



Parklands Primary School Newsletter



2023 - Autumn 1

Dear Parents / Carers,
We hope you all had an enjoyable and restful half term. I am sure that you will agree, the first half term has flown by. We have been very proud of the way the children have started this school year and settled into their new classes. They continue to make us proud!

The first half term has been a busy one with lots to share. We are delighted that our new year 6 classes and surrounding building work has now been completed and the pupils are settled and enjoying their new learning environments. The school diary is getting very full as we plan for some exciting opportunities and events, trips and visits for our children to enjoy. We are very much looking forward to the year ahead.

Parent View

Parents and carers can give their views on our school at any time of the school year, and at the time of a school inspection, using an online questionnaire called Parent View.

To access Parent view, please visit our school website. You will find Parent view under the 'Parent' tab. Alternatively click on the link below.

<https://parklands.havering.sch.uk/parents/parent-view>

We would love to have your feedback on how we are doing.



- 7th November @ 8.45am - Parent attendance/punctuality drop-in at the School House
- 9th November - Let's Get Messy Day (Nursery)
- 14th, 15th & 16th November - Parklands in Action
- 17th November - Children in Need charity event (dress up day)
- 24th November - Books for Breakfast (Reception and KS1)
- 29th November - Flu Vaccinations
- 4th and 6th November - Rocksteady Concert @ 2pm in KS2 hall
- 8th December - Parklands Christmas Jumper Day
- 11th December - School book fair week
- 19th December - Break up for Christmas
- 4th January - School reopens

Nativities / Carol Concerts

- 5th December 10am & 6th December 2pm Nursery
- 7th December 1.30 & 2.30 pm Year 4 Carol Concert
- 8th December 1.30 & 2.30 pm Year 3 Carol Concert
- 12th December 1.30 & 2.30 pm Year 5 Carol Concert
- 12th & 14th December 10am Reception Nativity
- 13th December 10am & 2pm Year 1 Nativity
- 15th December 1.30 & 2.30 pm Year 6 Carol Concert
- 18th December 10am & 2pm Year 2 Nativity



Books for Breakfast

We really enjoyed inviting our family members into school for Books for Breakfast. We read a variety of different types of books and loved discussing what we read.

Our next books for breakfast for is 24th November 2023. We hope you see you there!



Attendance

We would like to remind parents that school starts at 8:45am for reception to year 6 children, and 8.30am and 12.30pm for nursery children. Please ensure that your child arrives at school on time to start their school day. Children arriving late is disruptive, not only to the class, but also to your child's learning.

Please ensure that in future your child arrives in time for school every day.

The classes with the best attendance this half term are:

- Reception: Dolphins
- Year 1: Otters
- Year 2: Woodpeckers
- Year 3: 3ID
- Year 4: 4GS
- Year 5: 5NA
- Year 6: 6OB

TfL Travel for Life Bronze Accreditation



We are thrilled to share some fantastic news with you regarding our school's recent achievement in attaining the TfL Travel for Life Bronze Level Accreditation. This recognition highlights the outstanding efforts we have made in promoting safe, active, and responsible travel within our school community.

Participation in the TfL Travel for Life program has enabled us to contribute to various positive outcomes, such as enhanced road safety, improved air quality, reduced traffic congestion, and the promotion of healthier, active lifestyles for both our students and the wider London community.

This remarkable accomplishment is the result of collaborative endeavours involving our pupils, dedicated staff members, and the supportive parent and guardian community. Your active involvement and support have played a crucial role in our success. We also extend special recognition to our Teacher and Pupils groups for their relentless dedication to achieving TfL Travel for Life Accreditation.

We sincerely thank you for your continued commitment to fostering sustainable travel practices within our community. Together, we can sustain this high level of accreditation and continue to provide a healthy and safe learning environment for everyone.

If you wish to learn more about TfL Travel for Life Accreditation (formerly TfL STARS Accreditation), please visit travelforlife.gov.uk for additional information.



National Poetry Day



On Thursday 5th October, we celebrated National Poetry Day. This is an event that takes place each year. This year's theme was *refuge*.

Children from reception all the way up to year 6 took part in the day, exploring poems by a range of poets on this theme. Each class in school thought about their special "safe" place and how it made them feel. We then became poets and wrote different styles of poems about our places of refuge.

My Refuge

*In my refuge I can see the beach and the water is nice and warm.
In my refuge I can hear a lemonade stand at the park.
In my refuge I can feel a yummy strawberry lollipop.
In my refuge I can smell some waffles.
In my refuge I can taste some strawberry sugar waffles.*

*A senses poem,
By Lilly Fadairo, Year 2*

My Refuge

*My refuge is my house
Soft, warm, happy
A place that I love*

*A collom lune poem
by Nancy Salmon, Year 4*

Educational Visits and Visitors

We believe that educational trips and visitors play an important part in your child's education. Every year, class teachers endeavour to arrange a variety of trips, as well as educational visitors and workshops. They enrich the curriculum tremendously and it is for that reason that we aim for reception to year 6 pupils to experience one workshop or visitor into school, a local trip, and a trip further afield each academic year. These are designed to match the curriculum topics.

Trips have included Rainham Marshes, PGL Windmill Hill residential, Hainault Forest, Romford Library, The Church of the Good Shepherd (Christingle), Mr Singh's Pizza restaurant, The Natural History Museum, Junior Citizens and Young Voices Concert. Curriculum information is published on our website at the start of the year in order that you can plan your own linked visits should you wish to do so.

Workshops and visitors have included Online Safety, Science Roadshows, Shakespeare workshops, Road Safety, Renewable Energy, The Fire Brigade and Police Officers.

Educational trips and visitors form a valuable part of the children's learning and development, but we do depend on the financial support of parents to be able to continue organising them. If we had a lot of parents not able or willing to pay, then we would have to consider cancelling the trip.

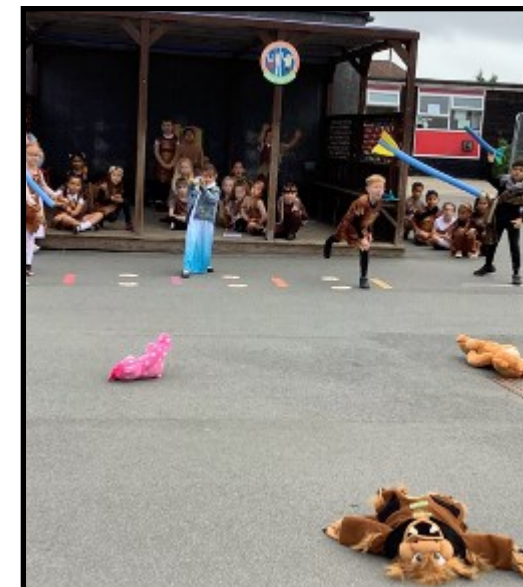
We also enhance our curriculum by providing the children with a variety of 'theme days.' These utilise the space and resources within school and have included Roman, Egyptian and World War II days, British Science Week, Outdoor Classroom Day, World Refugee Day, Maths Week, Black History Month, Anti-Bullying Week, Sports and Fitness Week and a recreating of the Great Fire of London to name but a few.

Year 3 Stone Age Day

Year 3 travelled back in time to the Stone Age day on Wednesday 27th September. It was a day full of fun and immersive learning linked to our history and art topics. We had the opportunity to design weapons of our own and researched some of the changes throughout the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages. We also built mini shelters using sticks, leaves and moss, which was quite tricky! The highlights of our day were the charcoal hand paintings and our hunter-gatherer inspired PE session, whereby we launched foam javelins and bean bags at our 'food'.

This amazing day has inspired some wonderful writing which the children are currently working hard on publishing.

The year 3 teachers are very proud of them all!

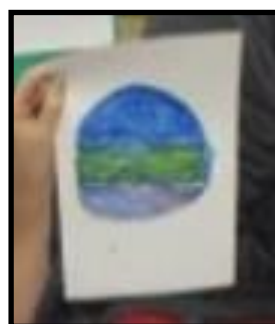
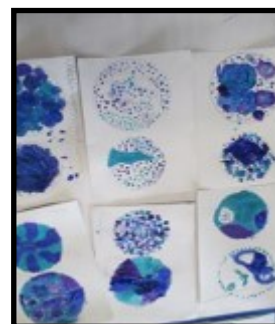




Dot Day

International Dot Day was on the 15th September. At Parklands Primary School we celebrated it on the 22nd. This day was created by a teacher named Terry Shay back in 2009 as a way of celebrating creativity, courage, and collaboration. The whole event is inspired by a children's book called 'The Dot', which is written by Peter H. Reynolds. 'The Dot' celebrates the power of creativity, with themes of bravery, creativity and self-expression. It is about a little girl called Vashti who doesn't think she is good at drawing, and then makes a surprising discovery.

Every child in school created 'a dot' inspired by artist Lea Anderson. Each year group had their own analogous colours and used paint, colouring pencils, felt pens, pastels and cut out card to create their dot. Here are some of their results:



Cross Country



Our Parklands Cross country team participated in the Havering event at Stubbers. 16 children ran a difficult course on a difficult surface due to the weather conditions. Between our year 5 and year 6 teams, we had five children finish in the top 15 places. Viktoras of 6NC finished 2nd out of his age category and is now representing Havering at the London Youth Games on November 18th at Parliament Hill in North London. A fantastic achievement and we wish him all the very best with this. As a team, our year 6 boys finished 4th out of 26 schools; year 6 girls 13th; year 5 boys 17th and year 5 girls 1st who were Champions of Havering in their age range.

We are extremely proud of them all and look forward to next year already!

Mylee-Rose Equestrian Competition

The NSCA promotes equestrian sport across Great Britain. The school riding squad is made up of girls and boys of all ages and equestrian competitions are one of the few activities in which riders compete as equals, regardless of their age, sex or the size of their horse. A school may affiliate one rider, who can compete as an individual. The NSEA runs a variety of qualifiers to suit all levels including Grass Roots Qualifiers leading to Grass Roots Regional Finals which is what Mylee -Rose in year 6 qualified for and competed in at Hickstead. Hickstead is one of the most prestigious venues within the equestrian world.

Mylee- Rose worked super hard to keep her pony fit for the qualifiers which she won to gain her place at the final. Qualifying at Brook Farm training centre in Essex. She also had to ride seven days a week up to the final . A fantastic day was had for Mylee -Rose and her pony Squirrel, coming overall 4th and 24th in both super strong classes with over 100 competitors taking part from all over the country. Mylee -Rose, being one of the youngest competitors in her class was super proud of herself and proud to represent Parklands Primary School.



Joshua's Fundraising



Joshua Easton, in Wagtails, completed a fundraising challenge in August and September. He raised £232 for ECHO (Evelina Children's Heart Organisation) a charity is very close to the family's hearts, by walking '40 miles in 40 days'. This is the first time Joshua has undertaken a fundraising challenge by himself and we are all very proud of him!



Logan's Fundraising

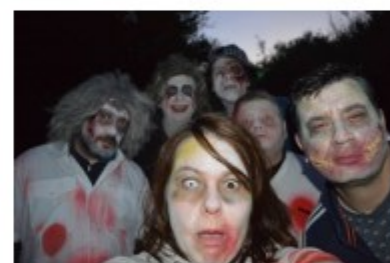


Logan March in 6SM climbed Mount Snowdonia with his dad in August. He did it to raise money for Battersea Dogs and Cats home. They completed the Rhyd Ddu path which is a technical and challenging path (it's not the tourist path). He raised £162 for the charity. We are all so proud of you!



Thames Chase Winter Events

- Thames Chase Christmas Market - Nov 18th and 19th
- Christmas Grotto Opening - Nov 25th Dates during Nov and Dec including relaxed session on Dec 3rd suitable for anyone with additional needs
- Christmas Wreath Making Workshop - Dec 9th
- Thames Chase Christmas Celebration (includes Christmas Eve Box Decorating)



To find out more contact the Thames Chase Visitor Centre reception 01708 642970, visit the Thames Chase website www.thameschase.org.uk or check social media

Parklands PTA



I would like to introduce myself as the recently elected Chair of the PTA Committee.

I am currently a parent at Parklands School who would love to dedicate and get involved with existing and upcoming activities within the school year. I come from a background of commercial and corporate events in the city, working closely with large teams and focusing on clear guidance, strong communication and achievable goals. I believe we have a well informed, powerful force of PTA members, parents and teachers behind us to create wonderful, fun and everlasting memories for our children!

Anna Davies

Learn to Swim

LEARN TO SWIM

with

PADDLERS

Swim School

Aged 4+

Lessons for all abilities

Monday, Wednesday & Friday at Coopers School, St Mary's Lane, Upminster

Saturday at St Edwards Primary School, Havering Drive, Romford

07976 644 550

www.paddlers.co.uk

School Nurse

Cathie Forrester is our allocated school nurse who is able to support families with their concerns such as:

- General health issues including oral health, vision, and hearing
 - Growth health checks
- Issues with appetite, sleep, bed wetting or behaviour
- Mental health and emotional wellbeing
 - Healthcare plans
 - Bullying
 - Advice on drugs and alcohol
 - Advice on sexual health
- Support you to access other services

Cathie will be attending Parklands Primary School for 'Drop In' sessions on 20/10/2023 and 24/11/2023 at 8.30am.

Please let the school office or Mrs Leach know if you would like to book a session with Cathie.

Safeguarding at Parklands

At Parklands Primary School, the safety and welfare of our children is at the heart of everything we do.

If you have concerns about a child, please report it to the school straight away. Should you need to speak with someone urgently and school is not open, please contact:

Janette Watmough – 07973783886.

If you think a child is at risk of abuse, you must report this to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

If you have urgent concerns for a child, or suspect that a child has been abused in any way, please call MASH

immediately on 01708 433222.

If you require an urgent response outside of working hours (8.30-17.00), contact the MASH Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 01708 433999.