



PARKSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term 2

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Term 2! It has certainly been an interesting start to the term with ever changing guidance from the Government in how to keep us all, pupils, staff and yourselves safe during these uncertain times. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support in the measures we have put in place. I would also like to thank you for bringing any concerns to our attention so we are able to effectively deal with them and make any changes that need to be made.

I am sure those of you that have been to the site will notice the scaffolding that has been put up to allow the next stage of building work and improvements to the school building to take place. We are having roofs repaired, windows replaced and the final section of cladding completed at the front of the school. We are pleased with how this is progressing. Inside the school, we have replaced some classroom doors to ensure they are meeting the correct regulations. I am sure you will agree that once this has been completed it will improve the building greatly.

Finally, I wanted to share how much the teachers enjoyed speaking to you at the start of term to discuss your child's progress in their parent evening. I hope that you found this useful and a success. The children I saw the next day were very excited to tell me that their teacher had called them at home to talk to their parents and some of them.

Thank you again for all your support in making Parkside the success that it is.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs McLevy

Covid19 Update

We regularly update our school Risk Assessment in line with current guidance and are impressed with how well the children follow this. Children are in 'pods' and remain in them all day. We wash hands regularly and Mrs Lee and Mrs Munt clean the classrooms daily and thoroughly.

A reminder to parents and carers that only one adult per family should be attending the school site for school drop-offs and collection, and that face coverings should be worn where possible. Please ensure that you social distance from other parents when waiting outside the school gates. This is to keep pupils, their families and staff safe in these challenging times and we appreciate your support in this.

Harvest Celebration

Reverend Phil helped us celebrate Harvest Festival with a fantastic virtual assembly that the children were able to watch in their classes. They also did some activities and produced some lovely Harvest themed artwork!



Halloween Dress-Up Day

Squirrel Class had an amazing Halloween party at the end of Term 1. They did some creepy crafts, puzzles and enjoyed some tasty sweet treats. We loved seeing the children be creative with their spooky costumes!

Remembrance Day

We held a 2-minute silence on Wednesday 11th November at 11am to commemorate Armistice Day. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, we were unable to hold our usual Remembrance Assembly but it was still nice for pupils to participate in the memorial silence and service that Reverend Phil had kindly prepared for us. The children observed the silence beautifully and we are very proud of them!

Sports Award

Mr Groombridge entered the school into a draw with Sports Direct and we are pleased to inform you that as a result we won a Badminton Pop-up Set and Slazenger Tennis Starter Pack!

Dates for your Diary:



Odd Socks Day – We will be holding an Odd Socks Day on Monday 16th November as part of Anti-Bullying Week. Children can come to school in their usual school uniform but with odd socks. We will not be taking donations for this event and just ask that pupils take part and have fun!

Christmas Craft Day - Children will be taking part in a Craft Day in their classes at school on Tuesday 1st December and will be doing many different festive activities.

Christmas Dinner – Children will be able to have Christmas Dinner here at school on Wednesday 2nd December. Order forms have already gone home and need to be returned by Monday 16th November. If you pay for school dinners please ensure Christmas Dinner is paid for before 2nd December.



Christingle – Due to current restrictions, we will be streaming our annual Christingle service virtually with Reverend Phil to individual classes this year.



Christmas Jumper Day – We will have our Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 11th December this year and we look forward to seeing all the children's Christmassy sweaters!

Class Christmas Parties – Children will be able to celebrate with a party in their classes on the last day of term, Friday 18th December!

Hedgehog Class

We would like to welcome Miss Aitken to the school. She is our new Year 1 teacher and they will be Hedgehog Class.

Attendance – Congratulations and a huge well done to Owl Class who won the highest attendance in the school for Term 1! It is encouraging to see lots of pupils and their parents still aiming for great attendance where possible in these difficult and challenging times.

Primary School Admissions – Applications for September 2021 Reception places are now open for parents and carers until 15th January 2021. Please use the link below to apply:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places#tab-2>

School Website

A reminder for our parents that we are updating the school website regularly and all the information sent home in letters and flyers is also available on our website.

<https://www.parksidecommunityprimaryschool.co.uk/>

Contact Details

Additionally, we sent home an Updated Contact Details Form back in September so that the office staff can ensure all parental contact details are accurate but have not had many returned from parents. Please ensure you update the school office of any changes to family address or telephone numbers. Thank you!