



## Welcome

### Welcome to Parks House

My name is Mr Hirons, and I am Head of Parks House. My role, along with Mrs Tandy, Assistant Head of House and your tutor, is to support you during your time at school. I am delighted to welcome you into Parks where I am sure you will thrive over the next 7 years. You will see your tutor twice each day and we will all work closely together to support your academic and personal progress.



### What does being in Parks House mean?

**Parks House** will become your extended family at school, a support network that will be with you throughout your time at Bournside. Our house system fosters a sense of belonging, camaraderie, and healthy competition within the school community.

You will have opportunities to earn points for your house through various activities, such as sports competitions, academic achievements, and positive contributions to the community. These friendly competitions not only promote teamwork and school spirit but also allow you to showcase your talents and contribute to the collective success of your house.

**Parks House**, represented by the colour orange, is a smaller community within the larger school. House Captains act as student mentors, and our vertical house system allows you to forge strong relationships with students across different year groups. It also means that you can benefit from the support and guidance of older students as you navigate your first year of Bournside.

### Our house

**Parks House**, named after the remarkable Rosa Parks, an iconic figure in the civil rights movement. Our house name stands as a reminder to the students within its walls to embrace their own potential and make a positive impact in the world, just as Rosa Parks did.

Parks demonstrated immense courage and determination in challenging racial segregation. Her refusal to give up her bus seat to a white passenger in Montgomery, Alabama, sparked a pivotal moment in American history.

Parks' act of resistance not only led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott but also became a symbol of the fight for equality and justice.

We celebrate her legacy of bravery, resilience, and the pursuit of social change.

## Our House icon

As a new member of **Parks House**, you will be part of an exceptional group of students who aim to do the best they possibly can at school. Our House icon is Rosa Parks, an American activist in the civil rights movement best known for her pivotal role in the Montgomery bus boycott. Many know her as 'the first lady of civil rights', and she is our inspiration for perseverance, resilience and strength so that we make the most of our time in school.

Students in **Parks House** display these traits in different ways. Lots of our students gain House Hero status for attaining very high standards in lessons. We have students who strive to be actors or performers, taking on roles in our school production, drama events and music concerts. Many Parks students also represent our House through their sporting abilities. You can start to earn Parks house points as soon as you join us.

## Transition Week

We will meet for the first time during Transition Week (Monday 3rd July - Friday 7th July), where you will spend five days getting to know us and the school site, meeting your tutor group, taster lessons, a Clubs Fair, a sports afternoon and a 'Concert in a Day'. There will also be plenty of opportunities to ask any questions about school life and how the school operates. The full programme will be posted on our [Transition webpage](#) soon.

## Essential skills

Whilst you await the arrival of September this summer, do keep up some essential skills so that you can start the school year with confidence. Reading is an important part of the learning process and we will be really interested to hear about the books you have been enjoying. It is also a good idea to take part in some sport or exercise so that you are ready for PE when you start. Keep up your passion too, whether it be playing an instrument, singing, drawing, computer programming, chess or designing and creating!

I look forward to welcoming you officially in September and presenting you with your **Parks House** tie which I am sure you will wear with pride.

**Mr Hirons**

**Head of Parks House**

"To bring about change, you must not be afraid to take the first step. We will fail when we fail to try."

Rosa Parks



**Empowering lives through learning**

We are: Ambitious, Curious, Proud, Purposeful, Respectful and Supportive