



Park Community School

NEWSLETTER

Fortnightly Update
5th November 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Welcome to the first newsletter for this half term. Students have returned from their break into our restaurant which has been adorned in poppies in preparation for next week's whole school Remembrance Service.

All week students have been keeping up to date with the COP26 Climate conference and thinking about how we can support the pledge to remain below 1.5°C of temperature increase. We have been delighted with the numbers of students who feels so passionately about our environment and are willing to take action to protect it.

Along with daily bulletins from Mrs Coles and the geography team, Year 7 took part in a plastic pollution workshop and Year 8 geographers joined Chris Packham for a live Zoom call which has been broadcast on Radio Solent.

Listen to it here:

<https://www.facebook.com/326856317434470/posts/4754172681369456/?d=n>

<https://www.facebook.com/BBCRadioSolent/>

<https://twitter.com/BBCRadioSolent>

Year 11s have been superb this week. They returned from half term straight into their first mock exams and have coped well with the revision, intense schedule and risen to the opportunity to perform in exams after all that practise. Great learning in action! Year 11 parents, look out for a letter inviting you to an information evening about the summer GCSEs in the next few weeks. The rest of this newsletter is filled with other exciting events from this week. Enjoy.



Council of Portsmouth Students 2021/2022 First Summit

Park students had an amazing experience at the Council of Portsmouth Student Voice Summit. They were 60 students from all around the city getting to know each other and planning action groups on key issues that were pertinent to them such as diversity and inclusion, mental health and well being and Climate Change. Archie, Brooke, Alfie, Emma, Tahlia and Alana took very active parts in the lively energetic discussions and were an credit to Park Community School.



Year 8 Zoom call with Chris Packham

A class in Year 8 joined a Zoom call with naturalist and BBC presenter Chris Packham on Wednesday. The call was attended by over 30 schools from the Solent area with each school asking Chris a question relevant to COP26. The call was broadcast on BBC Radio Solent. Well done to Olivia for representing our school and asking Chris what would happen to our local area if the 1.5°C target is not met.



Congratulations to the following students who have won a FREE Park PE Hoodie

- Charlotte T
- Emmy S
- Misty-Marie G
- Tyler F
- Connie L
- Mark H
- Anthony D
- Ava A
- Jayden H
- Logan H
- Alfie-Lee S

- Dolcie-Mae L
- Jessica B
- Joey K
- Will S

All students who have completed the PE survey last half term are now invited to purchase their half price hoodies from reception.



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Plastic Pollution Workshop

On Wednesday, Year 7 attended a plastic pollution workshop led by The Environment Agency. They first talked to us about how plastic pollution is affecting our planet and oceans, and how we can reduce our everyday waste: by reducing, reusing, and recycling. We worked in small groups of five, completing a range of tasks about plastic and its properties. One example is testing how different plastics float, how flexible they are, and if they can stretch easily. This helped identify the type of plastic we were looking at.

They told us about a new app that the agency and partners have released; Jetsam, an app to track down sources of plastic by taking pictures of plastic you see in public and your homes and sending it off to the agency. You can download it for free on Google Play Store and Apple store.

To help reduce waste on our planet, get involved with your local community by cleaning up local facilities, help us track down the sources of plastic, and where they meet the sea, and recycle our everyday waste.

Did you know that over 12 million tonnes of plastic waste ends up in the ocean every year? This is equivalent to one million double decker buses! You can help this by reducing your use of plastic.

By Joshua and Blake



Science with Year 10

This half term the triple scientists in Year 10 have been looking at bacteria growth and investigated a range of substances to see how good they were at killing bacteria - you can see the rings around the discs in the photo, this is the zone of inhibition, where bacteria has been killed. We've also looked at plant defences and some key diseases found in plants and have finished the term looking at the brain. We completed a lamb brain dissection and made brain hats to show the function of each part of the brain. We move on to eyes after half term!



Robotics Club

We had another successful evening with 24 students helping to unpack and organise the Vex kits. Students worked together to solve problems, controlled demo robots and all had a great time.

Star of the session was Brandon who spent the whole session supporting others.

