



NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Mrs Maria Whitehead

Friday 26th April 2024



Dear Parents,

We are all back into the swing of things after the Easter break. The children are working hard and enjoying their learning. We have welcomed two new members of staff to our team. Mrs Shapcott joins our Learning Support Staff and Mrs Moffitt joins our office team. I am sure you will make them welcome when you meet them.

Pre-school is bustling and we welcomed Osinachi, Heidi, Thomas, William and Haytham this term. They are settling in beautifully. We hope that families enjoyed their Eid celebrations and all the pupils received a gift of chocolate to mark this special time of the year.

Thank you to everyone who purchased books at the recent book fair. We raised over £400 in rewards to buy new books for our lovely little school library. Miss Earnshaw, our Reading Lead, is very much looking forward to improving the non-fiction sections with this money.

'I Can' drama lessons have started with Miss Ellie from Basics and Mrs Doney, and the junior children have begun to prepare for our big end of year production. Performances will be at 6.30pm on the 2 and 3 July. This half term the Infants are doing the 'I Can' extra-curricular club and this will swap to Juniors after half-term.

This term is going to be packed with wonderful opportunities for the children - sports, school trips, performances and drama, and of course more time in our amazing Forest School area with Mrs Taylor.

Have a great weekend,

Mrs Whitehead

Forest School Groundworks

We had a marvellous team of volunteers on Friday and Saturday who absolutely grafted improving the surfaces down on the field in our Forest School area. Mr Jenkinson, father of Ralph in Reception, lent us his expertise and was in charge of the digger! He had a team of able labourers who dug mud and barrowed stone for 2 days. But the results are well worth their exertions. We are very grateful to everyone who gave up their time to improve Forest School for the children. Hopefully it will mean that the Forest School area does not turn into a quagmire every time we have rain - which we have so much of this year! We are all looking forward to spending time down there this summer term.



Playground shelter

Last weekend also saw a new shelter erected on our back playground. Jacob, son of Mrs Hannah, used his joinery skills and with some help from his dad, put up the entire structure in 2 days. It looks really smart. The children can shelter in its shade in all weathers and teachers can use it as an outdoor classroom in the summer months. Thank you to Jacob and Dale. The PTA fundraising pot paid for this project to improve school for our pupils.



School Photographs

The children all looked beautiful for their school photos on Monday. Each child was given a sitting card with a QR code on it. You register on the online site and they will inform you when the photographs are ready to view and purchase. Watch out for the Earlybird offer of discounted prices!

Poetry Vanguard Exams

Year 3 and Year 4 took their poetry examinations on Wednesday. The children have worked very hard to prepare and it paid off! Every pupil passed the exam, and received very encouraging feedback. We are proud of them all.



Lenten and Ramadan Sponsored Walk

We chose UNICEF as our charity this year and the children recorded the miles they walked at school and at home, and were asked if they could gain sponsorship. Please can sponsor forms and money be sent in as soon as possible. We would also like the form on which they recorded their miles so that we can award prizes to the class who managed to walk the most miles. We will pro-rata this so that it is fair. Thank you for your support of this very worthy charity.



PTA fundraiser - Movie Night

69 children and lots of staff watched the movie 'Migration' and ate a picnic tea in the dining room last Friday after school. They even had time for a little playtime on the back playground in the interval. Thank you so much to all the staff who volunteered their time to run the event. We raised £600 for the PTA funds - so thank you for your support.



100 Club

Winners for April have been sent their winnings. Well done and thank you! If anyone would like to join our **100 Club** 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)

Assembly List

Mrs Kendall should have sent you a copy of this term's assembly list on Wednesday. Please do try and come along to support the children in assembly. They work hard to learn lines and prepare for it. Grandparents and other family and friends are also welcome. The assembly list is available on our website [Summer Term Assemblies](#)

Please note that Pre-school Leavers assembly will be on Wednesday 3 July at 9am and the Year 6 leavers assembly and whole school Prizegiving will be Friday 5 July at 1.30pm. All parents and families are very welcome.

World Religions Week

The children have had lessons this week about all the major world faiths and have thoroughly enjoyed their learning. Year 5 are leading today's assembly on the subject. It is so important that we teach our children as much as possible about other faiths and beliefs so that they grow up as tolerant and respectful individuals.

Dates for your diary:

School is closed for the Bank Holiday on Monday 6th May

Transition evening for the parents of all pupils in Reception to Year 5 will be on Wednesday 26th June at 6pm.

School Sports Day - Friday 21st June including parents' race - so put it in your diary!

Allstars Cricket

On Tuesday 16th April some children from KS1 took part in an AllStars Cricket festival. They learnt lots of different cricket skills, bowling, batting and fielding. Then they competed in some mini games against other schools. All children enjoyed the festival and represented the school well!



Tag Rugby Festival

On 23rd April our Year 3 and 4 Tag Rugby team attended a Tag Rugby Festival. They did phenomenally well winning all their matches in the 1st round and then 2 wins and a draw in the 2nd round. They played extremely well as a team and gave it their all! Tremendous effort and well done all!

