



**Parkside Community College**

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

24<sup>th</sup> February  
2023



**PARKLIFE**

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# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Families

Please look out for a letter coming out to you about the importance of good school attendance. We will also be sharing details of an online event to share information about tackling misogynistic views and behaviours; we've had previous events on this but we have to keep pushing on this issue.

Thanks for the many lovely personal messages I have received since sharing my personal news this week; I very much appreciate your kindness.

# KEY DATES

- 20<sup>th</sup> February – 3<sup>rd</sup> March: Year 12  
Mid-Year Assessments
- 20<sup>th</sup> February – 3<sup>rd</sup> March: Year 13  
Final Language Orals
- 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Y8 Parents Evening
- 6<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> March: Year 11 Mock  
Exams
- 9<sup>th</sup> March: Y13 Parents Evening
- 10<sup>th</sup> March: Y9 Options Deadline

# SCHOOL NEWS & EVENTS

## LANGUAGENUT COMPETITION SUCCESS



We're delighted to announce that the Languagenut UK Secondary Language Competition has begun!

This competition is open to all Secondary Students using Languagenut, and the top 50 will be rewarded with vouchers for their hard work.

Here are the prize details:

- **Places 1-3: A £50 Amazon voucher**
- **Places 4-10: A £20 Amazon voucher**
- **Places 11-20: A £10 Amazon voucher**
- **Places 21-50: A £5 Amazon voucher**

Students will be ranked based on the number of points they score, which can be earned through homework tasks AND independent practice. So, we encourage you to complete as many activities as possible. This is an excellent opportunity to practice your French and have a goal to work towards.

*About Languagenut: Languagenut is the online homework platform used by the languages department. All students complete at least 15 minutes of Languagenut homework per week. The tasks set are fun, interactive and designed to engage students in independent language-learning; which is essential to their success at every key stage. Homework is set on the platform, with reminders posted in Teams. If your child experiences technical problems or password issues, they should see their languages teacher or the IT team as soon as possible.*

# YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This is just a quick note to draw your attention to the forthcoming Year 10 work experience programme to be held later in the year. As part of our careers programme, Parkside offers students in year 10 the opportunity to participate in work experience in an area of their choice. This is a fundamental part of their education and provides students the opportunity to make links with the outside world and look towards their future. All Year 10 students will be out of school doing work experience from Thursday 13th July to Wednesday 18th July.

More detailed information will be forthcoming in due course both to you and to students in school but for the moment it would be worth putting these dates in your diary and to start a conversation with your child about what they could do. Keep an eye out for further information from us about this.

If you have any questions at this point, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks

*Mark Turner*



# FORM THE FUTURE CAREERS AND FUTURES CONFERENCE

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, a select group of Parkside students were invited to take part in a student panel discussing the future of work at Form the Futures Careers conference. This was a big deal as our students were tasked with giving voice to the views of young people about the world of work and how they thought schools should prepare them for the future. Our panel was absolutely outstanding and spoke with such insight and confidence to an audience of more than 200 people from a wide variety of educational and employment backgrounds.

Congratulations to Hugo, Molly, Jurie, Matteo and Riya for taking part and representing Parkside so well.

Many of the delegates at the conference commented that it was a highlight for them to hear from the students. One delegate said *'the young people on the panel were amazing and so confident – a credit to their school and their parents'*.

Mr Turner



# CAREERS AND FUTURE PATHWAYS

This year in the last term, our year 10 cohort will take part in work experience.

This will happen from **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July to Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July**. It is worth discussing with your child now about what they could do for work experience.

Detailed information about this will be forthcoming soon.

*If you have any questions about this, please contact me.  
Mr Turner  
[Mark.turner@parksidecc.org.uk](mailto:Mark.turner@parksidecc.org.uk)*





# SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Congratulations to all our wonderful students who have received a Spotlight card!

[Click here for the full list.](#)

With every card they have a chance to win our very special Spotlight Prize Winner Amazon voucher!

We've already had 9 lucky winners...

Who will be next??



# MADDOX JONES PERFORMANCE



We were thrilled to have the singer Maddox Jones perform for years 8 and 9 on the themes of drugs awareness and mental health.

Maddox is a singer songwriter from Northamptonshire and has done arena tours with The Killers and Placebo as well as working with Adele. You can see a couple of links to him here:  
[Maddox Jones - Can't Wait For The Summer \(Official Music Video\)](#)  
[Maddox Jones - Somewhere There's A Plan \(Official Music Video\)](#)

It was a terrific experience for our students with very high levels of enthusiastic participation especially among our year 8s! We were also extremely impressed with Charlie U from 9 South who was invited by Maddox Jones to perform and gave a fantastic piano recital. Amazing!

*Mr Turner*

# BRITISH PHYSICS OLYMPIAD

Twenty-three Y11 students took part in the British Physics Olympiad online challenge on 30<sup>th</sup> January.



# BPhO

British Physics Olympiad



The results are now out, and students are receiving their certificates during Science lessons on Friday morning. Two students achieved Bronze, fourteen students achieved Silver and seven students achieved Gold! Well done!

# REAL TENNIS



Year 10 and 11 students have been attending Cambridge University Real Tennis Club on Grange Road for some of their PE lessons.

Real Tennis is a game which has many unique and 'odd' features and is housed in an indoor court which is not familiar to most of us. The equipment is special with an asymmetric racquet and hand-made tennis balls.

Students have been learning about the history of the sport – over 600 years in Cambridge, the rules, and the techniques of the game. Alongside this we have learned about the language and etiquette in order to begin playing games.

**A number of Year 7, Year 10 and Year 11 students have begun regularly attending the club and are joining as junior members. We would now like to take the opportunity to invite parents to have a go and a look around the club on Saturday 18 March at 6.00pm. Kees Ludekens, the Head Professional will put on an exhibition match and will invite attendees to get on court and have a go at hitting a few real tennis balls. If you are interested in attending, please email Kees directly at [CURTCpros@gmail.com](mailto:CURTCpros@gmail.com) to let him know you are coming.**

# PARKSIDE SIXTH

## WINTER FAIR

Hannah Reed and Year 12 ran a fantastic Winter Fair, and all year 7-10 students went along.

They raised £154.66 and had a great variety of stalls and activities for the lower school to take part in.



# PARKSIDE SIXTH

## WEIMAR CASTLE

We have had some really interesting talks, first by Davide Martino, a PhD student at the University of Cambridge. He is a Gates Scholar, and has studied at a variety of international universities.



He shared his research on the history of the Weimar Castle.



# PARKSIDE SIXTH

## SAFER STREETS CAMPAIGN

We also heard from PC Peacock and Inspector Lombardo from Cambridgeshire Police. They are working on a campaign called Safer Streets, and have a new talk for students aged 16+ about sexual predators and staying safe when out and about.

It was an extremely powerful talk, and our students asked some phenomenal questions at the end!



# SUBJECT NEWS

## LATIN

Date and text are now confirmed for our next **Big Read**.

Come and join us at **7pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March** for a chance to delve into the dark depths of Euripides' *Medea*, a play whose central character kills her own children in anger at her husband's betrayal. This is one of the most famous Greek tragedies: we'll be reading extracts from it in translation and exploring its themes of pride, anger, revenge and self-identity.

All are welcome – students, parents, friends – whether or not you have any experience of anything to do with the Classical World – the only thing needed is an open-minded interest in an unforgettable story!



PARKSIDE  
LATIN  
PRESENTS

# THE BIG READ

AN EPIC GROUP READ OF  
EXCERPTS FROM THE MOST  
FAMOUS GREEK TRAGEDY

? 9 MAR  
7-8 PM  
RM 14

**CONFRONT A  
MOTHER'S  
ANGER WITH  
MEDEA**

The poster features a classical painting of Medea, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a patterned dress, holding a sword. The background is a warm, golden-brown color. The text is in a clean, sans-serif font, with the title 'THE BIG READ' in large, bold letters. The event details and the title 'CONFRONT A MOTHER'S ANGER WITH MEDEA' are in white text on a black background.

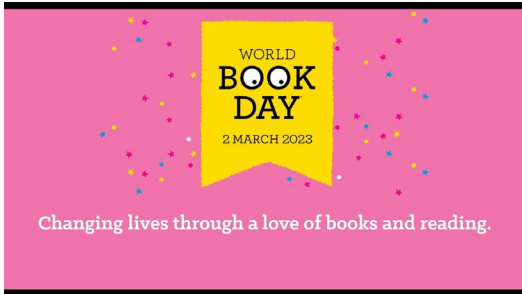


# PKS LIBRARY NEWS

It's World Book Day on 2nd March, so Parkside's library is preparing to celebrate in style.

It is a dress-up day, with a compulsory £2 donation towards the library.

There will be costumes, competitions, creativity, and so much more. And we'd love you to take part! Everything you need to know about this year's World Book Day can be found on this webpage, so why not find out more?



[Click through](#) to keep reading about how to enter competitions - and potentially win fabulous prizes - dress up and learn about what's going on in the library.

# CLUB UPDATES

## PARKSIDE CLUBS

Firstly, a huge congratulations to all of our students who have got involved in the Club's programme. Parkside is proud of the incredible range of clubs and sporting activities on offer to our students. At this moment we offer more than **60 different clubs** and events during Lunchtime and after school.

In January we launched a competition for to further encourage all students to take part in at least 1 club. At the beginning of the new term we will announce prizes for:

- Top Class for each year group for student participation %**
- Top overall class in school**
- Prizes for students who participate in 3 or more clubs**

At the moment Year 7C is the top class in the school for student participation in clubs! Well done.

We are also pleased to announce that Circus Clubs is now no longer restricted to 16 participants. If you want to join up, come along on Thursdays to the main hall from 1510 – 1600. Any questions about this please contact Mr Sharpe ([andrew.sharpe@parksidecc.org.uk](mailto:andrew.sharpe@parksidecc.org.uk))

*[Click here to view our Clubs page, including the updated clubs list.](#)*

*If you have any questions about our Clubs programme please contact me.*

*Mr Turner*

*[Mark.turner@parksidecc.org.uk](mailto:Mark.turner@parksidecc.org.uk)*



# CLUB UPDATES

## PARKSIDE CLUBS



A new list of current Clubs will be coming out shortly. Just a reminder that Crochet Club will also be happening during lunchtimes (both A & B) every Tuesday in room 15 with Ms Arneau. Do come along and join in with this super popular club.



Also, Mr Sharpe is now no longer limited to 16 students and is able to take a larger group of students for his very popular Circus Skills Club on Thursdays 1510-1600 in the hall. Come along and join the fun.



## PARKSIDE BASKETBALL

There were 2 fixtures before half-term.

The KS4 boys played an away fixture at Trumpington and came away with a 46-22 win.

Man of the Match: Theo (Yr. 11)

Two Yr. 8 boys teams played an inter-campus tournament at Trumpington.

Parkside A team finished with a record of 1-4-1.

Parkside B team finished with a record of 5-0-1 .

Keep up the good work!



How many keys are needed to open a bank's safety deposit box?

The business club is extremely grateful to Mr Lambros Bekolari, the manager of the Cambridge Metro Bank and his staff who have taken time out over the last couple of weeks to work with the Business Club on finance and banking.

Just before half term, we were lucky enough to be given a tour of the Metro Bank in town, including the bank vaults – where the staff had prepared a safety deposit box full of sweets, that had to be opened. You need two keys – a customer account key and a staff key to open each box. We were shown the security features of bank notes and how the staff count them. If you just have coins, you can use the store's magic money machine to first guess how much you have before it is counted and exchanged for notes. If your guess is close, you win a prize!

With such an amazing tour and so much to see, we ran out of time. Luckily, the club has been invited back to the Metro bank store to look at the ATMs and finish off the tour..

More information, contact Mr O'Hare

## PARKSIDE BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURS CLUB



## PARKSIDE DEBATE CLUB



The Parkside Debate Club entered the English Speaking Union Public Speaking competition last term and, after having brilliantly won the first round, have now also won the second round!

This qualifies Parkside for the regional semi-final! A huge congratulations to Flora, Sofiia and Delia who did a remarkable job fighting off some seriously tough competition.

Last week the Parkside Debate Club debated the motion '*This house believes that AI is the future of the arts*'. The opposition won with a landslide twenty votes to four. Well done to Gabriele from the opposition who was voted star speaker with his passionate defence of the creative arts!

# GENERAL NEWS

## OUR LIVES, OUR CHOICES, OUR VOICES YOUTH PROJECT

Diabetes UK have launched a five-year programme of work that is focused on connecting and supporting young people aged 11-25 who are living with type 1 diabetes.

We want to coproduce our plans with young people so that they are leading the work we do with other young people going forward, making a lasting difference.

We are also running focus group sessions which have been set up and designed by the young people we work with. They have chosen the topics we are going to cover and the sessions will be full of open, honest discussions rather than lectures or lessons.

[Young Leader Role Poster](#)

[Our Lives Our Voices Our Choices Info](#)

**WE WANT YOU!**

ARE YOU AGED 11-25 AND LIVING WITH  
TYPE 1 DIABETES OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS?



**OUR LIVES, OUR CHOICES, OUR VOICES IS A YOUTH LED  
PROJECT SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH TYPE 1  
DIABETES AND WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CREATE LASTING  
CHANGE FOR THE BETTER!**

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU ABOUT WHAT LIFE IS REALLY LIKE AS A  
YOUNG PERSON LIVING WITH TYPE 1 - YOU CAN GET INVOLVED BY:**

- SHARING YOUR STORY WITH US - TELL US WHAT MATTERS MOST TO YOU
- PLAN, ORGANISE AND DELIVER EXCITING EVENTS WITH US
- BECOME A YOUNG LEADER IF YOU ARE 16+ AND GAIN CV BOOSTING VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE AND REFERENCES
- UNDER 16? - THERE ARE PLENTY OF WAYS YOU CAN GET INVOLVED SUCH AS RECEIVING PEER SUPPORT, RAISING AWARENESS IN YOUR SCHOOL, BUDDYING AND MUCH MORE!



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:  
ADAM - YOUTH COORDINATOR ➔ ADAM.MAYZE@DIABETES.ORG.UK  
LILLY - YOUTH WORKER ➔ LILLY.ALLEN@DIABETES.ORG.UK

IN PARTNER WITH  
**DIABETES UK**  
KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.

*Steve Morgan*  
FOUNDER

OUR LIVES, OUR CHOICES, OUR VOICES IS FUNDED BY THE STEVE MORGAN FOUNDATION

**DIABETES UK**  
KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.

# GENERAL NEWS

## CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

It's just 1 month to go until the FREE online **'Insights: Your Guide to Creative Careers'** event. Cambridgeshire has excellent career opportunities in creative arts and this event will give you a chance to listen and ask questions of career professionals in the sector.

As a reminder, here are details of the event: This event will be held between **5.30pm and 7.00pm** on **Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022**.

For more information, please click [here](#)

Mark Turner  
**Assistant Principal for Personal Development**



### Insights: Your Guide to Creative Careers

**Thursday 2nd March 2023, 5:30pm - 7:00pm**

**Discover a world of creative career opportunities and find out if it could be for you.**

- Interact and connect with some of the region's leading Creative sector employers
- Learn about pathways available to a career in the Creative sector, including apprenticeships and graduate opportunities
- Find out about different jobs and opportunities

These events are for students in Year 8 and above - as well as parents and guardians.

**Register at: [bit.ly/FtFInsightsCreative](https://bit.ly/FtFInsightsCreative)**





## PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD

Cambridge County Council are holding a Preparing for Adulthood Event on 24th March 10-2pm, at Burgess Hall, St Ives, PE27 6WU to support parent carers who have young people with additional needs, aged 11 –25 years. The event will be the themes of Preparing for Adulthood:

- Health: including health transitions and annual health checks for children and young people with learning disabilities
- Post-16 education, training, and employment
- Community inclusion and friendships
- Independence pathways

[Click here for further information](#)

Preparing for  
**Adulthood**

