

# Welcome Back!!!

Dear parents and carers. Thank you for your overwhelming support in our first week back. Our students look amazing in their uniforms and are a credit to yourselves and Park Lane.

Over the past year, we have been writing to let you know about the strategies we have put in place to support Park Lane's progress. They have begun to pay off. **Our GCSE results this year demonstrated that 60% of subject areas showed significant improvement, with maths 9-5 GCSE result increasing by almost 20%, Science GCSE result increasing by almost 20%, GEOGRAPHY GCSEs UP 10%, History up 16% and the students gaining the top grades (9-7) was up by 11%.**

We are immensely proud of this achievement and of our students. We recognise that we have some way to go yet, but the results reflect the hard work the students put in and the fact that our strategies are successful. We have high hopes for the future!

**New this year** are the Principal's **3Cs** meetings. If you would like to share a **C**offee, **C**ompliment or a **C**oncern with myself as Principal, I am available each Wednesday morning from 9-10 am specifically for groups of up to 6 parents/carers to come in and share their thoughts. Just contact School via the contact email address of [admin@parklane.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:admin@parklane.calderdale.sch.uk).

We will also be developing a SEND parent's forum group, with our SENCo Garry Freeman. He will be in touch very soon.

Also new this year is our communications policy. If you would like to make contact with any member of staff, please do not email them directly, but email through the school's email contact address of [admin@parklane.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:admin@parklane.calderdale.sch.uk). Your email will be acknowledged within 24 hours. This will enable us to track all incoming correspondence, as we know that in the past year, we have had some concerns re this issue and frustrations from our community re response times.

## **Coming soon.... Home Talk Time...**

Over the past year we have been reviewing our homework policy. This year, we will be adopting a reading-focused homework emphasis alongside 'Home Talk Time'. In the next few weeks, we will publish reading lists for your child to read each night. One night per week will be **Home Talk Time**. During this time, we ask that you sit down with your child and look through both their planners and their exercise books. We ask that you talk through their learning and chat to them about our expectations i.e. that their presentation should reflect pride in their work, with handwriting improving over time and spellings being corrected, that they are completing their responses in green pen and that they are writing

one page per lesson. It is vital that your children understand that you will be discussing this with them and are part of their learning team as well.

Thank you again for all your support in our start to the Academy year. We look forward to an exciting and successful year.

Lisa Corrigan

Principal