



Key Stages Three & Four

Spring Term 1 Newsletter

Geography

Geography has seen another busy and successful half term.

KS3 have been busy learning Map Skills, making superb maps of their journeys to school. Now studying weather which has included a look at the predicted 'Smoke' weather of Los Angeles this week, see picture.

Our Year 9s are Natural Hazard savvy. They have moved from Tropical Storms, through Climate Change and on to Earthquakes. Each one of them would make a great Environmentalists.

Brave Year 10 Geographers completed their Physical Fieldwork at Barton on Sea and Hurst Spit on a beautiful day of -1C! A hot chocolate each kept them going and hopefully will help them remember the day for their GCSE Paper 3.



Year 11s are making steady progress both in lessons, having covered Rivers, and in attending the after school Geography sessions where we are recapping the Units of last year's learning to get them exam ready. Topics upcoming include The Living World, Ecosystems; The Changing Economic World, Nigeria; urbanisation, Bristol & Rio, and Resource Management.

Support your KS4 child using the AQA Geography Revision and 1-9 Workbooks. Help them become familiar with their Knowledge Organisers which give an overview of the topic in a nutshell.

Support your KS3 child having them learn Countries and Capitals and finding them on a World Map. Discuss the news and current events with your children, it's all Geography! Happy Holidays from the Geography Department. Remember to follow Geography on MissWaltonTweets

Modern Foreign Languages

In French, KS3 students have studied topics on school subjects and sports and hobbies and are now experts at giving their opinion in French.

The Year 9 students have started their GCSE coursework and are getting familiar with the structure of the new course.



Year 10 students have studied topics on school, comparing French and British schools and are currently finishing the holiday topic.

Year 11s are getting to grips with the demand of the new GCSE especially with the speaking assessments and are making good use of technology to record their answers via Kerboodle.

As a department, we are putting more focus on the use of technology to help with revision through 'Memrise' or 'Kerboodle' but also for submitting assessments electronically, allowing the students to prepare from home and keeping lesson time for covering the huge content required for the new GCSE.

History:

Students in all year groups have continued to make excellent progress in history.

Students in KS3 have been studying life in the trenches and the impact it had on the lives of soldiers from Britain, both culturally and on a practical level. They will end the unit by exploring the legacy of General Haig before embarking on a new unit on Slavery & Segregation in the New Year.

Year 9 completed their study of the Spanish Civil War and achieved some fantastic results in the end of unit exam, well done to Ben, Freddy, Ella & Tom. They have just started a depth study of the Holocaust which will explore various aspects of one of the most important aspects of recent history.

Year 10s journey through Health & the People has seen them reach the medical discoveries of the 19th & 20th centuries, with a focus on Pasteur, Koch & Fleming. In the New Year the focus will shift to public health before starting the Period Study of Elizabethan England.

Year 11 are well into the USA, 1920 – 73 unit and will shift focus to the Civil Rights Movement and social revolution when we return in January.

Maths:

There has been a strong focus on algebra in the maths department this half term; with key stage three developing their notation and beginning to solve equations and key stage four looking at sequences and algebraic inequalities.

Our year 10 students have started trigonometry and are making excellent progress with that.

Year 11 did well in their mock exams and the data from those is now being used to focus revision on key areas. The Spring term will see a focus on statistics and data representation.

Students are working hard on their homework which has a big impact on the progress they are making - currently Parkfield are 81st out of 635 schools that use Hegarty Maths for the amount of effort and progress being made - next term we aim to get in to the top 50!



PE:

It has been another positive half term of PE and students have been thoroughly enjoying the facilities in full use. During this term, there have been different sports that students have been able to access due to our wonderful new sports hall. Sports such as basketball, badminton, gymnastics, volleyball and handball have been taught as part of the Scheme of Work.

Students have also taken part in various extra-curricular clubs that include, dance, basketball and badminton. This has taken place during lunchtime and after school. Extra-curricular clubs have been hugely popular with students turning up in huge numbers.

Parkfield School also has various students that will be taking part in a Sports Leaders Conference which will enable them to be a Young Sports Leader. This will enable Parkfield to have great young role models for other students to look up to.

The focus for the next term will be to engage students in various fixtures against other schools and now that Parkfield School is able to host fixtures is extremely positive. The aim for the PE department is to provide every opportunity for pupils to access sport whether it be in lessons, lunchtimes or after school. The use of the MUGA has benefited the students immensely and sport/PE is on the up at Parkfield School.

Art:

KS3 have been studying Pablo Picasso's 'Blue Period'. Learning about monochromatic colour schemes, the students have enjoyed learning about colour blending and materials. The resulting pieces demonstrate an energetic approach to colour work, and awareness of tint, tone and shade. Quote from Amr – "Miss look at the sky, there are tints and tones of blue."



Year 9 have been studying Surrealism this term, finding out about the 'out of place' and peculiar. The resulting work, some based around proverbs and sayings, has seen them launch into colour and media of their own choosing. The students have enjoyed working in a variety of scales and, some individually and some group pieces.



Year 10 have been tackling research methods and skills this term. Using both Marine Life and Natural Form, they have been mastering drawing techniques in a variety of media.

Year 11 Work:



Things to remember:

- The second Year 11 Mocks Week begin just after the February half term, they should start revising now!
- All students should now have a blazer and should be wearing school shoes. We will be introducing plimsolls for students who arrive in incorrect footwear.
- Please ensure that planners are regularly signed.
- If a student is on report, this should be signed by a parent/carer every evening.
- The timetable has been re-written for the start of January to allow for changes in staffing. Please check your child's timetable to ensure that you are familiar with what is needed for different days.

English

English students this term have had an exciting time with our War Unit focused on a range of fiction and non-fiction texts.

We have learned about the conditions of the trenches from journals and letters of soldiers; we studied how propaganda influenced soldiers to sign up for war (and we have created our own posters!); and we have studied some of the more important poetry of WW1.

We have also learned how to understand important information in order to write our own opinions such as: "Should boy soldiers be allowed to join the army?"

Students have learned how to identify and comment on figurative language in poetry and have learned how to use persuasive techniques to influence readers. As a finale to the term, we are watching '*Private Peaceful*' which incorporates the best of all we have studied and supports our Friday reading.

Parkfield pupils' shoes bring smiles to African children

Suitcases of shoes donated by the pupils of Parkfield School have found welcome new homes at a Ghanaian school for deaf children and two orphanages. Parkfield maths teacher Kinza Barrett flew out to the Republic of Ghana for October half term, taking with her 50 pairs of pre-worn shoes and trainers donated by pupils and staff. Mrs Barrett, Parkfield School's new Curriculum Leader for Maths, is the chairwoman of the Raising Hope Foundation, a charity she helped set up nine years ago when she was at university.



The Foundation works with orphaned and vulnerable children in Santrokofi, a traditional village situated near

Lake Volta in the far east of Ghana. Mrs Barrett explained: "The shoes were given out at two children's homes and also to scholarship students at a school for the deaf. "For many of the children of Santrokofi, shoes are something they can only dream of - and you can certainly see by the smiles on their faces how happy they were! "I guarantee that each pair of those shoes will be cherished, cleaned or polished to perfection and worn with immense pride."

Ian Golding, Parkfield's interim headteacher said: "I was one of those glad to donate unwanted shoes and it has been wonderful for us all to see just how much joy they have brought to children who have so little. "Everyone at Parkfield has been deeply inspired by Mrs Barrett's work with the Raising Hope Foundation and we hope the school will make long term connections with the charity in 2018."

Taken from a press release to the Daily Echo

