

Parkhead Community Primary School

# Weekly News Bulletin



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

**Issue Number 25: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

As always seems to be the case, we have had a busy week again at Parkhead. We started off the week celebrating Newcastle United's win in the Carabao Cup. A highlight for us as a school was seeing Sean Neave, one of our former pupils on the bench. During assembly on Monday, we talked about setting ourselves goals and targets, just like he did, and how being determined, showing resilience and motivation and having a can-do attitude can help us to succeed and reach our goals. Well done to Sean for his achievements so far.

We have been extremely fortunate over the last few weeks, securing several workshops for most years groups. The children who have taken part in them have thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It is always great to provide our children with a range of experiences. We appreciate the support from the providers we have had visiting us in school.

We have been lucky with the weather this week, again, being able to make the most of our OPaL play. The children have had full access to the field and the yards; it has been great popping out every day to join in with the children and observe them playing well with each other, showing great imagination and cooperation.

We ended the week with Whacky hair / hat non-uniform day. It was great to see the many crazy hair styles coming through our doors.



Lovely to see everyone being so creative.

I hope you have a fantastic weekend.

*Mrs Chard*

## **KLUBZ:**

From Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April there will be a slight increase to the cost for Klubz sessions. These will be:

- Breakfast session cost £4.00
- After school until 4.30pm cost £4.00
- After school until 5.30pm cost £8.00



The booking system of seven days in advance will also remain. Many thanks for your support.

## **PLAY AND GYM EQUIPMENT IN SCHOOL:**

Please can we ask parent/carers not to allow their children to climb on our adventure trail, gym equipment or KS1 climbing frame or use any of our play equipment when dropping off or collecting children.

The equipment we have is only to be used by children in our school, during the school day and only when supervised by a member of school staff. This is for your child's own safety. Thank you.

## **KS1 DROPPING OFF:**

When dropping children off in the mornings that are in KS1, please can we ask parents/carers to ensure they take their child to the door as opposed to watching them enter from a distance.

Thank you.

## **CONTACT DETAILS:**

Have you changed your contact details? Have you informed school? If you change your email address, phone number or move home, please update us on Operoo or email the school office.



**Update Your  
Contact  
Information**

**MONEYWISE WORKSHOPS:**

We are very lucky that we have linked up with Natwest in order to take part in a variety of workshops.

Our final year groups who will be taking part in the workshops next week are our Years 5 and 6 children. The workshop, titled 'Fraud Scene Investigators' will encourage the children to help to solve a fraud which has been committed against their friend. They will then create and present a report warning others of the dangers of identity theft and fraud.



**MUSIC WORKSHOP:**

As part of the MOBO Fringe Festival 2025, school children and young people from across Newcastle and Gateshead are taking part in a special programme aimed at inspiring the next generation of musicians and artists. We were very lucky to secure a place for our Key Stage 2 children. They took part in the MOBO Legacy Workshops consisting of an assembly style performance and a talk from Kay Grayson, followed by a workshop for Year 6 using lyric writing. The children thoroughly enjoyed the session.

**RELAX KIDS:**

On Thursday, Reception and Key stage 1 took part in a 'Relax Kids' session. Relax Kids is a programme for children of all ages which follows seven steps to help children move from a high energetic state through to deep relaxation. The steps are move, play, stretch, feel (massage), breathe, believe and relax. It can particularly benefit those children with anxiety, difficulty controlling their emotions or those lacking in confidence. All of our children and the adults too enjoyed their sessions.



**RED NOSE DAY:**

Today, we joined in with RND, celebrating its 40th year! There is still time to make a donation. Please click on the following link if you would like to make a donation [Red Nose Day | Comic Relief](#)



**GLOBAL RECYCLING DAY:**

On Tuesday it was Global Recycling Day. Global Recycling Day is an annual event that aims to raise awareness of the importance of recycling and encourage people to take action to reduce waste and protect the environment. The day brings together individuals, organizations, and governments from around the world to promote sustainable practices and highlight the benefits of recycling. During our assembly, we talked about the three Rs, reduce, reuse and recycle and all agreed that we would take action to reduce our waste.



**BERKELEY ENSEMBLE WORKSHOP:**

Next week, we are looking forward to welcoming four members of the Berkeley Ensemble to work with our Year 3, 4 and 5 children. The players, a mix of woodwind, strings and brass introduce their instruments, talk about the different families in the orchestra and play several pieces. It will be great for our children to be part of this.



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### CHOIR:

We are very excited to be taking our wonderful choir to the Glasshouse in Gateshead on Tuesday night to take part in the Spring Sing. They have all worked incredibly hard learning the two songs we will be performing and can't wait to get on that big stage to show everyone our fabulous singing! We are hoping to do a mini performance for key stage 2 on Monday. Just a reminder that children need to be inside the Sage on the concourse at 5.30pm ready to meet us (look for the Parkhead sign!) in full uniform and with a water bottle. The concert will start at 6.30pm and is expected to be finished by 8.00pm when we will meet parents/carers back on the concourse to hand the children back over!

**Please note there will be no choir club on Tuesday due to the event being on the same evening.**

### DANCE FESTIVAL:

The children are looking forward to taking part in the Gateshead School Dance Festival at The Glasshouse next Wednesday afternoon. They have shown great commitment during their time in dance club where they have worked together to build our dance performance around the theme of 'Respect'. Good luck dancers, we know you will be fantastic.

### EASTER:

Easter is not far away and on the run up we have some exciting things going on in school. Reverend Alison will be visiting us in the last week and hosting Easter Assemblies for both Key stage 1 and 2.

The children will also have the chance to enter an Easter egg decorating competition. All children will be given a paper egg template along with resources to decorate in school. All entries will be judged in school and the winner of each class will be announced in our final assembly of the term.



As well as this, and just for a bit of fun, we would love you to decorate a hard-boiled egg at home and take a photograph of your masterpiece. Please then e-mail your photograph into us and we will share all of your fantastic creations on our newsletters on the lead up to Easter.

In the final week of term, all children from Reception to Year 6 will get to spend some time in the woods to complete some exciting activities. We will let you know which day your child will be attending so they can come with the appropriate clothing.

# FunClub

KEEP  
UP  
THE  
Good  
Work

Well  
done!



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SAFEGUARDING:

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators CREATING FAMILY RULES FOR USING DEVICES

A set of family rules agreed on with children can promote the safe, responsible use of devices like tablets, smartphones, gaming consoles and computers. By developing rules around technology, it opens the conversation regarding boundaries and expectations, ensuring a healthy balance of screentime. This guide will help you to develop an age-appropriate family agreement to suit your household.

## 1 WORK TOGETHER

Collaborating with children when setting rules around the use of technology is a valuable task that can encourage them to take more ownership. It's important to make rules which reflect your family and are age appropriate. Think about what you all enjoy doing online and what apps, games or devices children use most frequently.

## 2 AGREE TIME LIMITS AND SUITABLE TIMES

Be realistic when setting screen time limits. These can vary depending on the child's age, whether it's a weekday or weekend, and what they're actually doing online. If they're conducting research for homework, that might require more time than if they were playing games. Consider when screen time begins: does it come after chores and homework? Agree times when technology and phones must be put away.

## 3 ENCOURAGE HONESTY

Family rules ensure that everyone can have fun with their devices and be safe while doing so. Nonetheless, children may make mistakes as they learn to navigate the online world. Emphasise that if they ever feel worried, unsafe or upset about something they've done, sent, said or received, they should tell you immediately so you can help them resolve the problem.

## 4 CHARGING AND OVERNIGHT STORAGE

To ensure children get the downtime they need overnight, it's important that devices - especially smartphones - are kept in a common space, where possible. This reduces the chance of pointless late-night scrolling or sleep being disturbed by calls, messages or notifications. There are charging boxes you can purchase, or all gadgets could be charged in the kitchen overnight to avoid distractions.

## 5 REVIEW RULES REGULARLY

Anything you agree on isn't set in stone. These rules will likely alter as children get older and the way they use technology changes. Take time to review these as a family, discuss what's working, and what isn't. Communication is key - so by doing this, you involve the child in their own online safety while promoting an open dialogue.

## 6 PROTECT PERSONAL INFO

Discuss and demonstrate the importance of protecting your personal information. Talk about what details you share online and who with. Use parental controls to block children from connecting with strangers, so that any information they do share is among their real friends. Ask a child's permission before posting any photos of them on social media, as this demonstrates positive online behaviour that they should learn and remember.

## 7 BE RESPECTFUL

Highlight the importance of showing respect to others when using technology. Encourage children to speak kindly to others online - such as on social media, when playing multiplayer games or in group chats (which can often lend themselves to teasing behaviour). Explain that if they aren't treating others considerately, they might be made to stay away from their devices for a while.

## 8 "NO TECH" ZONES

Designating spaces in the house where technology isn't allowed (for example: bedrooms, bathrooms and at the dinner table) lets you keep an eye on what children are viewing and who they're communicating with. It gives you some quality, screen-free time with them, too. It also helps reduce any impulses to potentially engage with inappropriate content, as they're unlikely to do so in a common space within the home.

## 9 AGREE ON CONSEQUENCES

As a family, discuss why the rules are important to balance their screentime, to ensure everyone enjoys gaming or interacting online, and that they are safe when doing so. Therefore, if these rules are broken, there has to be a consequence. Discuss what would be fair for certain breaches of the rules, as this can prevent a disproportionate response in the future.

## 10 KNOW ALL PASSWORDS

To protect children from inappropriate content, parents should have access to all passwords. Parents should also make it clear that they will check children's devices, should they have any concerns about their use. Emphasise that this isn't due to a lack of trust but is an extra way of keeping them safe.

### Meet Our Expert

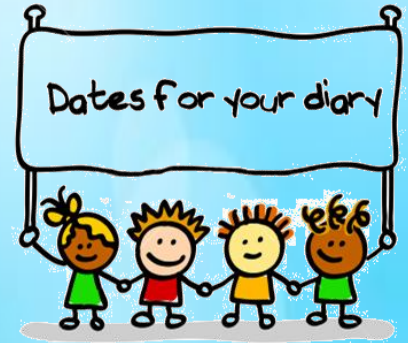
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at [nationalcollege.com/guides/tips-for-creating-family-rules-for-using-devices](http://nationalcollege.com/guides/tips-for-creating-family-rules-for-using-devices)

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# 2025



Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Dance Festival
Fri 28 March	Y5/6 Moneysense workshop
Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	KS1 – Easter crafts – sign up details on Operoo
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> April	EYFS - 'Easter/Spring Crafts' - sign up details on Operoo
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Last day of term
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Easter holidays</b>
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Back to school
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Bank holiday – school closed</b>
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> – Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs **
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Half term</b>
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	<b>Occasional day – school closed</b>
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Y4 Multiplication tables check **
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1 Phonics screening check **
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	School closed to children – Training day
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	Children back to school

\*\* Important dates



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**KLUBZ After School Focussed Activity Timetable – Week Commencing Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Design your own Squidgy	Floor Art	Draw with Rob	Spot the Difference	Ice Biscuits

# Star of the week

Class	Star
Seedlings	AJ
Acorns	Holly D
Saplings	Jorgie
Beech	Harrison
Elm	Dylan
Willow	Leah
Cherry	Frankie
Spruce	Aaron
Maple	Payton
Birch	Jude
Cedar	Chessie
Pine	Katie

Mrs Chard's Stars of the week	
Early Years	Freya S
Key Stage 1	Paddy B
Key Stage 2	Blake P Kacie C

