

Headteacher: Mr Andy Kelly

Parkside Community School
Boythorpe Avenue, Chesterfield
Derbyshire S40 2NS

Tel: 01246 273458

Email: info@parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk

Web: www.parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers

As we enter the final three weeks of the academic year, I wanted to share some important updates and celebrate some of the many successes taking place across our school community.

Attendance Matters – Every Day Counts

Although we are approaching the summer holidays, it is important to remember that there are still three weeks of learning remaining for students. These final weeks are valuable and include important curriculum content, enrichment activities, transition events and preparations for next year.

Good attendance remains one of the biggest factors in educational success, and I would like to thank the vast majority of our families for continuing to support strong attendance throughout the year. Please continue to ensure that students attend school every day unless they are genuinely unwell. Every lesson counts and we want all students to finish the year strongly.

Summer Uniform Expectations

Our current summer uniform arrangements will continue for the remainder of this half term. Should we experience further periods of exceptionally hot weather, the school will review arrangements and inform parents and carers directly of any temporary uniform adjustments, as we did recently. We kindly ask families not to make changes to uniform unless communication has been issued by the school. In warm weather, students are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle each day so they can remain hydrated throughout the day.

Looking ahead to September, I would also like to remind parents and carers that we will return to our full uniform expectations, including the requirement for all students to wear a school blazer. If you need to purchase a blazer or any other uniform items for September, please do so as soon as possible through the school's website: [Parkside Uniform Requirements and Purchasing](#). Please also ensure that your child has an appropriate school bag ready for the new academic year.

Parkside's Got Talent – Tuesday 14 July

We are incredibly excited to be hosting Parkside's Got Talent on Tuesday 14 July. Doors will open at 4.15pm, with £2 entry on the door. All proceeds will go directly to supporting our Music Department to support the fantastic extracurricular opportunities they provide for students throughout the year.

There will be:

Outstanding student performances

A raffle

Refreshments

Please note this is a cash-only event.

Our students have worked tremendously hard preparing for the show and excitement is already building. We would love to see as many families as possible there to support them.

Careers Provision Celebrated

I am delighted to share that Parkside has successfully renewed its Career Mark Award. This is a significant achievement and reflects the high-quality careers education, information, advice and guidance available to our students. The assessors highlighted the strength of the opportunities and support available to young people as they prepare for their next steps. This success also aligns closely with the positive feedback we received regarding careers provision during our recent Ofsted inspection.

Thank you to all staff and partners who contribute to helping our students raise aspirations and make informed choices about their future pathways.

Year 10 Work Experience

This week our Year 10 students complete their work experience placements across the local area. Work experience provides an invaluable opportunity for students to develop confidence, independence and employability skills whilst gaining insight into the world of work. It is always encouraging to hear the positive feedback we receive from employers regarding our students' attitudes, professionalism and willingness to learn. We would like to thank all of the employers who are generously supporting this programme.

Welcoming Our New Year 7 Students

This week we are delighted to welcome our new Year 6 students for their transition days, taking place from Tuesday to Thursday.

Starting secondary school is a significant milestone and our transition programme is designed to ensure students feel confident, excited and ready for September. Throughout the week, students will meet staff, experience lessons, make new friends and begin to familiarise themselves with life at Parkside. We are equally looking forward to meeting parents and carers at our Year 6 Parents' Evening on Thursday at 5pm in the Parkside assembly hall.

There are so many exciting opportunities awaiting our new students, from trips and enrichment activities to student leadership, clubs, sports and performing arts. We cannot wait to welcome the next generation of Parkside students and begin their journey with us in September.

A Fond Farewell to Year 11

On Friday 3 July, we held our Year 11 Prom and what a fantastic evening it was. The event was a wonderful celebration of five years of hard work, friendship and achievement. Students looked fantastic, enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate together and created memories that will stay with them for many years to come. It was also a chance for staff to say a fond farewell to a year group who have contributed so much to our school community. We wish every one of our Year 11 students the very best for the future and look forward to celebrating with them again on Results Day on August 20.

Canteen Accounts

As we approach the end of term, I would be grateful if parents and carers could check their child's school meal account and ensure that any outstanding canteen debt is cleared before the summer holidays. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Stay Connected

To keep up to date with all the latest news, achievements and events from across the school, please follow us on our social media channels. We regularly share student successes, important reminders and snapshots of life at Parkside.

Dates for diary

7 July – Y8 HPV Immunisations
21 July – Sports day
22 July – Aspiration day
23 July – last day, 12.30pm finish
8 September 8.25am – all students return to school

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are looking forward to a successful and enjoyable last three weeks of term.

Yours faithfully

Mr Andy Kelly
Headteacher