



# Parklands Primary School Newsletter



2023 - Autumn 2

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been a long and busy Autumn Term packed with activities, visitors into school, educational visits outside of school and of course our festive celebrations, PTA disco's, Parklands Got Talent, Nativities and Carol concerts. It has been lovely to have so many parents in to enjoy the events and support the school this Term.



We hope you enjoy reading about just some of the experiences that you children have taken part in .



We are all looking forward to Christmas and our whole staff team would like to wish you

## 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.

- School starts 4th January 2024 (2 day week)
- 4th & 5th January - Eco Days
- 11th & 12th January - Year 4 Duxford Trip
- 15th January - KS2 Choir to Young Voices Concert
- 15th, 16th, 17th January - Starfish & Turtles 'Stay, Play, Learn'
- 22nd, 23rd, 25th January - Dolphins and Seahorses 'Stay Play, Learn'
- 2nd February - Number Day (maths all day - dress up)
- 5th February - Children's Mental Health Week
- 6th February - Safer Internet Day
- 7th February - Year 3 Roman Day - Portals to the Past
- 12th February - Year 6 Shakespeare Workshop
- 16th February - Books for Breakfast - Reception & KS1



## Books for Breakfast



This term, Reception and Key Stage 1 parents joined their children for Books for Breakfast. This event not only celebrated the magic of storytelling, but also reinforced the importance of literacy in the early years of education. The event exemplified the strong partnership between home and school, underlining our shared commitment to nurturing a love for learning.

A big thank you to all the parents who participated and made this event a resounding success. Let's continue to inspire a lifelong love for books and reading in our young learners!



## 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.

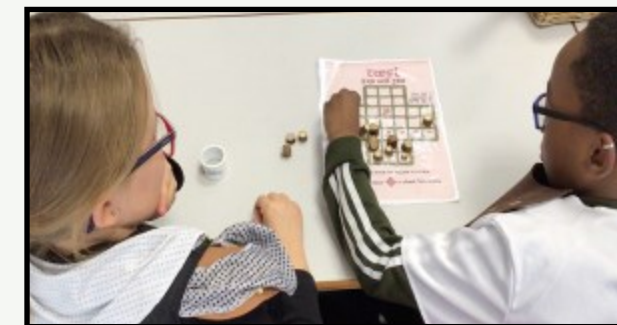
The classes with the best attendance this half term are:

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

## Viking Day



Year 4 spent an exciting day learning about the Vikings and even dressed the part! They explored artefacts used by the Vikings. Did you know they used a comb for their hair? The children played a game called Taefl – Fox and Geese – a game of skill and cunning. They role played the Battle of Edington whilst learning about the weapons used by the Vikings and the vital role of the shield.





## Let's Get Messy Day

Nursery had so much fun during our Let's Get Messy Day on the 9th November. We had fun exploring and learning with poster paint, powder paint, cornflour, bath foam, glue and much more!

We went home with very messy clothes, but it was a fun day!



## Emelia - 500 Words Competition



Congratulations to Emilia Tyazka, in year 2, for her success in the 500 Words Competition.

We're so excited and pleased to say that Emelia has made it through to the next stage of BBC 500 Words with her story 'The Magic Kids and Love'. The competition received thousands of entries and only around 5,000 go through for the second round of judging by the Reading Agency.

You should be very proud of yourself!

## Diwali Workshops

This half term, year 1 and year 3 have been focusing on the Hindu festival of Diwali as part of their RE lessons. The children took part in 'The Ramayana- a Diwali Dance Workshop'. This was an exciting opportunity for our children. The most well-known story told during Diwali celebrations is in the Ramayana. It is the famous story about Prince Rama and his wife Sita. The sessions were run by a West End choreographer and the children were able to vividly imagine and physically embody the different roles, dramatic situations and actions of the main characters as they retold elements of this epic story through dance. The children had so much fun and it really brought their learning to life!



## Fire Brigade and Police Officers Visit

The Fire Brigade and Police Officers came to visit reception classes. The children got to experience what kind of responsibilities a fire fighter has, what equipment they use and what uniform they have to wear. It was very exciting—the children have been talking about it all week and have made their own fire fighter stick puppets in class. They have also been role playing in our emergency services shed outside.

We looked at the difference between a police officer's and a community police officer's uniform. We found out ways they help us in the community and how to keep safe. We loved trying on all the hats and uniform, and played with the different resources they carry on their belts.



## Valence House Museum

Year 1 had an amazing opportunity to visit Valence House. We learnt all about a traditional Victorian Christmas, decorated a Christmas tree and made a Christmas pudding.

The children had a wonderful time.



## Entertainer for EYFS

Excitement filled the air when our nursery and reception pupils enjoyed a special treat organised by Friends of Parklands. Our youngest pupils enjoyed a magical Christmas extravaganza! A talented children's entertainer brought joy and laughter, creating unforgettable memories.

Thanks to the generous Friends of Parklands for spreading holiday cheer and making the end of term special!



## Reception Conker Hunt

A massive thank you to all the reception parents and children who took part in the sponsored conker hunt over the October half term.

Thanks to your amazing efforts, we raised £450! We will use the money raised to improve our outside continuous provision.

The winners of the competition from each class were:

Arayah (Dolphins), Marlie and Marie (Seahorses), Elphie (Starfish and Emrah (Turtles))



## Children in Need



On Friday 17th November, the children dressed in spots to raise money for Children in Need. We raised a fantastic £597.13

Well done to everyone for the effort put in for this great cause.

Thank you for your support.

## Rocksteady Concerts

On the 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December, children who attend Rocksteady groups had their Christmas concerts, which they performed to their families and to classes from year 4.



All children performed fantastically and it was amazing to see them “rocking out” in their different bands. The children have worked so hard with their teachers and their musical skills have really progressed.

A huge well done to you all and thank you to the parents for coming to watch and for supporting your child’s musical education!

## Nativity Project

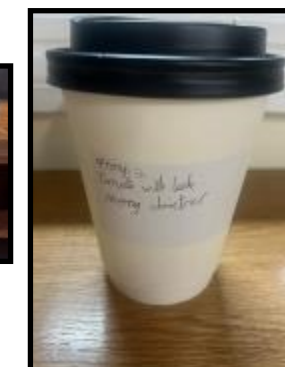
As part of our theme ‘Parties and Presents’, year 2 attended the Romford Nativity Project. The project was at the Elim Church, Wheatsheaf Road. We got the 294 bus there and were so sensible. There was a full size manger scene, where the story of Christmas was presented through mediums of music, drama, story-telling, art etc. We took part in a quiz and even got to join the actors and actresses and supported them in re-telling the Christmas story. We had so much fun!



## Soup Kitchen

As part of year 4’s D&T for this term, a lady from the HICC (Havering Islamic Cultural Centre) came to speak to the children about the work they do. The children made soup for the Soup Kitchen for the homeless and learnt that for some people, it will be the only hot food they will have. Also, the children wanted to make a Christmas card to go with their soup when they learnt that the people they are making the soup for were excited about receiving home-made soup. The children’s soups were delivered to the Soup Kitchen and they were greatly received.

Anyone who is need of support are welcome to go to the HICC where they will be welcomed and can receive provisions.



## Pantomime for Year 1 and 2

It’s behind you...! Oh no it isn’t....!

Year 1 and 2 had a very special treat: a pantomime of Jack and the Beanstalk! We had so much fun and it was very exciting! We cheered and booed and there was nonstop laughter throughout. Thank you so much to the Friends of Parklands for organising it for us.

“It was so much fun!” – Max R Swallows Class  
“It was funny” – Oliver C Robins class



## Christmas Songs at Care and Share

On 5th December, the Choir visited the Good Shepherd Church to sing to the Care & Share group. This is our second visit to the weekly group which is run by the Church for senior citizens. The choir performed a selection of Christmas songs and then shared a chat and some biscuits with the members of the group!



Mary, who organises visitors to attend, commented:

***What a wonderful afternoon we had at Care and Share. The children were so keen and sang beautifully. They are a real credit to Parklands and their teachers. It was lovely after they had finished singing, to see the interaction between young and old as everyone began talking to each other.***

A huge well done to all of the Choir members for taking part in this special community event.



## Nativities and Christmas Concerts

As we reflect on the festive season, our youngest stars in early years and Key Stage 1 dazzled and delighted us in their enchanting nativity performances! The air was filled with excitement as our little ones took the stage to share the joy of the season through their heart-warming performances.

From shepherds to angels, wise men to the littlest sheep, our students brought the timeless story of Christmas to life with their infectious enthusiasm and boundless creativity.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all families who came together to witness the innocence and charm of our reception and KS1 stars. Your presence added to the festive spirit, and we hope the performances left a lasting impression on your hearts.

We thank you for joining us in embracing the magic of the season and trust that you will cherish these memories.

Our Key Stage 2 children were ready to spread holiday cheer with a spectacular showcase of their musical talents! From classic carols to modern holiday hits, we trust you were delighted by the joyful sounds that filled the air.

We hope you enjoyed an afternoon filled with festive melodies, heart-warming performances, and the magic of the season.

We appreciated your presence as we celebrated the most wonderful time of the year with the KS2 Christmas Concerts.



## Autumn Term Rock Stars

Well done to our Times Table Rock Stars this half term:



Armandas Sapnagis - Year 5  
Kye Mann - Year 5  
Elyas Alam - Year 5  
Sarah Omar - Year 6  
Muhammad Kamran - Year 6

To be top of the leader board, continue to complete challenges on TTRS!

For more information visit:  
<https://trockstars.com/>

## Uniform

Our school uniform is more than just a set of clothing; it plays a crucial role in establishing and maintaining high standards of appearance within our school community. By adhering to the uniform guidelines, our pupils not only present themselves in a professional manner, but also contribute to the overall positive atmosphere of our learning environment.

The winter school uniform is:

Boys - Dark grey/black trousers, white shirt or polo shirt, school jumper, school tie (with white shirt only), school tie (with white shirt only), sensible black shoes/trainers

Girls - Dark grey/black skirt or trousers, white shirt or polo shirt, school jumper or cardigan, school tie (with white shirt only), sensible black shoes/trainers

Winter PE uniform is:

A school PE shirt, dark tracksuit and trainers

Thank you for your continuous support in maintaining our school's standards.



## Air Quality Theatre Presentation—Y5

We are excited share an educational experience that our year 5 students recently had the opportunity to participate in – the 'Miles the Mole & Friends' theatre visit. This engaging show was part of our ongoing commitment to environmental education and sustainable practices.

The story followed Mia, Jack, and their extraordinary friend Miles the Mole, who boasted an impressive top-secret laboratory filled with incredible inventions. Together, with the help of Miles' supercomputer, "Derek 5000," they embarked on a mission to investigate the causes of air pollution and explore ways to make their world a safer, cleaner, and more sustainable place.

Experiences like 'Miles the Mole & Friends' shape students' environmental consciousness, fostering responsibility.



## News from the Pastoral Team



Parklands first Parent Gym (parenting group sessions) took place from October onwards.

These 6 sessions were very well attended, and had positive feedback such as :

**'I have loved these sessions.'** **'I feel much better in dealing with my son's challenging behaviour, I am calmer.'** and **'I have loved coming to this every Thursday, I am going to miss it'.**

We have another programme starting in January. If you wish to apply for a place, please contact Wendy Allison, the HSSW, either via the school office, or she is on the KS2 gate most mornings - go and have a chat.



We were extremely lucky to have had the NSPCC come out and deliver workshops to both our year 2 and year 6 children recently. The assemblies were interactive, age appropriate, and, most importantly, the children gained valuable life skills from the sessions. We hope to have them back soon to engage other year groups to be able to 'Speak Out, Stay Safe'.



A huge thank you to all our very generous parents who continue to contribute to our children's wellbeing by donating underwear, as well as pre-loved uniform. There will be another uniform and winter coat sale taking place in January 2024 – please keep a look out for the date.



This wonderful charity kindly donated some extra Christmas sparkle in the form of gifts for families and extended family members. Both Shahna and Sonia popped by today to drop off gifts and spread the generosity of others to those less fortunate. Merry Christmas to you both.



You and Me Counselling  
Together we can find solutions

You and me counselling have also kindly donated a number of wonderful gifts to some families. This will go towards ensuring every child receives a gift at Christmas – whatever the circumstances.

## Sporting Events

We have had a very busy Autumn Term at Parklands, with the weather being glorious for our outdoor P.E. sessions at the start of the term, and the children have thoroughly enjoyed their football and Tag Rugby sessions. We created two boys' football teams and a girls' football team, who have played a variety of matches within the borough, and we plan to continue this in the next term. Additionally, we have a year 3 and 4 team, all of whom have represented the borough in recent Havering tournaments.

We continue to strive to offer a varied extra curricular timetable, and many thanks to all staff who have helped us achieve this. The attendance has been very encouraging, and we look forward to more of this in the Spring Term, as well as participating in more tournaments. This term's Netball, year 3 and 4 football, year 5 and 6 football for boys and girls, Sportshall athletics, and our successful Havering Cross Country attendance have provided fond memories for our children.

We would like to thank all parents and guardians for your support with all of these activities, and we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.



## Nursery Rhyme Week



In November we celebrated World Nursery Rhyme Week. The children from Nursery to Year 2 looked at various different nursery rhymes throughout the week.

We had great fun creating crafts and singing!

## Friends of Parklands (PTA)

We would like to congratulate our newly formed 'Friends of Parklands' Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) for the success of their very first Christmas Disco event for each year group. Their dedication and hard work shone brightly during the recent Christmas discos organized for each year group. The event not only brought joy and festive cheer but also showcased the incredible spirit of community at Parklands Primary School.

First and foremost, a huge thank you goes out to the fantastic individuals who make up the Friends of Parklands. This group of parents and teachers joined hands to form a team committed to enhancing the school experience for our children.

The Christmas discos were a resounding success, and it was heartening to witness the joy on the faces of our young Parklanders. Each year group had its own special disco, allowing children to celebrate the festive season with their friends and classmates. The atmosphere was electric, filled with laughter, music, and the unmistakable sound of children having a great time.

The Friends of Parklands spared no effort in creating a magical setting for the Christmas discos. The school hall was transformed with twinkling lights, balloon arches, festive decorations, and an abundance of holiday spirit with a special appearance by Santa!

As we reflect on the success of the Christmas discos, we express our deepest gratitude to the Friends of Parklands for their exceptional efforts. We look forward to many more exciting events and initiatives from this dedicated group, and we encourage all parents to get involved and be part of the Friends of Parklands community.

Thank you for your continued support, and here's to more joyous moments ahead!



## Able Maths Workshop

On Wednesday 1st November 2023, 8 children across years 5 and 6 took part in the A.I.M. High Maths Day Workshop at Mawney Foundation School. The session was delivered by a maths specialist: Pete Hall. Pete's passion is to help children achieve high standards and develop mathematical thinking through problem solving.

The pupils will take part in a number of workshops, which included a range of challenges that allowed the children to use and apply the skills they have learned, as well as gaining a love for maths!

Well done to all of the pupils that took part across year 5 and 6 - You were mathstastic!

## Bikeability



During the week commencing 6th November 2023, 30 year 5 children took part in Bikeability cycle training. Funded by The Department for Transport, Bikeability cycle training for schools not only teaches children to ride safely, it equips them with vital life skills. They gain independence, social skills and a sense of wellbeing.

## Sharing Stories

Year 4 visited KS1 to read their Christmas stories to the children. The children loved sharing their work and KS1 children sat really well and listened intently.



## Emergency Contact Numbers 2023

### Contact numbers for Havering local Authority Services

All numbers are open 9am to 5pm unless otherwise stated. Please call 01708 433999 outside of those times.

- Adult Social Services: 01708 432000
- Children's Social Services / Safeguarding Team: 01708 433222
  - Council Tax: 01708 433997
- Environment and street cleaning: 01708 432563
- Homelessness enquiries: 01708 432824 (01708 433999 5pm to 9am)
  - Housing benefit: 01708 433996
- Housing general enquiries: 01708 432824
- Housing repairs, rents and PSL: 01708 434000
  - Queens hospital [0330 400 4333](tel:03304004333)
- [Havering Womens Aid and MENDA – 01708 728759/01708 397974](tel:01708728759)

### Havering Mind

Havering Mind provides advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem.

They offer an array of services including:

- Gateway telephone service
  - 18-30 Programme
- Social Inclusion project
  - Live a better Life

They also offer many others to suit the needs of Havering residents. Whatever your worries are, the team is here to help you 7 days a week, evenings and weekends. 01708 457040  
[reach.us@haveringmind.org.uk](mailto:reach.us@haveringmind.org.uk)

For urgent mental health enquiries please contact:

Call Mental Health Direct on 0800 995 1000 the number is free and available 24/7.  
**Turn 2 us – Financial support when in crisis:**  
<https://www.turn2us.org.uk/get-support/apply-for-grants>



## 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.