



July 2022



## Parkside Middle School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you enjoy reading our final newsletter of the year. There has been so much going on this half term! Year 5 enjoyed an activity day in Coventry where they participated in a wide range of sports. Year 6 spent three days on a residential trip at the Pioneer Centre where they were challenged on range of outdoor adventures. Year 7 enjoyed a day on the water at Upton Warren and Year 8 spent time in the great outdoors without running water or electricity at the Bushcraft Centre in York. I have thoroughly enjoyed hearing all about their experiences and without exception, the staff have all expressed that the pupils were exceptionally well behaved and showed great resilience, courage and team work throughout. I hope that by now you have taken time to read your child's reports. Thank you for your responses and comments. As I read and signed them, I felt very proud of the pupils as it was clear to me how hard they have worked and how many opportunities they have embraced throughout the school year.

Over the Summer we look forward to being able to 'go live' with the new school website. We will let you know when this happens, and I look forward to hearing your thoughts regarding it in the Autumn term. As previously mentioned, the school has invested in a new management information system that means you and your children will be able to access their homework and achievements via an app or website. We will provide you with guidance on this at the start of the term.

As you know we have continued to face challenges hosting face to face events during the third wave of Covid and again we were thwarted with our year 8 presentation afternoon due to the extreme weather. However, we look forward to hosting a range of events we have planned in the Autumn that will enable you to come into school, meet with us and share in your children's achievements.

Finally, I would just like to say thank you to you all for your ongoing support to the school and I wish you a relaxing and happy summer holiday.

Mrs Mancini



## PRIDE OF PARKSIDE AWARDS

Congratulations to the pupils who have earned a Pride of Parkside certificate this half term. These pupils are;

Charlie A	Chloe M	Logan C	Scarlett T	Joy D	Madelaine S
Arnie H	Maddison M	Ellison W	Lily-Mae S	Darcie T	Maison T
Izabelle T	Amelia B	Alex M	Aidan C	Will W	Lailah S
Kassidy S	Noah T	Libby H	Grace F	Greyson K	Isabella O
Mia D	Holly H	Oliver T	Sophie W	Maddison A	Dexter Y
Demi-Leigh A	Keelan T	Eva S	Phoebe L	Isaac H	Katie P
Mia S	Mia M	Evie H	Oliver L	Maddie J	Chloe T
	Shivani B	Jack S	Kayden B		

## HOUSE NEWS

Pupils have been filling their house boxes with copper coins this half term. Worcester collected the most money.

Worcester was the overall winner this year amassing 2382 points over the year in various competitions and sports events. Pupils from the winning House enjoyed an ice lolly and an extra break as a reward.

Overall, the four houses have raised £1393.43 this year for their four charities, MacMillan Cancer Support, Cancer Research, Blue Cross and RSPCA. They have also donated to the Ukraine appeal with the DEC.

The House Captains and Vice Captains would like to thank all parents and carers for their support this year.

## READING

Congratulations to our top readers across the school, who have all become Word Millionaires (or multi-millionaires!). To achieve this status, pupils will have read and quizzed on books over the year - Accelerated Reader knows how many words are within each book and keeps a running total of them.

The top readers for this year are:

1st: Phoebe 7CW 3,069,764 words

2nd: Holly 6EO 2,914,117 words

3rd : Isaac 6KW 2,745,899 words

4th : Katie 8KN 2,490,373 words

5th : Mia 6EC 2,190,507 words

Our other Word Millionaires are: Amelia T; Joy D; Thomas W; Elissa M; Ellie-Ann H; Madelaine S; Eva S; Caitlin D; Arnie H; Orla F; Joshua B; Matthew B; Maison T; Dante S; Millie P and Jed F.

All pupils who have achieved Word Millionaire status have received a book from our school reading vending machine - well done!



## PARKSIDE YOUNG CREATOR IS A WINNER

We were very excited to have taken part in the first 'Young Creators Online Art Exhibition' through Bromsgrove creativeartshowcase.org website. [Young Creators - Our Earth Matters - Creative Arts \(creativeartshowcase.org\)](https://creativeartshowcase.org)

This year's theme was 'Our Earth Matters'. Focusing on how the world looks to the young. We are delighted to announce that Poppy in Year 7 was one very deserved winner!

A huge well done Poppy! We are very proud of your wonderful work.

## BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

This half term each year group was tasked with a different challenge to celebrate British Science Week.

Congratulations to all of the winners listed below;

Year 5—Henry grew the heaviest onion which weighed in at a mega 18g.

Year 6—James grew a radish weighing a whopping 188g.

Year 7—Noah produced the longest pea pod at a length of 10cm.

Year 8—Megan's pea plant towered in at 70cm tall.

## SUMMER SHOWCASE

On the 11th July a number of pupils from across all year groups took part in Parkside's Music Summer Showcase. Parents and carers were invited into School to watch a variety of performances and it was truly wonderful to be able to perform to a live audience for the first time in more than two years!

The pupils gave up their time to rehearse and prepare for the Showcase and they all performed brilliantly. I was amazed by their level of confidence, considering that some have only recently begun learning an instrument and had never performed to an audience before! A massive well done to everyone that took part, I was very proud of you all.

We hope that this is the beginning of a return to many more musical events happening in school and that we can invite you back very soon to hear what the pupils have been working on. - Mrs Williams

## PEER MENTORS

Mrs Persich would like to say a huge thank you to all the Parkside Peer Mentors in Year 7 and 8 and also to the children they have mentored. The Mentors have shown commitment, dedication and enthusiasm and their mentees have loved having the support and assistance from them. We look forward to working with them in September to develop the role further. We will be looking to recruit new Mentors in Year 7 so look out for notices and messages in September about how and when to apply!

## SUMMER OF KINDNESS CHALLENGE

Pupils may well have started coming up with their individual acts of kindness for their calendars this week. A reminder, the completed calendars can be entered into a competition both nationally and within school. The deadline for completed calendars is the 16<sup>th</sup> September. Entries can be submitted on paper with the attached entry form, or online, via the link below.

<https://schoolofkindness.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Summer-of-Love-2022.pdf>

## THANK YOU

Pupils and staff raised £150.15 for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust by wearing a yellow accessory this half term. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this wonderful cause!





## SOCIAL AWARENESS DAY—FRIDAY 15TH JULY

It was a pleasure to have the Social Awareness Day back on the school calendar and so many fabulous lessons were experienced in each year group. A huge thank you to all of our visitors for volunteering their time to come into Parkside and support with the day. The visitors were extremely complimentary over the engagement and behaviour of the pupils. A big well done to Year 7 who during their session with The Hub produced work that is going to be displayed on the wall inside The Hub.

## LIBRARY NEWS

It has been wonderful to see so many pupils using the library this year and enjoying the variety of books within their reading age group. Now that they're back in the library, they can also browse and see what catches their eye.

We're very pleased that this year's library competitions have also given them the enthusiasm to demonstrate their excellent skills.

A big thank you all those who have donated books to keep our library fully stocked. We're lucky at Parkside to have such an enthusiastic group of readers and having new books keeps their interest and enthusiasm going strong.

We do hope that during the summer holidays they will keep up with their reading and we will have a great selection of new recommendations for them when they return for the new term.

## SPORTS DAY

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July, the whole school took part in Sports Day. The pupils participated in a variety of track and field events including long jump, 100 metre sprint and hurdles. All pupils showed amazing effort and determination on the day and there were some very impressive performances. We were supported by Sports Leaders from South Bromsgrove High School for the KS3 Sports Day and our very own Sports Leaders took over in the afternoon to run the KS2 events. Both Mr Spalding and Miss Wallis were incredibly impressed by every pupil who participated and can't wait for next year.

## TALENT SHOW

A huge well done to all the children who took part in the Talent Show on the last day of term. We are incredibly proud of all their efforts and bravery to perform in front of the whole school with such confidence. It is really inspiring to see such talent after the creative arts has taken such a hit over the last few years due to the pandemic, and it makes us really hopeful for the future of performance at Parkside to know that we have such creative and talented pupils. Years 5, 6 and 7 were live in the hall whilst Year 8 joined in virtually and we would like to extend a well done to the pupils who made up the audience as they were attentive, supportive and well behaved throughout.

## STAFF NEWS

We would like to send a big thank you and farewell to Mrs Barry, Miss Lennon and Miss E. O'Hara who are leaving us for pastures new at the end of this term.

Welcome to Mrs Bennison and Miss Wilkes who will be joining us as part of the year 5 team in September, Mrs Oakley, who will be the leader of the Mainstream Autism Base, and Mr Lewis and Mrs Reid will be joining the team of Learning Support Assistants.



## THINGS TO NOTE

### CASHLESS

From September, parents and carers will be unable to pay for school trips and events with cash or cheque. Therefore, all parents and carers will be required to sign up to Parent Pay. New pupils will receive log in details to access their Parent Pay account before school commences in September.

### ATTENDANCE

Please ensure that you call or email each day that your child is not in school.

### CLUB BOOKING SYSTEM

The Parents' Booking System will open for club bookings on Monday 5th September at 6:00pm. Clubs will begin week commencing 12th September.

### WATER BOTTLES

Please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school with them every day.

### LOST PROPERTY

Please ensure that all of your child's belongings are labelled ahead of September. Thank you.

### SCHOOL GATES

Our main car park gates close each day between; 8:40am—9:15am and 3:00pm—3:30pm

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 5th September—TE Day
- Tuesday 6th September—School reopens for Year 5 pupils
- Wednesday 7th September—School reopens to all pupils
- Friday 16th September—Year 8 1st HPV Vaccination
- Monday 26th September—Whole school photographs
- Thursday 20th October—School closes for half term