

18 July 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am writing to you towards the end of a busy term with a few highlights and some important information regarding the end of term arrangements and those for the start of next term.

At the beginning of the holidays you will receive a final letter of the year along with a copy of Park Post, which will once again capture some of the key moments over the past term. Selecting articles for Park Post is always a challenge as there are so many events!

Some highlights from the past week alone include:

- **Year 6 Freshers' Week:** we were delighted to welcome our new Year 7 students for the week and meet their families at our annual Freshers' Barbeque.
- **Our annual Sports Festival:** Years 6, 7, 8 and 9 joined in with their families to compete in an afternoon of great team work. Austen family triumphed for the first time ever.
- **Year 10 Work Experience:** Year 10 have begun their 2-week work experience at a variety of businesses in the area.
- **Tanzania Grassroots project:** Daily Facebook updates from students and staff currently in Tanzania working with the Grassroots project have kept us up to date with this once in a lifetime experience.
- **Derek Lamont award from Havant Rotary** was awarded to Jake Reeve, ex-student who has also secured an offer of a place at Oxford University for September.
- **Unlocking Potential Award winners:** 4 students went to London last week to receive this prestigious award from Dame Kelly Holmes is only given to 80 young people across the country.
- **South Hants Student Voice conference:** Student representatives from our school presented at this conference, sharing their work in developing our school rewards system.
- **Girls Network celebration event** at the University of Portsmouth: 22 Year 11 girls have completed this programme working for a full year with women from business. Many have arranged to continue working together.





Uniform and attendance

Thank you for supporting us in ensuring your child looks smart for school every day, arrives punctually and is ready to learn. Over the past term, punctuality and the smartness of uniform has improved.

Preparations for September

Uniform

A reminder when purchasing uniform please refer to our uniform policy to ensure your child has everything they need.

Blazers can be purchased from school reception at a discounted price while stocks last. Skoolkit also has a 10% discount on uniform between 6th and 13th July 2019.

School shoes must be entirely black, with no logos. Black trousers cannot be jeans or leggings. Please ensure you check carefully as students will not be permitted into normal lessons if they do not have the correct uniform.

Attendance

As parents you already know the importance on strong attendance at school for your child. Evidence shows that happiness in school and GCSE outcomes are directly linked with good attendance, and we all want both for students at Park Community School.

We do not authorise any holidays during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. We have been asked to tighten up on all absences, including holidays.

What happens if my child does not attend school regularly?

Schools are expected to issue Fixed Penalty Notices to the parents of children whose attendance is a cause for concern. The trigger point for this is when 10 sessions (the equivalent to 5 full days) have been missed and are recorded as unauthorised absence. A warning letter will usually be sent to you prior to this.

Crazy Hair Week Monday 15th July until end of term

To recognise students' improved punctuality and uniform we will also be having a Crazy hair week, starting on Monday 15th July until the end of term. (Please ensure any dying of hair is temporary as usual expectations regarding hair colour will resume in September.)

We have also permitted students to leave their blazers at home if they wish in this warmer weather. (A reminder however, that the only item students should wear in school over their shirt or polo shirt is a blazer).



End of Term arrangements

School will finish for this academic year on **Tuesday 23rd July at 1.30pm**.
School is open throughout the summer for Munch and Connect4Summer (leaflets enclosed).

Exam Results Day: Thursday 22nd August 2019

We look forward to welcoming Year 10 and 11 students between 10am and 11am to collect their exam results.

Dates for next term

- **Thursday 5th September 2019: Year 7** attend school all day.
Years 8,9,10,11 attend for Student Review Day appointments only.
These will be sent out in August.
- **Friday 6th September 2019:** All students in school for normal school day.
- **Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th September 2019:** Year 7 trips

Finally, Ms Morris, Deputy Headteacher, is retiring after 27 years. I know you would wish to join us in thanking her for many years of great service to the students and staff at Park Community School.

I would like to thank you once again for working with us to ensure your children get the most out of their time at Park Community School and wish you and your families a wonderful summer.

Kind regards,

Ella Capaldi
Head of School