



### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Monday 25 - Friday 29 October		Half term
Monday 1 November		Pupils return to school
Tuesday 2 November	10am	Time to talk – The Assembly House, Norwich
Friday 5 November		Sparkly Non-Uniform Day
Tuesday 9 November	10am	Time to Talk - Christchurch, Great Yarmouth
Wednesday 10 November	10am	Zoom information session for Year 10 & 11 Parents/Carers

### **FUTURE DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Tuesday 7 December	10am	Time to Talk – The Assembly House, Norwich
Tuesday 14 December	10am	Time to Talk – Christchurch, Great Yarmouth
Monday 20 December – Tuesday 4 January		Christmas holiday
Wednesday 5 January		Staff training day
Thursday 6 January		Pupils return to school

### **MESSAGE FROM MRS ELLIS-GAGE**

I just want to say a big thank you for the support you have shown the school through this very challenging half term. Closing classes is always a last resort and never something we enjoy doing, it is only ever done when we cannot safely supervise the pupils.

We hope to be able to return to normal activities after half term, but if rates continue to be high we need to ensure we are making the safest decisions for pupils, families and staff.

I hope you all have a lovely half term break with your children.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION SESSION FOR YEAR 10 & 11 PARENTS/CARERS**

The beginning of year 11 is an exciting but also a scary time for pupils and their families. Pupils and their families have to make choices about what colleges to apply for and fill in application forms for these places.

Mrs Wicks the Careers Leader, Mrs A'Court trainee careers advisor and Natasha Peachment the school parent support worker are putting on a Zoom information session, which will also have time for questions, on Wednesday 10th November 10am-11.30am. This is for the parents and carers of year 10 and 11. You will be sent a Zoom link to this nearer the time.

We look forward to meeting up virtually with you then but in the meantime if you have any questions that need answering please don't hesitate to get in touch with us via the school office.

### **LAMP TESTING**

Parkside is joining a trial set up with the NHS and DFE to use LAMP testing in school.

This test is as effective as a PCR but does not require the use of any swabbing etc as it is just using saliva. It will mean we no longer need to do lateral flow tests. The tests can be done in school with the school staff and there are no age limits, so primary aged pupils can also do these tests.

Initially Parkside will be completing these tests twice weekly and then move to once a week when the rates drop at Parkside.

A further email will follow requesting permission to do the saliva testing in school.

The following video explains what LAMP tests are, but at Parkside we will do them in school before toast time.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1ztCn0YUQc>

### **PUPIL ABSENCE**

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please telephone the school office before 9:30am on each day of absence.

Alternatively, you can email your child's name and reason for absence to:

[pupilabsence@parksidemail.co.uk](mailto:pupilabsence@parksidemail.co.uk)

Thank you.