



## Letter from the Head 04/10/24

---

### In this issue; Year 7 camp, more extra curricular goings on and Students' of the week

Dear Parents and Carers

We've had an excellent first month back, and I have been incredibly impressed with the efforts I have seen in lessons. It has been an absolute pleasure to show round prospective parents on our 'school in action' tours. The level of engagement and focus across all year groups has been outstanding, and this strong start is a great sign for the year ahead.

Outside of the classroom, it has been another busy week which I will summarise below...

- The 'Spelling Bee' has seen the House competition put a focus on literacy skills, with all tutor groups establishing their representatives for the semi finals and finals that will take place next week.
- We had the pleasure of welcoming the new MP for Newbury, Lee Dillon to school for a discussion about the direction of travel for Park House and how he would like to support the schools' ongoing development.
- Our 6th form leadership group led their first fundraising effort of the year in the form of a doughnut sale, and the sugary treats helped them raise over £100 to be split between their chosen charities for this year, and also to contribute towards their social events through the year.
- The Year 7s enjoyed an exciting and thankfully dry few days in Badminton Woods, Gloucestershire for their camping residential where they experienced a range of outdoor activities, learnt new skills and spent invaluable time away with their new peers forging fresh friendships in the great outdoors. I am incredibly grateful to those staff who accompanied them and provided this fantastic opportunity.
- As ever the PE department have been incredibly busy with fixtures this week;
  - The Year 7 boys started their rugby adventure with games against St Barts and The Downs. They learnt lots, improving as they went, and we are excited to see how they develop over their future games
  - Our Basketball team hosted Denefield school and secured a commanding 50-26. A really high quality performance, with the players clearly benefiting from our link with Reading Rockets.
  - The Year 10 and 11 girls football team played their part in a thrilling match with Little Heath. Full of end to end action, the girls narrowly missed out on a place in the next round, losing 6-5 in an absorbing contest.
  - The U14, U16 and U18 netball teams spent Wednesday at Queen Anne's School in Reading as part of the pre counties Netball tournament. A prestigious event packed with well drilled independent school teams, it was a great experience and will benefit the teams enormously as they prepare for the upcoming netball season.
  - Year 10 boys footballers had a busy week with the 'B' team narrowly missing out in the national cup with a nail biting loss on penalties to Reading School, and also a very challenging game with a talented Australian touring side. The 'A' team won through to the next round of the county cup with a 2-0 win over Willink School.
  - The Senior boys rugby team played their part in a bruising encounter with The Downs School on Wednesday.. Losing out 17-0, but showing incredible tenacity and resilience against a very strong team.



## Park House School

Work hard. Be kind. Take responsibility.

- Finally, it was lovely to finish the week spending time with our 'Students of the week' in tutor time on Friday. Nominated by their Heads of Year each week for demonstrating the school's values, it is a pleasure to share a hot chocolate and a pastry on a Friday morning with our deserving students. In addition to the treats, students also receive a certificate, house point and 'Dinner queue jump pass'..

Winners this week were; A Dascalu, J Fisher, A Aliemake, K Armstong, C Bond and E Collis.

I wish you all a lovely weekend,

Yours sincerely,

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

Headteacher