



Parklands Primary School Newsletter



Spring 2

As we reach the end of another exciting term, I am delighted to share with you some of the wonderful events and activities that have taken place.

One highlight of this term was undoubtedly our celebration of World Book Day. It was a joy to see the enthusiasm and creativity of our children as they dressed up as their favourite book characters. I must admit, I had great fun joining in the festivities myself, donning the costume of Gangsta Granny!

Our reception classes embarked on their very first school trip this term, and it was a joy to witness their excitement and curiosity as they explored new places and experiences. These early outings play a crucial role in broadening our pupils' horizons and foster a love for learning beyond the classroom.

I am continually amazed by the enthusiasm, creativity, and resilience demonstrated by our children, and I am grateful to our dedicated staff and supportive parents for making all of this possible. As we look ahead to the Easter break, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support.

Mr Stevens

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>



15th April pupils return to school
18th April Parent Gym Taster session
Reception - Stay, Play & Learn Starfish & Turtles:
Monday 22nd April 2024 @ 9.45 -11.15am or 1.30pm
Tuesday 23rd April 2024 @ 9.45 -11.15am
Wednesday 24th April 2024 @ 9.45 -11.15am or 1.30pm

24th April Nursery trip to Bus Garage am & pm
25th, 26th, 29th April and 3rd May Y5 trip to Queen's Theatre

Reception - Stay, Play & Learn Seahorses & Dolphins:
Monday 29th April 2024 9.45 -11.15am or 1.30pm
Tuesday 30th April 2024 9.45 -11.15am or 1.30pm
Wednesday 1st May 2024 9.45 -11.15am or 1.30pm

13th to 16th May KS2 SATS
17th and 21st May Y3 trip to West Stow
17th May Y2 Fire Brigade visiting
17th May Reception and KS1 Books for Breakfast
20th May Walk to School Week
20th May Class Photos
22nd and 23rd May Y4 trip to Rainham Marshes
22nd to 24th May Y6 residential
23rd May Outdoor Classroom Day
24th May INSET DAY—End of term



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 your child arrives in time for school every day.

The classes with the best attendance this half term are:

Reception: Dolphins
Year 1: Foxes
Year 2: Woodpeckers
Year 3: 3KB
Year 4: 4KM
Year 5: 5LS

Why Attendance Matters!

Imagine a team trying to win a game without all its players present. Each pupil is a crucial player in our learning team, and their attendance plays a vital role in their success. Here are some reasons why good attendance is essential:

Learning Every Day: Every school day is filled with opportunities for growth and discovery. When children attend regularly, they don't miss out on valuable lessons, discussions, and activities that contribute to their learning journey.

Building Strong Foundations: Regular attendance helps children build strong foundations in various subjects. Each lesson builds upon the previous one, and consistent attendance ensures that they grasp concepts effectively, leading to academic success.

Developing Social Skills: School is not just about academics; it is also a place where children learn to interact with peers, make friends, and develop important social skills. Regular attendance allows them to form meaningful relationships and feel connected to their classmates and teachers.

Establishing Good Habits: Attending school regularly instils discipline and responsibility in children. It sets a positive habit that will benefit them not only in their academic pursuits but also in their future endeavours.

Tips for Good Attendance:

Set a Routine: Establish a consistent morning routine for your child, including waking up on time, having breakfast, and preparing for school. A well-organised morning can set a positive tone for the day.

Make Learning Fun: Foster your child's interest in learning by engaging with their school experiences. Encourage them to share their favourite subjects, activities, and friendships, and celebrate their accomplishments.

Prioritise Health: Ensure your child maintains good health by promoting adequate sleep, nutritious meals, and physical activity. A healthy body supports better focus and engagement in learning.

Plan Ahead: Schedule appointments and family outings outside of school hours whenever possible to minimise absences. In case of illness, promptly communicate with the school.

Join Us in Promoting Good Attendance:

Parents and guardians, we invite you to join us in promoting good attendance habits at home. Your support and encouragement play a crucial role in ensuring that every student attends school regularly and enjoys a successful learning journey.

Prime VR



On the 1st March 2024, year 5 welcomed a virtual reality company to Parklands to experience volcanoes around the world!

Over the course of the day, we travelled around the world, from Russia to America, to Indonesia to Iceland! We learnt about the three different types of volcanoes: shield volcanoes, stratovolcano and cinder cone volcanoes, and the different types of eruptions that these volcanoes produce. We also learnt about the three stages of volcanoes: active, dormant and extinct and how to categorise volcanoes into these groups. We even looked at the super volcano in Yellowstone, America!



Wellgate Farm

This term, our reception classes embarked on their very first school trip to Wellgate Farm, and what an adventure it was! They delved into the world of herbs, learning about their various uses and even had the opportunity to plant sunflower seeds to nurture at home. As they planted, they lovingly sent their seeds plenty of encouragement to flourish.

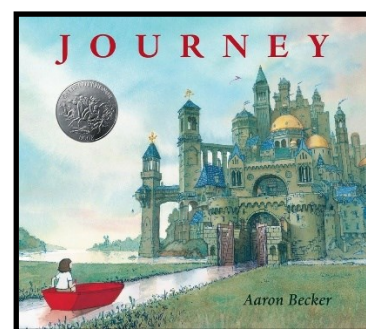
Additionally, our young explorers had the chance to interact with the farm animals, petting and feeding them. It was evident that feeding the chickens brought the most joy to the children, as they eagerly engaged with these friendly creatures. Overall, it was a memorable and enriching experience for our reception students.



World Book Week 2024

World Book Day was on Thursday 7th March, but at Parklands, we celebrated with a whole WEEK of activities!

The whole school based their English activities for the week around the wordless book *Journey* by Aaron Becker. This is the strange story of a lonely girl who finds a red crayon, draws a door with it and finds that it magically opens, leading her into an enchanted world. Every year group got involved by writing about the story using different genres – from diary entries to play scripts! Children in Nursery even made lanterns to light the girl's way through the forest on her adventure.



Throughout the week, children took part in live Zoom calls with different authors. Children in year 5 and 6 even took part in a World Book Day quiz!

We ended the week by dressing up as our favourite book characters. We had a great day and Key Stage 2 even had a visit in their assembly from a Granny who looked suspiciously like Mr Stevens...



Police Visit Nursery

On 12th March, our Nursery welcomed Sergeant Byford along with Community Police Officers Rubee Bates and Daniel Stone. The visit proved to be a truly enlightening experience for our children as they gained insight into the importance of police uniforms. Not only did they learn about the significance of these uniforms, but they also eagerly seized the chance to don them themselves!

Moreover, the highlight of the day was undoubtedly the thrill of sitting in the police van, making the entire visit an unforgettable and highly educational adventure for all participants.



Rocksteady Easter Concerts 2024

On the 18th and 20th March, children who attend Rocksteady groups had their Easter concerts, which they performed to their families and to classes from year 4 and reception.



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. Logan and Mr G are so impressed with how well you’ve all done this term!

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!



If you would like to sign your child up for Rocksteady classes, please visit rocksteady.co.uk, where you will be able to send an enquiry directly to Rocksteady and be added to our school’s band waiting list! Children can choose to learn guitar, bass guitar, drums, keyboard or to sing!

Sports Hall Events

On 7th March, 10 year 1 children participated in Sportshall Athletics, followed by 10 year 2 students on 21st March. Both events took place at Harrow Lodge Leisure Centre, where our children engaged in six fun-filled activities: bowling, jumping, throwing, bouncing, and relay races. We’re incredibly proud of all our young athletes who showcased exceptional determination, passion, honesty, and teamwork—values that are at the heart of Parklands Sports. It was heart-warming to see their love for sports shine through as they eagerly participated and cheered each other on.

Thank you for your continued support in nurturing our students’ enthusiasm for sports and fostering a positive sporting spirit.



Parent Gym

Volunteer parents have successfully completed our second programme of Parent Gym. Well done all – what a massive achievement!

This programme is an interactive and fun six weeks, led by a trained practitioner, with a different topic each week. From 'Care' in week 1 to 'Together' at week 6, it's a learning experience where parents can learn differing strategies to navigate the parenting journey.

We have a couple of spaces left for our April cohort if you would like to put your name down.



Books for Breakfast

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

Our next books for breakfast for reception and Key Stage 1 is Friday 17th May.

We hope you see you there!



Raising Money for Crisis

We are thrilled to share that Logan March in 6SM recently organised a charity event in collaboration with Jacob Petken, a former student of our school.

We are delighted to announce that through the generous donations and contributions received, Logan and Jacob managed to raise a remarkable £459 for Crisis.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to all the parents who contributed either by donating or purchasing raffle tickets.



News from Friends of Parklands PTA

Dear Parklands' Parents,

Time is running out to get your hands on Easter Raffle tickets! Don't miss this golden opportunity to win fabulous prizes! You can conveniently purchase tickets online in just a few minutes. Simply register via the link provided below:

Raffle Website: Click Here to Purchase Tickets <https://raffall.com/354271/enter-raffle-to-win-easter-extravaganza-raffle-hosted-by-parklands-pta>

Act fast as the raffle closes on April 12th! Share this exciting opportunity with your friends and family too! Also, during the Easter Break, we invite you to join our thrilling Estate Agent hunt. For further details, kindly refer to the email correspondence you received.

As spring is in full swing, it's time for a thorough clean! Bags2school will soon be at Parklands. Each child is encouraged to fill a bag with old clothing for recycling and reuse. Let's aim to raise as much as we can to support more enriching opportunities!

Save the Date for our highly anticipated Parklands Summer Festival! Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 20th, 2024, from 12pm to 4pm. Stay tuned for more details coming your way soon!

For the latest updates, follow us on Instagram and Facebook:

Instagram: Friends of Parklands PTA <https://www.instagram.com/friendsofparklandspta?igsh=MWp2eXJ1Z3dwdnRyeQ==>

Facebook: Parklands PTA <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083021546195>

Should you have any queries or suggestions, feel free to reach out to us via email at friendsofparklandspta@gmail.com

Warmest regards,
Parklands PTA

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.

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.

In an emergency, call 999, to report a crime, call 101.