



# InForm

## NEWSLETTER

### Headmaster's message



What a difference a year makes! Yes, the pandemic is still upon us and the advent of a new strain dominates the news. Yet, at Parmiter's, we have managed to enjoy a "packed" half term and are in fine festive mood as we approach the end of term. Of course, this has only been possible due to the superb efforts of students, supported by parents and

carers, and staff who have adhered to our on-site protocols. Naturally, we have not been immune but these have certainly mitigated against the risk of transmission.

Consequently, we have faced far less disruption than might have been expected. Most important of all, as you can see from this newsletter, staff, students and parents and carers have experienced a full flavour of all the events and activities that so enrich our school.

#### Staffing

We say farewell, at the end of this term, to some members of staff who are either retiring or moving on. Mrs Haylett and Mr Waterton (Teaching Assistants), Mrs Hardaker (Cleaner), Mrs Ho (Network Resources) and Miss Crowe (Flute).

Leaving us after 16 years in the D&T department, Mr Brown will be missed, and we wish him all the very best in his retirement. Mrs Fielding will be joining Parmiter's as Head of D&T and will be taking on the teaching of all of Mr Brown's classes, including 11ABB.

Mrs Lowe, Teacher of English, will be leaving and we wish her well with her future plans. Joining the English department will be Mrs Scuri and Ms McEwan. Mrs Foster will be 8ALO's new form tutor.

In the New Year, Ms O'Malley, Teacher of Drama, will be starting her maternity leave. Some students will already have met our new Drama teacher, Mrs Sparrow who started her role a few weeks ago. Miss Hunter will be taking on Ms O'Malley's role as Deputy Head of Year 9 during her maternity leave. Mrs Frost will be 8KHU's new form tutor. This term, Mrs Frost and Ms McEwan have been working together as a job share in the MFL department. From January, Mrs Frost will be with us full time.

With so many staffing changes for January, there will be some changes to the school timetable. Any student with significant changes to their timetable has already been informed via e-mail. All students will be e-mailed a copy of their timetable on Tuesday 4 January, ahead of our return to school on 5 January.

#### Careers Fair

In my last newsletter, I celebrated the wonderful Universities and Apprenticeships fair led and managed by Mrs Zanetti our new Careers leader at Parmiter's. In November, an equally successful Careers fair followed this. Attended by students from all three Key Stages, this was another wonderful event. It was also an opportunity when so many alumni returned to their school to share their experience and insights.

#### Christmas Gift Fair

You will read more on the following pages about the extremely successful Christmas Gift Fair. The aim this year is to see the fund raising support the development of a new student outdoor social and performance space that is taking shape where our former Science building once stood.

#### School Show – "Get Stuffed"

Another most welcome return was our school show – the hilarious "Get Stuffed". Originally devised by Parmiter's students, the final script was written by Sixth Former, Stephanie Anderson. Congratulations to the author, cast, backstage and technical teams and to the phenomenal 'Republic of Drama' led by Mr Froy.

#### Carol Service and Dick Whittington

I write ahead of our annual Carol Service this Wednesday, to be held at St Luke's church. Along with the return of the Pantomime, Dick Whittington, at the Watford Palace Theatre, it is wonderful to have our regular Parmiter's end of term festivities back. My thanks to Mr Bates and the Music Department and to our long-standing Pantomime planners – Miss Lloyd and Mrs Rowland.

#### The Parmiterian 2021

It gives enormous pride and pleasure to announce the publication of the latest edition of the school's annual celebration of school life. Not since the Second World War has an academic year seen such disruption and yet the pages this year are crammed full of students' activities as well as creativity. I commend it to you all.

It only leaves me to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I do hope you enjoy a restful, happy and safe Festive Period. As you will be aware, we will be open to those students accessing our on-site testing on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January and then for all students the term proper will begin on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Michael Jones  
Headmaster

### Parmiter's Parents' Association

We are delighted to announce that we made an amazing **£10,000** (final figure pending) from the 2021 Gift Fair event. A huge 'Thank you' to everyone who supported us, we really do appreciate all of your help.

Our next planned events are:

Bag2School - Friday 21 January 2022

2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Uniform and Book Sale - Saturday 22 January 2022

Quiz Night - date to be confirmed

Please refer to the Parmiter's School PA web page for dates, and make sure you check our social media for the latest news. If you would like to come along to an event as a volunteer, or a PA meeting to see what goes on, you are more than welcome.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break and a Happy New Year.

**Our next meeting is on  
Tuesday 18 January 2022  
at 7.30pm in the Boardroom  
Come and join us!**

Stay connected with the PA social apps:

[parent.classlist.com](https://parent.classlist.com)

**Parmiters School Parents Association**

**@parmiterspa**

**PA@parmiters.herts.sch.uk**



## School Production



### **Get Stuffed!**

*Mercedes is getting married. How can she introduce her fiancé to her parents without revealing that they stuff dead animals for a living?*

*Mum's got a wedding to help plan. How can she keep her husband Harold's habits in check? What is Gerald, the fiancé, going to think? If only all the dead animals would stop singing to her.....*



The original 'Get Stuffed!' Was a Year 10 GCSE devised piece in 2019 that was first created by Elysia (MUM) with two students who are no longer at Parmiter's (Joe Buck and Jasmine Wilkinson). It was performed at Parmiter's Fringe in E3 with a house of 50 people. The play was a big success and we thought the idea was a really good fit for an Edinburgh festival production. I asked Elysia to get a team together to help expand the play and she roped in Steph Anderson and Asha Bulley as a creative team. We all decided on adding the chorus and songs to the play and put together some original songs, loosely based on mariachi music. The whole team and I would like to thank those of you who came to see the play. We hope to take it on a small schools tour next year, finishing up with a short run at this years' Edinburgh festival. So if you fancy it we'd love to see you all up in Scotland next summer!

Lewis Froy and all at the Drama Dept.

To support the Edinburgh fundraiser:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/parmitersedinburghtrip2022/>





The Parents' Association was delighted to be able to hold the annual Christmas Gift Fair again this year and the committee members, with the support of many additional Parents and Carers and friends of the school, worked really hard to make it as successful as ever.

From 8am on Saturday 20 November, the school was buzzing with helpers and stall-holders arriving to set up for the day. The ever-popular restaurant was a hive of activity from start to finish, serving hot food and snacks to all.

There were a number of new stalls in addition to those who return year-on-year and the variety of goods on offer gave visitors a great choice of Christmas gift ideas.

The festive mood was lifted by the Christmas music which was silenced momentarily when members of the school choir, led by Mr Yeo, sung a variety of carols.

At the end of the day, happy stallholders packed away, tables were returned to classrooms and floors were swept - all in time for school to resume on Monday morning as though nothing had happened!

The PA has recently announced that proceeds from the event are in the region of **£10,000** which is an incredible achievement! Congratulations and thanks to all those who contributed in any way towards this fantastic achievement - it really couldn't happen without a team of willing volunteers - every little helps!

See you next year!





It has been absolutely fantastic to see so much sport being played over this half term. As a department, we have completed 163 competitive matches across 7 different sports.

For the boys, the main focus this term has been football where our teams are going into the final matches with all to play for.

The Years 7A, 9A and 9B, 11A and Senior teams are all in contention for a place in the District Finals, with our final games due to be played in early January. The 7B and 9B teams remain in the National Cup and are both hoping for a long run in the competition. The Year 7 team are playing Winston Churchill School from Woking and the 9B team due to face Redborne Upper School from Bedfordshire. In total, we have played 106 games of football with 48 wins, 4 draws and 54 losses. A great achievement from all students, particularly those in our B teams who are the only B team in the District League and regularly compete against other schools A teams.

The boys are looking forward to beginning their rugby and basketball seasons in January.



The girls have played a mixture of netball, hockey and football. In football, The stand out performers have been the U13s who have made it to the County Cup Semi Final. A convincing 4-0 victory over Hemel School was a great way to make the last 4. They are due to play Beaumont School in January for a place in the final.



In our netball season (which runs until Easter), the Year 9A girls have started their season in fantastic form beating RMS, Haberdashers and St Michaels. With more games to come in the new year, the team has a great chance to win the District League. The Senior Girls also performed fantastically in their District Tournament, with some great results against RMS and Aldenham, finishing in 3rd place overall.

The Year 10 girls hockey team are yet to concede a goal in their matches with a 5-0 win over St John Lawes and a 8-0 win over Aldenham. Our Year 7 and 8 girls have experienced their first hockey matches for Parmiter's and despite the results not going our way, are making great progress as teams!



Our U14 and U16 girls table tennis and badminton teams, all won the district competitions and headed to the County finals representing Three Rivers. The U14 girls' table tennis were the best performers and finished 2nd in Hertfordshire.



Overall, this half term has been an incredibly busy one, it has been fantastic to see such engagement in clubs and fixtures. We have had over 400 students represent the school with many more attending clubs and activities.

We are looking forward to the New Year and in particular the Performing Arts Show, in January.