



**PARKSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**OWLS CLASS LETTER**  
**TERMS 5 & 6**



**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome you all back to school in Owl class, after the Easter break. We have lots of exciting learning and activities planned for Term 5 and 6, and are committed to ensuring your children continue to develop their knowledge and skills as independent learners, creative thinkers, reflective pupils, team workers and effective participators. Our new topics are Vikings- a history-based topic (Term 5) and Mountains- a geography- based topic (Term 6). We will be visiting Kent Life, Maidstone to support the children's learning about Vikings on May 7<sup>th</sup>, where they will participate in two workshops about the Viking way of life. I am sure this will greatly benefit the children's understanding of this historical era.

### **Term 5 Topic- Vikings**

In our history-based topic, we are learning about who the Vikings were and where they came from and how they travelled. We will also learn about how they traded, their daily life, their religious beliefs and customs and their battles with the Anglo-Saxons. We will participate in two Viking-themed workshops on our school trip on 7<sup>th</sup> May.



Our **English** work will be based on Viking stories and sagas and children will practise writing setting descriptions, character description, narrative, an explanation text and an instructional text.

In **science**, children will be completing the unit 'Living things and their habitats' where they will examine the life-cycles of different living things and be able to classify animals into their groups eg mammals, reptiles, amphibians etc  
In **maths**, children will be completing learning on decimals and percentages, perimeter and area and statistics.

### **Term 6 Topic- Mountains**

Our topic this term is **geography-based** and the children will be learning about mountains eg where the world's major mountain ranges are, where people live in the mountains and the physical features of mountains.

Our lead text for **English** will be 'When the Mountains roared' by Jess Butterworth, which is an adventure story set in the mountains of India.



In **science**, we will be learning about the changes that take place in humans, from birth to old age, including growth, weight, height and gestation periods.

In **maths**, children will be revisiting learning related to decimals, learning about negative numbers, using and converting units of measure and volume.

### **Forest School:**

In Year 5, we will be going out to the Forest School **every** Wednesday afternoon. The children will go out altogether, as one group. They will attend forest school in all weather conditions, where safe to do so, and should be dressed appropriately in suitable clothing e.g. hats, coats, gloves, sun-cream etc. Sturdy footwear or wellies will also need to be worn. Your child may wear their forest school clothing to school.

## ATTENDANCE:

I 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 short/summer dress when it is warmer) and black school shoes.



## Dates:

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April- visit from children's author, Paul Deslandes  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May- travelling book fair  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May- BANK HOLIDAY  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May- Year 5 class trip to Kent Life, Maidstone  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May- Outdoor Learning Day  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May- Arts Week ('Mergate' theme)  
**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May- End of Term 5**  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June- beginning of term 6  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June- Year 5 visit to St Anselm's Taster Day  
**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July- Last day of Term 6**

**PE** will be on a Thursday morning so children will need to ensure they wear their PE kits to school on these days and not their uniform. PE kits consist of dark shorts, coloured t-shirt (according to House colours) and plimsolls or trainers. In Term 5, the children will have swimming on Friday morning, so will need appropriate swimming clothes (no bikinis) and towels etc

## Homework/Readers

The children will be set times tables and spellings on a Monday to practise at home so they are ready for a short test the following Friday. Children are also expected to read at home at least five times a week.

## REACH for the Stars

Resilience

Effort

Aspiration

Courtesy

Honesty



## Healthy snack and lunches

Children are provided with a bagel at break-time. If children wish to bring their own snacks in from home, this must be either fruit or veggie sticks.

Packed lunches should also be healthy e.g. a sandwich, yoghurt, a piece of fruit and a snack-bar

If you have any questions or anything you wish to discuss with me, please make an appointment at the school office or send me a message on Class Dojo.

Mrs Williams  
Year 5 Class teacher