



NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Mrs Maria Whitehead

Friday 1ST March 2024



Dear Parents,

We have been busy, busy, busy since returning from half term.
Let's Go Sing visited school to practise for the upcoming concert with our choir.
Our Year 5 and 6 pupils took their English Speaking Board examinations.
Last Friday the juniors walked to church for a Lenten mass with Fr Joseph, and in the afternoon Mr Bailey and some children from Y5 and Y6 led the assembly which was all about staying safe online.
Spring is definitely here with the bulbs sprouting and trees in bud in the school grounds. It is always uplifting when the nights are longer, and now extra-curricular clubs can take place in daylight rather than in the dark.
We have lots to look forward to before we break up for Easter so please pop dates in your diary so you don't miss anything.

Kind regards,

Mrs Whitehead

Woodland Trust Green Tree Schools Award

Mrs Taylor's hard work in Forest School with the children has paid off and school has gained the Bronze Award from the Woodland Trust. For this award, school had to collect points for environmental projects such as tree planting and visiting local woods. We hope to progress to Silver award this year. Well Done Mrs Taylor!



English Speaking Board Examinations

Our Year 5 and Year 6 children took national speaking examinations last week. After weeks of hard work by teachers and pupils, the test days arrived. There were lots of nervous children but they really did not need to be. Every child was well prepared and did their very best.
We are thrilled to announce that every single pupil achieved the highest grade of **DISTINCTION**. The examiner actually commented to staff that she has never visited a school where the children were so well prepared and were so supportive of each other during the exam.
We are all very proud of them. Thank you to Mrs Hannah, Miss Boardman, Mrs Doney, Mrs Maudsley, Miss Earnshaw, and Mrs Windle who have worked very hard helping the children prepare.
These examinations are excellent preparation for what is to come in secondary school for the children.

Reception class Phonics and reading workshop

Parents of Reception children are invited to attend a short workshop with Miss Fidoe on phonics and reading. This will take place on March 6th at 8.30-9am. We do hope you can attend.

Sponsored miles for UNICEF

Our Lenten and Ramadan charity this year is UNICEF. The children are trying to walk more and log their miles on a chart until the 10 April. They should then ask friends and family for sponsorship. There is a competition in school for the class who walk the most miles each week. Can the children please bring in their mile charts every day so they can mark on them the miles they do in school. The Faith Ambassadors will then ask to see each child's chart each Monday so they can total the miles for the class competition.

Thank you for your support.

Book Fair

Our next Book Fair will be in school from Wednesday 20th March until Monday 25th March. Further details to follow, In the meantime you can view the books online: <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/parents>

Pupil Progress Evenings

Your child's teacher will email the booking form to you next Monday for you to book an appointment for parents' evening. The dates are either 18 or 20 March depending on the year group.

PTA NEWS - PTA FUNDRAISERS

We are holding a fancy dress competition next Thursday 7 March for World Book Day when the children should come to school dressed as their favourite book character. There will be a parade in the hall in the afternoon and the winners will be chosen. Entry is £1 and proceeds all go to the PTA fund.



In addition to that, the children can buy Wonka Bars of chocolate next week in the hope of finding a golden ticket. The winners of the golden tickets will not be going to Willy Wonka's Factory but they will win a prize! Wonka Bars are £3 each and will be on sale at morning playtimes. All proceeds will go in the PTA fund.



We are holding a non-uniform day on Friday 15 March and children should bring in an Easter Egg as a donation. These eggs will then be used at EASTER EGG BINGO which is on Friday 22 March at 6.30pm in the school hall. This is a great family fun occasion and we are grateful to Mr Mark Doney who has volunteered to be the Bingo Caller for the evening. Entry is free and bingo cards are £1 each. The children absolutely love this event but they must be accompanied by an adult. Families can bring their own drinks and snacks for the evening and be ready to get their eyes down for BINGO.....

The PTA fund has paid for wonderful resources over recent years, for example the laptops the children use for computing every week; chairs for the school hall for events; the outdoor classroom and pond; and developing our outdoor forest school area. Our next project is a polytunnel to be used to teach the children all about growing - its installation begins today. The PTA also approved plans to put a shelter on the back playground for the children who like to read or draw at playtimes to sit under, and also the purchase of some boxes of playtime resources.

The school also needs you to join the 100 club. For just £5 per month you have the chance to win one of two monetary prizes. Any profits from the 100 club go directly into PTA funds. Please consider joining this club. The details of how to join are as follows:

100 Club

The 100 Club is a regular source of fundraising for PTA funds, which are used to buy resources for the children in school. Recent purchases have included the new outdoor classroom.

How It Works

The prize money each month will be exactly 50% of the monies paid in by its members. The cost to enter is £5 a month, so for example, 100 members will generate £500 each month, this will provide £250 in prize money, 50 members will generate £125 in prizes.

Each month there will be 2 prizes in the ratio 60%:40%.

100 members will generate a: 1st Prize - £150 & 2nd Prize - £100. As you can see, the more people who join the 100 Club, the greater the prize money and therefore the greater the amount raised to enable the PTA to support all the pupils in the school. To enter, please set up a monthly payment online to (business account):

St Joseph's Parkhill Parent Association,
Sort code 01-02-20 Account number 23598794

Please email Mrs Kendall (office@parkhillschool.co.uk) to advise you have set up payment. Good Luck!!

Football - Thursday 29th February 2024

Great result yesterday for Mr Chesworth's football team against St Leonard's. The team played really well together and pushed through despite the mud and won the match 9-4.



Speed Stacking

The children have loved our new speed stacking equipment and are really enjoying learning how to speed stack and beat each others times. We can't wait to have an intra-school competition in our house teams. A huge thank you to Dan Windle at DANELEC LTD for donating the new equipment to our school.

