

Parkwood Primary School Newsletter

We hope you have had a wonderful Easter break with your family. We are looking forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 15th April. We are excited to open our wraparound care service as Sunshine Club closed their doors for the final time at the end of last term. They provided a great service for our children and they will be missed. Our team of staff have been working hard over the holidays to ensure a smooth transition for the children.

When the children return in Term 5, the budding artists amongst us will be able to get their creative juices flowing as they step into their 'Create' project. They will study a variety of artists; explore different elements of art and refine their use of a variety of media. As in previous terms, class teachers will send home knowledge organisers and word mats so that you are aware of exactly what the children are learning.

Our Celebration Assemblies each Friday have been a great opportunity to celebrate the children who uphold our school rules and values. Many of our children have embraced our values. As more and more children begin to do the same, it will make Parkwood the very best place it can be whilst simultaneously preparing our children to be responsible citizens of the future. We have now explored responsible, honest, kind and resilient. We will begin the new term by revisiting resilient and exploring ambition.

Our values will become central to all we do so too are our school rules. They are still well-known by our children and referred to and reinforced by our adults daily. Towards the end of last term, we did experience a rise in disrespect and unsafe behaviour amongst children, particularly Year 3. We would like all our parents to reinforce with their children that they should be making responsible choices with their actions and words towards other children. All children have the right to attend school feeling safe and respected. Reinforcement and modelling from all caregivers is essential for our children to learn how others deserve to be treated. In the new term, we will be working with children in our assemblies so that they can begin to understand the negative impact actions such as these can have on the mental health of victims.

















ATTENDANCE

We continue to work alongside the Attendance Advisory Service at Medway. As a school, we are able to see how our attendance data compares with other schools locally and nationally. Below gives you an indication of how we compare to local schools. The lower the number we are ranked the better e.g. position is 31 is better than 41.

| Attendance measure | Percentage | Ranking ① | |
|----------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Overall attendance | 94.0% | You are ranked 41 out of 69 schools | |
| Overall absence | 6.0% | You are ranked 41 out of 69 schools | |
| Authorised absence | 4.4% | You are ranked 47 out of 69 schools | |
| Unauthorised absence | 1.6% | You are ranked 39 out of 69 schools | |
| Persistently absent | 17.6% | You are ranked 45 out of 69 schools | |
| Severely absent | 0.8% | You are ranked 31 out of 69 schools | |

Attendance is crucial and will impact on the life chances of all children. This is why we take it so seriously. A huge thank you to the families who have taken up Mrs Williams' offer of support. This has made a huge difference to your child's attendance. Our door is always open for support. Our Attendance Advisor is also available to work with families should you require advice. Please contact Mrs Williams via the school office should you wish to organise a meeting.

It's important to remember that late arrivals to school can also result in an unauthorised absence mark if the child arrives after the register closes. For children, walking into a classroom of peers part way through learning is unsettling for the child and disturbs learning for others.

| Year Group | Start of school day | A late mark (L) is given if the child arrives after: | Unauthorised absence mark (U) is given if the child arrives after the register has closed. | End of day collection time |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| FS | 8.50am | 8.50 am | 9.20am | 3.05pm |
| Years 1,2 and 3 | 8.40am | 8.40am | 9.10am | 3.10pm |
| Years 4,5 and 6 | 8.45am | 8.45am | 9.05am | 3.15pm |

Parents/carers of FS, Year 1 and Year 2 should take their child to the school office if they miss the line walking in. Children shouldn't be taken to classroom doors by parents/carers unless the rainy day procedure is in operation.

Year 6 children are rapidly heading towards their SATs tests this term. Their attendance in school is more important than ever to ensure they are secondary ready.

Please remember to give our teachers a wave at collection to make dismissal quick for everyone.

PICK UP AND DROP OFF

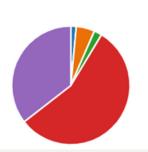
As a primary school, we welcome our parents onto school site for drop-off and pick-up. We are concerned with the number of children who appear to be arriving on school site unaccompanied by an adult. We'd expect all children to be escorted to their lines by an adult with the exception of our Year 6 children who have proven they can be responsible and safe on their way to school. We will dismiss all children to adults unless we have been given written permission from parents to allow our Year 6 children to walk home unaccompanied. Should we have concerns over individuals in Year 6 walking home, we will request parents drop off and collect.



PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to all the parents who contributed to the parent questionnaire last term. This will help us to understand how our parents view the school so that we are able to respond accordingly and make improvements. We will continue to analyse the data, draw conclusions and implement changes to make Parkwood a great school.





PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Mrs Edgley-Pearce has been the driving force behind giving our children responsibility in school. This allows our children to see that they can make a positive difference and inspire other to do the same. The Smart School Council did a great job zoning the playground. This has made the playground a more enjoyable place to be. The Ground Force team are doing what they can to improve the school site. Our Eco Guardians have also been set to work.





FOR MORE VISIT:

HTTPS://WWW.PARKWOODPRIMARY.ORG.UK/

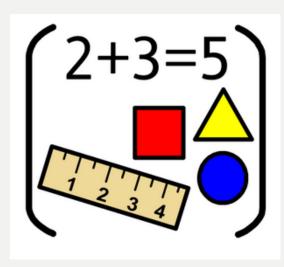


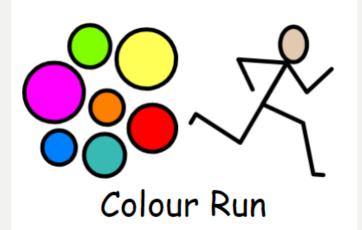
DIVERSE COMMUNITY

Miss Odedina has managed to secure a number of visitors from our local community into school to help children understand the values, rituals and ways of life of people from different religions. The children have been receptive and respectful and were able to relate our value of honesty to the Sikh value of being truthful.

COSY READ

Mrs Pigott and Mrs Bird did an amazing job of organising the cosy read during World Book Week. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all. Because of this, we'd like to invite parents and carers to our next event on Thursday 6th June at 2.40pm until 3.05pm for a Maths games session.





COLOUR RUN

The children thoroughly enjoyed the Colour Run last year. It raised essential funds for playground equipment. We will run the event again in a very similar way on Thursday 23rd May throughout the day. If you are available to help with splashing the children with colour and manning the obstacles, contact the school office to express your interest. All offers of help will be accepted and I will be in contact mid May

GOODBYE

Last term we welcomed Mrs Drake, a new FS teaching assistant, into Foundation Stage as Mrs Bunting begins her career as a teacher. We wish her well as she embarks on her new adventure. Mrs McCarron will also be moving into Foundation Stage as Mrs Millward turns her hand to being a travel agent. We wish her well with her onward journey.



FOR MORE VISIT:

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Apr 2024

15 Apr 2024-15 Apr 2024 Term 5 - Pupils Back to School

19 Apr 2024-21 Apr 2024 Camping and Caravan Club on Site

May 2024

13 May 2024-17 May 2024 SATs Week for Year 6

23 May 2024-23 May 2024 Colour Run

24 May 2024-24 May 2024 Last Day of Term 5

Jun 2024

03 Jun 2024-03 Jun 2024 Term 6 - Pupils Back to School

05 Jun 2024-05 Jun 2024 Environment Day

06 Jun 2024-06 Jun 2024 Maths games afternoon with parents

10 Jun 2024-10 Jun 2024 Isle of Wight Week

17 Jun 2024-21 Jun 2024 Phonics screen for Year 1

17 Jun 2024-17 Jun 2024 Year 2 Trip 28 Jun 2024-28 Jun 2024 Sports Day

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Since Term 3, we have made further progress against our school improvement priorities. Check out our progress by looking at our school improvement plan on our school website.









