

Parkside Middle School Newsletter

This week I have had the pleasure of celebrating so much of our pupil's successes and presenting a huge array of certificates and awards. But, as I said to them, every single pupil has achieved so much through the year, and it is important for them to reflect on this. I hope by now you have had chance to read their reports. As I read them, I was very proud to see how hard they have worked and how many opportunities they have embraced throughout the school year.

It was an emotional farewell to our fabulous Year 8 pupils who have been such a pleasure this year, consistently demonstrating our Parkside Standard and role modelling to the younger pupils our Parkside values. We wish them all the very best in their new schools!

I want to congratulate our Year 6 pupils on their superb SATs results, their hard work and determination paid off and it was wonderful to see so many with huge smiles on their faces.

As you will read in the newsletter, the last half of the year is packed full of a huge number of activities designed to support the children's personal development. I would like to extend a big thank you to the staff for their dedication and commitment to enabling so many opportunities for the pupils.

Finally, thank you to all of you, our Parkside family for all of your support to the school. I hope you have a wonderful Summer break and we look forward to seeing our current pupils back on Wednesday 4th September.

Best Wishes

Mrs Mancini



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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:



George H	Charlie H	Eva S	Eva B	Poppy M	Eva S	Isabella O-B	Noah L
Jessica W	Jamie ML	Daisy ML	Divine M	Rezwan A	Lewis N	Kaiden H-T	Nilia K
Esmail B-D	Riley A	Sapphire O	Finn A	Minana C	Polly T	Jack S	Theo P
Esme H-S	Bella E	Rebekah B	Sohan D	Esmee P	Alfie P	Chalise O	Harley N
Logan E-J	Harry H	Oliver B	Elliott H	Harry D	Austin A	Adam P	Shayana S

ACHIEVEMENT POINT REVIEW

As another academic year comes to an end I am proud to announce this year's achievement point totals. A new record has been set with the school achieving a massive 208,970 achievement points! This is an amazing team effort and everyone should be proud of their hard work. Well done Parkside! Our top achievement point winner this year was Maisie D in Year 6 with 987 points!



SPORTS DAY

On Wednesday 10th July, our Year 7 and 8 students participated in a fantastic day of sports activities ran by Sports Leaders from North Bromsgrove High School.

It was truly inspiring to see our students embodying the Parkside Standard throughout the day, showing great teamwork and resilience. The results for Key Stage 3 were as follows: Malvern secured 1st place, Worcester came in 2nd, with Hereford in 3rd place, followed by Gloucester in 4th place.

In the afternoon session, our very own Parkside sports leaders demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities as they efficiently managed each station with independence, while also motivating our younger pupils. Furthermore, our Year 5 and 6 students showcased the Parkside values by showing kindness, respect, and embracing the sporting opportunities with a positive attitude.

Once again, the results were in... Malvern clinching the 1st place, closely followed by Worcester in 2nd place, Hereford securing the 3rd position, and Gloucester finishing in 4th place.

I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the students who participated in the sports day event. Your dedication, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm were truly commendable. Let's continue to encourage our children to stay active and engaged in sports as it not only promotes physical well-being but also teaches valuable life lessons such as teamwork and resilience.





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READING

Parkside have had another successful year with our reading achievements.

The totals for the school this year:

Parkside Middle School Reads!



In this school year, students have read...

4,675 Books

93,268,411 Words

for **41** minutes/day!
(individual student average)



RENAISSANCE

Individual commendation must go to our top readers within the school. The following pupils have all become 'Word Millionaires' this year:

Ella P	Madelaine S	Elliott H	Alfred C	Bronte L	Lucy C	Freyja E-J
Daniel C-F	Keyara P	Seth P	William J	Holly H	Lucas A-W	

Remember to keep reading over the summer, with access to the local library and the National Read Aloud Challenge that Parkside has signed up for - offering lots of free books to read over the summer.

To sign up, please use our personalised link: <https://www.readaloudchallenge.co.uk/join/PESS-WJEA-3JHD>

You could help our school to win a national prize this summer!



**National
Read-Aloud
Challenge**

Powered by **Fonetti**

We're reading aloud this summer and competing against schools around the UK

**Parkside Middle
School**

[readaloudchallenge.co.uk](https://www.readaloudchallenge.co.uk)
#BeProudReadAloud





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CULTURE WEEK

Our annual Culture week this year was a huge success, offering all pupils an opportunity to learn about not only our own culture, but of another that is different to our own. Year 5 had great fun learning about Indian culture - through learning about traditional stories, music, religions and beliefs, as well as trying a bit of dancing and learning about foods. Year 5 also looked at William Shakespeare's play 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' with our 'play in a day'. They designed costumes and potions for the fairy world! Year 6 learned about Greek culture and the impact that it has had and continues to have on our lives, building up to a wonderful Olympic afternoon that got them ready for this summer's Olympics in Paris. Year 7 also learned about the famous Shakespeare play, 'The Tempest' and designed some wonderful masques which could be used in a production. They then went on to learn about Chinese culture - with a wealth of activities including learning about Chinese history, language, sports, food and even how to use chopsticks! Year 8 engaged in the Spanish culture, learning some key phrases, famous artists and locations.

SOCIAL AWARENESS DAY

On Friday 12th July Parkside took place in their annual Social Awareness Day where a wide variety of different lessons were delivered to all classes. The pupils engagement was fantastic creating a fabulous atmosphere around the school. A huge Parkside thanks to all of our visitors who helped make the day.



YEAR 5 RLM PARTY

On 21st and 22nd June, Year 5 had the pleasure of welcoming parents/carers to our school to showcase the remarkable work they have been doing during Real-life Maths lessons. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to exhibit their learning and for you to witness their progress firsthand.

During the showcase, the children proudly presented their work within their books, demonstrating their understanding of various mathematical concepts including ratio, scaling, area, perimeter, and compound shapes. They enthusiastically explained the tasks they have been working on, showcasing their problem-solving skills and creative thinking.

We hope, for those that could attend, enjoyed witnessing the dedication and enthusiasm with which your child approaches their mathematical challenges.

The overwhelming positive feedback from parents was heart-warming with many parents commenting that they enjoyed the event and having the opportunity to see their child's work firsthand.

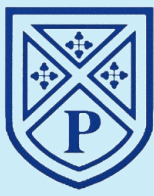
Additionally, twelve Year 7 pupils supported the event, confidently talking to the parents and supporting the Year 5 pupils articulate their learning.



STEM KNEX FINAL

Toby and Evan from Year 5 represented the school at the KNEX Final hosted by STEM Works on Thursday, 13th June. They participated in designing and constructing transport capable of moving a bridge, demonstrating advanced problem-solving and engineering skills. Their exceptional teamwork contributed to a commendable performance where, despite not winning the overall final, they surpassed 4000 pupils across the county. Their exemplary behaviour and conduct throughout the event were truly commendable. Congratulations to Toby and Evan for their outstanding efforts!



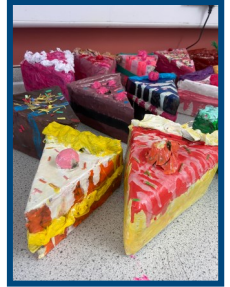


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POP ART CAKES

Here's just a few of our fabulous Pop Art cake sculptures from our current Year 7's. We have had a fantastic time making these. Our Sculptures were based on the Pop Art Genre and reflected the work of Artists Claes Oldenburg & Wayne Thiebauld.



SCHOOL GARDENS

Season 2 of Parkside Garden has brought significant upgrades, including revamped vegetable beds and a fresh coat of paint. Currently, the garden is flourishing with sweetcorn, runner beans, and pumpkins, the latter of which are spreading wildly! The Parkside gardeners eagerly anticipate the harvest upon our return in September and we are looking forward to enjoying the fruits of our labour and seeing the garden's continued growth and success.

SUMMER CONCERT

On the 10th July it was the School Summer Concert, featuring over 70 students!

The concert began with smiles all around as the KS2 and KS3 singers performed the gentle lullaby 'Bella Mamma' acapella as they processed down the hall singing in a 4-part round. The performances ranged from vocal/instrumental solos, guitar ensembles vocal groups, dancers, rock ensembles and a band with around 20 students coming together to play an arrangement of 'Mr Brightside'. For the first time the concert also featured a staff choir singing 'I'll be there for you'. The concert ended with our singers coming back on stage to perform a wonderful rendition of 'I'm Still Standing'.

The concert was a huge success and a massive well done is extended to all those involved in the concert: for those responsible for setting up, operating the sound and lighting, the staff and of course to the many performers who shared their talents. The standard and diversity of performances is a testament to all the hard work and enthusiasm shown by the students throughout the year.

Many of our musicians were also part of a reward trip in June to see 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' at the Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham. A fantastic evening was had by all!

All extra-curricular activities will resume in September. Everyone is welcome, please keep an eye out for more details to follow. We look forward to many exciting new projects to come.

BOOK TOWER CHALLENGE

At the start of June pupils took part in a House Competition to create the tallest book tower. Pupils from all years brought in books in good condition that they had read and no longer wanted. The books were placed in House boxes in the library and the House captains used the books to build the towers. The House with the highest tower was Hereford while last year's winners Malvern were second. The captains of the top 2 teams can be seen with their book towers below.





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LEGO DAY

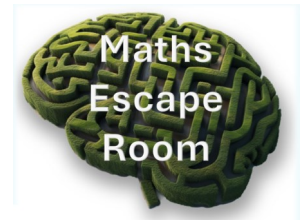
A group of Year 8 students got the opportunity to take part in an engineering workshop set up by Aston University. The workshops were to help inspire the boys into thinking about engineering as a career path in the future.

The workshops were based around using Lego (for construction) and coding to make their 'robots' work. They were challenged throughout and had to work as part of a team to achieve the results needed. The group of students were a real credit to themselves and school and fully emersed themselves in the activities provided.



MATHS ESCAPE ROOM EVENT

Four year 8 pupils were chosen to represent the school at the annual Maths Escape Room hosted by Aston Fields Middle. They competed against the four other Bromsgrove middle schools. They thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and ended up joint winners with the host school, with both schools making it out of the room with one minute to spare! Well done to Amelia, Daisy, Charlie and Reuben for a display of brilliant problem solving skills and teamwork!



ART WORK

Huge congratulations to year 8 for completing their Wonderful skate decks. This Art project focused upon Graffiti Art and combined a range of skills including doodle, pattern, line and colour. We encouraged our pupils to really show off their own personalities, displaying many as part of our Year 8 celebration afternoon. Fantastic work year 8!



YEAR 8 CELEBRATION PARTY

The Year 8s had a blast at their Celebration Party on Thursday 27th June, partying together with music, mocktails and sweets. They entered on the red carpet to Mrs Williams-Sharpe being paparazzi and danced to a playlist that the year group had put together. A great time was had by all!



YEAR 8 FAREWELL

At the end of another year, we have said our final farewells to our wonderful Year 8 pupils. We have been so proud of the wonderful young people that they have become, and they have represented our school in a fantastic way - as Prefects, Sports Leaders, House Captains...the list goes on. This week, we said goodbye through our annual presentation afternoon, where pupils received prizes for their commitments to the school and their studies. The weather held out on Thursday so that they could enjoy a field full of inflatable fun and we finished today with a fond farewell in our leavers' assembly. We wish all our Year 8 pupils a restful summer and the best of luck for September!



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RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

BUSHCRAFT

In July 2024, Year 8 students embarked on a memorable residential trip to Badminton Woods. Throughout their stay, they showcased remarkable resilience, teamwork, kindness, and respect. The pupils engaged in a range of exciting outdoor activities, from constructing their own shelters to trying their hand at axe throwing. Despite returning tired and grubby, the students were enriched by the experience, having forged lifelong memories and strengthened bonds with their peers. The trip was an invaluable opportunity for personal growth and adventure.



OAKERWOOD

It was an absolute pleasure to take 115 Y6 pupils to Oakerwood Leisure this year. They approached each challenge with enthusiasm and determination, supporting one another every step of the way. Their positive attitudes and willingness to work together not only made the trip a success but also ensured that every student felt included and supported throughout. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the pupils for their exemplary behaviour and positive contributions during the trip.

BLETCHLEY PARK

On Thursday 6th June, we took 40 pupils across both key stages to Bletchley Park. We had a brilliant time exploring the historic site and soaking up all the fascinating information. Our pupils were an absolute credit to the school, demonstrating outstanding conduct and behaviour throughout the whole day. One of the highlights of the trip was when the pupils took part in a D-Day Coding workshop. They had the opportunity to decipher an encrypted message, just like the codebreakers at Bletchley Park did during World War II. It was fantastic to see them all getting stuck into the challenge!

One Year 6 pupil commented “my favourite part was listening to the morse code and working out what the hidden message was about”. To top it all off, we were blessed with beautiful weather and even got to witness a flyover to mark the 80th D-Day anniversary. It was a truly memorable moment that added an extra special touch to our day. Overall, it was a day filled with learning, fun, and great experiences.



BABLAKE

Year 5 travelled to Coventry to take part in a full day of activities. All experiencing cricket, team building, boxercise, and spike ball. The behaviour and conduct of our pupils was exemplary earning praise from all of the external coaches and Parkside staff involved. Well done Year 5!

AZTEC UPTON WARREN

Year 7 had a wonderful day trip to Upton Warren filled with water activities such as Kayaking, Canoeing and Raft Building as well as archery, rifle shooting and climbing. Pupils showed amazing resilience and determination in some challenging activities, all with a smile on their faces! It was a lovely trip to end what has been a fantastic Year 7.



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SPORTS FIXTURES

PANATHLON CHALLENGE

On Thursday 25th June, 7 pupils from Year 5 attended the Panathlon Challenge final which took place at the University of Birmingham Sports and Fitness Centre. The children had earned their place in the final over the course of the year, attending various other rounds of the event along the way. They competed against 13 other schools, the most they had come up against, from across the Midlands. The children took part in many of the same events as they had previously, such as bean bag throw, table cricket, kurling, parachute popcorn and basketball. They all worked very hard as a team, up against some stiff competition. Unfortunately, they did not win overall, but gave an excellent account of themselves, representing Parkside incredibly well and had a great work-out! We hope to be able to attend a similar event in the future.



YEAR 7 & 8 ROUNDERS MATCH Vs SJMS

Our Key Stage 3 rounders teams recently participated in several exciting matches at home against St John's Middle School. The A team emerged victorious with a final score of 7.5 to 4.5 rounders, while the B team also secured a win, edging out their opponents by 2 rounders. The pupils demonstrated excellent fielding throughout their games, which was crucial in keeping St John's score to a minimum.

In the second round, our A team delivered an outstanding performance, winning with a dominant score of 10.5 to 1. Although our B team fought hard, they ultimately lost to their A team 4.5 to 6.

KS2 ATHLETICS

Our Key Stage 2 pupils recently competed in the District Athletics at Abbey Stadium, marking an exciting day of competition. For many, it was their first experience in an athletics competition, and all pupils enjoyed the event immensely. Lucas T and Lottie E both won medals in their track events, whilst in the field events, Ava W, Nicole F and Izzy P also excelled, each earning a medal. A big well done to all our pupils for their fantastic performances and for representing our school with pride



KS3 DISTRICT ATHLETICS

Our Key Stage 3 athletes recently competed at the District Athletics held at the Ryland Centre. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed participating in various track and field events, showcasing their skills and determination. As a school, we achieved remarkable success, securing a total of 25 medals. A special mention to Jack C who achieved a gold medal in the 200m. This impressive haul included medals from the relay events, where three out of our four teams earned a place on the podium. The students' hard work and team spirit were truly commendable, making the event a memorable experience for everyone involved. Minana C and George H have qualified for the Minors County Team and will go on to represent the Bromsgrove District at this event being held at Nunnery Wood High School.



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ATTENDANCE

The Department for Education have recently launched a campaign to raise awareness of the importance of school attendance, highlighting the benefits beyond just attainment, such as friendships and well-being. Here at Parkside we believe that regular school attendance is important for your child's learning, but also for their overall wellbeing, wider development and mental health.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

We understand that for parents and carers it can be difficult to know when to send your child in to school if they are feeling unwell. It is usually safe for children to attend school with mild illnesses, like a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However children should stay at home if they have a high temperature of 38° or above. If we become concerned about the level of illness related absence your child has had we may contact you and request medical evidence to support this.

The NHS has published guidance to help parents and carers decide whether their child is well enough to attend school. This includes information on a range of common childhood illnesses and conditions such as coughs, colds, chicken pox and headlice. See the below link to access this information.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

As a school we are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers to ensure that children are supported to attend school and reach their full potential. If there are any reasons that prevent your child from attending school or if you would like to discuss your child's attendance please contact our Attendance Officer, Miss Harper.

We now have a specific form on our school website to report an absence and/or medical appointment, this can be found under the 'Contact Us' tab. You can continue to report absences by calling the school office (01527 873660) and leaving a message, or sending an email to our dedicated attendance email - absence@parkside.worcs.sch.uk.

Please ensure that absences are reported by 09:00am and we ask that you contact us **EVERY** day your child is unwell. Any unreported absences are marked as unauthorised on your child's attendance report.

We would like to remind all parents and carers of the importance of children attending school on time. Our rear gate to the playground closes at 08:50am to ensure that all children are in registration ready to start their day promptly. If you are running late for any reason, please contact the school office.



PARKSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Portals

Contact Us

Search

Contact Form

Absence Form

01527 873660



Our School

Year Groups

Our Curriculum

Parents/Carers

New Pupils



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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 that the car park is for staff, visitor use and drop off only.

ROAD SAFETY

Please may we remind pupils of road safety and sensible conduct on the way to and from school, remembering to use the zebra/pelican crossings when arriving/leaving school. Local residents have raised concerns wanting our pupils to stay safe.

BICYCLES

If your child wishes to cycle to school, please ensure they follow the highway code. When arriving at school pupils can lock the bicycle away safely in the bike shed. When leaving school, please can all pupils push their bike until off the school site before cycling away safely to protect Parkside and Meadows pupils and parents.

WATER BOTTLES

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



MEDICATION

Should pupils require medication in school, a medical consent form should be completed and signed by parents and carers. Please note we are unable to give medication unless it is in the original packaging with instructions. We keep a small amount of Calpol in school for emergencies. If you know your child may require Calpol in school, please bring in a supply for us to use. If your child has pierced ears, please can we ask that you supply tape for them to use in PE for health and safety reasons.



LUNCHTIME

Lunchtime meals are now £2.53, pupils can also buy a drink to go with their meal at an additional cost. If pupils are bringing their own sandwiches, please remember to bring in a drink. If you are entitled to FSM, please apply even if your child does not want the meals, as additional funding is made available for the school for other purposes, which will benefit your child.

STAFF NEWS

As this academic year comes to an end we are saying goodbye to Mrs Mogg, Miss Harrison and Mr Carbery. We will welcome Miss Fletcher, Mr Duggan and Mrs Powell.

END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Can we remind Parents/Carers that school finishes at 3:15pm. For safeguarding reasons, if you are unable to collect your children at the end of the school day, please make alternative arrangements for them to be picked up at this time or use Castle Kids Care Club. Our staff are not in a position to be able to supervise your children after school, and it is not appropriate for them to be sat waiting in reception.



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUTUMN TERM 2024

Monday 2 nd September	School closed – TE day
Tuesday 3 rd September	School reopens Year 5 only
Wednesday 4 th September	School reopens for whole school
Friday 20 th September	Whole school photographs
Thursday 24 th October	School closes for half term
Friday 25 th October	School closed – TE day
Monday 4 th November	School reopens
Friday 20 th December	School closes for Christmas holidays

EQUIPMENT LIST

Blue handwriting pen	Whiteboard pen (Dry wipe)
Pencil	Pencil crayons
Ruler (cm/mm)	Glue stick
Rubber	Pencil case (small)
Pencil sharpener	Highlighter
Green pen	Wired headphones for Computing
Scientific calculator (KS3 only) – these can be purchased from the school via ParentPay.	



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THE HUB

Summer Holiday Camp

For ages 8 -13 years

Week 1:

Tues 23rd July -
Fri 26th July

Week 3:

Mon 5th Aug -
Thurs 8th Aug

Week 2:

Mon 29th July -
Thurs 1st Aug

Week 4:

Mon 12th Aug -
Thurs 15th Aug

**9.30am - 3.30pm at St John's
Middle School, B61 7DH**

Enjoy fun activities including

- Sports
- Arts
- Games
- Food related activities
- External provider workshops
- Trips out
- and much more!



Prices: £15 per individual day or £45 per week, per young person.

Entire 16 days is £180 per young person.

FREE spaces for young people in receipt of school meals through HAF.

To book, please Email Dan Owen on Do@thehubbromsgrove.org

