



Letter from the Head 15/12/23

In this issue; End of term fun, house competitions and general admin.

Dear all,

A great final week here at Park House with lots going on. Not least of all, was the much heralded 'Revue' courtesy of Mr Sutton and a number of brave staff members that entertained students on Friday with their hidden talents!

The House sports competition concluded three weeks of 'high octane sporting action' with our 11s and 7s keenly representing their houses. Hundreds of students have taken part over the last few weeks, and it has been great to see them competing so well for their house. With all the results in for the girls football and boys rugby, the final placings for this term's competition are; **1st Chaffey**, **2nd Albert**, **3rd Joseph** and **4th Croft**. I can also announce that our House English winner was D Malik in Year 9 (Croft) with their poem 'Winter Days'.

I glance out of the window with my excitement growing,
Yes! it's all white as it's been snowing.

the time for which we all waited for,
Get ready, it's already knocking on the door.

Bringing with it to, all the memories of past,
Playing carefree in the snow - time flies so fast.

The squishy layers of snow on the ground,
Spreading calmness and peace all around.

Spending quality time with family and friends,
Their special places in our heart will never descend.

Getting ready and freezing temperature for school,
Catching cold and making our nose drool!

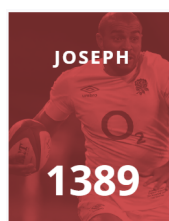
the best part of Winter is the Christmas time,
celebrations, gifts, joy, happiness and family time.

For some people winter feels cold,
They will just sit back and grow old.

Winter is that time of the year,
To enjoy Como look forward and cheerful stop

So enjoy the time this season brings.
Before you realise that it's already spring!

It is always really pleasing to see students proudly adding house points received in lessons to their house point tubes and it has been lovely to see the House points box 'upgraded' courtesy of Mrs Hayes and the DT team (Check it out on our social media). The current house standings at the end of term are...





This week we have held our Year group 'achievement assemblies', where we recognised the successes of a number of students who are either; making the best progress in the year, achieving the best results in the year, or receiving their school colours ([details here](#)). It is always my favourite assembly of the term, having the opportunity to meet with so many hardworking and deserving students.

It has been a big week for our Year 11s, as they received their mock results and had their first parents evening of the year. As a year group they have worked incredibly hard since their return, and their results at this stage are pointing towards excellent results in the summer if they maintain their current work ethic.

Sporting endeavours

As the term drew to a close we had just two (but very significant) sporting events this week.

- The Year 9 boys football team played their 4th round of the national football cup against Brighton Hill and demonstrated their performance of the season as they won 5-0. This secures a home game against Glenmoor and Winton School, Bournemouth to take place in January. Over 700 teams started the competition, we are now in the last 64, a fantastic achievement!
- The Year 10 boys rugby team enjoyed their County final on Tuesday versus Windsor Boys at Maidenhead Rugby Club. Despite finishing runners up to a very strong side, it has been a great experience for the boys and they have played every game in great spirits and with a perfect attitude.

As a school, we've made significant strides forwards this term, and I'm very grateful to all of the staff for their hard work. As we look forward to next term, can I take a moment to highlight a few things;

There is an important survey that is being circulated to all of England's children and their families. Rachel de Souza, the Children's Commissioner for England, has launched 'The Big Ambition', so that she can hear from all children and young people in England aged between 6 and 18 years old. Adults can answer on behalf of a child or young person aged 0 to 18 years old. The Children's Commissioner will use this survey to take children and young people's views to the Government. Children and parents can complete the survey [here](#).

Can I advise you of our expectations for homework over the holidays. Although it is not compulsory, we strongly encourage students to keep completing their KeyScience, Bedrock, and Sparx over the holidays. Even just doing a little bit makes a huge difference in making sure students' brains keep ticking over, and interrupting the forgetting curve!

Finally, In the new year, we will be changing our cashless payment service from ParentPay to the MCAS app as we move towards having all of our student services in one place and all available on one app. We will write to you towards the end of January to confirm what is required but in preparation, can I once again remind you to download the MCAS app. At present, we have about 50% signed up and accessing so far. Further details can be found here on our website.



I hope that you have a wonderful holiday, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We look forward to welcoming students back to school on **Wednesday 3rd January and it will be week A.**

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M King', written in a cursive style.

Mr King
Headteacher