

# Year 9 Newsletter

## The First Half Term



Autumn 1 - 2021

Year 9 you have made a smooth transition back into school life, we also have some new students who have joined us at Park High School, and we wish them a very warm welcome.

This year your timetables are a little different as you begin to study your chosen subjects, for some of you this will be the first time you have studied this subject, and it will give you the opportunity to learn about a new subject and what it entails, and perhaps enable you to decide what you would like to choose and study for your GCSE options next year. You will be making your GCSE subject choices in March 2022. We will all be working hard to ensure that you have all the information you need and the time to discuss it before you make this important decision.

At the start of the year, some of you took on the important duties of being tutor group buddies for our new Year 7 students, helping them in their first weeks, showing them around school and how to navigate their way from lessons. We received high praise for all your hard work, and we know the Year 7 students really appreciated your help and assistance, as we do.

We hope the year ahead that we have planned for you is exciting and engaging. There will be plenty of extracurricular opportunities for you and we know that you will all enjoy everything that we will offer outside of the classroom.

Have a good break and be rested and ready for the next half term!

### Forest School

We again this year have been lucky enough to a good number from the Year Group joining in Forest School every week. Here is some of the feedback we have had from the Forest School Staff:

“After exploring the site and having a period of indecision about what to do, a couple of the students showed an interest in making a swing. They found a suitable piece of wood for the seat and used some rope to try and attach it to the tree. The difficulties they encountered achieving this goal supports the development of resilience and problem-solving skills prompting a request to learn about knots next week”.

“Our focus task was the clove hitch knot. It wasn't an easy knot but the students' determination and perseverance paid off. The majority of students were able to ask for help when they needed it and the pride they felt on mastering the clove hitch was visible. The remainder of the session was spent using our new skill to create swings or bows and arrows. The students were so creative thinking of different ways to make targets and we were impressed with the way they used their bows safely and took turns on the swing. One student made a sweeping brush to clear the stick and leaf debris from the log circle.”

### Whole School messages

**LFD Testing:** Please continue to undertake LFD testing twice a week- regular testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission. Thank you for continuing to support this programme.

**Punctuality:** A reminder that we expect students on the school site before 8:30am.

**Uniform:** We regularly see excellent standards of school uniform across our school community. Please be reminded that black trainers and hooded tops are not permitted. Students who wear trainers to school will be expected to wear sanitized plimsoles as an alternative.

**Jewellery and Nails:** As per our uniform policy, jewellery should be discreet and facial piercings are not permitted. Nails should be of a reasonable length.

**Support for school counselling:** Members of our Counselling Partnership team walked between 25-100km to raise much needed funds for this service which will enable us to keep it in our school. If you are able to please donate <https://gofund.me/933b7c3f> all donations gratefully received.

*Year 9 Team*

*Head of Year: Mrs L Tackley/Ms Gorman (Acting) & Pastoral Support: Mrs K Nagle*

*SLT Link: Mrs G. Kassir*

## Review Day – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November

Reviews days are an important date in the school calendar for students and staff. It is an opportunity for tutors and students to work together to reflect and look forward in creating 3 targets what will help students be a success this academic year. Students will create 3 targets in a 10 minute time slot with their tutor. The student books this time slot with the tutor. Parents are more than welcome to join their child if they are able to make it. Students have been asked over the half term to think about what their targets may be and here are some guidelines to help:

*Write clear and measurable goals, create a specific action plan for each goal, read your goals daily and visualize yourself accomplishing them, reflect on your progress to see if you are on target, revise your action plans if needed and celebrate your accomplishments.*

Year 9

Aspiration We have big goals which stretch beyond our current abilities. We strive to improve daily in lessons and during enrichment activities.

- Investigate the opportunities available to you
- Have a careers meeting
- Be recognised by a subject



### Year 9 Form Captains

Congratulations to our recently appointed Form Captains for Year 9 who are: 9TI – Yogesh Bharadava as Captain and Valantina Vincent Perera as Deputy, 9GO – Janvi Vara as Captain and Akshaya Chandrakumar as Deputy, 9CS – Nilana Muhandiramje Vidana as Captain and Unika Patel as Deputy, 9BZ – Gayan Subasinghe as Captain and Noah Azim as Deputy, 9RD – Luiis Cowans as Captain and Kenia Ademosu as Deputy, 9SC – David Toma as Captain and Sumaya Mohamed as Deputy, 9HO – Meisha Patel as Captain and Angelica Tega as Deputy, 9BR – Marianne Weerasinghe as Captain and Jason Pop as Deputy, 9KE – Aashkika as Captain and Ahyan Bahar as Deputy

### School Council Representatives for Y9

Ruby Deol, Krrish Junkee, Shreya Pindoria, Fayas Mohamed Farzan

COMMENTS FROM THE TEAM ABOUT THE START OF THIS YEAR. Form time every morning is a varied session of activities culminating in Newsround on Fridays and a healthy discussion of articles in the news. In PSHCEe, we have been learning about Parliament and the Government this half term and lessons are usually lively with most students enjoying and contributing to discussions. We have recently had nominations for Form Captain and deputy. Both students chosen are very excited about their new roles. We are looking forward to meeting with you on review day to discuss your child's aspirations and achievements.

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