



# The Parkland Federation

Aim High, Work Hard, Dream Big

If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours

20th January 2023

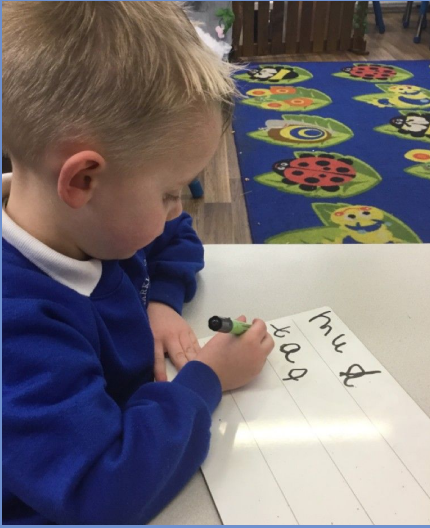
Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome to Term 3! We hope you all had a restful break. We would like to wish all of our families a very happy and healthy 2023. It has been wonderful to see the children back and aiming high. Aspiration is one of our school values and a theme for this term across both schools. It has been a pleasure talking to the children about what they want to be when they are older and we are thrilled to have so many aspiring doctors, vets, teachers, police officers, designers, firefighters and zookeepers! Keep up the wonderful work!

On a separate note, we are always looking at ways we can improve what we offer in school. Below is a link to a survey regarding our current school dinner offer. Please let us know your thoughts: [School Dinner Survey](#)



## EYFS



Reception have settled back into school incredibly well. We have started our new topic 'Once Upon a Time' and the children have loved learning all about Jack and the Beanstalk. The children discovered a beanstalk in their classroom on the first day back with some magical beans left at the bottom. We have been planting our own runner beans and hoping that they continue to grow over this term so we can compare them and look at how they've grown over the weeks. The children have been working on number bonds to 5 which they've been incredible with! The children have loved hot seating characters from the story and pretending to be the different characters. Well done, Reception! Congratulations to our Stars of the Week Chelsea & Arlia (Kerr) and Freddie (Inkpen) and also to our Dojo winners, James (Kerr) and Harry (Inkpen)

## Year 1

Year 1 have had a fantastic start to the new term! We have started a new story about friendship in our English lessons called 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. The children have loved exploring the text through sequencing, story mapping and drama. In history, we are learning about the explorer Robert Falcon Scott and have started to learn about the challenges he faced on his expeditions to the Antarctic. During maths, we have been developing our understanding of numbers up to 20. Our young scientists have been learning about materials - plastic, glass, metal and wood. They have also been expanding their vocabulary by using the terms opaque, transparent and translucent. What stars!

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week: Billie, Rupert and Finley (Donaldson) & Archie, Oliver and James (Blake) and also our Dojo winners: Harry, Louie and Nate (Donaldson) and Henry, Tanci and Molly (Blake).

## Year 2

Fee - Fi - Fo - Fum! Year two have been developing their creative writing skills by writing an alternative version of Jack & the Beanstalk. We concluded our Geometry topic covering 2D and 3D shapes and are now able to count faces, sides and vertices of most common shapes - impressive! We have moved onto learning about money; identifying the value of British coins and notes, counting coins and notes, and comparing groups of coins.

We have launched into our new topic 'Incredible Inventions' by learning about some inventions that would have been created around the time of our featured artist, William Morris. The children have been sketching inventions ready to make a screen printing block. In ICT, they worked collaboratively to program robot cars too.

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week Ruby C, Alex & Mackenzie (Beaty) and Yasmin W, Alex & Melody (Santat) and also to our Dojo winners Gracie, Eliza & Ahmad (Beaty) and Disath, Matilda & Alfred (Santat)



Wow! We have started with a bang! The children were very excited to get stuck into our new topic, 'Extreme Earth'. Our stunning start allowed the children to explore extreme weathers using VR headsets, learning about how volcanoes are formed and making structures to withstand a hurricane! To finish our week off the children designed and made their own Volcano sculptures using paper mache.

Science rocks! We have started to look at the different properties of rocks. In Geography we have focused on Volcanoes and how they are formed.

Well done, Year 3! A fabulous start to the New Year!

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week Maddox, Caiden & Harrison (Woodson). Trisha, Joshua & Charity (Harrison) and also to our Dojo winners Phoebe, Nathan & Florence (Woodson). Theo, Freya & Skye (Harrison)



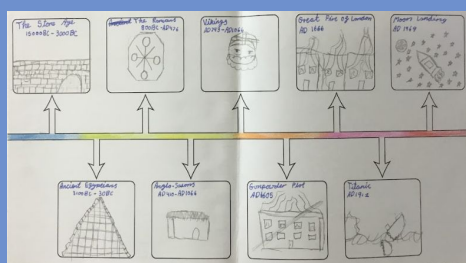
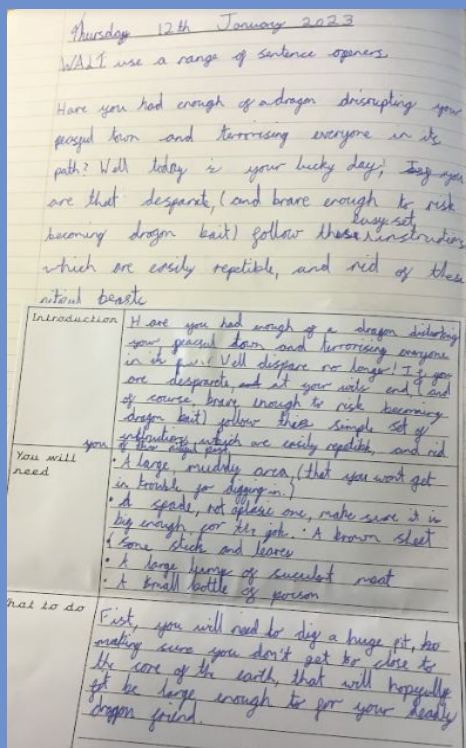
## Year 4

Year 4 began this term with a fun-filled Roman Day! The children's costumes for the day were absolutely fantastic and a lot of fun was had. The children designed their very own Roman shield designs, created mosaics and found out all about the days of Ancient Rome! It really was a stunning start to our brand new topic! This term, the children are also learning all about teeth and the digestive system. We have been finding out about the different types of teeth and their functions. We investigated this using a model of teeth that showed the children how our teeth work. We have also been learning about the effects of different drinks on teeth - stay tuned for the results! Congratulations to our Stars of the Week: Archie, Poppy & Raiden (Blackman) and Betheny, Millie and Emelia (Walliams), and also to our Dojo winners - Edi, Lucas & Natalya (Blackman) and David, Ruby and Lukas (Walliams)



## Year 5

What a brilliant start to the year we have had! Year 5 have settled back to school really well after Christmas and have amazed us with their passion for learning and positive attitudes! We started our new topic 'Traders and Raiders' and have begun to learn all about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. We created a timeline of how they fit into history and also learnt where they came from and where they took over. In maths, we have been learning how to multiply 3 digits by 2 digits. We have used the resources as well as using the formal written method to help us find the correct answers. In English, we have been looking at the book 'How to Train your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell and will be writing our very own instructions about how to catch a dragon! Congratulations to our Stars of the Week Alice, Ciaran and Cody (Wilson) Tommy and Susie (Zephaniah) and also to our Dojo winners Oscar, Casey and Henry (Wilson), Beth and Alyssa (Zephaniah).



## Year 6



Year 6 were superstars last week as they had a full week of assessments in preparation for their SATs later in the year.

In Art, the children have been looking at the work of Georgia O'Keefe. They mixed colours together to create a colour palette to use for shading before applying these skills to their artwork. They have enjoyed using a variety of mediums to create different effects too.

In Geography, the children have been learning about what makes a city. They decided it was very important to have a good sanitation system!

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week Darren and Kaelen (Mian) Nevaeh A (Rosen) and also to our Dojo winners Tyler and Tag (Mian) and Lucy (Rosen).

## This week's Attendance:

Excellent attendance at school allows a child to have the best possible start in life. All pupils should aim for at least **97%** attendance in order to ensure they do not miss out on their education.

|                             |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Inkpen Class (YR)<br>92%    | Kerr Class (YR)<br>98%      | Blake Class (Y1)<br>94%                                     |
| Donaldson Class (Y1)<br>93% | Santat Class (Y2)<br>94%    | Beaty Class (Y2)<br>93%                                     |
| Harrison Class (Y3)<br>94%  | Woodson Class (Y3)<br>93%   | Walliams Class (Y4)<br>94%                                  |
| Blackman Class (Y4)<br>94%  | Zephaniah Class (Y5)<br>94% | Wilson Class (Y5)<br>94%                                    |
| Mian Class (Y6)<br>93%      | Rosen Class (Y6)<br>94%     | The Highest Attendance Award goes to Kerr class. Well done! |



## Eco Committee

This week is **Big Energy Saving** Week across the UK. As part of this week, the Junior School had a special assembly with Mrs Walker. The assembly focused on the importance of saving energy and what can be done at School as well as within our homes. The children have been making sure that the lights and interactive smart boards are turned off when they are not needed. Bravo!

Our **Eco tips** this fortnight links to the Big Energy Saving Week and these are the following -

- Turn off standby. It's easy to leave things like our TVs, computers, and kitchen appliances in standby mode.
- Turn off lights when you leave the room.
- Switch to LED.
- Wash clothes on a 30 degrees cycle.

**BIG  
ENERGY  
SAVING  
WEEK...**



## School Council

Our Junior **Citizen of the Fortnight** this week is Alfie H for being a fantastic role model who encourages others to follow the Rainbow rules at all times!

Our Infant **Citizen of the Fortnight** this week is Arlia for being a wonderful role model and using her Makaton signs to communicate with others.

Well done to these pupils!



## Toys in School

A gentle reminder that children should not be bringing toys to school. These include soft toys, playing cards and footballs etc. If you feel your child specifically needs something to support them in school, please talk to our inclusion team who will be happy to help.



*No Toys in School  
Please*

## Uniform Expectations

Don't forget to ensure that your child attends school in the correct school uniform (including footwear). The link can be found here: [Website - Uniform Link](#)

Please remember that children should not wear any jewellery other than stud earrings. Bracelets, rings and necklaces etc are not permitted for health and safety reasons.

Thank you for your support.



## Online Safety

Safeguarding is a key element of our work in school and a large aspect of this is looking at the world of technology that children are growing up with. Whilst we know this world has so many positives, there is also a multitude of pitfalls and negative effects that children could be open to. We have a detailed focus on this in Term 3 across all year groups and have put some useful links here for you. Please take a look:

[ParentSafe Guide](#)

[NSPCC - Keeping Children Safe Online](#)



## South East Cross Country Finals CONGRATULATIONS

A massive congratulations to Bridie from Year 6, who qualified for the South East Cross Country Running Finals, which took place at Lewes Rugby Club. Bridie was competing against pupils from schools all across the South East of England. A muddy and challenging course did nothing to deter her and she was placed 22nd out of a field of 60 pupils. Congratulations, Bridie! You represented our school so well and we are incredibly proud of you for what you have achieved and for being an inspiration to others. What an absolute superstar!





## CONGRATULATIONS TO MRS BLAKISTON

We were delighted to receive the news that Mrs Blakiston (Year 3 teacher) has had her baby. Little Brody arrived on Saturday weighing 6.05lbs and has now joined his big brother and sister at home. We would like to send the Blakiston family all our love and good wishes at this very exciting time.



## Punctuality and Attendance

Please remember to be on time each morning so that children arrive by 8.45am when formal learning begins. We have recently been analysing our attendance figures as well as looking at the National picture. Did you know recent GCSE data shows that 84% of pupils with no missed school sessions during KS2 achieved the expected standard in English, maths and science compared to 40% of pupils who had high absent rates (below 95%). Good attendance really does make all the difference!



**DON'T BE LATE!**

# Mental Health and Wellbeing Support



Swale  
ACADEMIES  
TRUST

CLICK  
HERE



on Safeguarding For Parents Curriculum Health & Wellbeing Remote Education

## NEW! Parent & Carer Family Practitioner from Me & My Mind

Would you like to know how to help your child more with their fears & worries? Or maybe you'd like help with something else like getting them to sleep well or to view learning more positively? Vickie from the 'Me and My Mind Team' would like to set up some sessions to help parents & carers with supporting their child's emotional wellbeing. She can offer drop ins, coffee mornings, workshops and short courses on specific subjects - but first she would like to know what would be most valuable for you and your child at the moment.

We would appreciate you completing this very quick survey which will help us tailor the sessions to your needs. Please either click the link or use the QR code below. Thank you.

[Link to Parent survey](#)



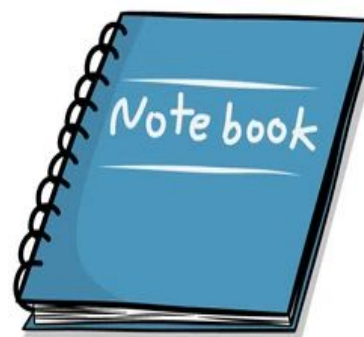
Supporting Your Child Survey  
Parkland



# Important Dates and INFORMATION

## Diary Dates

|   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Last day of Term 3                                  | 10th February 2023                   |
| First day of Term 4                                 | 20th February 2023                   |
| Parent Consultations                                | 22nd & 23rd March<br>3.30pm - 6.30pm |
| Bank Holiday for the Coronation of King Charles III | Monday 8th May 2023                  |
| SATS Week Year 6                                    | 9th May - 12th May 2023              |



Thank you!



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP



WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted - it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### SCAMS

Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to offer prizes - encouraging the user to click on a link to win. Other common scams involve warning someone that their WhatsApp subscription has run out (aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details) or impersonating a friend or relative and asking for money to be transferred to help with an emergency.

### DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Users can set WhatsApp messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Photos and videos can also be instructed to disappear after the recipient has viewed them. These files can't be saved or forwarded - so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot and save that as evidence.

### ENABLING FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India in 2018, some outbreaks of mob violence appear to have been sparked by false allegations being shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### POTENTIAL CYBERBULLYING

Group chat and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person also needs to have the app). WhatsApp can access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts also use the app. So if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them via WhatsApp.

### LOCATION SHARING

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." It is a useful method for a young person to let loved ones know they're safe - but if they used it in a chat with people they don't know, they would be exposing their location to them, too.

## Advice for Parents & Carers



### CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them as a contact, it's also worth altering a young person's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody' - choosing one of the latter two ensures that your child's profile is better protected.



### EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them using 'settings' in the chat. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list - so they also need to be deleted from the address book.



### REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS

Young people shouldn't engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they'll be given the option to report it as spam. If the sender claims to be a friend or relative, call that person on their usual number to verify it really is them, or if it's someone trying to trick your child.



### LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can use WhatsApp's group settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.



### THINK ABOUT LOCATION

If your child needs to use the 'live location' function to show you or one of their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options, and your child should manually stop sharing their position as soon as it is no longer needed.



### DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child posts a message they want to delete, WhatsApp allows the user seven minutes to erase a message. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' However, it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.



### CHECK THE FACTS

You can now fact-check WhatsApp messages that have been forwarded at least five times, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was true or not.



## Meet Our Expert

Parven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.

