



Parkwood Primary School Newsletter

And just like that, we are now half way through this academic year! Of course, it has been another busy one for the children at Parkwood. They have ended the term with assessments so that we can report the brilliant progress our children are making to you during parent consultations on Tuesday or Thursday in the second week back. Some children have really wowed Mrs Pigott and Mr Davis with their progress in phonics!

When the children return in Term 4, they will continue to take a step back in time to explore what life was like in Britain and other parts of the world. We have had a number of children continuing to learn about the history they are studying at home. This is great to see. Don't forget to refer to your child's knowledge organiser sent home via email to find out more specifically what they are learning about.

We have continued to introduce our new school values. Assembly times have been used to teach the children what each value looks like in school. We have now explored responsible, honest and kind. We will begin the new term by looking at resilience.

We continue to be consistent with our school rules: safe, respectful and ready. Our children are held accountable for abiding by these rules. Our children will make mistakes. We work hard to ensure that the children understand their mistakes, with reference to our school rules and values, so that they can learn from them. We do ask that parents support their children in adhering to our school rules, particularly when it comes to being kind with the words they use towards others and deliberate, chosen actions. It is never ok for another child to hurt another, regardless of the circumstances. Physical altercations will be taken seriously and appropriate sanctions given.



FOR MORE VISIT:
[HTTPS://WWW.PARKWOODPRIMARY.ORG.UK/](https://www.parkwoodprimary.org.uk/)

ATTENDANCE

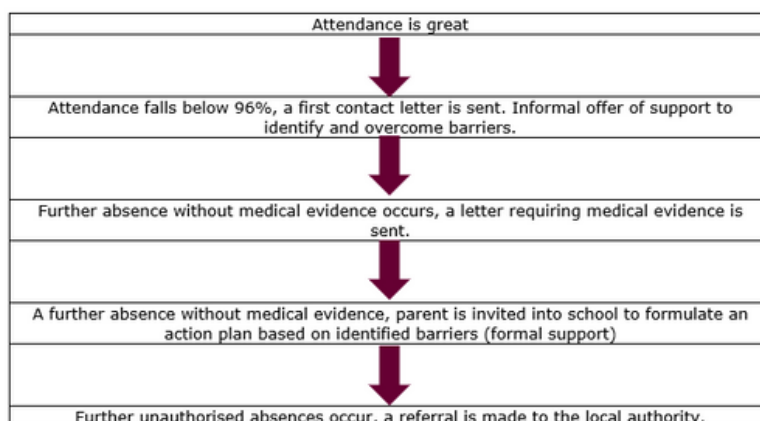
It was great to award a number of certificates in assembly for children who have been in school every day since September. When we return in the new term, we will award certificates for children who have been present every day in Term 3.

As a school, we will continue to promote the importance of attendance with our children and families. Attendance has a huge impact on the learning of a child. Our new, updated attendance policy will be ratified by the governors in the new term. It has been written in conjunction with the Attendance Advisory Service at Medway. They hold the school accountable for the attendance of children in our school. Below you will find a guide that will form part of the attendance policy indicating when families are likely to be sent a letter, offered in-school support or referred to the local authority. As a school, we would prefer to work closely with our families. Mrs Williams, our family liaison officer, is always available to offer support to families before the situation escalates to a local authority referral. Teachers and senior leaders are also on hand to help.

Our Attendance Advisory Officer will be visiting us in the new term to monitor our attendance. This is likely to result in letters to families where attendance falls below 96%. Please be aware that no further action will be taken at this point although further declines in attendance may lead to further action.

Late arrivals to school can also result in an unauthorised absence mark if the child arrives after the register closes. For children, walking into a classroom of peers part way through learning is unsettling for the child and disturbs learning for others.

Steps leading to a local authority referral:



100% - 96% Celebrate excellent attendance! Communicate success to parent and pupil
95% to 85% Cause for concern Parents to be notified Patterns will be tracked Medical evidence may be requested School support LA referral
Below 85% Statutory action Court warning Penalty notice

Year Group	Start of school day	A late mark (L) is given if the child arrives after:	Unauthorised absence mark (U) is given if the child arrives after the register has closed.	End of day collection time
FS	8.50am	8.50 am	9.20am	3.05pm
Years 1,2 and 3	8.40am	8.40am	9.10am	3.10pm
Years 4,5 and 6	8.45am	8.45am	9.05am	3.15pm

Parents/carers of FS, Year 1 and Year 2 should take their child to the school office if they miss the line walking in. Children shouldn't be taken to classroom doors by parents/carers unless the rainy day procedure is in operation.

BEGINNING AND END OF DAY

Please ensure your child remains with you at the start of the day until they are welcomed by their teacher and when they have been dismissed to you. Our gates are open at these times. The grounds are very busy. It would be difficult to identify strangers from members of the school community.

Occasionally playground equipment remains on the playground at the end of the school day. Please encourage your child to return it to the shed by Sunshine Club. Playing with balls amongst crowds of families is unsafe.

Many of our parents and childminders have pushchairs. It is incredibly difficult to navigate the school site with families stood on path ways. When waiting for your children, please keep the pathways clear.

Despite reminders, Year 6 continue to arrive to school too early. They should not arrive any earlier than 8.30am. All Year 5 and Year 6 children were reminded about a safe exit following concerns over our oldest children running through families or in the road on the way out of school in a disrespectful, unsafe manner.

At pick up, our teachers would find it incredibly helpful if adults could wave when the teacher is ready to dismiss your child. Children often just say, 'she's over there with a black coat'. It's difficult for teachers to see adults at such a busy time of day.

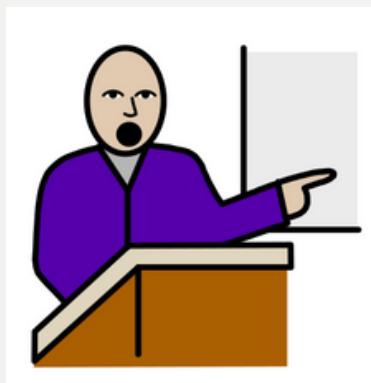


PARENT FEEDBACK

As a school, we are always looking for ways to improve so that we can do the very best for the children in our care. On the evening of the parent consultations, you will notice QR codes around and about. Please use the code to complete a simple, short survey that will allow us to monitor where we are as a school and what we can do to improve. Parent voice is important for helping the school to move forward.

SRE CONSULTATION

Thank you to the parents and carers who attended our SRE (sex and relationship education) consultation. It was a chance for parents and carers to be made aware of the content of our intended curriculum that will be delivered to our children later this year. Our governors will ratify the policy next term. Do contact Mrs Edgley-Pearce via the school office if you have further questions.



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FRIYAY

Fridays are our new favourite day. This isn't because it is the start of the weekend but because we have the opportunity to celebrate the success of our children. It is clear by the number of bronze badges being given out that our children are working incredibly hard! Well done Parkwood!



INTERNET SAFETY

As a school, we celebrated Internet Safety Day with an age appropriate assembly with the children. We have reinforced our rule of being safe and our value of being responsible and kind. We ask that parents continue to monitor their child's activity, particularly engagement over social media.

TOP SPOT

Our amazing athletes were able to celebrate ultimate success as they were informed that they came first against ALL local school in the most recent sports hall athletics mini youth games! They really are second to none!



NSPCC NUMBER DAY

Thank you to every family that got involved in NSPCC Number Day. The children had a great day and raised money for a very worthy cause.



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MEDWAY CAN

It was great to see so many families embrace the Medway Can challenge alongside Mrs Power. Our children were also put through their paces in school to increase the number of active minutes of our school community.



SMART SCHOOL COUNCIL

Smart School Council continue to work with Mrs Edgley-Pearce on a weekly basis. They have recently been working on a project that involves zoning the playground so that we can put some of the new equipment, purchased with the funds raised from the pumpkin competition, out.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Since Term 2, we have made further progress against our school improvement priorities. Check out our progress by looking at our school improvement plan on our school website.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

19 Feb 2024-19 Feb 2024 Term 4 - Pupils Back to School
21 Feb 2024-21 Feb 2024 Cross Country team at Medway Park
22 Feb 2024-22 Feb 2024 PSA Glow Disco
27 Feb 2024-27 Feb 2024 School Nursing Team - FS Pupils Vision and Hearing
27 Feb 2024-27 Feb 2024 Parent Consultations 3.20 - 7.00pm
29 Feb 2024-29 Feb 2024 Parent Consultations 3.20pm - 6.00pm

Mar 2024

04 Mar 2024-04 Mar 2024 World Book Week - (To be confirmed)
06 Mar 2024-06 Mar 2024 PSA Mothers' Day Gifts
07 Mar 2024-07 Mar 2024 Yr 4 Guildhall Museum Visit
07 Mar 2024-07 Mar 2024 World Book Day
15 Mar 2024-15 Mar 2024 Yr1 Trip to Kent Life
15 Mar 2024-15 Mar 2024 Year 1 Kent Life trip
19 Mar 2024-19 Mar 2024 Visitor for assembly Holi Festival Focus
26 Mar 2024-26 Mar 2024 Rev Pat Easter Assembly
28 Mar 2024-28 Mar 2024 PSA Easter Event
28 Mar 2024-28 Mar 2024 Last Day of Term 4

Apr 2024

15 Apr 2024-15 Apr 2024 Term 5 - Pupils Back to School
19 Apr 2024-21 Apr 2024 Camping and Caravan Club on Site



Safe



Respectful



Ready

