Parkhead Community Primary School

Weekly News Bulletin



We are certainly speeding through our first half term; over half way through already. It has been great popping in and out of our classes this week, seeing the lovely maths learning. It was fantastic to see all of the children absorbed and engaged within their lessons, using our Kagan approaches very well.

On Monday we welcomed Poppy from Gateshead Foodbank into school to set us off on the cereal challenge. If you were with us last year, you will remember our cereal box domino videos. This year, we have set ourselves a challenge of smashing our last years total and hopefully collecting over 200 boxes of cereal. Please do send them into school by Wednesday 14th October as we will be getting together in our phases to complete our domino challenges on Friday 16th ready for our school council handing over the boxes of cereal on Monday 19th October. Thanks as always for your support.

On a lunchtime, it has been wonderful to see the older children helping and supporting the younger ones. As part of our OPaL play our children get to mix with each other from Year 1 through to Year 6. From playing in the massive sandpit or mud kitchen area, to navigating the climbing equipment to spending time drawing and painting, there is always plenty to do for everyone. I hope you have managed to take a look at our photos on facebook.

Always a busy week at Parkhead. Thank you for your continued support.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Chard

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Macmillan and School Council

Massive thank you to everyone who joined us for our after school bake sale. We raised a huge **£387.87**

Reading Workshops

Learning to read is one of the most important steps in a child's education. Strong early reading skills open the door to learning across every area of the curriculum, which is why reading is such an important focus throughout KS1.



Our upcoming Year 1 Reading Workshops are a fantastic opportunity for parents and carers to learn more about how we teach reading in school. We will share how we use Read Write Inc. phonics, provide practical ideas for supporting your child at home and, most importantly, invite you into a short lesson with your child so you can see our approach in action.

We would love as many parents and carers as possible to attend. By working together, school and home can give children the strongest possible start on their reading journey.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Oracy October is back!

After the success of last year, Oracy October is returning, and this year our theme is all about Listening.

Throughout the month, we will be promoting the importance of oracy, helping children develop the skills and confidence they need to listen, speak and communicate effectively.

Each week, children will explore a different aspect of effective listening and take part in a related activity in class:

- Week beginning 5th October: Listening to understand
- Week beginning 12th October: Listening to resolve an issue
- Week beginning 20th October: Listening to empathise
- Week beginning 28th October (half term): Listening to provoke thought

Our final focus will become a family listening challenge for half term, so everyone can get involved at home! We will share more details about this closer to the time.

We are looking forward to another fantastic Oracy October and to helping our children discover that being a great communicator starts with being a great listener.

Halloween Parties

Tickets for our KS1 and KS2 Halloween parties are available to buy on Parentpay at £2.00 for entrance, crisps, sweets and a drink. The deadline to buy is 14th October. Please see key dates email with this newsletter for the party dates and times.





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

TT Rockstars

This week was our first TTRS battle of the year and across the school, the children answered an amazing 77,687 questions correctly. Congratulations to Cedar class who came in first place with a fantastic 31,740 questions answered correctly.
Well done also to our top scorers this week Zoey D, Jensen and Stephen.

Year 3/4 Harvest Service

Our Year 3 and 4 children have now started to learn their harvest songs ready for going to church; it is always lovely hearing them all singing together. Please see key dates attached to email for date and time.



World Smile Day

Today marks World Smile Day. The theme this year is, 'Do an act of kindness. Help one person smile.' It has been lovely seeing all of the children across school carrying out random acts of kindness in order to make others smile. Just lovely to observe. I hope they manage to carry this on at home, making all of you smile too!



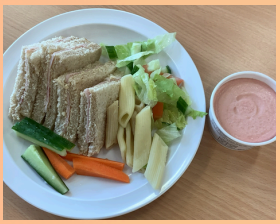
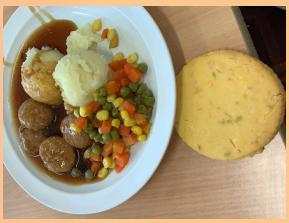
Early Years Autmn Crafts

We would love to invite parents and carers of our Nursery and Reception children to join us for a special seasonal craft session! Our children have had a wonderful time exploring the outdoors recently—discovering all the beautiful changing colours of the season. Now, they are eager to bring all those natural ideas inside to create some fantastic artwork with you. Coming along is a brilliant way to share in your child's learning, see their creative ideas come to life, and enjoy some hands-on fun together. Please see the separate notification for specific session times and dates—we can't wait to see you all soon!



School lunches

Ms Christensen has been in the dinner hall again this week. Please have a look at the photographs of the meals she sampled.




Safeguarding

We would like to remind all parents, carers and visitors that smoking and vaping are not permitted anywhere on the school site, including the school grounds, entrances and car park. This helps us maintain a safe, healthy and positive environment for all our pupils, staff and visitors.



Thank you for your cooperation and for supporting us in keeping our school a smoke- and vape-free environment.

Fun Club!















Important Dates or Events

World Mental Health Day – Fri 9th Oct

Next Saturday is World Mental Health Day, and we will be marking this important day in school on Friday 9th October. To help brighten up our school, children are invited to come to school wearing yellow or bright colours. During the day, every class will also take some time to focus on their wellbeing by completing a mindful activity.

School photos – Tues 20th Oct

School photo day in Tuesday 20th October. These will be for individuals and siblings only If you wish to have family photos taken, these will take place in the KS2 man hall at 8.15am in KS2 hall.

Please can all children come to school in their uniform. If your child has P.E could they please bring it with them to get changed into.

Key Assessment dates

Year 1 Phonics screening checks – Mon 14th - Fri 18th June 2027
Year 4 Multiplication Checks – Mon 7th – Fri 18th June 2027
KS2 SATs Year 6 – Mon 10th – Thurs 13th May 2027



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Star of the week

Class	Star
Seedlings	Conner
Acorns	Mary-Jo
Saplings	McKenzie
Y1 Beech	Harry
Y1/2 Elm	Leon
Y2 Willow	Ada
Y3 Maple	Harley
Y3/4 Cherry	Tommy
Y4 Spruce	Ollie
Y5 Oak	Adam
Y5 Pine	Noah
Y6 Birch	Kuba
Y6 Cedar	Mila

Mrs Chard's Stars of the week	
Early Years	Grace S
Key Stage 1	Lyla G
Lower Key Stage 2	Tommy B
Upper Key Stage 2	Oscar L

Achievements at home

Remember if your child is awarded any certificates or medals/trophies at home for a sport or an interest/hobby please do encourage them to bring them into school on a Friday to show the rest of the children.



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