

Headmaster's message



A very Happy Easter greeting to all our readers as we come to the end of an extremely productive Spring Term at Parmiter's. I am well aware that staff and students are all looking forward to a well-earned rest and wish to commend the whole Parmiter's community for all

their hard work and commitment. Year 11 and 13 students are of course very much in our thoughts especially as they will be the first cohorts to sit their respective external examinations since 2019! Their attitude to learning has been exceptional and we have every confidence that they will reap rich rewards for all their efforts in the summer.

New Staff

Since half term, we have welcomed Mrs Doran as our new Student Support Officer and Ms Adderley teaching Mathematics.

We said goodbye to Mrs Chainani, Laboratory Technician, and Miss Roberts who has been our Examinations Officer for the past seven years. Over the Easter break, two more colleagues will be leaving us; Mrs Grange (Teaching Assistant) and Mr Sementini (Caretaker). We wish all our former colleagues well as they take up new roles elsewhere and thank them for their service to our school.

Spring Concert and Parmiter's Fringe

Academic endeavour aside, the highlight of this past term has been the incredible amount and variety of creative activity across the school. Two wonderful Parmiter's traditions saw a most welcome return – our annual Spring Concert led by Mr Bates and his exceptional colleagues and featuring such talented students from Year 7 right the way through to Year 13. Utterly awesome and a real privilege to enjoy. And then there was the return this week of the equally wonderful Parmiter's Fringe. What other school would have the confidence to welcome such "organised chaos" and trust their student body to allow a school equivalent to the Edinburgh Festival to take place? Congratulations to the many, many students who took part and to the whole student body for providing such amazing audience support. Huge thanks as well to our resident maestro, Mr Froy, who would be the first to acknowledge that it is having such open minded and creative staff from all areas of the curriculum that enable us to make it possible. Yes, Parmiter's has a proud reputation for the excellent academic provision we offer our students but I challenge any school to show me how they do the Arts or creativity better than us!

Parmiter's Art in the Subway

We were delighted to be invited to display some artwork in the subway at the end of High Elms Lane. I would encourage you all to visit the subway on the A405 to enjoy the amazing art produced by our talented students.

Parents' Association and our 300th birthday!

Huge thanks, as ever, to our Parents' Association who have continued to fundraise and support our school. This year, their funds are being directed to the redevelopment of the new Parmiter's Plaza that is replacing the space once filled by our "old" Science block. We want the space to serve as a legacy of our celebration of the tercentenary of the opening of the very first Parmiter's school room in 1722. In April there will be a special service of thanksgiving at the Parish church where the school first started in Bethnal Green and we are delighted to announce that we will be holding our annual Christmas service in St Albans Abbey to mark the end of our year of celebration. We have also been overwhelmed by the support for our May Ball, which is now sold out and I would encourage all readers to look out for further opportunities for adults and children to celebrate next term and into the Autumn.

Ukraine appeals

I cannot, of course, finish without acknowledging the dreadful situation in Ukraine that has overshadowed this past half term. What has been inspirational is the response of the Parmiter's family to a number of appeals to send much needed goods and equipment to help those affected by the war. On Friday, we will be holding our traditional end of term assembly where the whole school will gather. We will be joined by a very special guest, Luther Blissett – Watford Football legend as I am sure you all know, former Parmiter's parent (which you may not know) and supporter of an organisation called Goods for Good with whom we worked to send much needed supplies to Ukraine. Like me, he was overwhelmed by the generosity and compassion shown by the school community and has asked for an opportunity to thank the student body. My thanks to you all for your continued support for our school and I wish everyone a most enjoyable and safe Easter break. We will be returning for staff training on Tuesday 19 April and then look forward to welcoming the student body back on Wednesday 20 April.

Until then, my very best wishes as ever,

Michael Jones
Headmaster



Parents' Association

Our popular **Family Quiz Night** will be happening on **Saturday 23 April**. This is always a hugely popular event so be sure to buy your tickets (available on WisePay) in good time! During the morning of **23 April** we will be holding a **second hand uniform and revision guide sale** between 10am and 12 midday. Payments can be made by card or cash.

We will be supporting The May Ball on 14 May and look forward to seeing you there!

Our next meeting is on
Tuesday 3 May 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



FRINGE

After a two-year hiatus thanks to you-know-what, Parmiter's Fringe returned with a bang on Monday 28 March! Hundreds of Parmiterians performed in or led one or more of the 60 different shows or sessions on offer, and hundreds more were entertained by each of them.



As well as music and drama performances, students were treated to dance classes, art workshops, science demonstrations, psychology experiments, MFL karaoke, history/politics game shows and a very lively stock market trading game!



Huge thanks to every single person involved in bringing it together, and especially to the student body for embracing the organised chaos and getting so enthusiastically involved in the day.



Here's to the next one!

POETRY BY HEART

Travel (1921) - Edna St Vincent Millay

The road to his millstone
And the road with voices speaking,
Yet there isn't a train goes by all day
But I hear its whistle shrieking.

All night there isn't a train goes by,
Though the night is still for sleep and dreaming,
But I see its cinders red on the sky,
And I hear its engine steaming.

I hear its whistle shrieking,
I hear its wheels with the rattle,
I hear its engine steaming,
I hear its whistle shrieking.



Under the guidance of the teachers from the Music department, members of the choir spent a day off timetable to work on a choral production of the poem 'Travel' by Edna St Vincent Millay. A recording of a performance of the final piece is to be entered into the national Poetry by Heart competition.



Dodgeball

There was an amazing turn out to the Years 7-9 House Dodgeball. Over 250 students participated in the round robin tournaments!

Year 7 Results: 6th Carter, 5th Beven, 4th Woolley, 3rd Mayhew, 2nd Renvoize and 1st Lee

Year 8 Results: 6th Mayhew 5th Beven 4th Carter, 3rd Woolley 2nd Renvoize and 1st Lee

Year 9 Results: 6th Woolley, 5th Mayhew, 4th Beven, 3rd Renvoize, 2nd Carter and 1st Lee



Cross Country

For KS3, House Cross Country took place in students' PE lessons. Hundreds of points were awarded to each individual who participated and completed the run. Notable performances were; Natalie Worsley, Hektor Redel, Oscar Sheehan, Gina Luckhurst, Autumn Rana, Thomas George, Katie Benham, Tom Gow, Evie Ash, Dylan Mynett, Ozan Fenney and Camille Vannier who all won their races and gained maximum points for their house.

Sport Weeks

We have held two House Sport Weeks with round robin tournaments in football and netball across Years 7-13. Attendance has been excellent from KS3, we had over 120 students participate in House Netball in one evening! House Football saw wins for Carter (Year 7), Mayhew (Year 8) and Woolley (Years 9-13). House Netball saw wins for Carter (Years 7&8), Beven (Year 9) and Carter (Year 10-13).



MFL Competition

To celebrate the European Day of Languages the MFL department ran a European-themed cookery competition, which saw an incredible 73 students take part across all Key Stages! New this year, each participant was awarded with 3 points (as opposed to 1) and then the judges within the department (after long consideration and discussion) came up with the following top three: 1st place: Zoard Toth ,Year 7 (Lee), 2nd place: Soha Abid, Year 9 (Woolley), 3rd place: Adit Panicker, Year 9 (Carter)

Quiz of the Week

The Houses 'Quiz of the Week' is back and better than ever! It is sent out via email to all students and staff on Friday afternoons at the end of the school day.

Fifa

The Computer Science House event this year saw Mr Allen dust off his Xbox for a FIFA 2004 (yes, 2004!) tournament for the Year 10 students. Carter was crowned the overall winner of the competition, Renvoize 2nd, Mayhew 3rd, Lee 4th, Beven 5th and Woolley 6th.

Staff Bake Off

After a year off, it was the return of the ever-popular House Staff Bake Off and there were plenty of Kosky handshakes on display, with teachers participating in the showstopper, technical and signature challenges. After much deliberation between the judges (Mr Jones and Mr Lewis, our Catering Manager), the results were revealed: Mr Lavin was crowned Bake off Champion!

1st place: Lee and Renvoize , 2nd place: Mayhew , 3rd place: Beven, 4th place: Carter, 5th place: Woolley

Staff and Sixth Form Football

The easing of restrictions allowed us to host a staff and Sixth Form Football tournament. It was a fantastic afternoon and thank you to everyone who participated and supported the event. The results were: 1st Carter, 2nd Renvoize, 3rd Woolley, 4th Lee, 5th Mayhew, 6th Beven

Current Standings

At the end of March, the House Standings are as follows:

- 1st place: **Lee 1672 points**
- 2nd place: **Woolley 1559 points**
- 3rd place: **Carter 1470 points**
- 4th place: **Renvoize 1454 points**
- 5th place: **Mayhew 1399 points**
- 6th place: **Beven 1179 points**

There's still plenty to play for and there will be many more House Competitions coming up next half term, so keep an eye out for them and remember, every House Point counts!

It is always at this time of year that the winter sports come to an end and we look forward to a busy summer season. This half term has seen a flurry of activities with several successes for both boys and girls.

The football season has now ended with commiserations to the Year 7 and Year 9 teams, who were both beaten in the league play off final. For the Year 7s, despite being convincingly beaten by St Clement Danes in the regular season, the final was a much closer affair. The boys battled hard but couldn't quite find an equaliser, ending with a 1-0 defeat. The Year 9s played the same opposition and some missed chances in the first half and a late breakaway goal resulted in a 3-0 defeat. The Year 9s can hold their heads high, as they were crowned regular league champions. The 1st XI went one better and completed a hat trick of games against St Clement Danes. This time, it was our turn for success. A fantastic performance all round resulted in a comfortable 3-0 win, with the team taking the title of District Champions! Congratulations to all Year 13s who have represented the school with such passion and commitment throughout their time at Parmiter's.



The Year 9A and B Netball teams were both confirmed as champions of their respective leagues; the result of a long season with some fantastic performances against really strong teams, including Haberdashers and The Royal Masonic School. The Year 9A team also took part in the Hertfordshire County Championships where they played fantastically against some excellent teams. It was unfortunate that a late goal in their final group game prevented them from reaching the semi-finals.



There was more success for our Year 7 Basketball team, as they were crowned Watford District Champions in the Premier League. A strong 44-20 win over rivals

Queens was the highlight of a successful season of Basketball. There are a few results still outstanding and we hope that Year 8 and 9 might also have the honour of winning their respective leagues.



Our Cross Country runners followed on from their fine success at the Herts Championships, with three of our students representing Hertfordshire at the National Championships. Peter Bansaghi was part of the Year 7 team who were crowned National Champions, with Archie Marshall and Emma Creswell also running well for their respective teams.

Our Year 7 Boys Indoor Athletics team had two successful events this half term. They dominated the local district round, resulting in a chance to represent Watford at the Herts Championships in Ware. Some strong performances from Emeka Okpor and Hayden Stapleberg saw the team gain a 3rd place finish and narrowly miss out on Silver by 2 points.



The Year 10 Girls Hockey team also had great success at County and District level, with the girls winning the annual District Tournament and building on this with a fantastic County Cup winning event. A close win against Dame Alice Owens in the semi final meant we were drawn to play The Royal Masonic School in the final. A hat trick from Anna Cox and a dominant performance across all positions on the pitch, saw the girls get a 3-0 win and be crowned Hertfordshire County Champions - a fantastic achievement for all involved.



A very successful half term; we cannot wait to see what results our summer activities will bring!