



InForm

NEWSLETTER

Headmaster's message



Welcome to the first "In Form" of the academic year as we arrive at half term. A huge thank you for all the support and encouragement parents and carers have provided for our students, who are to be commended for their excellent conduct throughout the past seven weeks. After the severe disruption during the last two years of their education, they have

engaged with school life so well and grasped the many opportunities we offer at Parmiter's, both in and outside the classroom. I am, as ever, every bit as proud of our staff for delivering excellent lessons and providing exceptional support. A special mention for our Year 7 and Year 12 cohorts of students who have been so impressive as they have started the latest stage of their education, be it in Secondary school or the Sixth Form. Year 7s engaged in our 'Bushcraft' residential in September and clearly relished the opportunity to bond and make new friends. As for Year 12, I would like to praise them for how well they have stepped up to the challenge of A Level study and become so engaged in Parmiter's life. I would like to extend my personal thanks to two students, Toby Lafferty, in Year 7, and Abigail Holland, in Year 12, who provided recorded messages for prospective new parents as part of our Virtual Open Evening.

New Staff

We welcomed a number of new colleagues at the beginning of term; Mr Adaci (History), Mrs Crawley (Specialist Tutor), Mr Hunter (MFL), Miss Taylor (MFL), Mrs Davey (Physics), Mrs Faisal (Library), Ms Grange (TA), Mrs Leathes (TA), Mrs Hocking (TA), Mrs Cave (Sixth Form Admin), Mrs Frost (MFL), Miss McEwan (MFL), Miss Conway (Lab Tech), and Mrs Brooks (Sports Centre). Our new trainee teachers are also settling well; Miss Burnham (PE), Miss Joshi (Computer Science), Mrs Salkeld (English), Mrs McAndrew (MFL), Miss Windmill (Drama), Mr Hodge (PE), Mr Houbart (Science)

Senior Speech Night

We were delighted, once again, to celebrate outstanding student achievement with our Senior Speech Night in September. Our Guest Speaker was Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Anthony Chapman, who spoke of the importance of resilience and taking risks as key ingredients of character development and leadership – attributes so dear to our school. My congratulations to all those students recognised on the evening and my sincere thanks to Allie Snailham for her beautiful singing of Berlioz's *Le Spectre de la Rose* and to Thomas Rose for his sensitive playing of Rachmaninoff's *Prelude in C sharp minor*. School Captain, Sara Bovington's excellent Vote of Thanks concluded a superb evening and gave her the opportunity to demonstrate what an excellent appointment she has been to this prestigious role.

Parents' Association

It was a real delight to hold our Parents' Association Annual General Meeting in person and include a tour for PA members of our brand new Science Block. Whilst we will be holding an Opening Ceremony in due course, it was only fitting that PA members had an initial look round, following their contribution of significant funds to supply the interactive television screens that are in place in all twelve of our brand new laboratories.

It has been a very busy half term for the PA, hosting both a Year 7 and a Year 8 Cheese and Wine evening for parents with accompanying discos for the students supervised by our Year 12 students, who appeared to be enjoying the event as much if not more than the younger students were! I would like to add my personal thanks as I am well aware our wonderful PA is currently working hard to ensure that our upcoming Christmas Gift Fair will return in style in November.

Site Development

As I mentioned above, we were delighted to be able to open our brand new Science Block to coincide with the start of the Autumn Term and feedback I am receiving from staff and students is overwhelmingly positive.

In the meantime, we have finally demolished the old block and will be in the process of landscaping the area, such that it can serve as a student social area at breaks and lunchtime with the flexibility to be used as an outdoor performance space for school events. We will update you on our progress after half term.

At the end of any half or full term it is always so important to take the opportunity to rest and I know you will be encouraging your children to do so. They continue to be an absolute credit to you and their school.

Michael Jones
Headmaster

Parmiter's Parents' Association

Our meeting and AGM earlier this month gave us the opportunity to reflect on the work of the PA over the past tricky year and we were delighted with what we had been able to achieve, despite Covid's best efforts! We managed to run online and virtual fundraisers and squeeze in a couple of second hand uniform sales, all of which resulted in a total of over £11,000 being raised for the school!

Of course our attentions are now firmly fixed on the planning of the Christmas Gift Fair - please look out for our regular updates and do help in whatever way you can. The Fair is our biggest and best fundraiser of the year and we are determined to make this year's Fair as good as ever.

Thank you, as ever, for your continued support!



**Our next meeting is on
Monday 29 November
at 7.30pm in the Boardroom
All welcome!**

Stay connected with the PA social apps:

parent.classlist.com

Parmiters School Parents Association

@parmiterspa

PA@parmiters.herts.sch.uk





Cornwall

2021



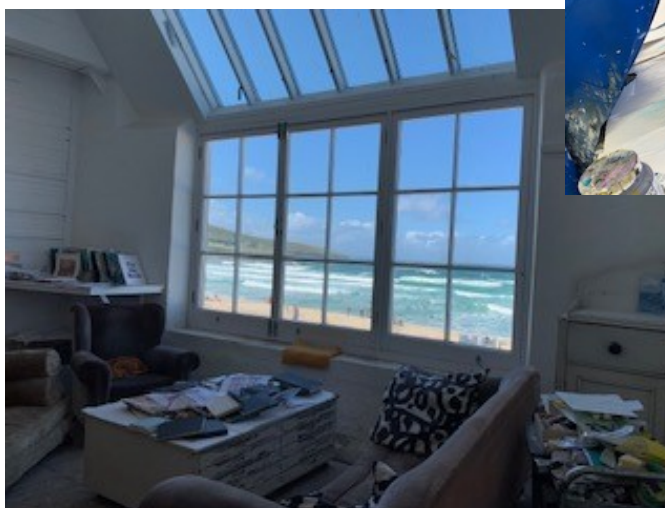
Year 10 Art students enjoyed a packed schedule on their recent trip to Cornwall at the end of September.

Visits to The Barbara Hepworth Museum and Sculpture Garden and the Tate, St Ives, provided great opportunities for the students to study the work of a range of different artists.

During a day at the Eden project, students experienced the various living environments in each of the 'domes' and imaginatively and creatively photographed and sketched a variety of plants, structures and settings.

Quayside and beach locations were perfect for practising sketching and painting skills and creating content for our artists' GCSE course portfolios.

A particular highlight was a trip to visit the artist Naomi Frears at her beachside workshop in Porthmeor. Naomi shared her sketchbooks with the students and spoke of her work and career as a professional artist. The students enjoyed an open question and answer session after Naomi had demonstrated some quick practical painting tips!



Bushcraft



The **Bushcraft** experience was new venture for the Year 7 team! On a sunny Wednesday morning, we set off to Boughton Woods camp in Northampton, prepared to sleep under canvas for three days and looking forward to a busy schedule of teambuilding activities. Our cohort embraced every opportunity and it was fantastic to see such enthusiasm and hear such happy chatter around the camp fires. The 'tribes' became close knit units as they explored their surroundings and learned new skills. The 'SOS Survival' and first aid activity and the 'Tribe's Got Talent' evening were highlights of a packed itinerary. We brought home over 160 very tired, very dirty but very contented students who will no doubt be reliving their experiences with family and friends for many months to come!

Mr Boyce & Mrs Mullett

My Bushcraft Experience

During my stay at Bushcraft, we did and experienced so many things - and far too many to list right now - however, some of my favourite experiences were when we had to save the teachers from a plane crash; when we made the shelters and when we got to disguise ourselves and played in the dark. These were only a couple of the incredible experiences, yet there were so many other things to enjoy and cherish such as the delicious meals, the fun stories around the campfire and the fun and thoughtful camp leaders. I am so glad I got to take part in this adventure so much and I would definitely love to go again.

Lily Hall 7APA - Awarded 'Best' Bushcrafter' for her positive attitude and willingness to get involved.



Many will know Ethan Taylor, currently in 9KPO, who was diagnosed with a rare degenerative eye condition called Stargardt's Disease when he was 7 years old which means he is going blind. There is no current treatment or cure. Ethan's family set up the charity Stargardt's Connected with the intention to raise awareness and raise funds for support and research. The charity is going from strength to strength and launched a global patient register recently which will help with vital research and support the Stargardt's Community.



Last week, Ethan, together with his Dad and some of his workmates, completed the 32km Thames Bridge Walk In rain and shine to raise money for the charity Stargardt's Connected. Please see his fundraising link below - <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/umesh-taylor>





Extra Curricular Sport is back!

It has been fantastic to see competitive sport being played again and this half term, the PE Department has been extremely busy with life returning to a near normal. The term began with a full programme of extra curricular activities with 28 clubs on offer throughout the week. Attendance has been fantastic at all clubs and students are thriving being active. So far, we have completed 72 competitive events across football, netball, rugby, hockey and badminton.

The **Football** season has started well and as it stands, the Year 7, 9, 11 and 1st XI are all top of their respective leagues. Nearly all teams are still involved in the National Cup and County Cup. The 1st XI and Year 11 teams remain unbeaten and hope to continue the run after half term.

The **Netball** teams have enjoyed playing matches again, with all teams getting the opportunity to represent Parmiter's. The new 'triangular' events are proving good fun with the girls getting to play two schools each event. The senior team were fantastic in their 18-13 victory over Aldenham School and the U14s equally matched them with a great 9-3 win over Royal Masonic.

Our **Rugby** teams have had a tricky start to the season and despite a great win over Longdean, the 1st XV succumbed to a defeat to Hemel in the next round of the National Cup. Our U15 team worked extremely hard against Sandringham and were unlucky to lose 22-15. The rest of our teams will begin their season in January.

The **Girls Football** teams have performed strongly with some excellent victories. The U13 team have been the standout performers with wins against Reach Free, St Michaels and Bushey Meads. They also were fantastic in a close defeat to an incredibly strong Surbiton High School in the National Cup.

Both the U14 and U16 **Girls Badminton** teams won their district events and will go on to represent Watford in the Hertfordshire finals later this year.

We are so pleased to see the students back representing Parmiter's and are looking forward to another successful half term.

Athlete Development Programme

Our newest initiative, the Athlete Development Programme has been a great success and our students are really benefiting from participating in the weekly sessions. The students are currently undertaking a 10 week course in our gym learning the fundamental movements of learning how to train. Our Strength and Conditioning coach, Molly, is putting them through their paces and they are really responding, seeing some fantastic improvements. The class have also worked hard on improving their Speed and Agility where the students were lucky enough to take part in a workshop with an ex-athlete and now full time coach, John Garner who imparted his knowledge on improving their performance. We are looking forward to watching our athletes develop further over the course of the year. Watch this space for more information!

Abbots Langley Tough Ten

On Sunday 3rd October, we entered a number of our keen athletes into the 39th Abbots Langley Tough Ten Races.

We had six students compete in the 5km race and one student in the 10km. In the 5km race, it was Peter Bansaghi (Year 7) who was our first runner home. His time of 19.38 saw him finish in 9th place. Emma Cresswell (Year 12) was not far behind, finishing in 11th with a time of 20.47. This saw Emma finish as 2nd female and be awarded a trophy. Elliott Bull (Year 11) was 13th, Anna Reynolds (Year 9) 17th, Khush Patel (Year 11) 20th and Autumn Rana (Year 7) 23rd. All students finished with times under 24 minutes which is an incredible achievement for runners of their age. The combined girls team placed 2nd place overall, behind St Albans School.

In the 10k, Archie Marshall (Year 11) ran an incredible race to finish in 7th place overall and 1st under 18. His time of 37.08 is a truly fantastic time for someone his age and I have no doubt that he will be in contention for winning the overall race over the coming years.

