



PARKSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term 5 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to end of another challenging year due to the pandemic I, on behalf of all the staff, would like to thank you all for your continued support. Despite the challenges we have managed to plan many exciting events for the children across the school and we are looking forward to continuing this into next year.

It has been a pleasure to work with all of the children but I would like to take this opportunity to wish our Year 6 children all the best as they move into the next stage of their education. I am sure they will all do themselves proud!

We are sad to be saying goodbye to members of staff but we are looking forward to welcoming new members to the team in September. All that is left for me to say is that I hope each and every one of you have a lovely summer and look forward to seeing you on Thursday 2nd September 2021!

Yours faithfully,

Mrs McLevy
Head of School

Events for Term 6

We have had some very exciting things happening here at Parkside this term with a variety of themed weeks. Children had great fun learning about different topics and carrying out experiments during Science Week, and made many creative and inventive projects for Art Week.

During Sports Week, children were able to take part in Sports Day, a World Cup football competition and a celebration afternoon. Although we were disappointed not to be able to invite parents into the school for Sports Day this year as we had hoped, the children still had an enjoyable day, trying their hardest and making us very proud. Well done Team Parkside!

We were also lucky enough to have several visitors to the school for Careers Week. Children had fantastic talks from a variety of people working in the police service, car sales and the beauty industry. Pupils heard all about what these jobs involve and were able to ask the visitors any questions they had. This week was a great opportunity for children to think about their futures and incorporate one of our school values, Aspiration, into their learning.

All the pupils have had a fantastic day today to celebrate the end of the year. We were able to hire a giant, inflatable assault course for each class to have a play on and children enjoyed some party food in their classes with a film to finish off the Fun Day!

End of Year Plans and Farewell to Year 6

Reverend Phil kindly organised a summer BBQ for our Year 6 pupils on Thursday 15th July as part of their leaving celebrations. The children also shared all their favourite memories at Parkside with parents at their brilliant Leavers Assembly this morning.

The school purchased Parkside hoodies for all of the children in Year 6 to remind them of the school and the happy times they had with us. We are very sad to be saying goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 class and know that they will continue to succeed and make us all proud. Good Luck Year 6!



School Visits

We are also very pleased that due to Covid restrictions beginning to ease we are now able to start running school trips once again! So far, both Squirrel and Otter Classes have been able to visit Whitstable beach. Otter Class learnt all about lifeboats and made some fantastic beach art while Squirrel Class found oyster shells, and enjoyed an ice cream at the seaside. We were also incredibly lucky to have had a small number of tickets to The Golf Championship donated to the school. On Thursday 15th July, ten of our children from Badger Class were able to go and watch this world-renowned sporting event! Check the school website for photos of these events.



We are looking forward to planning more trips for the children in the next school year and making the most of our new Parkside minibus.

Staff Changes

Both Miss Simmons from Squirrel Class and Miss Adams in Otter Class will be leaving us at the end of Term 6. We are sad to see them go but wish them all the best in their futures and thank them for all their hard work here at Parkside.

We would also like to introduce several new staff who will be joining us as of September too!

Mrs Meynell will be joining Miss Aitken and the new Reception children in Squirrel Class. Mrs Fell is joining Owl Class and will be their Class Teacher next year. Mrs French will be joining the admin team in the School Office.

Attendance

Unfortunately, after what has been a difficult and unprecedented year all round our attendance percentage is much lower than what we had hoped. As a school, our attendance is currently 82.5% which falls far below our goal of 95%.

Although there have been unexpected lockdowns and a number of families needing to self-isolate at certain points, children attending school is still extremely important. Persistent absence can negatively affect pupil's learning, friendships and confidence in school. Recently, lateness has also become an issue with many families arriving late to school. Lateness is also very disruptive to a child's school routine.

We would like to remind parents and carers that the school gates open at 8.40am with registration taking place at 9.00am. For those utilising our free Breakfast Club, this opens at 8.10am until 8.30am.

Parents should refrain from making medical and dentist appointments during school hours unless completely unavoidable. Holidays during term-time will be marked as unauthorised. If parents are struggling with maintaining good attendance, please contact the school so we can offer support.

After-School Clubs for Term 1

Clubs will continue in Term 1 for children across the school starting from Monday 13th September. Please see the timetable below and keep an eye out for forms coming home to parents in the first week of next term.

ASC Timetable – Term 1		
Monday	Football	3-4pm
Tuesday	Cricket	3-4pm
Wednesday	Rounders	3-4pm



We are hoping to offer all clubs to all children but we await final guidance when we return in September. We will send out letters at the beginning of the term.

Have a great holiday and we will see you all on Thursday 2nd September 2021.