

# InForm

**NEWSLETTER**

## Headmaster's message



Welcome to the latest edition of our InForm newsletter at the close of another productive half term. As you will see from the following pages, our students have made an impressive start to 2023 through their commitment to their learning as well as their participation in so much extra-curricular activity.

### Staff

Our trainee teachers have spent this half term in a second placement school and we have enjoyed hosting trainees from other schools here at Parmiter's. We wish them all the best with the remainder of their training. Ms Tripp joined us at the beginning of the year and will continue teaching in the Humanities Faculty until Easter.

### Sixth Form

I would like to start by praising our current Year 13 cohort who have been undergoing their trial examinations over the past fortnight. Given that this is another year group who did not have the chance to sit external GCSE examinations, their commitment and resilience is all the more impressive. Equally impressive has been the news of some quite exceptional university and apprenticeship offers that have been received by so many of our current Year 13s. The fact that Parmiter's currently receives more Oxbridge offers than many prestigious independent schools is a testament to the work and dedication of our students, as well as the inspirational leadership and support provided for the application and interview process by Mr Porter, Mrs Rowland and the Sixth Form team.

### Careers and apprenticeship opportunities

Of course, Parmiter's does not see itself as simply an "Oxbridge" school but instead we are invested in supporting each and every student to access the very best course available when they leave our Sixth Form or, if they choose, move onto college or another school after their GCSEs. As regards post 18 opportunities, we are also well aware that neither Oxford nor Cambridge hold a monopoly on the best degree opportunities which, for some students, are better met through other prestigious universities or the Degree Apprenticeship scheme offered by a number of Britain's most prestigious businesses and corporations.

To that end, our careers advisor, Mrs Zanetti, continues to provide outstanding careers advice opportunities for students from Year 7 onwards. This includes a BBC Bitesize Careers event which was held in school in January and enjoyed by students in Years 7 to 10. For older students and their parents and carers, we also ran an Apprenticeships Awareness Evening which was followed by a virtual "Meet an Apprentice" evening. We were indebted to a number of our recent alumni who either returned to school in person or who joined us on-line to share their experience and offer tips and guidance about their own experience of undergoing a degree apprenticeship. Another example of how true it is that "Once a Parmiterian, always a Parmiterian!"

### The Winter Picnic Concert

As ever at Parmiter's, it has certainly not been all work and no play. Earlier this week the Winter Picnic Concert took place in which 74 students performed in small groups or the larger Jazz Workshop band. Pieces ranged from Gershwin's challenging "Rhapsody in Blue" to a rendition of "Eye of the Tiger" on the flute! The musical talent at Parmiter's is staggering, as also testified by our A Level students' recital evening at the end of January. What was particularly striking at this event was the collaboration between performers from all year groups, such that a Year 7 student can take an impressive solo amongst accomplished peers from the Sixth Form. So impressive!

### Turkey/Syria Earthquake appeal

Finally, I cannot thank our community enough for your response to our appeal for items and provisions to be sent to provide relief for those suffering following the devastating earthquake that we have witnessed on our television screens. Parmiter's can only hope and pray that relief arrives soon for our fellow human beings experiencing such suffering and hardship. We know that there are those in our close community who are directly affected and our thoughts are with you and your families.

I hope and trust you all experience a well deserved rest over half term and look forward to welcoming students and colleagues back to school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February

My very best wishes to you all,

## Dear Parents and Carers

I'd like to report on some of our recent events, so you can see the impact of your support.

The **Bag2School** collection last November made **£120**. This was followed by the Christmas Gift Fair which made an incredible **£10,800!**

We held a **Second Hand Uniform & Book Sale** in January (on a Sunday for a change), which made around **£250**. This had a much lower attendance than usual, so we are likely to switch back to Saturdays.

The Family Quiz was a sell-out as usual and people clearly enjoyed themselves. This event raised **£1800!** We intend to hold another in April, so look out for the details!

A bottle of whiskey, which had been kindly donated, made **£355** after costs at a specialist auction. Please come along to one of the monthly PA meetings if you wish to get more involved, or email us for further information - [pa@parmiters.herts.sch.uk](mailto:pa@parmiters.herts.sch.uk)

I'd like to thank everyone who made 2022 such a success, and look forward to meeting current and new volunteers in 2023.

**Rob Pyle**  
PA Chairman

**Our next meeting is on Tuesday 21 February at 7.30pm (main entrance) ~ All welcome!**

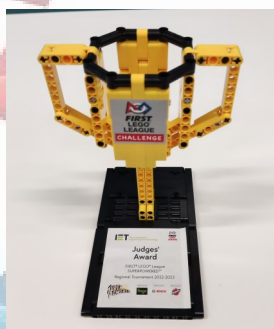


On Saturday 4th February, The Parmiter's First Lego League Team attended the First Lego League Regional Competition at the University of Greenwich. The team had been working since September to prepare for the competition, which was against eight other teams across London and the South-East.

The competition required teams to use their creativity and STEM skills to design and programme a Lego robot which autonomously completes predetermined tasks within a time limit. The team did a fantastic job designing a modular robot, with specialised attachments to complete each task. The robot was efficient but, at times, Temperamental, giving the team the opportunity to demonstrate their resilience, positive attitude and excellent problem-solving skills to work through each of the problems.

The team was also required to present their Innovation Project to judges. The project requires competitors to solve a problem linked to the theme of sustainable energy. The Parmiter's team had identified plastic pollution in the oceans as their area of concern and came up with NaTURE as their solution. An underwater, rubbish extraction robot inspired by the shape of an anglerfish which can bring plastics back to land for processing. The team had a range of ideas to power the robot, including electrolysis of sodium in the water, radioisotope thermoelectric generators and a nuclear fission reactor. Their presentation of ideas really showcased their strength of teamwork, communication and creativity.

The team did themselves proud. Although they did not win the regional competition the judges were so impressed with the team's ability to overcome challenges with positivity that they awarded them the Judges' Award!





**DISASTERS  
EMERGENCY  
COMMITTEE**

As ever, the Parmiter's community responded without delay as we publicised our appeal for items following the terrible earthquakes suffered in Turkey and Syria earlier this week. We were very quickly made aware that there were problems getting these items into the countries affected and, although we were able to donate what you had already given, we were asked not to collect any more. It has been suggested that the best way to help is by offering financial assistance.

You might be interested in looking at the information on the [Disasters Emergency Committee](#) official site [here](#). The UK Government has agreed to match up to £5 million donated by the public to this appeal.



Year 7 shared pictures of their fun sandwiches made during a food preparation lesson in Design & Technology! Follow the department on Instagram ~ [@parmitersdt](#)

## Winter Picnic Concert

On a cold Wednesday evening, the assembled audience (complete with their own nibbles and drinks) were warmed with an array of music from all ends of the spectrum, performed by students across all year groups.

There was such a variety of groups that ranged from the explosive Percussion Ensemble who started proceedings, to acoustic guitar, flute and assorted other wind groups, through to Junior Brass (run by students), the Sax Ensemble and 'The Frontier' (a product of the 'Tin Box' rehearsal space) before Jazz



Workshop concluded the evening; there truly was something for everyone! The diversity of music was a reflection of students' enthusiasm, musical talent and commitment, and their composure and self-belief in themselves as they performed in front of their family and friends resulted in a lovely atmosphere, and a positive feeling amongst all who were fortunate enough to attend.



## Sport

As we approach the business end of our winter sports, I write with excitement about some successes.

In Netball, there are still many league games to be played before Easter and I hope that I will be able to write with details of some league winners at the end of the Spring Term. Special mention to the Year 10A girls team who have made it to the semi-final of the Herts Plate and are awaiting the winners of Rickmansworth and St Edmunds for a place in the final. There have also been strong performances from the Year 8 girls' teams vs St Clement Danes and the Year 10 girls against Immanuel and St Michaels.

The Basketball season is well and truly underway with some strong performances from our teams. It has been great to see the Year 7s play with such passion and determination, demonstrating excellent progress week by week. The stand-out performance came against St Clement Danes where they recorded a 24-22 win. The Year 10 team performed well as a team to beat Bushey Meads but we were unlucky to lose to Watford Boys a week later.

Despite the awful winter weather, the Rugby season has begun earnestly, although a little more slowly than we would have liked. The Year 9 team set the tone with a fine 15-5 victory over Sandringham School. The Year 10 team were impressive in their 71-5 victory over Queens in the District League. Special mention to the Year 8 team who are unbeaten with wins against JFK and Sandringham. With games coming thick and fast after half term, we have Year 9 and 10 semi-finals to look forward to along with league games against St Clement Danes, Rickmansworth and St Joan of Arc.

The Hockey season has seen great success, especially with our Year 7 teams who have started their career with wins against St Michaels, RMS and Aldenham. The Year 8 team have made vast improvements and continue to make progress each game, getting well deserved wins over Rickmansworth and Sandringham. The Year 10 team have impressed, especially with two hard fought 0-0 draws against Dame Alice Owens and RMS.

As the football season draws to a close, I am pleased to report that we have completed all District League matches across all ages, boys and girls. The Year 7 teams continue to perform well and have amassed a huge 40 fixtures between them! The 7A team will play in the County Semi Final after half term and hope they can progress to the final. In the league, first position has been secured and will play St Michaels in the final in March. They will be joined by the Year 10 team who also won their regular league and are likely to play Rickmansworth in the final. At the time of writing, the Year 7B team are still going strong in the National Cup and are travelling to Bromley to play Ravens Wood for a place in the ¼ final.

The U13 girls' team have finished all their leagues, playing 9 matches with 8 wins and only one defeat to Croxley Danes. We are awaiting other results to find out whether they will be crowned champions. The U14 girls remain in the County Cup where they will play John Henry Newman in the ¼ final after half term. The U15 girls have finished their season with their stand out performances coming in the National Cup. They travelled to Surrey and, despite playing really well, were on the wrong end of a 2-1 defeat.

In the annual District Swimming Gala, it is fair to say that Parmiter's dominated with our teams winning 19 out of 44 races to be crowned Watford District Champions. Strong performances from all swimmers were seen but special mention to Dan Ord, Ben Taggart, Sophie Coleman, Peter Bansaghi and Ramsey Gill who won all their races.

We entered 19 students into the annual Cross Country Championships with the students representing Parmiter's as individuals. Archie Marshall finished 6th in the Senior Boys Race and will now travel as part of the Hertfordshire team for the English Schools Championships. Other notable runs came from Max Henson in the pre junior boys race, finishing in 12th position.

Next half term sees the build up to our annual Performing Arts Show, which will be held at the Radlett Centre on Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th March. Please look out for more details on this when we return.



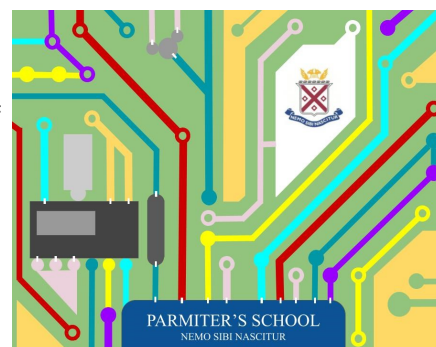
Mr T Clark  
Director of Sport



We dived head first into the New Year with all things Houses here at Parmiter's! It has been wonderful to see so many of our students and staff getting involved in a wide range of competitions and activities.

### Computer Science Mouse Mat Competition

The Computer Science department challenged students to help them revamp their existing mouse mat design. Overwhelmed with an array of fantastic entries, the decision making process became a difficult one. After much deliberation, 1st place was awarded to Sam Ball in Mayhew. Scooping 2nd place was Woolley, in 3rd was Carter, 4th was Lee, in 5th was Beven and in 6th place was Renvoize. A big well done to all involved! Sam, we cannot wait to see your design come to life.



### House RS Quiz

During January, the RS department set a quiz for students to participate in. We are pleased to announce that Renvoize was the winner for this one! Closely followed by Carter in 2nd, Beven in 3rd, Woolley in 4th, Lee in 5th and Mayhew in 6th place. A brilliant effort from all who participated.

### Year 10 FIFA Tournament

It was that time of year for Mr Allen to dust off the Xbox again. In a very close contest, the House that won a whopping 100 House Points, was Woolley. Carter came in 2nd, followed by Lee in 3rd, Mayhew in 4th, Renvoize in 5th and Beven in 6th. Well done to all of those who took part.

### Regular Competitions

As ever, there are regular ways of winning some all-important House Points for your House. Every Friday, Mr Perkins emails the Houses Quiz of the Week, with the House with the most participants winning 10 points, and second place winning 5. There's also the Parmiter's Park Run, which takes place every Week 2 Friday at lunchtime. Every participant wins 3 House Points for every run that they do, so get those running shoes on and win your House some points! We also have lots of other House competitions and events currently running, so do make sure you get involved with those.

### Live Competitions

We currently have three competitions running: Performing Arts, Art/Textiles and Drama. All of the information about these competitions, as well as details of how to apply, can be found in the Notices and on our Parmiter's Houses Instagram page. There is also a 6th Form/Staff House Football match the first week back after half-term.

The House Geography competition came to a close this week - watch this space for the results.

### Current Standings

And finally, at the halfway point in the school year, we are delighted to announce the current standings are as follows... \*drum roll, please\*

BEVEN	774
CARTER	953
LEE	949
MAYHEW	970
RENVOIZE	786
WOOLLEY	1117

Congratulations to Woolley who are currently at the top of the leaderboard! But have no fear, it is all very much still to play for.












We thank you so much for all of your continued efforts so far this year, and we look forward to what the new half term will bring in the world of Parmiter's Houses.

## What's On This Half Term....

### EXTREME COUPONING AND BARGAINS UK

## KIDS EAT OUT FOR LESS

### FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2023

-  **Morrisons** - Kids under 16 eat for free at Morrisons Café when an adult spends £4.99 or more on a meal.
-  **ASDA** Kids Free Hot Breakfast Between 8am-12pm every day during Half Term no purchase necessary. Kids Eat for £1 with no purchase necessary until end of March 2023
-  **Bella Italia** - Kids Eat for £1 when an adult purchases a main meal between 4pm-6pm at Bella Italia.
-  **Dunelm** - Kids Eat for Free at Dunelm when an adult spends £4 or more at Pausa Cafe.
-  **YO Sushi** - Kids Under 10 Eat for Free at YO Sushi Between 13th - 24th Feb when an adult spends £10 or more.
-  **Dobbies** - Kids Eat for Free at Dobbies Garden Centre Cafes when an adult purchases a main meal.
-  **Sizzling** - Kids Eat for £1 at Sizzling Pub and Grill when an adult meal is purchased.
-  **Hungry Horse** - Free Kids Breakfast at Hungry Horse Pubs when an adult spends at least £3.49.
-  **Farmhouse Inns** - Kids Eat For £1 when you sign up to receive their email newsletter on their website.
-  **IKEA** - Pasta with Tomato Sauce and a soft drink for 95p or any other Kids Meal for £1.50. Available every day from 11am in their restaurants.
-  **Beefeater, Brewer's Fayre & Table Table** - Two kids under 16 eat breakfast for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased.

INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF POSTING





## Half Term Soccer Camp

14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> February,  
Ages U9-U18

Venue: Queens' School, Bushey  
Time: 9.30am - 12.30pm

Watford Ladies FC are pleased to announce their February Half Term soccer camp. You can look forward to lots of great football and fun with our outstanding UEFA coaches so book early to ensure you don't miss out.

For Accompanied Children & Any Adults

Children's Crafts  
Hot Lunch  
Totally Free

**Pop-Up Cafe**

12-2pm  
14th Feb  
16th Feb

**All Saints Church Hall**  
All Saints Crescent  
Garston WD25 0LU  
office@allsaintslife




In partnership with



Table Tennis for 7 - 15yrs

## South Oxhey Leisure Centre

Have fun, make friends, play Table Tennis

### Thursdays

16:00 - 17:00  
7 - 11yrs

17:00 - 18:00  
12-15yrs

**TTKidz Goody Bag Included**

Book online, in centre, or call us...  
[www.EveryoneActive.com](http://www.EveryoneActive.com)

South Oxhey Leisure Centre  
Gosforth Lane,  
WD19 7AX  
020 8428 4954



### WILDPLAY THIS HALF TERM

Join us in Leavesden Country Park this half term for FREE Wild Play sessions which will include natural arts and crafts, exploring nature and learning through play. Ideal for children aged 2-9 years.

Monday 13 February  
10am – 11.30am  
Children MUST be accompanied by adults at the session  
FREE

Leavesden Country Park, College Road  
WD5 0NX  
Meet outside the HIVE building



**"What's On?"**  
IN THE AREA