



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

Issue Number 21: Friday 13th February 2026

This week we have celebrated Children's Mental Health Week (the theme being 'This is my place') as well as Safer Internet Day and National Story Telling week. On Monday, our Key Stage 1 and 2 children took part in an assembly focussed on 'Belonging.' They looked at what it means to belong, for example being part of the class at school or belonging to an after-school club such as football or rugby. They then thought about how they can help others to feel that they belong, such as asking someone to join in a game if they are alone on the playground. During PSHCE this week, each class has completed an activity; This is my place; Art activity. The children completed their own maps to show all of the places, groups and activities that help them feel they belong. Here is an example below:



As well as the above, we all took part in further activities linked to the theme to promote positive mental health and wellbeing.

On Tuesday, Mrs Myers led an assembly on keeping ourselves safe online. Our Y5 and 6 parents joined us on Monday afternoon to work with the children on completing a range of activities. We hope you all found the session useful.

Our Digital Ambassadors set us a competition a few weeks ago to design a poster around Artificial Intelligence and how we can use it in our day-to-day lives. The winners will be announced next week.

We ended this week with a very busy Thursday and Friday. Within EYFS, we held our I Love You crafts (Nursery) and our I Love You Café (Reception). It was great to welcome so many of you into school. As always, we do appreciate you taking the time out of your day to join us. Our Year 4 children also went out of school to take part in a fitness session at Thorp. They worked their socks off and should be very tired by the time they get home!

We say goodbye to our student Miss Davidson who has been teaching in Reception since November. We wish her luck in her future studies.

Thank you to those who have already popped in to browse and purchase books from the Book Fair. If you haven't managed to get to it yet, it is still open until Tuesday 17th February. Please do pop in and have a look at the lovely books on sale.

Thanks for your continued support. I hope you have a fantastic weekend. See you all next week for the final few days of the half term.

Mrs Chard

SAFEGUARDING:

See attached poster – Looking After Your Wellbeing Online

SAFER INTERNET DAY

We know how much our pupils enjoy spending time online, and we're proud of how computer-literate Parkhead pupils are becoming. On Tuesday, we marked **Safer Internet Day**, with a variety of age-appropriate activities to help children learn how to stay safe online. We also welcomed our Y5 and 6 parents/carers into school to take part in some activities with their child.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK:

This week, we took part in Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week 2026. The theme this year was "This is My Place", which focussed on helping children and young people feel a sense of belonging. The aim of the week was to support children and young people so they feel safe, valued, and accepted.



Throughout the week, we took part in activities linked to the theme to promote positive mental health and wellbeing.

WORKSHOPS:

Thank you to everyone so far who has joined us at one of our parent/carer sessions. We hope you have found them useful. We still have our Y3 and 4 sessions coming up next week and our Key Stage 1 and Early Years Easter crafts next half term. Please see list of key dates for your diary, sent by email earlier today.

BATTLE OF THE BANDS:

All of our Key Stage 2 children enjoyed taking part in battles again this week. I am pleased to announce that the winning class for lower key stage 2 was Maple and the winning class for upper key stage 2 was Pine. The three most valuable players for lower key stage 2 were James, Mya and Deniz. The three most valuable players for upper key stage 2 were Noah, Jan and Sahand.



Our final battle of the half term will take place next week. Will we see some new names on our leader boards?

PARENTS EVENING:

This term, parents evening will take place during the week commencing Monday 16th March. Appointments are available to select on Arbor.



YEAR 5 WORKSHOP:

Year 5 had a fantastic time taking part in a storytelling workshop with Chris Adriaanse. After listening to a story, they illustrated their own section and then turned their artwork into a book, complete with a front cover and blurb.



NATIONAL STORY TELLING WEEK:

This week has been National Story Telling Week. At Parkhead, we love reading and we are always looking for ways to encourage all our children to love reading too. As well as choosing books from our school library, we have been talking about all the different ways we can access books. Remember reading isn't just picking up a book it can be reading on an app, listening to audio books, watching stories be read on video and, most importantly, having someone share a book with us.

We've also been talking about some of the different texts our children like to read from comics, to football programmes, stories and non-fiction; there is something for everyone. The libraries in Winlaton and Blaydon are always happy to help and if you are looking for ideas to encourage your child to read the books are free to borrow.

World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March. Further information about the activities we will be doing on that day will be sent out next week.

NUSTEM Workshop:

Nursery loved having Mel in again from NUSTEM. We shared a story about a penguin and then explored some ice. On one table we had to free some penguins and an owl who were trapped in the ice using pipettes and warm water and on the other table we experimented with different blocks of ice and how we could join them together. These activities led on to conversations about floating and sinking, freezing and melting and different animals that we can find in cold areas!



Star of the week

Class	Star
Seedlings	Miley
Acorns	Matilda
Saplings	Zeke
Beech	Ada
Elm	Eden
Willow	Ella
Cherry	Beau
Maple	James
Spruce	James
Cedar	Kuba
Oak	Lacey
Birch	Charlie
Pine	Savannah

Mrs Chard's Stars of the week	
Early Years	River
Key Stage 1	Scarlett
Lower Key Stage 2	Daisy
Upper Key Stage 2	Riley

FunClub

Well done



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