

Headmaster's message



Welcome to the first "InForm" of the academic year as we arrive at the end of the 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.

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. The Year 7 students engaged in our 'Bushcraft' residential trip in September and it was a delight to visit and see them enjoying their adventure and making 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 also like to extend my personal thanks to two students, Bertie Caplan, in Year 7, and Abbie Abraham, in Year 12, who spoke as student representatives at the Headmaster's address as part of our Open Evening.

New Staff

We welcomed a number of new colleagues this term; Mr Abkenar (Maths), Ms Bhandari (PE), Mr Brogan (History), Mrs Coman (PRE), Mr Gordon (Maths), Miss Hirst (English), Miss Irwin (English), Mr James (RS), Mrs Johnston (Science), Miss Potter (Business), Mrs Sankey (Maths), Mr Taylor (Maths).

School Direct Trainee Teachers: Miss Bailey (PE), Mr Beale (D&T), Ms Bull (Art & Design), Mr Lester (Music), Miss Thomas (D&T). Miss Citro (PE apprentice).

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Burke, Mrs Cohen, Mrs Kightley, Miss Thomas, Mrs Vanner, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Stevens.

Support Staff: Mr Smith (Estates Manager), Mrs Kwon (Attendance Officer), Mrs Hicks (Examinations Officer), Mr Raichura (Sports Centre), Mr Attree (Science Technician).

Parents' Association

It has been a very busy half term for our PA. Aside from holding their annual AGM, they also hosted a Year 7 Cheese and Wine evening for parents and carers. At the same time, students enjoyed a disco, supervised by Sixth Form students who appeared to be enjoying the event as much if not more than their younger peers!

I would like to add my personal thanks, as I am well aware that our wonderful PA team is currently working hard to ensure that our upcoming Christmas Gift Fair will be a huge success on Saturday 19 November. I hope to see you there!

Junior Prizegiving and Senior Speech Night

We were delighted, once again, to celebrate outstanding student achievement and contribution to Parmiter's life at both our Junior Prize Giving ceremony and Senior Speech Night in September.

Our Guest Speaker on both occasions was Professor Richard Grose, former Parmiter's student and now eminent leader in cancer research, who reflected on our timeless school values of teamwork and collaboration that underpin all aspects of scientific research and human endeavour.

My congratulations to all those students from across all Key Stages who were recognised and my sincere thanks to all those who performed and entertained the audience. Hui Xin Sezille and Dyllon Aluwihare who gave poetry recitals at Junior Prize Giving, as well as Tabitha Wicks who played the viola so beautifully. At Senior Speech Night we were treated to further musical performances from Rosanna Fenn and Senior band players, Hazel Bates, Simon Brant, Albert Chinn and Harriet Kilpatrick. Albert Chinn and Elizabeth Kelly took turns in their roles as School Captains to deliver an excellent Vote of Thanks to Professor Grose.



Student Leadership

As I find myself repeating on so many occasions, the levels of student engagement in clubs and activities seems to increase year on year and the 2022-2023 year is proving to be no exception. What is even more impressive is the number of students who continue to volunteer to take up leadership roles and positions of responsibility. This was no more evident than in the number of students who volunteered to support our Open Evening event. Having completed my address (five times!) I was fortunate to still have time to tour the school site. What I found was a whole host of students engaged in explaining Parmiter's school and the different departments to prospective parents, carers and their children. Ambassadors in the very best sense of the word. As one parent commented having already heard me extol the virtues of student leadership in my address – "It's exactly what you said in your speech".

Chairman of Governors

I am pleased to be able to let you know that Mr Andy O'Brien was elected by the Governors as Chairman at a meeting earlier this week. Mr O'Brien takes over from Mr Alp Mehmet who has been in post for the last 7 years. We are extremely grateful for the dedicated service of Mr Mehmet who will remain a governor for the time being.

Michael Jones
Headmaster

THE BUSHCRAFT company

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On a bright and sunny Wednesday morning, 193 Year 7 students boarded four coaches and made their way up the M1 to Northampton. Our destination was Bushcraft in Geddington, with adventure, three days of camping, teambuilding and learning new skills ahead of us. Our journey to the centre was largely uneventful and we arrived at 11am ready to start our experience.

A warm welcome awaited us from the friendly Bushcraft team who took care of everything; they unpacked our coach, sorted all the students into their respective tribes and we were soon walking up the long gravel drive, talking excitedly about what awaited us.

The two most important things were first on the agenda; fire and food! After a lovely bolognaise we set about gathering wood from the local area, stacking and storing, in preparation for both the campfire and wood burning stoves used by the camp staff to make pizza for supper.

The next two days passed by in a flurry of activities; we got involved in the art of camouflage, setting traps, making bracelets out of cord and building bivouac's using the trees as supports to hold the canvas sheet. Mr Jones visited us to see for himself the amazing time Year 7 were having.

The range and variety of activities on offer was fantastic. Students not only got to socialise with students across the year group but learnt valuable skills, while having fun. Developing knife skills and making fire were popular activities, along with night time games in the wood with only torch-light to find your way around!

Learning first aid and putting this into practice was completed by all the students. Soon after, this was put to good use when the young Bushcrafters were taken on a walk through the wood and they happened to stumble across a plane crash (staged!) with their teachers trapped inside (demonstrating Oscar-winning performances!) Fake blood was liberally poured over the teachers and smoke bombs were let off to enhance the effect. Fortunately, they had learned well, all teachers were rescued and all were deemed to make a full recovery!

The traditional salmon filleting took place on Thursday afternoon. This is always a great learning experience for the students as the demonstration discusses the different parts of the fish, how it lives and how they are farmed. The most daring of the Bushcrafters got to take part in their very own Bush Tucker trial, in which they were invited to eat a whole fish eye! Most eyes were eaten and kept down.....

From a teacher's perspective, it was great to see the young Bushcrafters form bonds, away from everyday technology. The camp was filled with excited chat and laughter and we are sure that they have made both friends and memories which will remain with them for life.

**Bushcraft you have been great!
See you again in 2023.**





At the end of September, the Art department took 45 Year 10 students to Cornwall for our annual GCSE trip.

This trip is used to gather resources and materials for students' first project, gain understanding of artists and give them experiences of art and art textiles outside of the classroom. The drawing and photography activities that were completed in Cornwall not only made for exciting, engaging sketchbooks, but also greatly improved students' confidence!

We had such wonderful comments during the trip from members of the public about the work being produced and how lovely the Year 10s were.

Whilst in Cornwall, we began our stay with a day trip to the Eden project which provided us with beautiful photography opportunities and amazing natural forms to study. Our day in St Ives was, unfortunately, a rainy one but students didn't let this dampen their spirits and instead got stuck into research about Barbara Hepworth, exploring the exhibitions at the Tate, and meeting local artist Naomi Frears in her studio overlooking the beach. We finished the trip with a visit to Trebah Gardens, exploring their incredible sub-tropical gardens. Now we are back at Parmiter's, we are so excited to see how our Year 10s use the experiences and resources from the trip to develop their projects and skills. And as ever, the countdown now begins for our next trip to Cornwall in 2023!



Cornwall

Sport

It has been a busy half term in the PE Department with our thriving extra-curricular programme. At the time of writing, we have participated in 75 different fixtures and events across 6 different sports.

Our football season has started well, with all our teams performing strongly. The Year 7 team members have been the stand out performers, remaining unbeaten across 8 games. During those games, they have amassed 53 goals and only conceded 5! They remain in both the County Cup and National Cup, as well as occupying first position in their league. The Year 7B, 9A and 11A teams are also still going strong in the National Competition. The Girls teams have also had great success this half term. The U13 team remain unbeaten with strong wins against St Margarets, St Michaels and Kings Langley. Special mention to Anna in Year 7 who has scored countless goals!

In the Three Rivers and Watford District Badminton events, I am pleased to report that all four of our teams were crowned District Champions and have qualified for the County Finals in December. Congratulations to all students who played.

Our Netball teams are enjoying playing again, with some excellent performances so far. Despite defeats in the County Cup, both our Year 10 and Senior teams showed great promise for the season ahead. The league season hasn't begun for all teams yet and we are looking forward to many more matches after half term.

Despite our rugby season not beginning until January, there have been opportunities for our U14 and U15 teams to play in the National Competitions. Unfortunately, the Under 15 team came across a very physical and well-drilled St Columbas College team and, despite competing, ended up on the wrong side of a defeat. They are looking forward to playing the winners of Verulam or Beaumont in the next round of the Plate Competition. The Under 14 team were heroic in defence but, ultimately, were beaten by a strong Verulam side.

Next half term we are looking forward to the start of the Cross Country season, as well as some more rugby, hockey and basketball.

All our fixtures and events can be found on our new dedicated sport website

www.sports.parmiters.herts.sch.uk

Coming soon

School production 2022

1, 2 & 3 December

Parmiter's
Code



"Nemo sibi nascitur"

Parents' Association

It's October already and the PA are in top gear, organizing events leading up to Christmas. As always, the Christmas Gift Fair is top of the agenda. Please look out for requests for helpers, donations and the Grand Draw ticket sale. We rely on you all to make this such a fantastic event, so no matter how you take part – thank you!

It was wonderful to meet so many Year 7 parents at the Cheese & Wine event in September; some new faces and others who we recognize. This is often a springboard to the PA, and I'm pleased to say that we have some new members joining in with events already.

The recent Second-hand Uniform and Book Sale raised over £1000! Thank you for your donations, purchases and to our volunteers on the day.

The PA is continuing to use the Classlist app to communicate, this is GDPR-compliant and is used by the majority of parents. Please look out for sign-up lists, which should help us gather volunteers for events in a way email just can't.

I'd like to end by giving thanks to our newest volunteers, who are already getting stuck in, and to our regular crew of volunteers. It's never too late to join us, just send us a message using Classlist!

Look out for our next **Bag2School** collection which will be on **Tuesday 29 November**.



Our next meeting is on
Monday 7 November at 7.30pm in the Boardroom | **Come and join us!**



Christmas GIFT FAIR

Unique gifts for friends and family!

ARTS & CRAFTS | FESTIVE FOOD | PRIZE DRAW

With more than 50 professional stalls, there's something for everyone!
Try your luck on the tombolas. Treat yourself to mulled wine, mince pies and homemade cakes while enjoying music from the choir.

SATURDAY ADULTS £1.50 **CHILDREN FREE!**
19 NOV 11AM – 4PM | PARMITER'S SCHOOL
HIGH ELMS LANE, GARSTON, HERTFORDSHIRE, WD25 0UU



GRAND DRAW

£500 cash first prize!

The website for buying tickets is
<https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/parmiterspagraandchristmas-draw2022>

Or if you prefer to buy tickets using your mobile you can scan this QR code



Sponsors of our raffle



Stay connected with the PA social apps:



parent.classlist.com

Parmiters School Parents Association



@parmiterspa



PA@parmiters.herts.sch.uk

Dates for your diary



An evening with
Steven Finn

former England International Cricketer and Ashes winner



Friday 4 November 2022

from 7.30pm

at Parmiter's School

High Elms Lane | Garston | Herts | WD25 0UU

Licensed Bar | 2 course Dinner | Raffle
£25 per head

Tickets available on WisePay or via the school website | www.parmiters.herts.sch.uk

Proceeds from this event will be donated to Brain Tumour Research



Book your tickets [here](#)

300

*A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
St Alban's Cathedral
Monday 12 December 2022, 7.30pm*

Family and Health Services



We are excited to announce the launch of our **Autism & ADHD Support Digital Animation**. This animation is aimed at all families that are living in Hertfordshire and seeking support and guidance for a child or young person with neurodiverse needs. As children's practitioners, partners and schools, this animation will also help you to better support your families and will be a great place to sign post the families that you work with.

Please find below the link for you to share far and wide - we hope that you will enjoy it.

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/autismADHDsupporthertfordshire

LADIES & GIRLS[®]
BOXERCISE

Wednesday's
7.30pm

**Parmiters
School
High Elms Lane
Watford
WD25 0UU**

- ✓ Challenging & Fun
- ✓ Increase energy levels
- ✓ Burn Calories
- ✓ Strengthen & Tone
- ✓ Suitable for all fitness levels
- ✓ Improve flexibility & Mobility

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