



PARKSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term 1

Newsletter

Welcome back...

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of the Autumn term and this academic year, I hope that you all had a fun-filled holiday. It has been wonderful to catch up with all the children's holiday news and see them around the school, proudly wearing their school uniforms. My thanks to you all for supporting our quest in ensuring all children are in their correct uniform. If you have any concerns about or difficulties with uniform, please contact the school office.

We are all looking forward to being able to return to more normal activities throughout the school and being able to welcome you to our class assemblies and activity sessions, please see more information about this in your child's class newsletter.

We have had some improvements made to the school that has enabled the school to accommodate a further class from St Nicholas Special School, this will be a reception class. Welcome Butterfly Class! The school will begin to use the forested area located at the back of the school to support the children with their learning. This is a fantastic opportunity and your child's teacher will share further details with you.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs McLevy

Forest School Sessions – We have been in the process of setting up our very own forest school here at Parkside! These sessions will now be taking place throughout the week and children will require suitable clothing for them, which will include wellies and a coat dependent on the weather. The children will need long sleeves and long trousers. Please speak to your child's teacher if you require any further information and they will let you know when your child will be taking part in forest school.



PTFA Meeting – As we welcome new parents to the school, we would also like to welcome them to join our PTFA. There will be a meeting on Wednesday 15th September at 2pm. It would be wonderful to see you all there!

Fun Day – I am sure that you all would have seen the inflatable assault course on the school field at the end of last term. The children had a great time on it and it was a fantastic way to celebrate the end of the school year! This was all made possible by the support of Cllr Alistair Brady from Canterbury City Council.



MacMillan Coffee Morning – Once again, we will be running our own coffee morning on Friday 24th September 2021 to support Macmillan Cancer Support and the wonderful work they do. You are welcome to come along, have a coffee, some cake and share in the fun raising vital funds for this amazing cause! Coffee and cake will be a suggested donation of 50p.

Staff changes – We have welcomed several new members of staff to the Parkside Team this term. Mrs Fell is now our class teacher in Owl Class, Mrs Meynell will be joining Squirrel Class and Mrs Johnson, Fox Class. Mrs French is now working alongside Miss Fisher in the school office. Miss Perry will sadly be leaving us but she is remaining a school governor and will be keeping in touch!

Secondary places – Applications are now open for Year 6 parents to apply for their child's secondary school place until Monday 1st November. Parents will need to apply online via the KCC website. Please contact the school if you require any assistance.

School Reminders – A reminder that our free Breakfast Club runs between 8.10am and 8.30am each morning and parents do not need to book in advance. The gates will open at 8.10am for children to come in.

The school gates open for morning registration at 8.40am and close at 8.50am. Any children arriving after this time will need to enter school via the main office to ensure that they are registered.

Pupils using a bicycle or scooter to travel to school **must not** ride them on school grounds.



For parents who are paying for school dinners please ensure that that they are paid for in advance to the school office.

If the person collecting your child is not a named emergency contact we will not release your child to them at the end of the school day. If someone new is going to be collecting your child from school, you need to notify us in writing, via email or letter, of your permission for this.

Uniform – Thank you to all our parents and pupils who are making a huge effort with uniform this term. It is so lovely to see children looking smart and taking pride in wearing their uniform!



Parents wanting to purchase new uniform can do so at the school office (please be aware that the school does not accept card payments or hold petty cash at this time so parents will need to pay with the correct change). Alternatively, jumpers, cardigans and book bags can be purchased online at the MyClothing website.

Please ensure that you name your child's uniform to reduce the chances of items being lost and as we head into winter, can we just remind parents to make sure that children are coming into school wearing weather appropriate clothing.

Covid-19 Update – While government restrictions have now eased and we are able to settle back into a more normal school routine, the school and parents still need to follow the current Department for Education advice. This means that if your child is showing any of the main symptoms of Covid (persistent cough, high temperature or loss of taste/smell) then they should:

- Get a PCR test to check if that have Covid at either a test site or a postal test delivered to your house.
- Your child should stay at home and isolate until you get the test result. Check the latest government guidance to see if you or anyone else in the household will also need to isolate.

Flu Vaccinations – The yearly flu vaccination programme will be taking place on Friday 15th October. In order for your child to receive the vaccination (which is a free, quick and painless nasal spray) you will need to complete the online consent form at <https://childconsent.co.uk/kchft> before Tuesday 12th October. If you are not wanting your child to receive the flu vaccination, you will still need to complete the form stating this. For more information please visit the NHS website.

Cauliflower Cards Project – The children will be given the opportunity to design a Christmas card and this will be printed for parents to purchase if they wish. More details to follow.

Class Assemblies – Please see your child's Class Newsletter for the relevant dates and times of your child's assembly. We are looking forward to being able to welcome parents back into school for these events!

Harvest Festival – Parents will be invited to join us for our Harvest Festival celebrations at All Saints Church beginning at 1.30pm on Friday 1st October. We will be accepting donations of tinned goods to be brought in on the day.

