



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

Issue Number 3: Friday 19th September 2025

What a great week we have had in school. We have had such a lot going on. It has been lovely to see our children in Nursery and Reception settling in to their new routines and having lots of fun. I have had the pleasure of taking one of our Year 6 classes swimming and also joining one of the Year 6 classes on their first woods session; it is always great to get your woods kit on and embrace the outdoors. Great fun had by all! Willow class have also started their woods sessions, which as predicted they absolutely loved. We are very lucky to have our wonderful woods area. See page 3 for photos of them having fun.

Our Year 5s have started their ukulele sessions again with Mr Langford. I am looking forward to seeing the progress they make over this half term. Key Stage 1 are well underway with their NUF sessions with Mr Elliot. As always, it is great to see them all being actively involved, smiles all round.

Our Y3 and Y4 children have enjoyed their singing sessions with Mrs Fildes. They are keen to get started on their Christmas songs ready for putting on a performance for their family. It is always lovely to hear their tuneful voices on a Tuesday morning. They never fail to make me smile!

Next week, we are pleased to welcome Lydia (who works as part of the Gateshead Groundworks team) back into school. She will be supporting us with recycling week by leading assemblies for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 and working with our Year 5 children on a fantastic recycling workshop.

I hope you have a fantastic weekend.

Mrs Chard

MEET THE TEACHER SESSIONS:

Thank you to everyone who managed to attend our sessions. I hope you found them informative. If you have any further queries about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher.

Thank you

MACMILLAN CAKE SALE

This year we will be supporting the Macmillan cake sale where you will be able to buy a cake after school. This will be on Monday 29th September on our KS2 yard. We would love to take donations shop-bought cakes for us to sell, this would be gratefully received. Please send this into school on **Monday 29th September**. Unfortunately, we can't accept homemade due to allergies within school.



DATES:

We have now finalised all of our Autumn term dates in plenty of time to enable as many of you as possible to attend our events. All dates will be emailed next week. Please look out for them and pop them in your diary.



FLU NASAL SPRAY:

If you have given permission for your child (Reception to Y6) to have their nasal flu spray, they will be receiving this on Monday 22nd September.

SCHOOL COUNCIL:

I am pleased to announce that the school council members were revealed on Friday. They will be meeting Miss Glenton at least half termly to work on various projects across school. They will also be involved in showing visitors around school or helping to lead events in school. Our wonderful school council members this year are:



Evie, Ryan, Ebenezer, Lilly, Dylan, Harley, Adam, Rosie, Marley, Arlo, Stephen, Mila, Oscar, Imogen, Jan, Imogen P, Sam A and April.

AMBASSADORS:

Look out on next week's newsletter as we will be revealing this year's ambassadors. Like previous years, we have a range of different ambassadors, including OPAL, Reading, History and computing. All of our ambassadors will work with the subject leads on various projects and initiatives. This year, Ms Christensen and Mr Robson will be relying on our Key Stage 2 school council members with our health and safety work around school. I am sure they will take on the role of health and safety ambassadors very well and will be supporting with for example completing mini inspections of our school site.

NATIONAL CODING WEEK:

As part of our ongoing commitment to preparing our children for the future, this week we took part in National Coding Week. Coding helps children develop their creativity, logical thinking and problem-solving skills in a fun and accessible way. Each class spent time exploring coding activities, hopefully building up their confidence and digital literacy too. For anybody who would like to join in the fun at home, Scratch Jr is a great place to start.

<https://codejr.org/scratchjr/index.html>

RECYCLING WEEK:

As mentioned, next week is recycling week. We will be looking at the three Rs, being, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Lydia from Groundworks will be in school to work with all children within Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Our younger children will be looking at recycling within their own classes.

EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY:

Next week, we will be celebrating the 'European Day of Languages' on Friday 26th September. Each class will take part in a fun French lesson as this is our school's target language. Then, we will be creating some artwork based on different European landmarks, as well as a quiz to 'guess the language'.



WE ARE OPAL PLATINUM!

We are delighted to have kept our OPaL Platinum award for another two years. We are extremely proud of this prestigious award as it is the highest possible award and only 5% of OPaL schools have this!

Yesterday we held an award ceremony where Andrea from OPaL delivered our certificate and award. Afterwards we all enjoyed an OPaL session after school.

A big thank you to parents/carers for your support and donations for OPaL as these enable our children to enjoy a wider range of play experiences during playtime. Any further donations will be gratefully accepted.



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SAFEGUARDING:

Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging – but with the right guidance children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which may last for many years. Please see the attached leaflet with your email for ways to support on encouraging healthy relationships.

HEADTEACHER CERTIFICATES:

As explained in previous newsletters, any child who is awarded with my star certificate on a Friday, helps themselves to a new pair of socks as quite clearly they have worked theirs off! Please remember, if your child then wants to wear their socks to school the following Monday, they are very welcome to.



LUNCHES:

We have children in school with severe nut allergies, please can you be mindful if supplying a packed lunch that there are no items that include nuts of any kind. We are a nut free school.

Packed lunches need to also follow the healthy school guidelines, and include elements of each food group. Please see the link below for some great ideas:

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>



YEAR 6 TRIP TO FOREST SCHOOL:



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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 other's we want to see how long we can make a 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 17th October.

HALLOWEEN DISCO:

Due to the amount of fun the children had at our Halloween parties last year, we've decided to host them again this year just before we break up for half term. There will be three parties held over two nights for KS1, Y3/4 and Y5/6. These will be straight after school and will finish at 4:15/4:20pm. Collection will be from the normal collection points. Please see key dates and more info will follow. 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.

FunClub



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Star of the week

Class	Star
Seedlings	Rosie
Acorns	Matilda
Saplings	Benny
Beech	Alfie
Elm	Jorgie
Willow	Lilly
Cherry	Archie
Maple	Lenny
Spruce	Max
Cedar	Yaqub
Oak	Sahand
Birch	April
Pine	Imogen

Mrs Chard's Stars of the week	
Early Years	Hunter B
Key Stage 1	Harrison
Key Stage 2	Penny Noah C



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