

Wednesday, 16 December 2009

Dear Parent/Carers

Changes to Shape of the Academy Day and Week:

As you might remember, I wrote to you at the beginning of December consulting about a proposal to change the shape of the school day and week. We received five responses from Parents/Carers. The Governing Body have therefore decided to go ahead with the changes with effect from January 4th – the start of the new term. The main points raised in the consultation concerned the placement of the lunch break and worries about students eating too late. We will therefore liaise with our caterers to ensure that sufficient ‘healthy food’ is available for students during their break time should they wish to have their main meal earlier in the day. The Governors have made this decision because they think it will improve the quality of education that is offered at Park Hall as it will allow teachers to make better use of the materials and ideas that contained in the National Strategy to improve education. We will constantly review the effectiveness of the changes. If we notice they are causing problems (and please let us know if they are), then we will consider making further alterations/reverting to the present arrangements. The new shape of the Academy day and week will be:

<u>Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday</u>		<u>Wednesday</u>	
Tutor & Assembly Time	8.50-9.10	Staff on Duty & Breakfast Club	8.30-9.10
Lesson 1	9.10-10.10	Lesson 1	9.10-10.10
Lesson 2	10.10-11.10	Lesson 2	10.10-11.10
Break	11.10-11.30	Break	11.10-11.30
Lesson 3	11.30-12.30	Lesson 3	11.30-12.30
Lesson 4	12.30-1.30	Lesson 4	12.30-1.30
Lunch	1.30-2.00	Lunch	1.30-2.00
Lesson 5	2.00-3.00	Lesson 5	2.00-3.00

End of Term and Beginning of Next Term Arrangements:

As previously notified, this term finishes for students at 12.40pm on Friday 18th December. School re-opens for students on Monday 4th January at the normal time. Monday 4th January is NOT a Staff Training Day and normal lessons will be held.

Improving Communication:

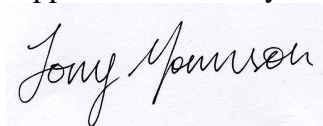
You might have had a chance to review our website and the Principal’s Blog since our last mailing to you. If you have not, we have made some additions to it and it is now available on our website at www.parkhallschool.org.uk. We hope that you find the site and blog both informative and useful. If you have any suggestions on how it could be improved further, please let me know!

Celebration Assemblies - Changes to Inclusion and Pastoral Staff:

The Directors of School have been running some marvellous Celebration Assemblies this week to say goodbye to their roles. As you might be aware, they will take on new roles from January and students’ pastoral care and inclusion will be taken over by our Heads of Houses team as follows. These staff are the first point of contact in managing our students’ learning.

House	Behaviour, Discipline & Attendance Co-ordinator	Learning Co-ordinator
Arden	Miss M. Butler	Miss J. Price
Bradford	Miss K. Claff	Mr D. Cox
Jaguar (assisted by Ms Hall)	Mrs E. Millar	Miss V. Aston
Spitfire	Mr. G. Gillow	Mrs J. Sheldrick

If you have any questions or comments about these or other issues, please feel free to contact me at school. In the meantime, may I take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to wish you and yours a safe, restful and relaxing break.



Tony Morrison
Principal