

Headmaster's message



Welcome to the May edition of our half-termly newsletter. As you will see, it has been an action packed six weeks with an abundance of activities both curricular and extra-curricular. The lead into external and internal end of year examinations has kept us all busy, as well as a host of concerts and

activities involving students past and present, parents and carers as well as staff.

It is only fitting that I give a special mention to our Year 11 and 13 cohorts who have already embarked on their external examinations – the first cohorts to do so since 2019. As headmaster, my aspiration concerns the values our students embrace and the quality of the character they show on a daily basis. These exceptional young people have more than fulfilled that aspiration. I wish parents and carers could have shared the sheer pleasure of seeing just how wonderful our students were and how well they conducted themselves on the occasion of their respective Year 11 and 13 “stand downs”. It has been an absolute privilege to serve as their headmaster and I wish them all the success they so richly deserve in August.

A Year to Celebrate

We are about to experience a very special half term break as it will feature two Bank Holidays to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. I trust you will enjoy the celebrations with family, friends and your local community. At Parmiter's we have finally been able to start celebrating our own special year – the 300th Anniversary of the opening of our very first schoolroom in 1722. It gives me great pleasure each day to see so many students sporting their celebratory 300 pin badges with such pride.

Our school Captains and some of our musicians were able to join myself, Governors, Trustees and a number of Old Parmiterians at a special service of Thanksgiving at St Matthew's Church in Bethnal Green. I was so proud of all of our choristers and orchestral performers who took part. Closer to home, we were able to gather as representatives of all branches of the Parmiter's Family at our inaugural May Ball. Note my choice of words as given the fact that tickets sold out so quickly, guests had such fun and that it proved to be a wonderful fund raising activity we would all love to see it become an annual event.

Huge thanks to our wonderful Parents Association who not only supported the Ball but so many activities this half term including the hugely enjoyable PA Quiz night.

As you can tell from these words and will see from the contents of the newsletter, Parmiter's is taking every opportunity to exploit the return to more normal daily life post-pandemic. Those of us who had the privilege of attending the Leavers' Concert were so well entertained by such talented musicians performing such a diverse repertoire. Alongside that long standing Parmiter's tradition, we have also seen a return to full summer sport and I certainly recommend that readers catch up on the sporting success of so many students across all year groups inside.

Finally, I encourage you to order a copy of the whole school photograph – the first of my headship and I believe the first for some years. I believe the last featured some of our current staff when they attended the school!

I wish all of you an enjoyable and relaxing half term and look forward to seeing students on their return to school on Monday 6 June.

Michael Jones
Headmaster



We're almost half way through the year already, and what an eventful time it's been! We've held second Hand Uniform

and Book sales, hosted bars, a family quiz night and started planning for the 300 Year Anniversary Celebration and the November Gift Fair.

We would like to thank everyone for their generosity, donating their time and hard work to the events we host. Thanks also to those of you who attend the events, we've enjoyed every minute and hope you have too. The PA funds are looking healthy and during the last meeting we voted to fund new table tennis tables and Spanish Theatre Group lessons.

A special mention must go to the May Ball, which surpassed all expectations! I recommend that you reserve a ticket when the next one comes around. As usual, I would like to remind everyone that you are welcome to join our meetings, and we would love to hear from you if you have any fundraising ideas, or would like to help.

Our next meeting is on
Thursday 7 July 2022
at 7.30pm in the Boardroom
Come and join us!

Stay connected with the PA social apps:

parent.classlist.com

Parmiters School Parents Association

@parmiterspa

PA@parmiters.herts.sch.uk



Mrs Grant

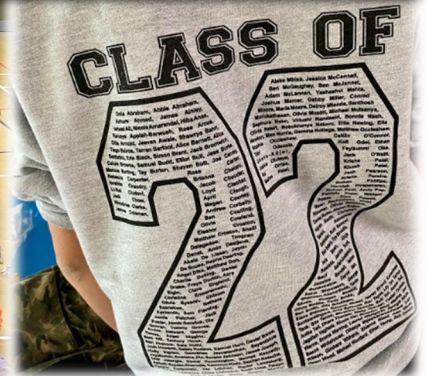
We were all so saddened to learn of the death of our former colleague, Mrs Veronica Grant, earlier this month. Not only had Mrs Grant been an inspirational and devoted teacher, form tutor and colleague, she had been instrumental in empowering students striving in new challenges or for academic success. However, closest to her heart was her pastoral work in support of those who were vulnerable and those who had experienced bereavement. Her natural way of caring for and about others was a comfort to many and she will be missed.



There are some who bring a light so great to the world that even after they have gone the light remains.



Whole School Photograph: <https://http.st/260243-262>



The May Ball




After a break of a number of years, it was great to have a large event back in school again! Over 150 people enjoyed a 3 course dinner and danced the night away at The May Ball on Saturday 14 May. Tables were filled with Old Parmiterians (Bethnal Green and Garston), governors, parents, staff and friends and their friends!

A team from the Parents' Association ran the busy bar and the tables were waited on by a group of Sixth Form students, who served a meal prepared by Parmiter's own Catering Manager. Live band, The Swerve, provided two sets of fantastic music and were joined for two numbers by OP singer, Emily Parker. A special thank you to those who donated the great raffle prizes.

In addition to all the fun, the event raised a fantastic £4000, which will be added to our fundraising to equip the new outside plaza area to be enjoyed by all our students.

Huge thanks to all those involved in the planning and organisation ~ same time next year?!

Watch this space for our next  event!



Music

It was a busy time for our young musicians just prior to Year 11 and 13 stand down. Firstly, we were treated to a fantastic evening's entertainment in our informal Singers and Pianists Recital Evening. Thanks go to Ms Byrt and Ms Fitzgerald for organising such an enjoyable event.

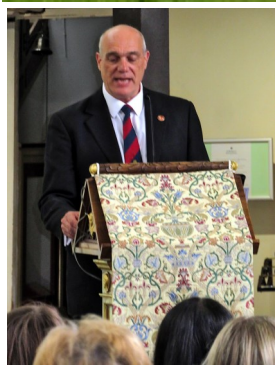
Our brass players and the Jazz Workshop were invited to perform in St Lawrence Church in Abbots Langley a couple of days later, as part of a series of morning concerts, and provided a memorable programme of light music that was received with great enthusiasm from a packed church.

On 11th May, students from Year 7 through to Year 13 were involved in a memorable Summer Concert. This occasion was made particularly poignant as it gave the opportunity to thank our leaving Year 13 musicians for all their enthusiasm for and commitment to music making during their time at Parmiters. The concert comprised a varied programme and showcased the breadth of musical skills from our performers, with music from Johannes Brahms to Irving Berlin, and Aaron Copland to Katrina and the Waves. A particular highlight was the first public performance of 'Rabbit in a Snowstorm' for string quartet and piano, a stunning composition written by A Level Music student Thomas Rose. The concert concluded appropriately with a small presentation to each Year 13 student and then a moving performance of 'What A Wonderful World' from the 'leavers band'; they move on with our thanks and very good wishes.



St Matthew's Church, Bethnal Green Friday 29 April

Students provided the music at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Thomas Parmiter at the end of April. The service was arranged by Mike Tyrrell, Chairman of the Parmiter's Almshouses & Pensions Charity. A congregation of Bethnal Green pensioners and representatives of the school and the charity took part in this special event to mark the 300th anniversary of the opening of the first Parmiter's schoolroom.



It has been fantastic to see some of our summer activities start the season with such enthusiasm and commitment from the students.

At the time of writing, we have completed four County League Athletics meets and the teams are all sitting in a healthy position in the league. It is the Under 16 girls who are in the best position and are hopeful of a place in the main final, come July. All other teams remain in the hunt for a place in the plate final. There have been some stand-out performances this summer, including two students breaking current school records. Thalia Mann (Year 9) continues to excel in the 300m and now has both the Year 8 and Year 9 record, running 43.7 in the County Track and Field competition. Abi Charles Ojo (Year 10) demonstrated her ability by beating a long standing school record from 1997, running 26.2 in the 200m event.

Our cricket season has also started well with Years 8, 9 and 10 all unbeaten in their cup and league games. Huge congratulations must go to Year 9 captain, Anay Maheshwari, who scored his first century with an unbeaten 100* against Verulam in the County Plate.

The tennis teams have also started positively in both the District and County competitions. Strong wins against Berkhamsted, Croyley Danes and St Clement Danes have put the teams in a good position to qualify for the finals in late June.

We are excited that Sports Day is on the horizon and look forward to another half term of success in our sporting teams.

