prison and the famous gangster Al Capone.

But living next door to Al Capone is the least of Moose's problems. He has left all his friends behind at his old house, he has a new school to get used to and new friends to make, and his mother is so busy looking after his autistic sister that she has no time to listen to his concerns.

When Moose and his new friends come up with some pretty clever plans to make money out of having convict neighbours things start to look up. Until, that is, his sister Natalie seems to pose an even bigger problem to him than she usually does.

"This is a good book to read. The family had to Alcatraz so the dad could work there. I love the main character's sister Natalie, because she is a good person, and she is funny. I like this book. I would recommend this book because it was funny and also sometimes sad." Rhianna, 8JSH

"The book is about a family that have to move to Alcatraz and have a hard time settling in. Moose is the main character, and his sister is suspected to have autism, but it isn't clarified in the story. They are trying to find her a new school. She is a nice character but can be a handful sometimes. I liked this book because it had a famous criminal called Al Capone that was imprisoned on the island in real life." Jessica, 8EPO

"Moose lives with his family on Alcatraz as his is a prison guard. Al Capone a mafia gangster really was in Alcatraz fours and a half years It was interesting to learn about Al Capone and Alcatraz. It was surprising to find out that that it was a whole island as a prison. I think it was a good book." Ryan, 8AGR