

PARK SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Thursday 28th March 2024



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MON 15th April	INSET Day – School closed to pupils	All day
TUES 16th April	INSET Day – School closed to pupils	All day
FRI 19th April	3BH Class Assembly	8:55am
MON 22nd April	3MS Class Assembly	8:55am
TUES 23rd April	Crazy Creatures Visit Year 3 & 4	All day
TUES 23rd April	School Council Meeting	8:15am
FRI 26th April	History Day – Whole School	All day
FRI 26th April	Year 6 Osmington Bay Parent Information session	8:15am – 8:45
FRI 26th April	Eco-Warriors Meeting	8:15am – 8:30

RECEPTION



The children in Reception had a fantastic day at Farmer Palmers on Wednesday. They were all so excited and had lots of fun meeting the animals and exploring everything on offer. They particularly enjoyed meeting and stroking a guinea pig, feeding the goats and going on a very bumpy tractor ride. The teachers would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Bentall-Lynch for helping on the visit.

The children have been thinking about Easter this week. They have made Easter cards, Easter eggs, been on an Easter egg hunt and learnt about why Christians celebrate Easter.

NEXT TERM

Reception have a busy Summer Term coming up!

Children will begin swimming lessons next term, every Tuesday. It is always a fun and exciting part of our week.

Next term, we will also be holding both Pandas and Koalas assemblies so please ensure you have those dates in your diary!

The children will be 'fine tuning' their Literacy and Mathematics skills in preparation for their transition into Key Stage 1.

We will be looking at the topic of 'minibeasts' ahead of our trip to Blashford Lakes.

We hope you have a fantastic Easter break... see you in a couple of weeks!



YEAR 1

In Year 1, we have had a very busy week!

The week began with our trip to the Science Zone. The children really enjoyed exploring the centre and consolidated their learning about the Great Fire of London. Their favourite part was the planetarium where they got to virtually explore everything from Pudding Lane to the ice rings of Saturn!

The children loved science this week. Mrs Latini very kindly helped us to safely recreate the Great Fire! Everybody watched with astonishment as their paper houses burned. The children couldn't believe how quickly the 'street' caught alight. They then thought about the fire triangle and what a fire needs to burn.

In English, the children have used 'diamond nine' to think about and discuss who they think was to blame for the Great Fire. It was very interesting to hear their thoughts, opinions and views.

In maths, the children have been focussing on applying their skills to solve open-ended problem-solving questions. Everybody showed very careful thinking!



NEXT TERM

Our topic next term will be 'Wild and Wonderful'.

In English, the children will be continuing to learn about different spelling and grammar rules. They will then apply these to their writing through a variety of different genres, making strong links to their topic.

In maths and as the weather gets warmer, the children will hopefully be spending a little more time experiencing outdoor learning. The children will be learning all about capacity and mass. They will then learn how to collect data, using the information to create and read graphs. In addition, the children will also be consolidating the skills that they have learned so far this year.

In science, the children will be reminded of the different animal groups. They will be focussing on insects, minibeasts and lifecycles.



YEAR 2

Year 2 have had a fun-filled final week of term!

A big highlight was their visit to the Science Zone in Boscombe. They were able to show off their knowledge of the Great Fire of London as well as learning more from a fascinating film. Their guide taught them some chemistry and showed them what happens when certain products are mixed together – there was a chemical reaction which surprised everyone! There was also an opportunity to go into a dome which turned into a planetarium. They learned about stars, planets and dinosaurs as well as more about the Great Fire of London. It was a very exciting experience which the children really enjoyed. They also had the opportunity to play and experiment with a wide variety of science resources and ask lots of questions. It was a great morning!



Their London topic was rounded off by watching the film of Paddington and making a list of as many landmarks as they could spot – they had to write quickly!

With Easter approaching, they have made some beautiful cards and crafts for friends and family too.



NEXT TERM

After Easter, the new Year 2 topic will be Wild and Wonderful. The children will start working on creating their own minibests during the holidays. It will be great to see what they create!



YEAR 3

This was a very exciting week for year 3. The children had their dress rehearsal for their 'Oliver' production to the school and today they performed their show to parents. The children have worked so hard on this performance and were so excited and proud to share it with everyone. The children sang and danced beautifully and acted their lines with expression.

In maths, the children have revised some written methods and in science the children have been testing different surfaces and conducted an experiment with a toy car and ramp to see which surface prevented the car moving the most.



NEXT TERM

In Year 3, the children will be starting a new topic all about rainforests. They will research rainforest layers and in English create a non-fiction book about them. In English, they will also study fables as well as write and perform their own playscripts. They will also annotate animal poetry with a focus on imagery, descriptions and meaning.

In geography, the children will find out about the locations of rainforests around the world as well as understand and compare biomes. They will study rainforest tribes, animal adaptations, deforestation as well as the impact the rainforest has on the world.

In maths, the children will consolidate and extend their understanding of concepts learned and will also focus on measurement and shape.



YEAR 4

This week Year 4 have been working on shape and angles in maths lessons. They have been learning new mathematical vocabulary enabling them to describe shapes accurately.

The children have been revising spelling, grammar and punctuation learned this term, ready to learn new skills next term.

Year 4 have completed a science unit of work on states of matter, investigating dissolving as a method of changing the state of a material.

Congratulations to all the children on their fabulous performance of Oliver! The school enjoyed the dress rehearsal on Tuesday and parents were treated to the show on Wednesday. Well done!



NEXT TERM

In Year 4, the children will start a new topic, 'Jungle Fever'. They will be investigating climates and biomes in geography and will learn about the effects of deforestation.

In English, the children will be looking at features of non-fiction texts, fables, play scripts and poetry, all with a jungle theme. They have a visit from Crazy Creatures and a Monkey World trip planned, to bring this learning to life.

In science, the children will be learning about the digestive system, including teeth for the first half of term. Our PSHEE lessons will focus on growing up, more details will be sent once term starts.

YEAR 5

In English, the children wrote quotes from the perspective of Columbus, the King and Queen of Spain and natives from the islands that Columbus discovered. They used these to plan their newspaper reports on his voyage to the New World. The children also solved perimeter and area problems in maths, ahead of their capacity unit.

Our science session explored the movement of the moon. The children recapped the order of the planets in our solar system and did a terrific job explaining the phases of the moon and how it orbits the Earth.

Tuesday's PSHEE lesson was very exciting as, to complement the children's learning on careers, parents (and Miss Mauri's sister!) were invited to come in to school and talk about their careers! Thank you so much to these volunteers as the children got a lot out of this experience.



A special 'well done' to Lola, Albie, Nicole and Lucas for representing Park at Forfar's inter-school debating competition on Wednesday! The children impressed the judges and won their debate on the topic of space exploration.



NEXT TERM

Our topics next term will be 'Amazing Africa' and 'Extreme Earth'. There will be an exciting visit to Marwell Zoo!

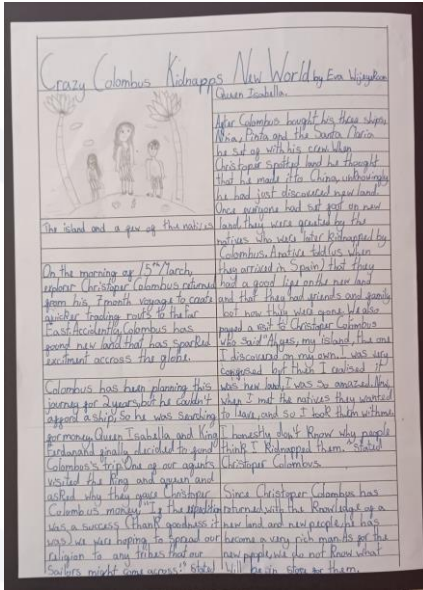
In English, the children will begin by studying the work of Shakespeare, with a focus on Macbeth. This will culminate in the children writing their own playscript.

Later in the term, to tie in with the African theme, the children will be writing their own 'Just So' stories based on those written by the author Rudyard Kipling.

In maths, the children will cover our summer units on converting measurements, shape and statistics with graphs.

YEAR 6

In English, year 6 have been working hard writing their final newspaper reports all about Christopher Columbus and his exciting explorations.



In science, the children have reviewed all their knowledge about electricity and have been thinking about what our world would be like without electricity at all! We had some very interesting discussions.



Year 6 have also been getting to grips with their Lion King scripts, learning lines and familiarising themselves with their cues. We even added some little snippets of music this week!



NEXT TERM

The summer term is very busy for our Year 6 pupils! Straight after the holiday, they will be starting to prepare for their SATs in maths and English, which will take place during the week commencing 13th May – please make sure your child attends that week.

The children will also be launching into Lion King rehearsals with a weekly slot in the hall.

For topic, the children will be studying the wonders of the Jurassic Coast to prepare for their residential visit to Osmington Bay PGL centre.

SPORT

To finish off a busy Lent term of sport, Park School children took part in interhouse matches in hoop ball, hockey and netball.

Year 2 had their first taste at interhouse matches in hoop ball, where all 4 houses competed against each other to win additional merits for their house. Both classes did brilliantly with some great throwing, catching and moving into space. Many goals were scored, including 6 from Griffin in one game! Highlights included some brilliant defending by Nikos and Charlie, shooting by Greyson and William and teamwork by Charlotte, Teorrie and Theodore, ended the results;

2GV - 1st place – Griffin

2nd place – Phoenix

3rd place – Dragon

4th place – Unicorn

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2nd place – Phoenix

3rd place – Unicorn

4th place - Griffin

Well done Year 2!

Year 4 played their interhouse mixed netball matches at Dean Park. Despite the rain, all the houses kept moving with quick passing and good finishing! Some close and narrow scores ended in;

1st place – Dragon

2nd place – Phoenix

3rd place – Unicorn

4th place – Griffin

Fantastic hard work this term Year 4 in both Netball and hockey!

Year 5 and 6 took part in Hockey and Netball interhouse matches on Wednesday between Dean Park, School and Canford School. Results as followed;

Year 5 & 6 Netball

1st place – Griffin

2nd place – Unicorn

3rd place – Dragon

4th place – Phoenix

Year 5 Hockey

1st place - Griffin

2nd place - Unicorn

3rd/4th place - Dragon

3rd/4th place - Phoenix

Year 6 Hockey

1st place - Unicorn

2nd place - Phoenix

3rd place - Dragon

4th place - Griffin

Great work Year 5 and 6 as well this term, especially the great performances throughout all their fixtures!

Year 1, had their last swimming lesson of the term on Tuesday. The swimming teachers and Park school staff were very impressed at how much the children progressed. We were really proud to see so many of the children practicing in the deep end! You all had amazing courage. A great achievement with lots of hard work on display, Fantastic Year 1!

We wish everyone a great Easter and are looking forward to learning cricket, rounders and athletics in the sunshine in Summer Term!

MUSIC

It has been a very musical end to the Spring term!

Not only did the choir perform at Bournemouth Hospital last Wednesday, but they also went to Queensmount Nursing Home on Friday morning, along with the String Group, to perform some Easter and Spring music. This is always a really rewarding visit, as the residents love to see the children and listen to them performing.



Can you guess what favourite Easter song the choir are singing in this photo?



MUSIC

Friday morning was even more musical because Miss Wise had arranged a lovely assembly for us, with many of her piano pupils performing! We were so impressed with each pupil's progress, especially since some of them have only been learning for a year or less! They all played so well; it was clear they are all really enjoying their playing. Well done to all who performed!



Last Saturday we had our second ABRSM music exam day in school. 14 pupils took their exams in piano, saxophone, cello and guitar, including 3 children from other schools and 1 ex-Park pupil, now in year 7! It was another successful day with 100% pupils passing and with 5 passes, 7 merits and 2 distinctions! Two Park pupils also gained their Grade 5 piano, which is an incredible achievement! Congratulations to all the children, these are fantastic results!



We also had a superb Brass assembly with Mr Potts on Monday! It was brilliant to see all 4 of our brass pupils enjoying their trombone and cornet playing and it was interesting hearing Mr Potts explain how a brass instrument works. We were all so impressed by the sounds the children are now producing and they played several pieces each, with such confidence. They even played "Oh When The Saints" altogether at the end, like a real brass band. What a way to start the week!

Remember, you can always contact the office or Mrs Collins directly if your child is interested in learning an instrument.

MUSIC

Finally, some links for you so you can see what the choir have been up to this term!

Below is a link to a YouTube video of a joint Forfar schools choir project, which we took part in back in February. The song is called "The lights will lead me home":

<https://youtu.be/yscGyoSW9SY?si=SCWqqzO-hq4Meo1>

Below are also two articles that have been published about Park School's choir performing at the Covid Time Capsule Memorial Service at Bournemouth Hospital last Wednesday. The first is from Bournemouth Echo (no photo but a mention) and the second is from the University Hospital Trust's own newspaper (a photo and a mention!):

[University Hospitals' Dorset bury covid time capsule | Bournemouth Echo](#)

[NHS Covid time capsules capture moment in history \(uhd.nhs.uk\)](#)

(If you have any trouble opening these links, please just copy and paste them into your browser.)

NEWS FROM THE NURSERY

This week in the nursery the children have enjoyed learning and celebrating Easter!

In Acorns the children have been exploring a sensory Easter messy tray, using different materials and creating new textures. The children learnt simple descriptive words to describe what they were playing with.



In Minis the children have been celebrating Easter week with an Easter egg hunt in the garden. The children have also enjoyed exploring their new role play area which is a garden centre.



In Maples the children have played in their Easter tray and done some wonderful Easter craft too. The children have made some delicious Easter nest's using cornflakes and melted chocolate too.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Lola, Albie, Nicole and Lucas in Year 5 for winning their heat in Forfar's inter-school debating competition on Wednesday!

The debating topic this term was "Space exploration is a waste of money". Park School participants were tasked to propose the motion and did a fantastic job of providing strong arguments which they supported with evidence. They also presented some amazing counter-arguments when they were challenged by their opponents!



Thank you Miss Westley for supporting and encouraging the team!



BULLETIN

Reminder – cooked lunch selections!

Please complete your cooked lunch choices by Monday 1st April.

<https://forms.office.com/e/ASi09gRc6q>

OUR INTERACTIVE CALENDAR FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR AHEAD IS LIVE ON OUR WEBSITE:
PARKSCHOOL.CO.UK/INTERACTIVECALENDAR

VIEW OUR NEW LUNCH MENU AT:
PARKSCHOOL.CO.UK/LUNCHES

TERM DATES FOR THE 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT:
PARKSCHOOL.CO.UK/TERMDATES

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