

## Headmaster's message



Welcome to this year's Festive edition of the InForm newsletter. As ever, you will find plenty of articles that show just how busy your school has been over the past two months. At this time of year, there's no let up for our students

during the last week of term and I want to give special praise to our Year 11 cohort who have conducted themselves so well throughout their recent trial examinations. At least they can now enjoy their Christmas break. As I always say – it should be a characteristic of all Parmiterians that they know how to play, as well as work, hard.

### Staffing

This half term, we have been pleased to welcome Mrs Shaw (Science Technician) and Mrs Harris (Network Resources Administrator).

### Remembrance

We began this half term with our customary Remembrance assemblies and period of reflection. The Art and Design Faculty once again came up with a series of moving tributes in the form of ceramic poppies that appeared all across the site. Students also engaged in a community project with St Lawrence Church in Abbots Langley, where the lighting designs of Matilda Stevens (Year 11) and Sophia Kogun (Year 10) were chosen to provide illumination to mark Remembrance Sunday.

### Christmas Gift Fair

Remembrance was followed by our annual Christmas Gift Fair organised by our wonderful Parents' and Carers' Association. Aside from providing the customary official start of the seasonal festivities and a terrific opportunity for the Parmiter's Family (young and not so young) to come together, the occasion raised over £10,000 of much appreciated funds for the school. My heartfelt thanks to all of you who were able to attend and support on the day.

### School Show – "Blackhole"

Following the Queen's Holiday, we were treated to the superb school show: "Blackhole" scripted by the talented Mr Froy and brought to life by the creative team of Mr Froy, Miss Windmill and, Assistant Director, Ella Snailham in Year 13. Ingenious and thought provoking, the show was brought to life by phenomenal ensemble acting from the talented cast which included representation across all year groups of the school.

### A Festival of Music

Aside from terrific drama across the half term, we were also treated to a series of outstanding musical events that covered pretty much every genre there is. Events began with the superb "Plugged In" band night in November, masterminded and led by Yusuph Choudhury, Year 13, and culminating in his band, The Frontier's, entertaining set. The Music Department provided their annual Festive treat of carols for our usual Pensioner's Party and then entertained the whole Parmiter's Family at two concerts last week. As I write, we look forward to the annual Carol Service to be hosted at St Luke's Church and the Big Band performance that rounds up our final assembly on the last day of term.

### The Parmiterian 2024

I am also delighted to commend the latest publication of The Parmiterian that celebrates Parmiter's life throughout the academic year 2023-2024. Covering every aspect of school life and our curricular and co-curricular experiences, it contains a host of articles and creative pieces provided by our multi-talented student body. My thanks as ever to the superb editorial team of Mrs Clark and Mrs Mullett for the high quality of the publication and to all those colleagues and students who have made such valuable contributions to its content.

### The Times' Parent Power League Tables Top 100

It was extremely pleasing to read that Parmiter's is one of only two State schools in Hertfordshire to have made the Top 100 of the Times' Parent Power League Tables this year. It is not only a testament to the extraordinary success of last year's Year 11 and Year 13 students but shows how effective our educational provision is across all years and key stages. Such phenomenal academic success for a partially selective school can only come from the quality of education experienced by young people throughout each and every year they are at school. There are no short cuts to academic success, as with anything in this life. It is the on-going partnership of dedicated staff and equally dedicated learners (that begins in Year 7) that is the key to this school's success.

It only leaves me to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I do hope you enjoy a restful and enjoyable holiday. I look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

## Parents' and Carers' Association



As the year draws to a close, we at the **Parents and Carers Association (PCA)** want to take a moment to reflect on the last term of 2024, celebrate our successes and thank everyone who has helped make this year extraordinary.



Firstly, a huge round of applause to our Vice Chair, **Tina Canning**, for leading the charge on this year's **Christmas Fair**. Thanks to her dedication and the incredible efforts of our volunteers, the event was a spectacular success, raising over **£10,400!** With more than 500 attendees, the festive spirit was truly alive and it was wonderful to see our community come together in such a joyous way. Tina, you're a star!



We'd also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the **new volunteers** who joined us this year. Your energy and ideas have been invaluable and inspiring. The enthusiasm you've brought to the PCA has helped to strengthen our community and drive us forward. Joining the PCA isn't just about volunteering; it's about becoming part of something bigger - a vibrant and supportive school community. If you'd like to get involved and join us on this amazing journey, please reach out to us via email ( [pa@parmiters.herts.sch.uk](mailto:pa@parmiters.herts.sch.uk) ). We'd love to welcome you!



Our final event of the year was supporting Parmiter's **A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols** at St Luke's Church. It was a privilege to provide mince pies, mulled wine and juice at this beautiful evening. What a moving way to round off the year, sharing in the magic of the holiday season with our school community.

Looking ahead, we're excited to announce our next event: the ever-popular **Family Quiz Night!** Mark your calendars:



**Saturday 1 February 2025 - 7.30pm - 10.00pm (doors open at 7.00pm)**

It promises to be an evening of fun, laughter and a little healthy competition for all ages. With **10 rounds** of questions, a **licensed bar** and a chance to win the coveted **£100 prize** (or the dreaded wooden spoon), it's an event not to be missed. Tickets are **£6 for adults** and **£4 for students/children**. Don't forget to register your team's name by **Friday 17 January 2025** via WisePay - **no tickets will be sold at the door. \*\*TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW\*\***

Finally, on behalf of the PCA, we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Here's to a restful holiday season and an exciting 2025 filled with more events, fun and opportunities to support our school. Thank you for being part of our journey and for everything you do to make Parmiter's such a special community.

As Winston Churchill once said, "***We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.***" Let's carry this spirit of giving and community into the New Year.

With warmest and festive wishes,

**Greg Longmore (Chairman) & the Parmiter's Parents' and Carers' Association**



### Maths Inspiration Lectures



On December 2nd, 55 Year 12 Mathematics and Further Mathematics students attended the Maths Inspiration Lectures, organised by StandUpMaths, at The Cambridge Theatre in London. The event consisted of fast-paced short lectures on a variety of real-life and 'off the beaten track' topics, hosted by Sophie Mclean, a young and enthusiastic speaker who visited Parmiter's last year to talk to Key Stage 4 students about careers and Mathematics beyond the classroom.

Rob Eastaway, well known for his popular Mathematics books, introduced students to the subtleties of fairness in sharing, whether the aim is to cut a cake, organise a penalty shoot-out or share valuable resources. Aylean Macdonald took the audience on an unexpected journey through art, fractal patterns and the power of mathematical visualisation, while Jennifer Visser-Rogers talked about statistics. As well as amusing the students with various examples of 'correlation is not causation' (the number of ice-cream sales and the number of shark attacks are correlated, but one does not cause the other), she talked about how to use Mathematics to understand risk-factors or the severity of a storm.

The final talk was by Matt Parker, an acclaimed stand-up Mathematician known for his intriguing mathematical videos. He made everyone laugh and wonder in equal measure while talking about impossible footballs and crashing boats in a game of Minecraft, all underpinned by the power of Mathematics!

This was an inspiring event, which gave all students a glimpse into the varied, wonderful and at times unpredictable ways in which the subject they are studying at A Level comes alive.



15 students in Years 10-13 spent a weekend attending the annual Oxford Model United Nations conference from the 22nd to 24th November.

Our students had an incredible experience, debating and finding solutions to a wide range of global issues as part of mock committees of the United Nations. The conference was truly international with over 1000 delegates from 50 schools across 20 different countries (and every continent) in attendance.







Key Stage 3 students took part in a festive charity initiative in support of Home Start (Watford & Three Rivers). Home Start is a local charity who support families with young children.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 created 26 hampers of gifts and treats which will be shared among 150 local families. Well done and thank you to all those who generously gave items to fill the boxes which will make a real difference at Christmas.



(c) Crown Copyright GCHQ

Over 40 Year 9 students took part in the GCHQ National Language competition in November, going up against over 2000 teams from schools across the country, using their language and puzzle skills to try and crack codes and capture flags.

One team worked especially hard, coming first in the East of England region and 5th overall in the UK.





## 'Plugged In'

6 years ago, an old shipping container at Parmiter's was transformed by the Music Department into a fully-fledged studio known to the students as the 'Jam Jar'. This has proved to be a popular platform for student-led bands across Years 7 to 13 to rehearse in, including the Frontier - Parmiter's oldest student-led band, which has had nearly 40 members over the past 6 years!

Fast forward to a chilly evening on Friday 8th November, an audience of over 300 people was introduced to the first ever 'Plugged In' Concert; an exciting collaboration between the Music Department and the Creativity Committee. This fun-filled event was an opportunity to showcase a plethora of performances from student-led bands across the school, all thanks to the Band Development Programme.



Year 7 band 'Out of Time' performed Seven Nation Army at Year 7's celebration assembly!

## Christmas Festival Concert

Nearly 150 students across all year groups performed in a Festival of Christmas music over 2 nights on 12th and 13th December, against a backdrop of falling (digital!) snow! The audience of parents, carers, staff and guests were treated to a medley of music ranging from traditional Christmas tunes to more modern pieces. Refreshments were provided by the 'True Adventure' team, who were working hard to raise funds for their expedition in 2026.

The evenings culminated in a rousing rendition of 'We wish you a Merry Christmas' ~ a great way to start to the festive season!





## Houses

Well, what a fantastic first term it has been in the world of Parmiter's Houses! It has been an absolute pleasure to see so many students and staff involved with House competitions and challenges.

### 'This Is Me' Shield Competition (Year 7)

Over the Summer, all Year 7 students were asked to take part in their first (of many, we hope) Parmiter's House Competition. Students were asked to create a shield showcasing who they are. With over 200 students' shields to choose from, it was a very difficult decision to make! The winner of this competition was Elissa, who scooped 100 points for Woolley, Methara N of Woolley came in 2nd place and in 3rd place was Rhea P of Carter.

### World Mental Health Day Challenge

In aid of World Mental Health Day on Thursday 10th October, and in order to help promote a positive mindset and to raise self-esteem, we ran a

House Challenge by asking students to let us know: 3 things that they are good at, 3 things that they are proud of and 3 things that make them happy. We had nearly 100 responses from students across all year groups. We thoroughly enjoyed reading all of your comments and are glad to see you are taking care of yourselves. Each participant was awarded 3 House Points for sharing their experience.

### House Bake Off

In November, members of staff and 6th form students took part in our annual Parmiter's Bake Off. Our individual winners this year were: Blind: Miss Chapman (Mayhew), technical: Mrs Mullett (Woolley) and showstopper: Mrs H Clark (Woolley). The overall winners were Woolley. Thank you and well done to all those who took part, judged and taste tested! Special thanks also to Mrs Kosky for organising this event year after year.

### KS3 Pumpkin Carving Competition

In October, KS3 form groups (Years 7-9) were challenged to create the most impressive looking pumpkin. The winners of this competition were 8JAL. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all who took part in the creepy carving contest!

### House Art: Christmas Card Competition (Year 7)

Mr Jones had the pleasure of reviewing this years Christmas card design entries and WOW did they impress! What a talented bunch of budding artists we have in Year 7. From over 200 entries, many were shortlisted, with 2 of those designs being selected for printing as the Headmaster's Christmas cards for 2024. Each student who entered was awarded 3 House Points, those shortlisted were awarded a further 5 House Points and those whose designs were printed, a further 10 House Points! Congratulations to all involved!

### House Christmas Bonanza

On Wednesday 18th December, the Senior & Junior House Captains hosted a festive activity session for students and staff. Everyone took part in lots of different Christmas themed games, winning vital House Points along the way. The House with the most points collected was Mayhew. Well done!

### Regular Competitions

As ever, there are regular ways of winning some all-important House Points for your Houses. 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. We also award House Points to students who only gain achievement points across the term - these are our 'zero heroes'.

### House Captains

Our new House Captains were announced at the end of October, Congratulations to all those selected -



# Houses



Year 7	
<b>BEVEN</b>	Rajveer Vora & Zara Shah
<b>CARTER</b>	Amelia Narsinghen & Dabira Oluwatosin
<b>LEE</b>	Herbie Thorp & Chloe Lin
<b>MAYHEW</b>	Clem Edwards & Hannah Bagnall
<b>RENVOIZE</b>	Daniel Palone & Sienna Galea
<b>WOOLLEY</b>	Adrian Dziugas & Era Hoxha
Year 8	
<b>BEVEN</b>	Noah Scott & Trishul Shah
<b>CARTER</b>	Charlotte Cairns & Neriah Oyekan
<b>LEE</b>	Rhia Raj & Sophia Iype
<b>MAYHEW</b>	James Stewart & Madison Frazer-Harbron
<b>RENVOIZE</b>	Dina Bozorgi & Nikhita Vara
<b>WOOLLEY</b>	Aashni Vekaria & Charlie Vass-Weston
Year 9	
<b>BEVEN</b>	Keiran Sihota & Maya Balmforth
<b>CARTER</b>	Anna Anene & John Tawfik
<b>LEE</b>	Aoife Jones & Zara Polat
<b>MAYHEW</b>	Aadit Mehta & Isabel Charles-Ojo
<b>RENVOIZE</b>	Alexandria Dacres & Pippa Bunce
<b>WOOLLEY</b>	Harshal Shah & Simeon Azeez
Year 10	
<b>BEVEN</b>	Keya Patel & Nina Brown
<b>CARTER</b>	Jessica Street & Shyla Patalasingh
<b>LEE</b>	Katya Samuels & William Wood
<b>MAYHEW</b>	Siani Tanna & Parmita Mehta
<b>RENVOIZE</b>	Ramsey Gill & Sitara Menon
<b>WOOLLEY</b>	Ansh Singh & Emani Vadgama
Year 11	
<b>BEVEN</b>	Kishan Aheer & Vanessa Law
<b>CARTER</b>	Muneer Ahmed & Trinetra Garge
<b>LEE</b>	Surani Perera & Lucy Fillipini
<b>MAYHEW</b>	Kushi Kotecha & Natesinee Piper
<b>RENVOIZE</b>	Sarisha Whorra & Francesca Bardou
<b>WOOLLEY</b>	Arran Sihota & Kristina Williams

Year 12	
<b>BEVEN</b>	Amaia Dacres & Ibraheem Ali
<b>CARTER</b>	Luke Nikitas & Sienna Stapelberg
<b>LEE</b>	Elsa McGaughey & Jacques Mason
<b>MAYHEW</b>	Charlie Beale & Grace Rosenthal
<b>RENVOIZE</b>	Holly Pool & Will Denning
<b>WOOLLEY</b>	Prabhuv Gautam & Skye Wheeler
Year 13	
<b>BEVEN</b>	Yusuph Choudhury & Ellen Latham
<b>CARTER</b>	Saarukesy Thanakesavan & Andrew Wilson
<b>LEE</b>	Andrew Emes & Violet Shepherd
<b>MAYHEW</b>	James Beasley & Anna Cox
<b>RENVOIZE</b>	Milan Gudka & Emma Abreu
<b>WOOLLEY</b>	Elena Sementini & Lauren Caldwell

## Coming Up

There will be many competitions and challenges launching after half-term, including House Science and a 'random acts of kindness' challenge.

## Current Standings

And finally, at the end of the first term, we are delighted to announce the current standings are as follows... \*drum roll, please\*.....

<b>BEVEN</b>	730
<b>CARTER</b>	779
<b>LEE</b>	994
<b>MAYHEW</b>	1186
<b>RENVOIZE</b>	835
<b>WOOLLEY</b>	1128

Congratulations to Mayhew, 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 efforts so far this year and we look forward to what the new half term will bring in the world of Parmiter's Houses. All that's left for us to say is MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Ms O'Malley & Mr Perkins



### Boys' Football

Parmiter's boys football teams have had an action-packed half term, with standout performances and tough challenges across all year groups.

The Year 7 team showed flashes of promise but struggled for consistency which hampered their progress in league and cup competitions. The Year 8A team improved steadily, highlighted by a spirited 2-2 comeback at Aldenham. Year 9A dominated their district league but exited both the National and County cups in a tough week, while the 9B team continues to fly the flag in the National Cup, advancing to Round 3. The Year 10 squad delivered moments of brilliance, earning a County Plate quarterfinal spot despite some inconsistent league performances. Year 11 had mixed results but impressed with a 2-0 win over St. Clement Danes, keeping their County Cup hopes alive with a January fixture against Goffs School. The 1st XI enjoyed a fantastic half term, winning four of five matches and reaching the National Cup last 32 - a remarkable achievement despite falling to a strong Dulwich College side. It's been a half term full of progress and resilience, with plenty to look forward to in the season ahead.



### Girls' Football

The U13's have begun to look like more of a team, which has come from their perseverance and commitment to training. The U14's have progressed nicely into the next round of the County Cup after a convincing 6-4 win vs Chauncy School. They play Beaumont in the next round after Christmas. The U15's have continued their fine form and remain unbeaten in the league, County and National cups, a superb year so far! The U16's, despite their best efforts, have fallen to defeats in both the County and National cups with player availability hampered by the Year 11's trial exams. The 1st XI have had a strong half term, where they have won both of their games showing domination and a high level of skill. Well done girls!



### Netball

This half-term has seen fantastic netball performances across all year groups! The 7A team has won 4 of their 5 matches, showing great progress, while the 7B team has displayed resilience and growing teamwork despite mixed results. The 8A team won their only league match and demonstrated excellent commitment, with the 8B team showing determination in their mixed outcomes.

The 9A team faced a tough game, but the 9B team has been unstoppable, winning all 4 of their matches. The 10A squad has excelled in four competitions and remains strong in the County Cup, while the 10B team boasts a perfect record. Year 11 has also been outstanding, winning all 5 of their matches.

A brilliant season so far, with impressive dedication and teamwork from all the girls!





## Badminton

Badminton continues to be an incredible success story at Parmiter's! The U14 and U16 girls and boys teams all qualified for the County competition after an outstanding performance in the district round.

Both the U14 boys and girls teams finished as impressive runners-up in the County, while the U16 girls secured a strong 3rd place finish. The U16 boys, however, went all the way and were crowned County champions.

The success doesn't stop there! The U16 boys team has been unbeatable this season, winning every match so far and earning a place in the National Cup quarter final, which will take place in January. The U16 girls team also boasts a flawless record and remains in contention for National Cup glory. Adding to this remarkable achievement, the U14 girls team is also excelling, having progressed to Round 4 of the National Cup.

Badminton is truly thriving at Parmiter's and we couldn't be more proud of the hard work, dedication and skill these teams have displayed this season!



## Cross-Country

November saw the annual District Cross Country competition kick off at a wet Royal Masonic School, featuring Year 8, Year 10 and Senior teams. It was a highly successful afternoon, with Gabi Olusanya-Artiles and Jonah McNaught winning the Year 8 girls' and boys' races, Peter Bansaghi earning silver in the Year 10 boys' race and Gina Luckhurst claiming victory in the Senior girls' race. These incredible performances crowned three district champions - an outstanding achievement!

Unfortunately, the Year 7, Year 9 and Year 11 races were postponed due to snowy weather and will now take place in mid-January. Stay tuned for more potential district champions!

