



Parent Governors: Tom Oxnard
Bridget Baxter
Michael Wainhouse

Dear Parents/Guardians

1. Ofsted

Every term is a busy term but this term was particularly busy with a visit from Ofsted. We were really pleased to send you the published report a week ago. We are absolutely delighted that Ofsted confirmed that we remain an outstanding school with 3 outstanding judgements since 2004. The report summarised many of the areas we are particularly proud of, recognizing that Student progress and behaviour are outstanding. We were very pleased that the lead inspector recognised the developments we have made in reading and that progress in reading is "exceptional."

A selection of comments within the report are:

'Students across the school make outstanding progress in English and Mathematics. Achievement in reading is exceptional.'

'Students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exceptional.'

'Students' attitudes to their learning and to staff are exceptionally positive because teachers make lessons interesting and motivate students to learn.'

'There is a strong ethos of tolerance and respect throughout the school.'

'The school's work to keep pupils safe and secure is outstanding.'

'Teaching assistants provide extremely good support for students with additional needs.'

We would like to thank staff and governors for the tremendous team effort that went into the inspection process.

On the last day of term we have organized a celebratory ice cream for all students – the ice cream van will arrive at 10am on Friday before our prize giving at 11am.

2. Y9 Residential

Y9 had an amazing trip to Lulworth Cove last week. They all came back 'rosy cheeked' after three days of sunshine and sea air. They particularly enjoyed their trip to Corfe Castle and Monkey World.

3. Children with Special Needs Foundation

We would like to thank The Children with Special Needs Foundation for their recent donation towards our sports curriculum and equipment. We will be getting new goal posts, additional outdoor gym equipment, as well as funding to broaden the range of activities on offer.

4. Dinner money due for next term

Please can we ask that you can **pay in advance** for dinner money. £60.20 for the half term, £10.75 per week and £2.15 per day.



5. Battlefields Trip

Mrs Morley writes...

I took two Year 11 students, Liam Paterson and Lewis Anderson to be part of a WW1 centenary initiative for all schools. We visited the WW1 battlefields of Belgium and France travelling with 12 other schools from the Portsmouth and Guildford area. We were accompanied by a team of experts - a tour guide, a serving British soldier and two specialist leaders.

The trip consisted of four very intense days, starting with a team building and preparation day at the Kingswood outdoor activity centre in Kent. On Day 2, they travelled to Belgium, to the Memorial Museum at Passchendaele, then on to the British and Commonwealth Tyne Cot Cemetery and the German Langemark Cemetery. In the evening, we went to the Ceremony of the Last Post at the Menin Gate, Ypres, and Liam and a girl from another school were selected to lay a wreath on behalf of our tour group. It was an intensely moving occasion. We also went to the Somme, visiting excavated trenches and war graves. Our final visit was the Flanders Field Museum to Ypres, which has a most comprehensive WW1 exhibition using video projections, unique sound-bytes and state-of-the-art multimedia applications.

Every minute of the day was utilised, even on the coach journeys we were given lectures and shown WW1 documentary videos! The challenge now is to use this experience to create our own lasting school memorial to those who fought and gave so much in WW1. Watch this space! My thanks to all those who sent in details of family members and friends involved in WW1 – I will be letting you know in due course how this will be included in our school project. If anyone wishes to borrow a copy of the tour handbook, or would like more details of the places we visited, please let me know.

6. Clay Workshop 24th March

A range of students from year 7 to GCSE were invited to join in a clay workshop run by professional ceramicist and teacher Angie Child. She came from The Woking Decorative and Fine Arts Society. Students either created a decaying piece of fruit, based on the artwork of Sam Taylor-Wood or a Japanese tile study of the painting The Great Wave off Kanagawa by Katsushika Hokusai. These were then painted before being glazed and fired. The students had a great time and produced some amazing pieces of work.

7. Past Students Lunch – Friday 3rd July 12-2pm

We would like to once again invite our past students to lunch on Friday 3rd July. We would love to hear what they are up to. Please pass on the date to anyone that you know who has left The Park School in recent years.

Karen Eastwood

Karen Eastwood
(Co-Headteacher)

Paul Walsh

Paul Walsh
(Co-Headteacher)

**Dates for the Diary****Summer Term 2015**

Monday 13 th April	Students return to school at 9am
Tuesday 28 th April – Wednesday 29 th April	8A and 8GC Residential to Tanners Hatch
Thursday 30 th April	HPV vaccinations
Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Monday 11 th May – Wednesday 13 th May	Y8 Annual Reviews
Thursday 21 st May	Sports day
Friday 22 nd May	INSET for staff training – School Closed
Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May	HALF TERM
Thursday 4 th June and Monday 8 th June	Maths GCSE Exams
Monday 8 th June – Thursday 11 th June	Y10 Annual Reviews
Monday 15 th June – Thursday 18 th June	Y11 Residential to Pagham
Wednesday 24 th June	Prom for Y11 students
Thursday 25 th June	Year 11's last day Record of Achievement for Y11 students and their families
Monday 29 th June – Friday 3 rd July	Island Trip for selected students
Monday 6 th July – Thursday 9 th July	Y7 Annual Reviews
Tuesday 21 st July	Prize giving 11am Break up at 12 noon (no lunch)

Autumn Term 2015

Wednesday 2 nd September	INSET for staff training – School Closed
Thursday 3 rd September	Students return to school at 9am
Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October	HALF TERM
Thursday 17 th December	Prize giving 11am Break up at 12 noon (no lunch)
Friday 18 th December	INSET for staff training – School Closed

Spring Term 2015

Tuesday 5 th January	INSET for staff training – School Closed
Wednesday 6 th January	Students return to school at 9am
Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February	HALF TERM
Thursday 24 th March	Prize giving 11am Break up at 12 noon (no lunch)