



# NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Mrs Maria Whitehead

Friday 10th February 2023



Dear Parents

We are at the end of our first half term of spring and my goodness time has flown. And what a busy half term we have had! There have been many highlights for me: the pantomime at Colne Municipal theatre; sledging in the snow; visiting Ghausia Mosque with Y5/6; accompanying 19 juniors to the Young Voices event; having our new outdoor classroom built by the Woodland Trust; our first Lamda exams for drama; lots of sport including the Athletics team getting through to the regional finals; Yusuf winning the ISA Comic Strip competition; and then of course, we have taught the children too!

We welcomed 2 new members of staff this term: Mrs Lord and Miss Stronach who take over from Mrs Nuttall keeping our school clean and tidy.

I think that everyone is definitely ready for a break next week. So, enjoy the holiday and we will welcome the children back on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

Kind regards

Mrs Whitehead

## Ghausia Mosque

Years 5 and 6 enjoyed a visit to the Mosque in January. Imam Rahman showed us around the beautiful building and taught us lots about Islam that we did not know before. The teachers and children had the opportunity to ask questions. We are hoping that years 3 and 4 can visit soon. Thank you to Mr Hussain, Fatimah and Abdullah's father, for helping us to arrange the trip.

## Online Safety Week

This week has been Online Safety week in school and the children have had lessons about how to use the internet safely. Mr Bailey produced a short video for parents which was sent out on Monday. Please do talk to your children about how they use the internet and what they use it for. Children only use the internet under supervision in school and we have a firewall which blocks unsuitable content. With many devices having wifi connections, sometimes it is tricky for parents to track what their children are doing online. Mr Bailey has an email address which you can use to contact him with any queries about online safety: [onlinesafety@parkhillschool.co.uk](mailto:onlinesafety@parkhillschool.co.uk).

The video link is here: [https://youtu.be/z-fq\\_3snlvM](https://youtu.be/z-fq_3snlvM)

## Pendle Community Orchestra are recruiting

Peter Elmer from Pendle Community Orchestra visited school last week along with Freddie and Florence Foxley's grandma to talk to the juniors about their orchestra which is looking for youth recruits. Peter demonstrated lots of the instruments for the children such as a clarinet, saxophone, trombone, piano and many more. Mia-Rose came with Peter and gave us a violin demonstration.

The orchestra are looking for children who wish to play their instruments with them for fun. Freddie and Florence's dad and aunty both played in the orchestra when they were younger and grandma is still involved and can definitely recommend it as a wonderful opportunity for children. If your child already plays an instrument and you are interested in finding out more about the orchestra, then contact Peter on [Pendle Community Orchestra](#)



## Young Voices

19 of our juniors joined 8700 other school children in the Young Voices choral event in Manchester last week. What a wonderful day of song and dance they had! A huge thank you goes to Mrs Goffee for preparing them for the concert. We were thrilled to accompany Heather Small from M People on one of her songs and we were entertained by dance troupe Urban Stride, violinist Anna Phoebe And Beat Box group Beatbox Collective.

The children behaved impeccably and were a pleasure to be with. Parents thoroughly enjoyed the concert too. Roll on next year!



## PTA NEWS

Sadly only 2 parents joined 9 staff for our PTA meeting on Wednesday. We were very disappointed.

The PTA pot has paid for lots of things over the past year including Forest School training for Mrs Taylor; the new outdoor classroom; defibrillator battery and pads; Queen's Jubilee badges and selection boxes at Christmas. It is also contributing to the pond and we now have enough for this due to very generous donations. It will be built in March.

We arranged the following events:

- Friday 24 March Non-uniform Day - Bring an Easter Egg/ Easter Chocolate
- Friday 31 March 6.30pm Easter Egg Bingo Family Night
- Thursday 6 April Easter Disco and stalls 1-3.30pm
- Friday 19 May 6.30pm Quiz Night for adults and film night for children
- Friday 9 June Juniors Sleepover at school
- Saturday 24 June Summer Fayre

To further enhance the PTA funds, we propose a nominal £1 charge for our free Extra-curricular clubs and all proceeds will go straight to the PTA.

Our 100 club is not supported by current parents, so we are going to send home information about it so that parents can consider signing up for it. In the past, it has raised a lot for PTA funds.

There will be a Family Friendly Friday in April when the PTA will sell coffee and cake and hold a raffle before parents join their children in the classrooms.

Please put the dates in your diary and try to support the events as what we raise really does enrich your child's experiences in our school.

## New Outdoor Classroom

We love it! And so do the children. Mrs Taylor's Forest school lessons and extra-curricular club have been making the most of the new classroom. Many toasted marshmallows have been spotted over that new campfire.



## Thank you

We would like to thank Mr Earnshaw (father of Miss Earnshaw) who has bought school a new sports kit which the athletics and football teams have worn to recent events.

We would like to thank Mr Jennings for buying swimming caps for the swimming team who compete in an ISA gala today.

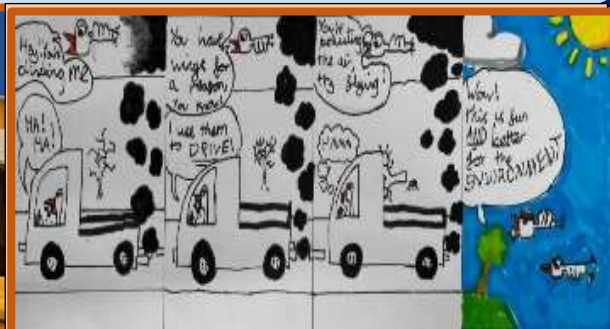
Thank you to the parents and families who have sponsored our pond. It is to be built in March.

We are very grateful for your kind generosity. The children are very lucky and appreciative.

## ISA Comic Strip Competition

Yusuf in year 6 thrilled us all by winning the ISA competition to design a comic strip about Eco-friendly transport. He beat stiff competition from hundreds of entries from all over the country and the judge commented that his entry was witty, and he found a funny and light way to deliver an important message.

Well done, Yusuf!



## World Book Day

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March is World Book Day. To celebrate, we are asking children to come to school dressed as their favourite non-human character from a book. It can be animal, alien, object - let your imagination run wild! There will be a prize for best costume.

## Pupil Blog

Please read our latest Pupil Blog by Yusuf by clicking on the following link :- [Pupil Blog](#)