



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

**Issue Number 6: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

Another fabulous week this week. Today it was great to see everyone dressed in yellow or bright colours to mark World Mental Health Day. We had a lovely time in school, completing mindful activities and spending quality time with each other. Our school council were responsible for organising games and activities over lunch time. A big thank you to them and Miss Glenton.

This week, I had the pleasure of popping into more of our Key Stage 2 classes to observe their wonderful maths lessons. It is always great to see them engaging in their learning, giving 100% effort.

On Thursday we were very lucky to have Nissan joining us in school to deliver an assembly and workshops from Reception through to Year 5. We try to get as many visitors into school to provide our children with as many experiences as possible.

Our Y5/6 football team played their first match last night. They showed resilience, perseverance and excellent sportsmanship. It is always lovely watching them working well together, coordinating their passes, finding space and finding the back of the net. We are pleased to say that they played two games, winning one of them with a cracking goal from Will. The tournament will continue in March where we will play further matches and hopefully pick up medals/trophies.

Well done to all and thanks to everyone who came along to support.

Thank you to all of our parents/carers who came along to our Year 1 reading workshop this week. It is always lovely welcoming you into school; we hope you found it useful.

I hope you have a fantastic weekend.

*Mrs Chard*

## **READING WORKSHOPS:**

During the week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> October, Year 1 will have their final reading workshop and Reception will be hosting theirs. Please see information sent on email via Arbor.

## **SCHOOL ADMISSIONS DEADLINES:**

Year 6 parents/carers - the deadline to apply for your child's secondary school is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025.



For Primary school admissions, the deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

## **PE UNIFORM:**

A reminder that our schools PE uniform for children in Years 1-6 is:

- Plain black jogging bottoms, leggings or shorts
- Red school t-shirt
- Red school hoodie or school jumper
- Trainers

## **FOREST SCHOOL KIT:**

If your child has a forest school session, they must have appropriate woods kit to take part. This is:

- Warm base layers (i.e. vest, long sleeved t-shirt, jumper/ fleece, jogging bottoms.
- Waterproof coat and trousers if possible.
- Wellies, hat and gloves.

Please bear in mind your child is highly likely to get muddy so old clothes are best.

## **SAFEGUARDING:**

Please see attached Group Chats information and advice for parent/carers.

## ORACY:

This year, we are happy to be working with Voice 21, the national oracy charity. We will be working together to improve students' speaking, listening and communication skills in lessons and across subjects. At Parkhead, we understand how important it is that our children have good communication skills which will enable them not only to learn to the best of their ability but to support them social and prepare them for the future.

To raise the profile of Oracy we are going to be taking part in Oracy October. Each week in October, we will be doing an oracy challenge to focus on a different purpose for talk. The first three will be in school but the final one will be during half term at home. These challenges have been shared with your children.

**Week beg. 6th** – Talk to Entertain – The children will be telling their best joke to their friends or the class.

**Week beg. 13th** - Talk to Instruct – The children will be given a challenge to give instructions to another class member to complete a challenge.

**Week beg. 21st** - Talk to Explore – We will be having a class discussion where we can share our ideas and listen to each other's points of view.

**Week beg. 28th (Half term)** Talk to Persuade - The children will have to try to persuade you to do something. It might be playing a game with them, letting them stay up 15 mins later at bedtime or cooking them their favourite meal for tea. Afterwards, please discuss with them what techniques were the most persuasive.

We hope the children will enjoy these challenges and the activities we do throughout the year to develop their oracy skills across the curriculum.

## NUSTEM PROJECT:

Next week, on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October, NUSTEM from Northumbria University will be in school to work with all children in Year 1. During the session, they will read "Who Sank the Boat?" by Pamela Allen and they will find out what a naval architect does and the skills they need for their job. Families of all children in Year 1 are invited to come along to the session to support their child. It would be lovely to see you there!

## HARVEST:

This year we are helping Harvest come to life in school by asking parents/carers for donations of boxes of cereal for the Gateshead Foodbank. But there's a fun twist. Before they are sent to help others we want to see who can make the longest domino chain around the yard before setting it off. EYFS, KS1 and KS2 will have three separate chains and we'll video the races to share on facebook for you to see. Whos' chain will fall first? Please bring your donations to school **by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October**.

## HALLOWEEN DISCO:

The deadline to order and pay for your child's ticket on Parentpay for the Y1-6 Halloween discos **TODAY Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October**. This deadline is so that we are able to order the treats ready.

**Unfortunately, we will not be able to add tickets after this date.**

As ever, we are always on the lookout for volunteers to help us decorate the halls prior to the parties and also to help on the night with the tuck shop. Please let us know if you are able to help.



Continued over.....

### **WATER BOTTLES:**

Our school have linked with the dental health team to deliver a supervised toothbrushing programme with our reception children. The purpose of this programme is to improve the oral health of children by increasing their exposure to fluoride through daily toothbrushing in the school setting and promoting behavioural and self-care skills at home from an early age. Included in this is looking at what we eat and drink.

To encourage better choices please ensure your child has water in their bottle and not juice. Research shows diluted juice and flavoured waters have high sugar levels which can lead to poor concentration and tooth decay.

### **SCHOOL MEAL RECIPES:**

As part of National School Meals Week, Gateshead school catering are sharing recipes from the menu which is based around using local & seasonal produce & providing a balanced meal. We've attached to the email the recipes for our Mince and Dumplings and Oaty crumble for you to have a go at home.

## **FunClub**



Continued over.....

# Star of the week

| Class     | Star      |
|-----------|-----------|
| Seedlings | Charlotte |
| Acorns    | Frankie   |
| Saplings  | Zeke      |
| Beech     | Freya     |
| Elm       | Louie     |
| Willow    | Ebenezer  |
| Cherry    | Freddie   |
| Maple     | Stas      |
| Spruce    | Harley    |
| Cedar     | Kuba      |
| Oak       | Tyler     |
| Birch     | Ethan     |
| Pine      | Summer    |

| Mrs Chard's Stars of the week |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Early Years                   | Harlow-Mae       |
| Key Stage 1                   | Holly            |
| Key Stage 2                   | Joseph<br>Hallie |



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