

Embrace Opportunity. Nurture Success. Inspire Futures.

October 2025



Parkside Middle School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we break up for half term, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. It has been wonderful to see so many of you attending our events, and your positive feedback means a great deal to us.

Parkside is always a busy and vibrant place as we work towards our mission of enabling pupils to embrace as many opportunities as possible—and this term has been no exception, as you will see in our newsletter.

I am particularly proud of how well our pupils have settled into their new school or year group. It has been fantastic to see so many of them taking part in extra-curricular clubs and embracing opportunities for student leadership.

This term, we have focused on raising standards in writing and presentation through our mantra: 'Every Piece, Every Time.' To encourage pupils to take pride in their work, we launched a 'Wow Work' competition. Winning entries are proudly displayed in school, and pupils have received certificates to share at home. We would greatly appreciate your support in reinforcing these high standards when pupils' complete homework.

We ended the half term with our Pride of Parkside assembly—a wonderful opportunity to celebrate pupils' achievements both in and out of school. A highlight was hearing the whole school sing a fantastic rendition of A Sky Full of Stars by Coldplay!

Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome you to our Parents' Evening next half term, where you will have the chance to discuss your child's progress with their teachers.

Wishing you an enjoyable and restful half term.

Best wishes,

Mrs Mancini Headteacher





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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:

Adele C	Aiya WD	Daisie R	Ella B	Elliott H	Elyssa N	Flynn P	Freya L
Harlow G	Harry W	Jaxon B	Joey C	Lola W	Lottie H	Lydia K	Naomi M
Niamh C	Sebastian P	Sophie K	Zach A	Zach L	Phoebe B	Skye D	Macy T
Joey G	Morgan W						

ACHIEVEMENT POINT REVIEW

As we wrap up this half term, we are delighted to share this half term's amazing achievement point total 50,158.

This is an amazing start to the academic year and is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and collaboration of our entire school community. A heartfelt congratulations to everyone at Parkside — well done!

A special well done to Jessica C (Year 6), who topped the leaderboard with 189 achievement points this term! This is an amazing accomplishment.



HEAD PUPILS

We would like to congratulate the following pupils who have been elected as this year's Head Pupils.

Lizzie J Sol C Theo P Anaya S Noah L Cameron D

HOUSE CAPTAINS

We would like to congratulate the following pupils who have been elected as this year's House Captains.

Worcester - Mason W Francesca H

Hereford - Theo P Heidi D

Gloucester - Freddie R Millie C

Malvern - Oliver OB Poppy A



FAMILY THRIVE

It has been lovely welcoming our parents and carers to our Family Thrive events this half term. The first event was with our Year 6 families where we looked at the triune brain and made our own brains using Play-Doh, whilst learning about each part of the triune brain.

We then had our Year 7 Thrive afternoon where we looked at the changes that happen to our brain once we become teenagers. Both afternoons were a huge success.

Thank you to all of the families who were able to join us.





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YEAR 5 ROCKSTAR DAY

Year 5 had an amazing TT Rockstars Day, full of energy, enthusiasm, and incredible costumes! Pupils fully embraced the rockstar spirit and showed great excitement for learning their times tables.



With logins now ready, they're set to keep practising and customising their avatars.

A big thank you to all parents and carers for your fantastic support!



YEAR 5 MATHS & ENGLISH MORNING



Thank you to all parents/carers that attended the Maths and English morning. The feedback from parents was very positive and the pupils enjoyed having an adult join them in a Maths lesson. Bob the Alien also made an appearance to help the pupils 'Speak like a Specialist' promoting their good oracy skills.



The presentations from Mrs Cox about Maths and Mrs Wright about English at Parkside, are available on our website for those parent/carers who were unable to attend.

Additionally, see the positive comments below regarding the event:

"Great morning! Really helpful to see how you teach it, so I can mirror it at home! Thank you."

"Thank you, very useful to see how the children learn, really impressed how interactive the lessons are!"

"A super morning - many thanks. A wonderful opportunity to work alongside the children and understand methods being used. Really helpful. Thank you!"

"Really helpful to understand methods used and to see children in the teaching environment."

YEAR 6 INFORMATION EVENING

Thank you to everyone who attended the Year 6 Information Evening. For those of you who were unable to attend, the information is available on our school website - [Year 6 Information Evening - Parkside Middle School](#).

Year 6 SATs Week is the 11th - 14th May 2026. If you have a child in Year 6, we kindly request that you do not book a holiday in this week or the revision weeks beforehand.





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BLACKWELL ADVENTURE



Year 5 had an incredible time at Blackwell Adventure, taking part in exciting activities like climbing, zip wire, archery, and low ropes. Pupils overcame fears, tackled new challenges, and showed amazing resilience throughout the trip.

They truly demonstrated the Parkside Standard of *Teamwork* and *Kindness* by supporting and encouraging one another every step of the way. Whether scaling a wall or balancing on ropes, they never gave up and celebrated each other's successes.

It was a fantastic experience that built confidence, strengthened friendships, and created lasting memories. Well done, Year 5 – we're proud of you!



WARWICK CASTLE

The Year 7 pupils had a fantastic time at Warwick Castle.

We weren't lucky enough for the trebuchet to be working, however this didn't sully the day. Pupils had a range of experiences from watching the bird show, exploring the rich collection of historical artefacts and engaged in a "battle-skills" workshop, getting hands on with medieval battle manoeuvres.

The highlight was a walk of the castle walls and a climb up the tower in which a pupil's glasses miraculously survived the fall from the top of said tower!

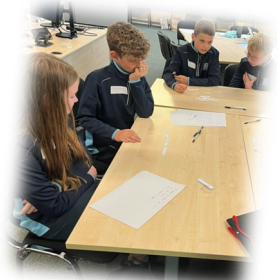
A very successful trip once again at Warwick castle.

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

A group of six Year 8 pupils were given the opportunity to visit South Bromsgrove High School to celebrate European Day of Languages.

They were joined by pupils from the other four middle schools in Bromsgrove. The day was led by South Bromsgrove's Language Ambassadors, who guided pupils through a variety of engaging activities in French, Spanish, Italian and Dutch. These included language games, cultural challenges and interactive sessions designed to spark interest in learning new languages.

All the pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience and returned inspired by the diversity of European cultures and languages.



BLACK COUNTRY MUSEUM

On Wednesday 17th October Year 6 visited the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley.

We had the chance to step back in time and explore life during the Industrial Revolution. This living museum is a fantastic place to learn about the history of the Black Country, one of the UK's most important industrial regions, and how people lived and worked in the 19th century. Our visit included two main activities: the Mining Experience and the Victorian School Lesson.

The pupils embraced everything the museum had to offer and were a credit to Parkside.





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HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

This year is an exciting year at Parkside and there has been a fabulous buzz around school because we are putting on a musical!

We launched High School Musical just 6 weeks ago and have had an amazing response from pupils to be involved. Over 60 children auditioned and over 40 have expressed an interest in getting involved off stage.

We now have a brilliant cast and rehearsals have been going well in singing, dancing and acting. The enthusiasm of the children has blown us away and we are so excited for what is to come this year - we're all in this together!

More information about performances and getting more involved will come in due course.



BRITISH DRESSAGE AWARDS

On Thursday 9th October two of our pupils, Freya L and Sophie K attended the British Dressage awards.

They are both apart of the West Midlands Dressage Group who were nominated for an award.

They were up against other teams from all over the UK and managed to win their category!

They did amazingly and have made Parkside very proud! Well done girls!



BIRMINGHAM SHINE NIGHT WALK

Our incredible LSA's took part in the Shine Night Walk in Birmingham in the very first week of term. This was a charity walk to raise awareness and money for Cancer Research UK.

The event saw 1500 people take to the streets of Birmingham and complete a 10K walk, team Parkside consisted of a group of 9. The event managed to raise an amazing amount of more than £170,000 to help with vital research and equipment.

We have raised a total of £2,260 which truly is amazing and will make a difference.





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SPORT FIXTURES



DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY

Our Year 5, 6, 7 and 8 athletes recently took part in the District Cross Country event held at Bromsgrove School. Competing against schools from across the district our runners tackled a challenging cross-country course. It was fantastic to see their effort and team spirit on full display, no matter where they finished.

A special congratulations goes to Ollie B, Marley M, Jake B, Isabelle H and Zac A, who finished in the top 8 of their respective races—an outstanding achievement at such a competitive event. We are incredibly proud of all our runners for representing the school so well.



YEAR 6 FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Our Year 6 girls took on other local schools in a football tournament.

We made a fantastic start and beat Aston Fields 2-0. We managed to stay composed during our other games against Westacre and Catshill, with a draw and loss. A special shout out to our amazing goalkeeper Khaleesi B, her incredible contribution in keeping clean sheets helped the girls get through to the semi final against St John's. With a change in formation and tactics, we went all out to win. There was some superb midfield depth from Leni M who supplied some precise passes to Suzie N.

Unfortunately, the girls did lose, but it was by far their greatest performance. Harriet and Suzie both received medals for their performances during the game. Well done to the Year 6 girls who showed team spirit, sporting excellence and determination.





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YEAR 6 FOOTBALL MATCH

On Tuesday 15th October, Parkside proudly took two Year 6 football teams to compete against St. John's in a spirited afternoon of sport. Both teams demonstrated fantastic determination, teamwork, and resilience throughout their matches. Despite their best efforts and some impressive moments on the pitch, both teams narrowly missed out on victory.



The players showed great sportsmanship and a fighting spirit that bodes well for future fixtures. We're already looking forward to the rematch in a few weeks, where we hope to build on this experience and come back stronger!



U13 COUNTY CUP

U13 Cup Clash - A Thrilling Win Against Witton!

Our U13 girls' team took on Witton in a tense and exciting Cup match that had everything — skill, determination, and a brilliant comeback. The game started with a setback as Witton took an early lead, capitalising on a quick break to make it 1-0. But our team stayed composed and fought back with grit.



The equaliser came when Lizzie spotted a perfect through-ball opportunity and threaded it through to Bessie. With brilliant composure, Bessie struck the ball into the top left corner, kickstarting our scoring momentum. Just before half time, Poppy made a blistering run down the wing and delivered a pinpoint cross into the box. Bessie was there again, meeting it with a powerful strike that dipped perfectly over the goalkeeper — giving us a 2-1 lead at the break.

After half time, we continued to press high and play with confidence. Darcey added to the tally in spectacular fashion, dribbling past three Witton players before calmly slotting the ball into the bottom left corner. Not long after she was back on the scoresheet, winning the ball high up the pitch and unleashing a stunning strike that soared over the keeper's head.

The final goal was a perfect example of teamwork and determination. Bessie F put in a strong tackle to win the ball back and quickly set up Darcey, who made no mistake in completing her well-deserved hat-trick.

Witton continued to battle until the final whistle, but our team's relentless pressure and sharp finishing proved too much in the end. It was a hard-fought and well-earned victory — a performance full of energy, teamwork and individual brilliance.





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ATTENDANCE - EVERY LESSON COUNTS!

At Parkside, we are committed to ensuring that every student receives the best possible education – and that starts with good attendance and punctuality.

Absence Due to Illness

As we head into the colder months, we see an increase in coughs, colds and viruses such as COVID. Just a reminder that students no longer need to test for COVID or isolate, therefore, if students are feeling well enough to attend and their symptoms can be managed with over-the-counter medications, then we expect to see them in school. We follow a 48hr return policy for sickness and diarrhoea unless this is a one-off episode and then children may return after 24 hours.

Medical Appointments

Where possible, please arrange appointments outside of school hours. If that isn't possible, we kindly ask that appointments are scheduled to avoid registration times. Please be aware that we cannot authorise full-day absences for routine appointments without extenuating circumstances or evidence.

Absences Due to Period Pain

We understand that some students may experience discomfort during their period, but we encourage families to support their children in managing these symptoms in school using pain relief or other suitable measures.

Students should come to school prepared with a 'leak kit' (e.g. sanitary products, wipes, clean underwear), and we also have free sanitary products available in school, in the first aid room.

If your child is experiencing more complex issues or seeking medical advice that may affect their attendance, please provide medical or supporting evidence to help us better support their needs.

Punctuality

We've seen an increase in lateness to school. While we understand that Bromsgrove traffic can sometimes cause delays, we ask that parents call ahead to inform the school if your child is running late and encourage children to allow extra time in the mornings to ensure a prompt start to the school day.

After half term we will be implementing detentions for persistent lateness; those children that are late two or more times in a week will be issued an after-school detention.

Internal Truancy at Registration

We are also seeing a rise in cases where students are on site but not attending registration. This causes delays and complications for our attendance team who are trying to ensure every child is safe and accounted for.

Please speak to your child about the importance of going straight to registration on arrival. Registration is a vital safeguarding process, and not being registered can result in texts home and confusion about a student's whereabouts.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please don't hesitate to contact the school office and speak with Miss Harper, who is always happy to offer guidance and support.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



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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. Scooters are not permitted as mode of transport to and from school.

WATER BOTTLES

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

MEDICATION

Asthma Action Plan – If your child suffers with Asthma please can you return the Asthma Action Plan we sent out at the start of term. Thank you to everyone who has already done this. Please ensure your child's inhaler is in school and in date.



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Medication – if your child requires prescribed medication in school we need a consent form signed and medication sent into school in full packaging.



LUNCHTIME

Lunchtime meals are now £2.73, 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.

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 The Nest 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.

POLITE REMINDER

Please remember smoking or vaping is not permitted on school premises.



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Monday 3rd November	School Reopens
Tuesday 4th November	Year 8 Think Tank trip
Wednesday 5th November	5OL Start Swimming
Friday 7th November	Year 5 Neurodiversity Day
Monday 10th November	Anti-bullying Week
Tuesday 11th November	Parents' Evening
Thursday 13th November	Parents' Evening (Not Year 5)
Friday 14th November	Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 18th November	Parents' Evening (Virtual)
Tuesday 9th December	Christmas Arts/Carol Concert
Tuesday 16th December	Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 17th December	Year 5 Panto Trip
Thursday 18th December	Year 7 Cinema Trip
Friday 19th December	Christmas Service and Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 19th December	School closes for Christmas holidays

SATS Week - 11th - 14th May 2026 - If you have a child in Year 6, we kindly request that you do not book a holiday in this week or the revision weeks beforehand.

EQUIPMENT LIST

During the half-term please ensure your child has all of the essential equipment listed below,

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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It's that time of year again! Get your pens or pencils ready!

1. Follow the drawing prompts
2. Do a doodle/drawing a day or lots whenever it suits you
3. At the end of October; Post it online: Hashtag it with #inktober and #inktober2025

Or

4. Complete and hand it into Mrs Cheuk in the Art department for prizes at the end!

*Collect your sheets from the ART room & make something wonderful!



OFFICIAL 2025 PROMPT LIST

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. MUSTACHE | 11. STING | 21. BLAST |
| 2. WEAVE | 12. SHREDDED | 22. BUTTON |
| 3. CROWN | 13. DRINK | 23. FIREFLY |
| 4. MURKY | 14. TRUNK | 24. ROWDY |
| 5. DEER | 15. RAGGED | 25. INFERNO |
| 6. PIERCE | 16. BLUNDER | 26. PUZZLING |
| 7. STARFISH | 17. ORNATE | 27. ONION |
| 8. RECKLESS | 18. DEAL | 28. SKELETAL |
| 9. HEAVY | 19. ARCTIC | 29. LESSON |
| 10. SWEEP | 20. RIVALS | 30. VACANT |
| | | 31. AWARD |

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