

Parkside Middle School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you enjoy reading this half term's newsletter. As you will see, the pupils have been extremely busy once again and it is wonderful to see and hear about their achievements, in the classroom and in their extra-curricular activities.

It has been lovely to have some fine weather recently which has allowed the pupils to make use of our huge sports field at lunch time to picnic on and play. Next half term we are starting a project to enable the pupils to spend more time learning outside. Over the holiday, BAM will start to clear a huge area which will be the start of our outdoor learning space and our allotment is also being developed to ensure that more pupils can enjoy the benefits of working outdoors. We will keep you posted with photographs on the school website as these areas progress!

As we are starting to plan for the next academic year, the governors and leadership team are keen to find out your views on the organisation of parents' evenings. You will be receiving a link to enable you to express your view. We would be very grateful if you could take the time to complete.

Finally, next half term is extremely busy for the pupils with end of year assessments, trips, oracy showcases and transition plans for our Year 8 pupils. The school calendar on the website is regularly updated to provide you with these key dates.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support and wish you all a relaxing half term break.

Mrs Mancini



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UKMT MATHS CHALLENGE

Pupils from Year 7 and 8 took part in the UKMT Junior Individual Challenge on Wednesday 26th April. The Challenge encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems. Over 200,000 pupils from around 3,700 schools took part this year with schools from abroad competing online.

Congratulations to the following pupils who gained certificates:



BRONZE-

Amelia B	Lucy C	Harry D	Jessica E	Reuben E	Charlie H	Isla J	Georgie-Anne E
Poppy M	Harley N	Thomas S	Ollie S	Eva S	Logan T	Evan W	Oliver W
Luke B	Olivia F	Charlie H	Luca M	Isaac N	Daisy P	Charlie R	Joe M
Joe W	Ruby W	Georgia R					

SILVER-

Joshua B	Thomas H	Ava H	George H	Arnold H	Elliot K	Freddie P-L	Charlie W
Matthew B	Isaac D	Libby E	Callum F	Ollie K	Phoebe L	Archie M	Lily-Jane M
Logan M	Taylor N	Harry R	George S	Hannah S	Lilly-May S	Will W	Lily W

GOLD –

Euan G	Katy C	Alfie O	Jackson P
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A huge well done to all those that took part including Euan G who was the best in Year 7 and Jackson P who was the best in the school. A special congratulations to Jackson P and Alfie O who have qualified for the next round—Junior Kangaroo - on Wednesday 12th June. We wish them every success.

PRIMARY MATHS CHALLENGE

Following their achievements in the Primary Maths Challenge in November, Keelan T and Seth P in Year 6 were put forward to the Bonus Round. Keelan received a participation certificate, with Seth gaining silver. Well done both - amazing achievements!

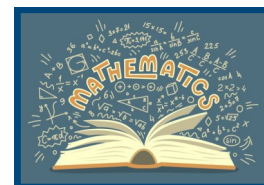
YEAR 6 TESTING

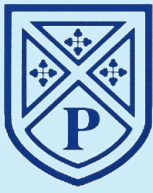
Well done to all our Year 6 pupils for their maturity, positive attitude and resilience during the recent SATs week. They were a credit to the school and themselves. We would also like to say how impressed we were with Years 5, 7 and 8 who supported the Year 6 pupils throughout the week showing empathy and consideration when moving around the building, reinforcing our Parkside Values.

YEAR 8 MATHS LEADERS

A massive thank you and well done to our amazing Year 8 Maths Leaders, who worked with some of the Year 6 pupils during the Spring Term. You showed maturity, patience, empathy and brilliant teaching skills! The Year 6 pupils were very grateful for your help, support and encouragement.

We hope you all gained from the experience too!





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NATIONAL NUMERACY DAY

Wednesday 17th May was National Numeracy Day aimed at pupils and adults across the country. This was a chance to consider how many times we use our Maths skills in a day without realising and think about how Maths is used in different jobs and careers. Various activities took place throughout the week, including a competition for all year groups. One for you at home to try:

Felix and Marmalade are two cats. Together they weigh 10 kg.
Felix weighs 4 kg less than Marmalade. How much does Marmalade weigh?

A 3 kg B 6 kg C 7 kg D 9 kg E 14 kg

ARTWORK

We are thrilled to announce that a remarkable achievement has been accomplished by one of our Year 8 students. Libby E, a gifted artist in 8ES, has had her outstanding artwork selected for the front cover of this year's school handbook. Libby has created a captivating surrealist piece with a unique vision, skilful execution and choice of colours and textures, which evoke a sense of warmth and creativity. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Libby for this exceptional accomplishment. Her selection for the cover of our school handbook recognises her talent, dedication, and hard work. Well done Libby.



CORONATION

Year 5 enjoyed an indoor picnic (we didn't let the bad weather stop our celebrations) and played games and completed Coronation collaboration art.

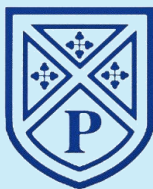
INTERVENTION PROJECTS

Well done to all the pupils who have taken part in the various projects we have had on this half term. These projects have included Young Cadets, The Youth Project, Respect Programme, Listening Service & Boxercise. The visitors we have had in school have been so complementary about your engagement, attitudes and how enjoyable the sessions have been. We are looking forward to working with these visitors again next half term.

CLIMBING WALL AND PIZZA MAKING

On Thursday 20th April, The Den pupils went climbing in Bromsgrove. They amazed us with their resilience and determination. Everyone managed to beat their personal best and we are all so proud of them. It was heart-warming to see them cheering each other on and providing comfort when someone else was scared. The instructors even commented on how well behaved, kind and determined they were. In the afternoon, we made our own pizzas from scratch! We had a pizza oven in The Den playground which cooked the pizza really quickly.





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PRIDE OF PARKSIDE

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



Rhys J	Rafael D	Lexi R	Jackson P	Harry P	Heidi D	Lucas A-W	Ryan T-S
Dan K	Naz O	Casey B	Tiyana N	Elliot G	Euan G	Louis G	Kiean-Lee Y
Archie S	Mia S	Poppy M	Frank P	Maria L	Dillon M	Frankie B	Isabella O-B
Libby E	Harry B	Theo P	Phoebe P	Maisie S	Harley N		

HOUSE CAPTAINS

This term House Captains and Vice Captains have been involved in writing emails and letters to local companies asking for donations towards an end of term raffle. So far Webbs and Willowbrook Garden Centre have donated vouchers!

We also have a house competition taking place to see which house can build the highest tower? Pupils have been asked to bring in good quality books to make a tower of books to try and reach the ceiling! Which house do you think will win?



PE NEWS

KS3 FOOTBALL MATCHES VS HOLY TRINITY

Parkside hosted Holy Trinity in a KS3 girls football match. The girls got off to a brilliant start as Ellie D netted an early goal, putting them 1-0 up. The girls showcased some excellent patterns of play and dominated the second half by keeping possession. Scarlett T took her opportunity when the ball got played to her to double the lead making it 2-0. Player of the match was Ellie D.

The boys showed some promising football at times, but unfortunately lost their game 2-1. There were some great performances throughout, with an unlucky own goal early on. Nevertheless, they didn't let their heads drop and battled to the very end. Well done on what was a very close game.

PARKSIDE ROUNDEERS VS HOLY TRINITY

Parkside's Year 5 team beat Holy Trinity 14.5 rounders to 5.5, while Year 7 won 7.5 to 5.5 and Year 8 lost 8-6.

MINI TENNIS TOURNAMENT

On Wednesday 24th May we took a number of pupils from Year 5 and Year 6 to the Bromsgrove Tennis and Cricket Club to play a primary tennis tournament. It was a long 40-minute walk on the hottest day of the year so far and the pupils performed and represented the school brilliantly, as did our Year 8 Sports Leaders who helped run the competition. We didn't manage to win any medals due to it being scored by teams, but some individuals really excelled themselves winning the majority, if not all, of their games. A shoutout to those who were less experienced and showed amazing resilience by continuing to play in good spirits and recognising what an amazing opportunity they were a part of.



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MUSIC

The music department has been very busy this half term!

On the 5th May a number of students from across KS2 and KS3 joined hundreds of Schools from across the Country to 'Sing for the King'. They performed a piece, 'Defender of us All', composed by Daniel Nicholls; the Princess of Wales' former piano teacher. The students sang beautifully, and we even received a special mention on the organiser's website <https://www.soundscool.org/post/thousands-sang-thank-you>



KS2 students have been enjoying an exciting curriculum project this term using turntables. They have been a great hit so far; students are able to explore alternative music genres and create new music whilst learning the art of manipulating sounds. I would like to extend my thanks to The David Morgan Trust for funding the Turntablism project.

On the 9th June at 3:30pm we will be holding an informal 'Singers Showcase' concert, featuring our KS2 and KS3 singing groups. Our KS2 singing group will also be looking forward to a reward trip in June to see Demon Dentist at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

Please look out for information relating to our Summer Concert in July. This will be open to all year groups and will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate in the successes of our excellent musicians at Parkside.



EXCITING ART EXHIBITION!

YOUNG VOICES NEW VISIONS EXHIBITION IN WORCESTER CATHEDRAL

Over 50 schools are taking part in Severn Arts' Young Voices New Visions exhibition this year. From Sunday 28th May to Sunday 2nd July, artwork responding to the theme of 'Time' will be on display in the cloisters at Worcester Cathedral, celebrating the creativity of young people from across Worcestershire. Parkside Middle School will be submitting a selection of their Year 8 clay sculpted animal faces and a Thrive collaboration print. We hope you can pop along and enjoy this fantastic opportunity.

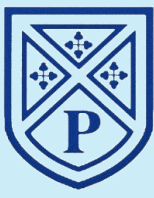


From the Cornish Coast to the Malvern Hills: Worcester Art Gallery and Museum is currently displaying an exhibition focusing on British Impressionists, in particular: Stanhope Forbes. Parkside Middle School and other schools in the local area were asked to respond to Stanhope Forbes' Paintings, with the question: 'What's under the water?' Parkside Year 8 pupils worked collaboratively with Meadow's Year 4 pupils. We hope you enjoy our artwork!

ART ACTIVITY: ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING WORKSHOP, FEATURING ARTIST: JEANETTE BARNES. FRIDAY 21ST APRIL

We had the pleasure of working with acclaimed Architectural Artist, Jeanette Barnes. Jeanette visited us for the day and held some fabulous Art workshops in Years 7 & 8. Pupils perfected their drawings skills in charcoal, capturing famous landmarks and creating architectural sculptures. We had a very fun and messy day - one I'm sure the pupils won't forget!





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PARKING

Our main car park gates close between 8:40am and 9:15am and 3:00pm and 3:30pm each day. Please can we also remind parents and carers to be mindful of how and where they park within our car park.

STAFF NEWS

As this half-term comes to an end, we would like to send our best wishes to Mrs Brittle who will be retiring at the end of the academic year after 16 years of service at Parkside.

As this half-term comes to an end, we would also like to congratulate Miss Lee who will be getting married and will return as Mrs Taylor.



LUNCHTIME

Pupils that are buying food from school can also buy a drink to go with their meal. If pupils are bringing their own sandwiches in, please remember to bring in a drink.

MEDICATION

Please can we confirm that all medication sent into school for pupils must be signed in and signed out by parents / carers. There is also a permission form to complete. All medication brought into school must be in the original packaging with instructions.



WATER BOTTLES

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

ORACY AFTERNOONS — DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

As you know, our pupils have been working hard this year to develop their oracy skills. During the Summer Term, we would like to take this opportunity to invite parents/carers into school to take part in some events which will allow pupils to showcase their work and to use effective oracy in explaining and presenting.

Please take note of the following dates when we will be inviting parents / carers into school:

Year 5: Real Life Maths oracy afternoon - 5JP / 5HP / 5JB Monday ^{3rd} July ; 5CWi / 5SN Tuesday ^{4th} July.

Year 6: Oracy afternoon - Friday 30th June

Year 7: Oracy afternoon - Friday 16th June

Year 8: Presentation afternoon - Wednesday 19th July

Further information will be sent out regarding each of these events after half term.





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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| • Monday 5 th June | School reopens |
| • Tuesday 6 th June | Year 8 2nd HPV vaccination |
| • Friday 16 th June | Y5 Class, Y8 individual, Y8 Group Photographs |
| • Thursday 29 th June | KS2 Choir Trip to Demon Dentist |
| • Monday 3 rd July – Wednesday 5 th July | Year 8 Bushcraft Residential Trip |
| • Tuesday 4 th July | Year 6 Dental check |
| • Wednesday 5 th July – Friday 7 th July | Year 6 Oaker Wood Residential Trip |
| • Friday 14 th July | Year 7 Gurdwara (7AF, 7VSA & Group1 7CW) |
| • Thursday 13 th July | Year 5 Activity Day |
| • Thursday 20 th July | Year 8 Inflatables Day |
| • Friday 21 st July | School closes for summer holidays |
| • Monday 24 th July | School closed – TE Day |
| • Tuesday 25 th July | School closed – TE Day |

