



# PRINCIPAL'S PARENT/CARER BRIEFING

## w/c Monday 3rd November 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

### PARENT/CARER EVENTS AND YEAR 11 REVISION HUB

We had a number of well received events in the last couple of weeks of the last half term. I wrote in the last Briefing about the first Year 7 Information evening, and this was followed up with the inaugural Year 11 Information Evening. Across the first evening, and the shortened version that we did on the evening of the Careers Fair, we had a very good turn out from parents/carers and students. We launched our Year 11 Revision Hub (Google 'site') during the evening. It is designed to become a one-stop shop for all materials related to revision and study skills for our Year 11 students. Students can access the site via our website - please go to the **Key Apps** section in the top right hand corner and then choose **Year 11 Revision Hub**.



#### Students

- Google Classroom
- Arbor
- Year 11 Revision Hub

#### Parents/Carers

- Arbor

### CAREERS FAIR

Just before the half term holiday we held our Careers Fair. It was fantastic to see hundreds of families and students attending in the evening. The feedback from our attending organisations was excellent. They were so complimentary about our students.

Some of the feedback quotes were: *"Fabulous event. Well organised, well attended, lots of engaged pupils who asked lots of questions and engaged well"*.

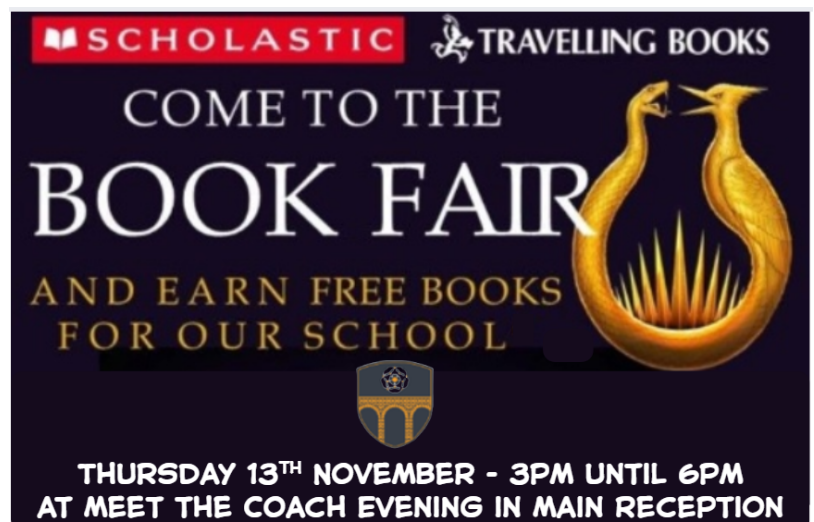
*"The attendees were all really enthusiastic - great to see parents supporting their children."*

If you attended, thank you very much. It was an evening that showcased the best of our school community collaborating to help improve aspirations and outcomes for our students.



### MEET YOUR COACH EVENING

A reminder that the first **Meet Your Coach Evening** for this academic year is on **Thursday 13th November**. This is a very important evening in continuing to build the connections in our Parkside School community. During appointments, Coaches will engage in a dialogue with you and your child(ren), discussing key elements such as attendance, behaviour, progress. Appointments are now live and can be booked via Arbor. In the small number of cases where Coaches may not be available during the evening, we are



## **Parkside School**

Parkside Terrace, Cullingworth, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD13 5AD

looking at alternative ways of engaging with you, whether this be off-set appointments or communication methods, or by linking up to other colleagues who will be able to engage with you during the event.

Following the success last year of our Book Fair on the Meet Your Coach evening, we are holding another one during this evening. Please engage with this when you come to the evening as a focus on promoting a love of reading is so important.

## **ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING - PROGRESS REPORTS**

The first version of the Progress Reports were circulated shortly before the half term holidays. We will be evolving the reports as we move through the year reflecting on the formatting, look and information provided within them. A reminder that you will now receive a Progress Report for your child five times per year. This Report will give information on how your child is doing under four headings across all academic subject areas:

- Progress
- Effort
- Independence
- Resilience

This will be on a four-point scale:

- Exceeding (1)
- Expected (2)
- Reflection (3)
- Immediate Focus (4).

We will also be collecting information about how children are doing in Coaching, with a focus on

- Influence,
- Relationships
- Communication;

all key skills that will support pupils to be successful both in Coaching and in the wider school community.

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND HOUSE STRUCTURE**

Our students are front and centre of our school community and, therefore, providing a structure to support developing their leadership skills whilst feeding back into the development of our school is very important. We are making some key changes to our approach to Student Leadership this year. Rather than rely on those students who wish to volunteer to be a part of the student leadership team, we are moving to a structured approach whereby each Coaching circle will nominate a student leader. The Coaching groups will be structured into four new 'Houses' each of which will have their own leadership team and who will be able to lead and develop school experience.

At the moment, Coaching circles are choosing their leaders. The intention is that the leaders will then play a part in the development and naming of the new Houses. This structure also allows students from any year group to be leaders and contribute to school - something that is important to promote development and engagement. Student



## Parkside School

Parkside Terrace, Cullingworth, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD13 5AD

feedback last year helped to improve, for example, the toilet provision in school, and facilitated an online reporting system for student issues via the website.

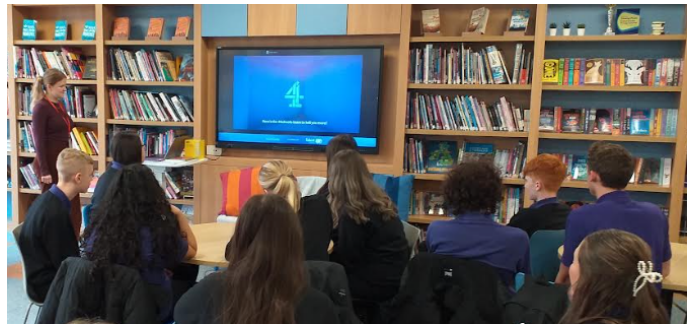
## CAREERS, EMPLOYABILITY AND COMMUNITY

Alongside the Careers Fair, there have been a number of other recent activities which have promoted careers and employability.

On the Friday before half term, **Channel 4** came into school to run a comedy script writing workshop in the style of Gogglebox! They worked with Year 10 drama students who watched various sections of a Gogglebox episode and completed an initial icebreaker answering true/false to the questions. They reviewed an unscripted scene, discussed digital content and practised some soft skills. They then started to write a short comedy to engage the audience fit for whole family viewing.



At the end of the workshop the students learnt about future jobs such as Snap content, how to develop more key skills of the future such as coding, gaming, script writing & digital as well as social skills such as communication.



Three schools will be selected to run another session to further develop their script and the winner of that will work with the Gogglebox team. The students really enjoyed the workshop.

A group of Year 9 Science students visited the **Yorkshire Water Treatment Centre** in Headingley.

The students learnt about water sources and where and how water is collected and treated before it gets into our taps. They learnt about what impurities are in the water and how it is extracted as well as extraction, filtration, osmosis, sublimation, reverse distillation and sedimentation plus much more. They were then taken around the site, looking at the cleaning areas and how the systems and stages work in reality. In addition, they discussed how to save water and what NOT to throw down the toilet! Before leaving, they were all informed about the different job roles within the sector and the pathways they could take to access them.



The students were all engaged and asked some excellent questions. Zeke in particular excelled and was commended on his science recall!



Just before the half term holiday, the school heats were held for this year's **Future Chef** competition open to students in Year 9 and above. The winners of the school heats will progress to the Stage 2 local Final held at Leeds City College on Thursday 20th November. We will keep you updated with the progress!

We also had our students performing at the annual Cullingworth Village Council - Presentation Evening. It was lovely to receive feedback from Councillor Maria Thomson who stated: *All three 'Acts' were outstanding. We had the lovely saxophonists*

Are you a  
**FutureChef**?

Where might entering  
this competition  
take you?

**Parkside School**

Parkside Terrace, Cullingworth, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD13 5AD

*(Isla and Ava) with the fabulous red and black saxophones, giving a haunting rendition of an Oasis classic, followed by a fabulous pianist (Charlie) backing outstanding vocals by your student (Hollie) singing an Amy Winehouse classic and bringing the evening to a close your very own Rock Band. It was a truly magical show of musical talent. Fabulous! It would be remiss of me to not mention that all students are a real credit to the school, in particular a shout out to your techno genius, Alex, who so graciously helped us out of one or two tricky situations!*

Well done to all for representing the school so well in our local community.

Kind regards

**Robin Ghosal**  
**Principal**