



Park Community School

NEWSLETTER

Weekly Update

1st April 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to our first weekly newsletter. We will be sending you a newsletter every week during this period of school closures. As we all get used to a very different way of learning, this will help us to keep you updated, share top tips for home learning and celebrate the fantastic things our students are doing. Do make sure you are following our Facebook page **@ParkCommunitySchoolNews**

At the end of this second week of home learning, where many of our community are self-isolating, everyone will be facing very different challenges and managing them in different ways. Thank you for the regular updates so many of you have been sharing with us and the creative ways in which you've been tackling learning from home.

Remember, teachers are setting work online via PARs and email, and there are many online resources available on our website. If you have any problems at all, just email the class teacher or Head of Year. This is as new to us as it is for you and we are all still finding what works best. We will produce some more work packs for students who do not have access to the Internet after Easter.

Do not worry if you are still trying to work out your routine. Along with the challenges this new normal is presenting, there have also been some real positive moments. Highlights of the past week have included the way staff at school have come together to adapt to this new way of working, emails for students in all years sharing work and letting us know how they are doing, some really kind messages from parents when we've checked in to see how you are doing and Mr Cross appearing on South Today explaining MUNCH. Our community is unique and at times like this we are reminded of how fantastic it is.

At Park we are bidding a fond farewell to four members of staff who are leaving us this term. We have been unable to give them the goodbye we would wish to but hope to do this at some point soon. Miss Clarke from MFL leaves us to go to Cams Hill School as Head of Languages, Miss Clarke has transformed languages at Park, inspiring so many students and she will be missed by us all. Miss Storey leaves us to become Lead Science Teacher at a school in West Sussex, Miss Storey has been a fantastic member of the team at Park for many years, she will be especially missed by Year 10 students, for whom she has been a great Head of Year. Miss Martin also leaves us to join the Science Team at Trafalgar School and Miss Beck is changing career path to work with the homeless. We will miss them all and would like to wish them good luck for the future.

From everyone at Park, we would like to wish you and your family a happy, if somewhat different, Easter. We look forward to speaking to you again after the two week break.



Free School Meals

Many of you collected your vouchers this week. The government have now announced a national voucher scheme for after Easter. We are awaiting details and will contact those entitled to Free School meals directly.

Weekly Competitions

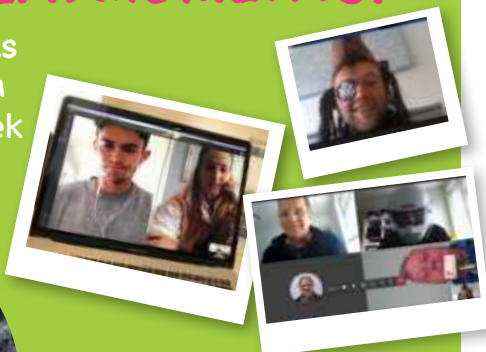
These were launched via email and Facebook this week. Look out for them every week. This week's are:



Please see Facebook and the school website for further details

SOME GREAT MOMENTS!

Teachers meeting as subject teams from a distance this week



Piglets born at our Farm



much more than just a school

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Managing Learning at Home

Remember this is new for everyone. Routine is important, and useful to help structure your day, but you do not need to worry about structuring every single moment. Some students will be able to work solidly for a few hours, others will need plenty of breaks. Find what works for you and your family. You will all do it differently and that is OK.

At the moment, in school, our day is structured like this. It might work for you at home too.

- 15 minutes reading aloud (this could be your children reading to each other or to you)
- Online learning or work packs for English and Maths - 1-2 hours
- Something practical - a chance to get outside for daily exercise
- Online learning for Science and other subjects. Choose a different one each day.
- 15 minutes reading (reading plus is perfect for this)
- Something creative. Have a go at the competitions being set each week. We'd love to see your ideas

Top Tips: Keep it simple

- ✓ Have a basic timetable that identifies when schoolwork will be completed and when its free time
- ✓ Get creative - cooking, crafts and exercise all count!
- ✓ Students do not need to spend 5 hours working every day. Some may wish to, but for most, 3 hours will be plenty (including creative and outdoor time)
- ✓ Make sure you've signed up to PARS - it's in the App store. You'll see the work your child is being set
- ✓ Let us know if you need any help - please don't struggle alone - we are here to help as much as we can - access can be found www.pcs.hants.sch.uk

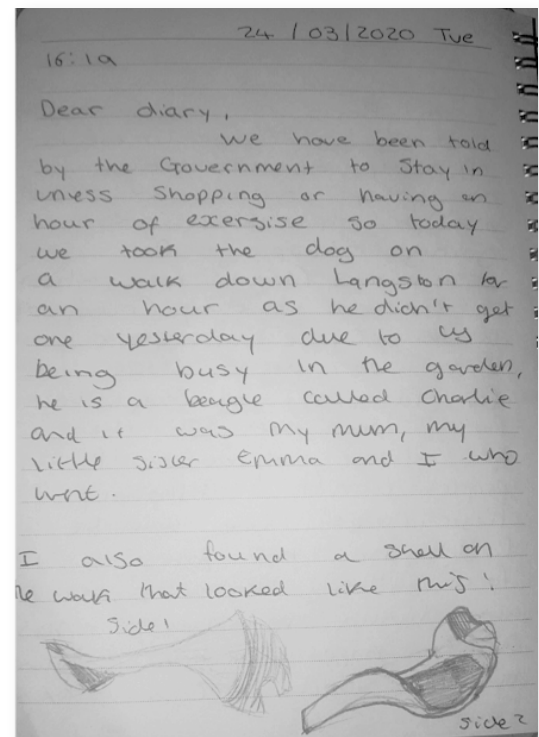


IDEA OF THE WEEK!

Write a diary...

Mr Bye's mentoring group have all been keeping a daily diary. This is such an unusual time for us all and certainly a time we will never forget. Diaries will form part of essential records of this time in our lives. We'd love to see your diary entries and have asked for them weekly, to read any that have been written and will definitely share examples, with permission of course!

Chloe's entry is a great example:



Learning in school and at home

Keep posting your pictures of learning at home or work- we love to see them!



Post on our Facebook page or email to Ms Harris for weekly updates - g.harris@pcs.hants.sch.uk

