



Park Community School

NEWSLETTER

Fortnightly Update 22 March 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Our latest newsletter celebrates various moments from the past few weeks, particularly our annual Literary Festival, which saw the whole school participating in a range of events celebrating reading. It also includes reminders of some important dates for next week and over the Easter holidays. This is the final newsletter of the Spring term.

Year 9 parents and carers will be attending our Options Evening on Wednesday 27 March 4.30-7.30pm. This is an important evening where you will be able to talk to teachers about the broad range of subjects on offer before students submit their final option choices by Thursday 18 April 2024. You are also encouraged to make appointments with your child's teachers for English, maths, science, RE and PE to review progress and preparation for GCSEs in Year 10. The link to the options booklet can be found on our website and linked here: [options_booklet.pdf \(pcs.hants.sch.uk\)](http://options_booklet.pdf (pcs.hants.sch.uk))

Next Thursday is Challenge Day. Students in Year 7, 8 and 9 will be continuing with our theme of 'finding what you love', and have opted into a range of activities where they will get to try something new. These include various sports, egg drops, creative writing, spin bikes, catering and much more. Year 10 students will be coming in for formal interviews with business volunteers, while Year 11 will spend the morning focussing on exam success and strategies. In the afternoon, the whole school will be walking, jogging and running together in our annual Race at Our Place event. Do come out to support if you are able.

School breaks up for Easter on Thursday 28 March, but we are open throughout the holidays for activities and daily MUNCH meals every lunch time. We still have some places available for activities aimed at teenagers; see the advert in this newsletter for more information and to book. In the second week of the holidays, Year 10 and 11 are invited into school for exam study clubs. The timetable will be sent to you by Mr Cavanagh next week.

In the first week of the Easter holidays, 29 Year 11s and accompanying staff are off to explore New York. We look forward to hearing about their adventures when they return.



Mr Anders



Mrs Capaldi

Year 9 Options Evening
Wednesday 27 March
4.30pm-7.30pm

EASTER HOLIDAYS
Friday 29 March -
Sunday 14 April

Vocal Ambassadors Perform at The Anvil

As part of the Power of Music Project across Leigh Park, our Vocal Ambassadors were asked to perform at The Anvil in Basingstoke. The girls involved are part of the Vocal Ambassador group representing Park, Warren Park, Front Lawn, Riders, Barncroft, Trosnant and Sharps Cope.

The girls were not just great vocal ambassadors, but great ambassadors for Park. There was tangible delight when they arrived and the primary pupils they have been working with saw them. Hampshire Music Services were glad to see them and thanked them for coming. The standout moment of the night was when our four Park girls started, and then led, the whole audience - from the back of the stage - in hand-waving for the last number of the night! It was a magical end to a fantastic night.



RACE AT OUR PLACE 2024

On Thursday 28 March we will walk, jog and run the length of Middle Park Way for the 11th year.

Look out for the sea of pink next Thursday afternoon and do come out to support us if you can. Pink T shirts are still available from reception for students to purchase.





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Park Literary Festival

Park's annual Literary Festival took place from 4th-7th March with this year's theme being 'Read your way.' Throughout the week students and staff took part in a number of exciting challenges, activities and experiences linked to finding what they love to read:

- In tutor reading, groups were given photographs of staff from their childhood along with their favourite childhood reads and asked to guess who the member of staff was in the photo.
- English lessons saw a reading escape room where students cracked codes to discover the key to a padlock which led them to their free World Book Day book.
- We had author Becky Jerams in visiting the school, presenting to Years 7, 8 and 9 and completing a creative writing workshop with selected students.
- Our annual Read-aloud-a-thon took place in the restaurant with an armchair manned all week long with staff and students reading aloud.
- Book giveaways took place for staff, students and parents.
- An open mic event saw Year 9 students sharing their own creative writing.
- Lessons around the school had a reading focus, with teachers selecting texts to inspire and motivate students.

The week was a huge success, and we were delighted to see staff and students sharing positive reading experiences and talking about the books they love the most.

Mrs Harrison

Here are some of the Escape room challenges- can you solve them?

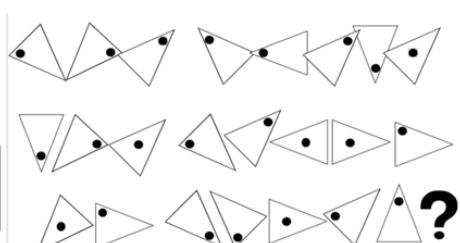
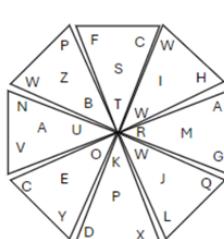
1. The main ingredient of "una tortilla española" is what?
2. La razón por que estamos en el colegio
3. "Los ojos" en inglés
4. Que hacemos en el gimnasio
5. "Horse riding" en español
6. "Ser" vs _____ = to be



¿Cuál es la conexión entre las palabras?

Octagon puzzle

Find the question and you will soon have the answer!



Find the answer and you will need the first letter of the first word and the second letter of the second word/





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Becky Jerams

One of the highlights of this year's Park Literary Festival was a visit from author, singer and songwriter Becky Jerams who spoke to Years 7, 8 and 9 about her fabulous booksical 'The Songs You've Never Heard'.

Becky Jerams is from Portsmouth. She first started songwriting at 14 years old and has performed countless shows across the South coast and beyond, supporting touring acoustic acts and headlining her own solo shows. Alongside her own performances, Becky's songs have been used on TV shows, movie trailers, adverts and have been placed with numerous charting acts across the world. As an author, Becky specialises in Young Adult fiction and her debut co-written novel 'The Songs You've Never Heard' (which features an accompanying album of real-life songs) was shortlisted for the 2023 YA Book Prize!

Becky spoke to our students about her journey to become a writer of Young Adult literature and treated them to a reading and live performances of two of her songs from the novel. Some lucky students then had the opportunity to take part in a creative writing workshop where they worked with Becky to create and share their own song lyrics. Becky said she enjoyed every minute of the day and loved meeting our students, who eagerly posed for selfies and asked questions while she autographed their books. Becky even stayed on to join in our afterschool Book-Quiz Club.

Students can buy signed copies of Becky's book, 'The Songs You've Never Heard', from our reception available for only £5.00 or in exchange for one merit award voucher.

Why not also download the free soundtrack? Available on Spotify and most other streaming platforms.



Competition Winners

Our competitions this year were all about favourite books. During the week students had the chance to share their favourite books from now and when they were younger, followed by the opportunity to guess the favourite childhood reads of some of our members of staff, aided by a display of old childhood and baby photographs. Huge congratulations to tutor-groups 8HMA, 10JSH & 11STO who guessed the highest number of correct answers and will be receiving their prizes shortly!

As part of our Literary Festival book-giveaways we invited families of students and community to choose a book from our selection of pre-loved books. In exchange we asked them to share their favourite family read and enter our prize draw. Congratulations to Rachel Gostage who receives a £20 Amazon for sharing her family favourite, *The Wide-Mouthed Frog*: "Our family laughs every time and have read it to each new generation of family members. My dad, my children's Grandad's nickname, is Grandad Wide-Mouth Frog."

Mrs Harrison



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Girls' Football Academy

The team continue to develop their skills and competitive edge! Last week we played two games hosted by Warblington School.

In the first match, the team fought hard and despite equalising for most of the match, we eventually conceded a goal, losing 2-1 to Cowplain. However, this did not deter us, and in the second match against Oaklands we were victorious with a 2-1 final result. We fought hard throughout the match and the girls did themselves proud, showing great teamwork and communication.

It is amazing to listen to the girls talking about what they love to do during the minibus journeys. Their motivation and excitement for future matches is always clear.

Heroines of Park: Ella, Alivia, Ruby, Maisie, Devon, Molly, McKenzie, Darcie, Daisy and Jessie

Miss Moreira



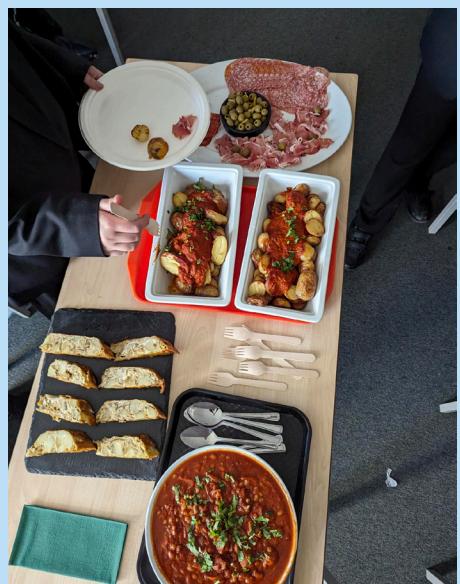
Cinema & Tapas reward event

The MFL team was proud to organise the cinema and tapas reward event for our Year 7, 8 and 9 students who are consistently working hard in class and outside of class on their Spanish.

It was a pleasure staying after school eating tapas, watching Encanto (in Spanish!) and spending time with fellow Spanish lovers.

Keep your eyes peeled for the next reward event

Mrs Derby





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Performing Arts Ambassadors coach Riders' students

The Performing Arts Ambassadors ran another great session this week with our primary school students from Riders. Students have been working together over the past five weeks to create a spy themed dance.

In our most recent session students explored how we can use contact work to tell a story. Using the book 'Vi Spy' as a stimulus, students had to use contact work to create their own lazer beam section to add to their dance. It was amazing to see our ambassadors teaching and supporting students through different types of contact. This week will be their last session with this group and we are excited to show their final performance to a Park audience.

Mrs Marr



Park Sports Ambassadors host Hampshire Netball for Primary Schools

We welcomed four schools to compete in a Year 5&6 Hampshire netball tournament this week. The young students displayed fantastic skill level which impressed the ambassadors and I. It was a stunning afternoon for weather and was so impressive watching the courts full of enthusiastic and determined young people.

We had over 50 girls and boys competing here at Park! The ambassadors were at their best helping officiate, score and lead warm ups. I am very proud of all them and I know they are proud to represent our school at every event!

Heroes of Park:

Alfie, Ruby, Ryan, Jayden, Kiahn, Fletcher, Liam

Results:

1st - Queens Inclosure A **4th** - Hearne

2nd - Queens Inclosure B **5th** - Horndean

3rd - St Peters

Mr Herriot





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Jekyll and Hyde at the Kings Theatre

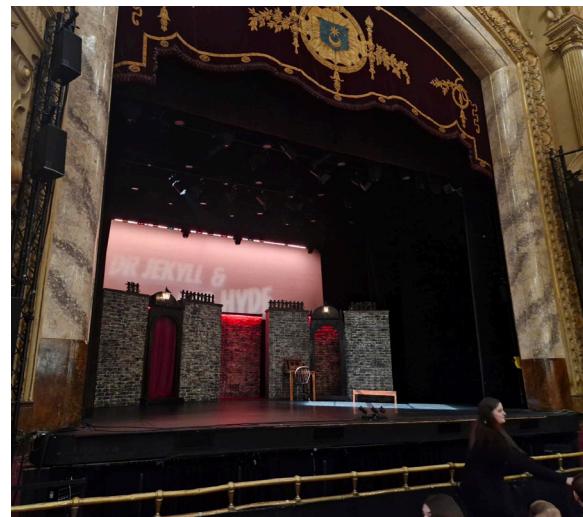
One hundred Year 10 and Year 11s had the fantastic experience of watching their GCSE Literature text 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' being performed at the Kings Theatre in Southsea. Students enjoyed watching the text come to life before their very eyes.

Robert Louis Stevenson (or at least the actor playing him) narrated the gothic horror story as we witnessed the horrific crimes of Edward Hyde play out on stage and we tracked the tragic downfall of Henry Jekyll, his creator.

One Year 11 student said "This has been really good. I haven't been to the theatre since we saw An Inspector Calls with school a couple of years ago and I've really enjoyed coming back". The Year 10 students said it has been brilliant to revise their GCSE text in this way and it has given them a greater understanding of how the text has been crafted by Stevenson.

For some, it was the first time they had ever been to a theatre and we hope it encourages them to visit more often. The students were fantastic and we are very proud of them - a great time was had by all!

Mrs Tonks



CONNECT 4 YOUTH

If events are full please join our waiting list

Youth Activities for Easter 2024

Secondary school aged children can come on their own. Free day of activities.

Monday 8th April
Cooking - Make your own 2 course meal!

Tuesday 9th April
Woodwork - Design your own woodwork creation to take home

Wednesday 10th April
Trip to Kings Theatre, Portsmouth to watch Grease the Musical

Thursday 11th April
Trip to Hollywood Bowling, Portsmouth

FREE lunch

These days are for those entitled to FSM or on EHCP, SEN plans. This is criteria for the funding.

To book visit www.connect4.org.uk Info: 02392489811 or email admin@connect4.org.uk

FREE CRUMPETS THIS EASTER

Fundraising UK Ltd
28,889 followers
5h ·

Warburtons and Morrisons are bringing back 'Ask for Ellen', offering free toasted crumpets with butter and jam to anyone and everyone who 'Asks for Ellen', no questions asked.

From Monday 25th March - Sunday 14th April.

To help alleviate Easter school holiday hunger.

#AskForEllen

Photo: Mojo



Park Community School



Save the dates for Easter 2024

Monday 8th April
Tuesday 9th April

Wednesday 10th April
Thursday 11th April

*FREE
lunch*

*Free Youth Activities
for 11-16 year olds*



Park Community School, Middle Park Way, Havant PO9 4BU
These events are free to attend.

*Free Family Fun Days
Crafts- Cooking- Entertainment*



To book visit www.connect4.org.uk Info: 02392489811 or email admin@connect4.org.uk



#SO.ME

Exciting opportunity to take part in the first Social Media research project aimed at young people in the UK

This research study aims to better understand young people's daily social media experiences, by using a brand new and secure smart phone app to track their social media use and ask them about how they are feeling at regular points throughout the day. This is the first study of this kind in the UK and will help us understand how best to support young people in schools.

All students who take part will receive a voucher as a reward for taking part in this national survey.

The study is made up of 2 Parts. Part 1 is included in this newsletter.

Further information will be sent to all parents via class charts, so please keep a look out.

1

ONBOARD

Hundreds of young people agree to take part and get parental consent. They receive an email with instructions on how to download the #So.Me App.

2

DOWNLOAD & PREPARE

Day 0: Download the #So.Me App, enter the activation code and unique participant ID, and watch an introductory video.
Day 1: Complete the start-point survey (15-20mins).

3

PARTICIPATE

Day 2-15: #So.Me App tracks time spent on social media apps. #So.Me App sends short 1-min questionnaires 5-8 times per day.

4

DELETE APP

Day 16: Complete feedback questionnaire (2-mins) and delete the #So.Me App.





Park Community School



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities at Park

Welcome to the sixth edition of Park's SEN newsletter!

PPEP care training 2024

Delivered by Hampshire MHSTs



MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAMS

March

Supporting young people who self-harm

What self-harm is and how it might present. Exploring why young people might self-harm and challenging commonly held assumptions. Guidance on how to talk to young people who may be self-harming, confidentiality, dealing with your own feelings and supporting young people with alternative strategies.

When? Thursday 28th March 5.30-7.30pm

Where? Online via Zoom (please find link below)

Who? Parents and carers

<https://spft-nhs.uk.zoom.us/j/95178973773?pwd=WHpJaWIWUGFVdFBPNWU5RW5KYnZRUTog>

Meeting ID: 951 7897 3773 Passcode: 305314

To access the meeting, please click on the above link. When directed to, type in the meeting ID and Passcode, as well as your first name.

SEND Homework Clubs

When: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday
2.45pm - 3.15pm

What and Where:

- **KS3 Homework Club** (Year 7, 8 & 9) at the KS3 Hub (the room off the library).
- **Handwriting Club** (any year groups welcome) at the KS3 Hub (the room off the library).
- **KS4 Homework Club** (Year 10 & 11) in the library, until further notice.

This is an exciting opportunity for readers to find out what is happening in school to support our students with special educational needs; opportunities to be signposted and find out what is available in the local community and to be updated on any relevant information around SEND.

Contacting the school

If you wish to speak to the SEND team about your child please contact:



Mrs Leach

Assistant Headteacher-SENDCo
e.leach@pcs.hants.sch.uk

Mrs Shuttle

Assistant SENDCo
j.shuttle@pcs.hants.sch.uk





Park Community School

HBC Community Bulletin Text

Have your say on the Havant Housing Strategy

Havant Borough Council has produced a draft Housing Strategy for the next five years (2024-2029) and we want to hear the views of our residents, partners and communities.

The Council is seeking to adopt the strategy to provide the strategic direction for the council and partner organisations to meet the housing needs and demands of local people.

The four key aims proposed within the draft strategy are as follows:

- Preventing homelessness and helping those who are homeless to move on to stable housing solutions.
- Increasing the supply of housing, including affordable housing
- Helping housing choices to enable independence.
- Improving the quality of rented housing stock

This document will be critical in setting out how the council seeks to meet local housing challenges in the coming years and therefore we would like to invite you to submit your views via a short survey.

To view more information about the draft Housing Strategy and to submit your views on this document, please visit www.havant.gov.uk/housing.

This survey is live between Monday 12 February and Monday 25 March 2024.

In addition, a series of public exhibition events are being held as part of the consultation, providing additional insight and the opportunity to talk to members of the Housing Team. These are taking place on the following dates:

- Wednesday 13 March 2024 – 15:00 – 19:00 – Waterlooville Community Centre, Waterlooville
- Thursday 21 March – 15:00 – 19:00 – Leigh Park Community Centre, Leigh Park

Visit the above webpage for the latest news on these events and to sign up for future updates on the Housing Strategy.

For those not able to access online materials, paper copies of the strategy and the survey will be available from all Havant libraries and your local community centre.



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