

Headteacher: Mrs Kam Grewal-Joy

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KGR/SRU

6 January 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

Happy New Year 2016 and I hope that you had a restful break this Christmas.

I am pleased to share that our students have settled nicely at the start of this term and have eased back into the routines for learning well. We have started the New Year with a big push on tackling low level disruption in lessons. Whilst recent reviews of teaching and learning have shown that low level disruption is massively reduced due to changes in the school's behaviour policy and improved teaching, we are always looking to strengthen our practice to ensure the best outcomes for students at Parkside. Special assemblies have taken place this week to explain to students what is meant by low level disruption in lessons and the reasons for introducing new expectations. Please consult the website for further details on this work with our students.

Also, following feedback from parents and students, a new Key Stage 3 homework timetable has been written so that students can better manage their study time at home. We have seen significant improvements in homework completion due to support from parents; introduction of Show My Homework; higher expectations from teachers and the after school independent study clubs. The timetables will be issued to students directly and will be available on the school website. I thank parents for their continued support with the school's homework policy.

I would also like to thank parents for taking the time to replace and replenish items of uniform. As always, students arriving at school with incorrect uniform will be asked to wear pieces from the school stock. All stock is regularly laundered and will be clean to wear. In a small number of cases, following contact with parents, children may also be sent home to change. We welcome donations of any out-grown items of uniform you may have at home.

Finally, I look forward to meeting you at one of the school events taking place this half term. Please find overleaf a list of key dates for this half term.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Kam Grewal-Joy Headteacher

Key Dates for February and March

Thursday 21 January – Y11 Parent Evening 4-6pm
Week beginning 1 February – Y9 internal exams
Week beginning 8 February – Y10 internal exams
Friday 12 February – School Closes for Half term
Monday 22 February – INSET DAY – school closed for students
Tuesday 23 February – School Opens & Y9 Options Booklet Issued
Thursday 10 March – Y9 Options Evening 4-6pm
Thursday 17 March – Y7 & 8 Parents Evening 4-6pm
Thursday 24 March – School closes for Easter Holidays