



PARKSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
BADGER CLASS LETTER
TERMS 3 & 4



January, 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all and we hope you have all had a lovely holiday. I am so excited for the terms ahead and have so many wonderful things planned which include creating our very own oracle bones, making electrical circuits and plenty of outdoor learning opportunities. The children have had a phenomenal start to the year and have worked incredibly hard in lessons and I can't wait for them to continue to show me what absolute super stars they are.

Term 3

In term 3 we study The Shang Dynasty and what life was like in Ancient China. Our key text will be 'The Magic Paintbrush' by Julia Donaldson and a non-fiction information texts.

In maths, we will be continuing to practice our times tables and division facts as well as learning measurements before moving onto fractions in the last couple of weeks.

In science, we will be investigating electricity and the children will have the chance to create their own circuits.



Term 4

In term 4 our topic is The Romans. In our English lessons, our first key text will be 'Escape from Pompeii' by Christina Balit, where we will be learning about the catastrophic events surrounding the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Then, we will be looking at 'Thieves of Ostia' by Caroline Lawrence followed by 'Julius Zebra' by Gary Northfield. A mixture of fiction and non-fiction books exploring what life would have been like during the Roman times.

In maths, our main focus will be fractions, more specifically converting improper and mixed number fractions as well as adding and subtracting them.

For science, we will be looking at living things and their habitats. We will be spending most lessons on the playground exploring the living things in our school environment.



Attendance: We would like to take this opportunity to remind you how important good attendance is for optimum learning and progress. At Parkside, we aim for 95% attendance or more to ensure our best possible learning is able to take place. It is also important that children arrive to school on time so they start their day in the best possible way and are ready to start their learning with the rest of their class.

Uniform:

This is a reminder that all children should be wearing the correct school uniform. This consists of: Parkside School jumper so children can take pride in our school logo (or a navy jumper/cardigan), a white shirt or blouse, grey/black trousers or a skirt (or shorts/summer dress when it is warmer) and black school shoes.

Times tables

Just a reminder that at the end of Year 4 there is a multiplication check where all children will be tested on their knowledge of times table from 1x1 to 12 x12. We have been practicing in class but extra support from home will be much appreciated.

The children are familiar with topmarks.co.uk, a website with a range of times table games and if you need further resources or support please feel free to have a chat with me.

Thank you for your ongoing support with learning times tables.

Dates:

13th February – End of Term 3
23rd February – Start of Term 4
5th March – World Book Day
27th March – Reports sent home
1st April – Parents evening
1st April – End of Term 4



PE

PE will be on a Tuesday and Wednesday, children should come to school in their PE kits and with suitable footwear. Coloured PE tops are available to purchase from the School Office if needed. Please send the children to school with their swimming kits.

Homework

The children will be given an optional Topic based project each term where they will have opportunities to complete a range of tasks to further explore their understanding of Ancient China and the Romans.

REACH for the Stars

Resilience
Effort
Aspiration
Courtesy
Honesty



Forest school and Learning in Nature.

Our forest school session will be on a Tuesday afternoon and Learning in Nature sessions will be on a Friday afternoon.

Please ensure your children have suitable clothes and footwear for the weather. They may bring a change of clothes in a bag to wear during our sessions.

If you have any questions or anything you wish to discuss with me, please make an appointment at the school office or speak to me after school.

Miss Leaver
Year 4 Class teacher.