



Letter from the Head 14/2/25

In this issue; Apprenticeship week, more sporting endeavours and trips galore...

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the half-term break, this week at Park House School has again been packed with exciting opportunities, achievements, and experiences for our students.

A major focus has been National Apprenticeship Week, where we have encouraged our older students to consider their future career paths. We were delighted to welcome former student Max Agar, who spoke to our Sixth Form about his apprenticeship experience at Pepsi, an inspiring session that highlighted alternative pathways to success. On Wednesday, all Year 11 students took part in mock interviews, gaining invaluable experience with the support of 30 members of our school community and local businesses. A huge thank you to Mrs Tebble for organising this brilliant event.

The House competition this week saw our budding mathematicians go head-to-head in the 'Ultimate Mathlete' contest. [Chaffey House](#) dominated, winning the KS3, KS4, and KS5 competitions, an outstanding achievement that delighted Mr Carolan! Full results will follow after half-term.

On the academic front, 230 Year 10 and 11 students attended the Poetry Live event in Oxford on Monday, a fantastic opportunity that will support their preparation for the upcoming mock exams after half-term. Also on Monday, our Year 7 girls showed great resilience at a rugby camp at Newbury Rugby Club, braving the freezing conditions alongside students from other local schools.

Also on the sporting front, we have had several badminton festivals this week, and Mr. Bale has been very impressed with the quality of performances from students across Years 7 to 11. Our Year 8 girls' netball team also had a fantastic week, securing a 19-5 win over Kennet and a 16-9 victory over Willink. Special mention goes to Gaby, who was named Player of the Match in BOTH games – outstanding shooting! Our senior netball teams didn't fare quite as well in their matches at Kennet School on Wednesday, but they played with great energy and positivity, continuing to develop as sportswomen. On Thursday, the girls teams got back to winning ways as the Year 9 team continued their fine run of form with The A and B teams having a very successful evening with wins over Trinity, Downs, St Barts and John O'Gaunt. A truly fantastic effort!

Our assemblies this week have focused on assessments and student achievement, and it has been wonderful to see students celebrating each other's successes—whether for strong attainment or excellent progress. On Wednesday, we had the pleasure of welcoming Will Smith, CEO of GLT, and Anne Spackman, Chair of Trustees. Both were incredibly impressed with the quality of learning in lessons, and it was a privilege to show them the fantastic work of our students.

It has also been a week of enrichment beyond the classroom. Mr Gianakakis took his Classics students to Bloomsbury Theatre in London to watch *Frogs*, a comedy by the Ancient Greek playwright Aristophanes. This fantastic experience will undoubtedly enrich their learning in the classroom. Meanwhile, our Year 7 and 8 Maths teams competed in the GLT Maths Challenge at Yate Academy, delivering an exceptional performance securing 1st and 2nd place out of the fourteen competing teams! Huge congratulations to all involved.

Finally, a reminder that school reopens at 8:30am on Monday 24th February. I hope you all have a wonderful half-term break, and we send our best wishes to the 90 students and staff heading to Italy for the ski trip, wishing them an exhilarating and safe adventure!



Park House School
Work hard. Be kind. Take responsibility.

Yours sincerely,

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

Headteacher