



PARKSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term 2 Newsletter

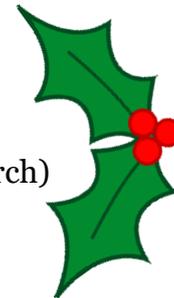
Dear parent/carers,

Welcome back to another school term! We would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their continued support.

Event/Important dates:



- Children in Need (12-16th November)
- Christmas Pantomime (7th December)
- Christmas Parties (14th December)
- Christingle (17th December @ All Saint's Church)
- Nativity Performance (KS1 – Date TBC)
- Christmas Lunch (19th December)



Updates from Term 1

On September 26th we had Drama4All come and provide a fantastic drama workshop for Archimedes and Leonardo Di Vinci class, which included dressing up and using props!

We managed to raise £28.30 for Jeans for Genes Day – a big thank you to all pupils and parents/carers for supporting this admirable cause!

More cause for celebration... We are pleased to inform you that during Term 1 we were awarded a Bumble Bee Award from the Kent County Council, working with Bumblebee Conservation Trust for our efforts to improve the school's outdoor environment and make it more attractive for bees. In addition to a certificate, we also received a £500 award and some free workshops!



Breakfast Club and Coolmilk



Just a reminder to parents that we run a free Breakfast Club every morning before school. The school is open for children for Breakfast Club from 8.10am until 8.30am. We offer a range of cereals and toast, as well as orange juice and milk.

Additionally, we also participate in the Coolmilk Scheme here at school where parents/carers can opt to pay for their child to have a carton of milk each morning at break-time. Please note that children under 5 are entitled to this milk for free and, excluding those with milk allergies, will already be receiving this milk. Parents/carers of children over 5 who would like to register their child for Coolmilk can apply at www.coolmilk.com. Alternatively, we have a limited number of forms in paper copy available from the school office.

Children in Need

We are planning on taking part in Children in Need this year with several fundraising activities. One of which will be a 'Line of Copper'. We are inviting children to bring in 1ps and 2ps and we will be creating a line around the school hall to see how far we can get. Additionally, we will be running a cake sale at some point during the week (more information to follow shortly) and a non-school uniform day on Friday 16th where children are welcome to come to school in non-uniform providing at least one item of their clothing is spotty.



Winter

With the recent turn in the weather we are now well and truly on our way to winter! Please ensure that all children are sent to school in appropriate clothing, such as jumpers and coats, for the colder weather. Children can wear wellies to travel to and from school, however, are expected to wear sensible and smart school shoes during the day. Additionally, we seem to have had lots reports of lost uniform last term so we advise that parents/carers label all items of uniform.

In the case of severe weather which results in the temporary closure of the school, such as snow days, we will aim to inform parents/carers at the earliest opportunity. Parent/carers can check for such notifications on the school website: (www.parksidecommunityprimaryschool.com) and will also receive a text message.

General conduct of parents

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers of the acceptable behaviour expected of them by the school. Please can parents refrain from smoking and swearing on or outside school property, walking around the school unaccompanied and from driving onto the school grounds, particularly at an inappropriate speed.

The school gates will be opened by a member of staff – arriving too early and loitering is not permitted so we ask politely that parents/carers do not buzz on the gate before 14.50pm.

The above requests are in order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our pupils.

After-School Clubs

What a success After-School Clubs were last term! We have been very lucky to have Football Futures who continue to run some great sports clubs after-school as well as a range of other clubs run by dedicated members of staff.

Parents/carers who have not yet returned the Football Futures consent form can they please do so as soon as possible. Spare forms are available from the school office.



Term 2 clubs are listed below – if you have not signed your child up to a club yet and would like to, please speak to the school office. The clubs highlighted still have spaces available.

Day	Club	Time	Class	Run by
Monday	Athletics	3-4PM	3-6	Canterbury Academy
Monday	Christmas Activities	3-4PM	All	Mrs Simmons & Miss Brown
Tuesday	Netball	3-4PM	3-6	Miss Thompson
Wednesday	Dodgeball	3-4PM	All	Football Futures
Thursday	Basketball	3-4PM	All	Football Futures
Thursday	Christmas Crafts	3-4PM	3-6	Miss Nelson & Miss Court

Second-hand uniform sales

A huge thank you to those parents/carers who helped us with the second-hand uniform sale in Term 1, and the more recent one earlier this week! We are hoping to hold several more during Term 2 so should any parents/carers have any spare uniform please bring it to the school office. We are planning on using any donations made from second-hand uniform towards some Christmas treats for the children such as a Christmas Pantomime.



Message from Chair of the IEB (Interim Executive Board) David Stanley:

During the summer term the Governing Body of the school found itself with too small a number to fulfil its duties and move the school forward and so Secretary of State for Education through the Local Authority (KCC) had to appoint an IEB. The IEB was formed on 6th June and its 5 members have been busy working with the Acting Headteacher and Local Authority to bring things back up to speed and help put improvements into place.

Your child's safety and welfare and their education are paramount and this drives the actions that the IEB have been taking with the support of the Acting Headteacher and staff, and the local authority. We have secured support for the Acting Headteacher in the fulfilment of her duties otherwise working alone in the continued absence of the head teacher.

The IEB is accountable to learners, parents, staff and the community. One of our responsibilities is to contribute to regular newsletters to update parents on the progress the school is making, and also inform parents of the outcomes of Local Authority education visits and other important governmental visits to the school. We do this in part through the Acting Headteacher reports to you but this is the start of more to come!

I must thank you for support to the school and its staff and to Gina Sutherland as Acting Headteacher, and I must remind you that she is responsible in the absence of the Headteacher on a day to day basis.