

Parkhead Community Primary School

# Weekly News Bulletin



**Be kind. Be ambitious. Be the best you can be!**

**Issue Number 13 : Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

Week we have all been full of busy. Christmas activities are now well under way across school. Nursery are enjoying learning their Christmas songs for their sing-a-long, Reception are working very hard on practising their Nativity, Key stage 1 are busy perfecting their performance and Key stage 2 are working on their carols

and readings ready for our carol service. We have also had Mrs Parkin in school this week, who is supporting year 3 and 4 with learning their



Christmas songs ready for their performance. We are looking forward to seeing you over the next couple of weeks at these events. On Tuesday and Thursday, we welcomed many of you into school to take part in our Key Stage 2 Christmas crafts sessions, completing many activities such as decorating baubles to hang on your trees to making lolly stick reindeer. It was lovely to see you all; thank you for joining us and for your positive feedback on this event. On Wednesday, students from Gateshead College came into school to perform a pantomime for Key stage 1 (Oh yes they did!). It was great to see all of our children engaged in the show. The panto was based on the stories 'The Highway Rat' and 'The Smeds and the Smoods'. Great fun was had by all; a massive thank you to Gateshead College for coming into school to do this for us. We ended our week with our cosy Christmas day, where the children came to school in their pyjamas / comfy clothes and completed various craft activities, decorated their class Christmas trees and watched a film together. It was a lovely end to the week.

As always, thank you for your support. I hope you have a lovely weekend.

*Mrs Chard*

## **SCHOOL CHOIR:**

Miss Brown and some of our Year 3 and Year 4s will be popping over to Winton Court at some point over the next couple of weeks to sing some Christmas songs for the residents, who we know will absolutely love listening to their beautiful voices. It is always great getting our children out and about in the community.

## **ASDA REWARDS:**

We are pleased to announce that we made over **£562** in our Asda Rewards Cashpot. Thanks to everyone for your support with raising as much as possible for our school. We are looking forward to using this to benefit all of the children across school.

# Thank You!



## **CHRISTMAS:**

The Christmas countdown has started in Parkhead! Please see below for all of our dates and save them in your diary. If you are unsure of which dates apply for your child, please contact the school office who will be more than happy to help you out.

## **CHRISTMAS LUNCH:**

Next Wednesday is our Christmas lunch day at school. We are all looking forward to sitting together for this.

**Christmas  
Dinner**

**ATTENDANCE:**

This week, we are pleased to announce that **223** of our children achieved 100% attendance. As you will know, we use a system called AStar Attendance to regularly monitor attendance across the whole school. Did you know that when a child is absent for ten school days during the course of the year their attendance drops to 95%?

Our attendance policy / procedures have now been reviewed in line with the new government guidance, working together to improve school attendance.

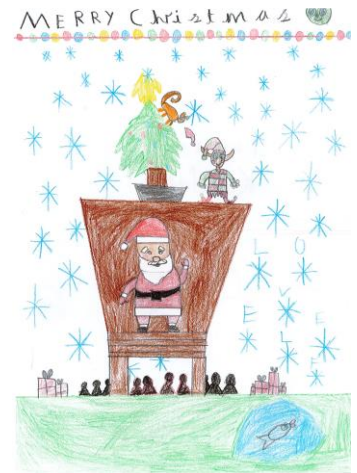
Please see the link below to access the policy.

<https://parkhead-community-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/attendance-and-punctuality/>

How does the number of days that your child misses in a school year affect attendance ?			
Approximate days absent since September			
Attendance Rate	By end of autumn term	By end of spring term	By end of summer term
100%	0	0	0
95%	4	7	10
90%	7	13	20
85%	11	19	30
80%	14	27	40

**CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION:**

Our local MP, Liz Twist, invited all pupils in Key Stage 2 within her constituency to take part in her annual Christmas card competition. The design brief was 'What does Christmas look like in our community?'. All pupils in Key Stage 2 came up with their own design, and our school council had the tricky decision of deciding which 3 designs we submitted. We were delighted to hear that out of all the schools that took part, one of our entries was a runner-up and will feature on a bag that holds the Christmas card. Well done to Thomas for his fantastic design!



**READING WORKSHOPS:**

Thanks to parents/carers from Year 2 who joined us this week to take part in a reading session. The children loved having you in school, showing you what they can do. We are all super proud of how much progress they are all making.

**RECYCLE YOUR BATTERIES:**

On Friday, 30th November, our Science and Eco Ambassadors met with Laura from Gateshead's Waste and Recycling Centre. Laura held a meeting about the importance of recycling batteries correctly. It was highlighted that batteries should never be disposed of in our normal rubbish or recycling bins, as improper disposal can result in fires.

She then explained that batteries contain some hazardous chemicals that are bad for our health and the environment. These chemicals, heavy metals, and acids can harm us and pollute soil and water if they end up in landfill. Recycling batteries correctly will stop this from happening. To support this vital message, Laura has provided Parkhead with their very own battery recycling bin.

If you have any batteries that require recycling, please place them in our new bin located at the main entrance. Let's see how many batteries we can collect!



### CHRISTMAS PARTIES:

Please see the dates section for the date of your child's Christmas party. Children can bring their party clothes in a named bag to hang on their peg to change into for the afternoon. As part of the party children will receive a small treat, play games and have a dance.

### COSY CHRISTMAS DAY:

We all enjoyed coming to school in our cosy clothes where we had lots of fun throughout the day!



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## WINTER RAFFLE:

❄️ We hope you've all enjoyed seeing our snowman this week! ❄️

If you would like to enter the Winter raffle, look out for our snowman or santa at various events. Or you can call to the office. £1 per strip. Prizes include

- Newcastle match tickets for Boxing day
- £50 Amazon voucher,
- An Alexa
- Two day passes for Beamish
- One game of bowling for a family of 4
- One free ride for Go Karting,
- Tattoo voucher,
- Ring door bell
- Hampers
- Chocolate and cuddly top hampers
- And many more



# FunClub



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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.15	Y3/4 Christmas singing concert
	2.00	Reception Christmas Nativity
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec		Christmas dinner day and festive wear
	11.00	Nursery Christmas sing a long
	2.30	Nursery Christmas sing a long
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	2.00	KS1 Christmas performance (only need to attend one)
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.30	KS1 Christmas performance (only need to attend one)
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.15	KS2 Carol Service
	2.00	Y3/4 Christmas party (come in uniform and change)
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	2.00	Nur/Rec Christmas party (come in uniform and change)
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	2.00	KS1 and Y5/6 Christmas party (come in uniform and change)
<b>Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>		<b>Last day of term</b>
<b>Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>		<b>Back to school</b>



**Term dates:**

<b>Spring Term</b>		
<b>Start of Term</b>	<b>Half term</b>	<b>Last day of term</b>
Mon 6 January 2025	Mon 24 February - Fri 28 February 2025	Fri 11 April 2025
<b>SCHOOL CLOSED: training day Friday 21 February 2025</b>		
<b>Summer Term</b>		
<b>Start of Term</b>	<b>Half term</b>	<b>Last day of term</b>
Mon 28 April 2025	Mon 26 May - Fri 30 May 2025	Fri 18 July 2025
<b>SCHOOL CLOSED: Bank holiday Mon 5 May 2025 and Occasional day Mon 2 June 2025</b>		

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**KLUBZ After School Focussed Activity Timetable – Week Commencing Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Making your card	Angel crafts	Calendar making	Christmas Wreaths	Fairy Cakes

**\*\* Please note that after school Klubz will only be open until 4.30pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December \*\***

# Star of the week

Class	Star
Seedlings	Elina
Acorns	Holly H
Saplings	Ada
Beech	Charlie
Elm	Riley
Willow	Harvey
Cherry	James
Spruce	Charlie
Maple	Alfie
Birch	Noah
Cedar	Jay
Pine	Harvey

Mrs Chard's Stars of the week	
Early Years	Casey Mae
Key Stage 1	Darcy-Leigh
Key Stage 2	Jack S Sam G



**Parkhead Community Primary School is a safeguarding school and we have a duty to pass on any concerns to Children's Services.**