

We've reached the end of another half-term and what a busy one it's been. We've settled into our revamped curriculum and enjoyed starting our journey as Ambitious Astronauts. A lot of work has gone into ensuring that we meet the targets for development identified by Ofsted and we can certainly see the difference in and around school. Team PH will keep working hard to make Park Hill the best place to be!

We always say that there is no place like a primary school for getting you into the festive spirit! Whether we've been waving children off on trips, welcoming you into school for jamborees, sharing Christmas party treats or seeing how proud you are when watching your children's nativities, it's been a pleasure.

We wish each of our families a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everybody in the new year, when children return on Tuesday 9th January.

☆Mrs Logan and Mrs Boardman☆

## Christmas Fayre



Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to everyone who donated something or came to our Christmas Fayre on 01.12.23. Together, we raised over £1000 for our Park Hill children.

We are incredibly lucky to work with such generous families. The money will be put to good use, making sure we make your children's learning engaging and fun. The money goes towards paying for those extras that bring a little spark to our lessons, like buying ingredients or hatching chicks!

It was great to hear feedback about the layout too and we hope it felt less crowded for you all this year. We're looking forward to next year!

If you ever need support from the Park Hill family, please contact us.



Office Telephone: 01215562188 Email: [office@parkhillprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@parkhillprimary.co.uk)

## Forest School

This term, Forest School with Jason is:

Thursday am – Year 3 and Year 4  
Thursday pm – Year 5 and Year 6

Early Years will continue to have an outdoor learning day with their class teachers. Mr Stevenson will let you know more information.



*On Forest School days, please send a spare set of clothes in case children get muddy or wet.*



## P.E.

PE for classes is:

Wednesday am – Year 5 and Year 6  
Wednesday pm – Year 3 and Year 4  
Friday am – Nursery and Reception  
Friday pm – Year 1 and Year 2



*We are noticing an increase in children wearing non-uniform on PE days.*

*PE uniform is white t-shirt, blue shorts / joggers and black / white trainers or pumps. Please do not send your child to school in different colours.*

*There is no need to buy an extra blue / white top – you can wear your school blue jumper or cardigan and your white polo shirt.*

## Year 6 Swimming

Year 6 swimming lessons begin on 15.01.24 at Wednesbury Leisure Centre. The coach will collect us at 9.05am on Mondays. Children will need to bring their swimming kit and a towel.

# Park Hill News

Autumn 2  
2023-2024



## Not Off in November

Congratulations to Dougie and Isaac, who won the attendance raffle for coming to school every day throughout November.



There were 117 children whose names went into this raffle... who thinks we can beat that next time!?

## DT Week

Earlier this half-term, the whole school took part in a Design Technology week. We had a fantastic time exploring the way that design is all around us and integral to how we live. Each class explored one of our three DT themes: sew, build or cook.

The children all researched, designed, made and evaluated something different. It was fantastic to see the children's ingenuity shine! We now have a school full of budding interior designers, chefs and toy developers (to name a few!)



### Sew!

Year 4 learned how to appliqué and decorated handmade cushions. Year 3 used a running stitch and a backstitch to make keyrings.

### Build!

Year 5 learned how cam mechanisms work and made moving toys. Year 6 learned about pulleys and Archimedes' screws to make water walls for younger children.

### Cook!

Year 1 explored how different recipes are used in celebrations and made mince pies and dips. Year 2 learned about how spices can add flavour and made gingerbread people.

## Our Curriculum and Homework

Remember to visit <https://www.parkhillprimary.co.uk/what-do-we-learn-in-each-year-group/> to find out what is being taught in your child's class.

Help us become Ambitious Astronauts by encouraging us to complete our homework - our "Four to Score" each week. Please visit <https://www.parkhillprimary.co.uk/homework/> for more information.

**Do Four to Score!**  
Each week, you should:

- 1 Read a decodable book.
- 2 Complete Numbots or Times Tables Rock Stars.
- 3 Complete Spelling Shed.
- 4 Read a choice book.

## Attendance

**05.09.23 – 18.12.23**

Our whole-school target is above 95%.

Nursery: 88.4%

Reception: 94.5%

Year 1: 94.2%

Year 2: 95.4%

Year 3: 96.4%

Year 4: 92%

Year 5: 93%

Year 6: 89.5%

**Well done, Year 3!**

We are unable to authorise any holiday during term-time but it is still very important that you complete a Leave of Absence form. In line with our policy, Leave of Absence for holidays during term-time will be referred to Sandwell for any child whose absence is below 95% or you have previously taken leave during term time.

**SEE WHAT THEY COULD BECOME  
MISS SCHOOL, MISS OUT**



**Attend school for the best start in life**

[www.sandwell.gov.uk/attendance](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/attendance)



We work closely with the Local Authority to improve school attendance. If you are having any trouble or worries about your child's attendance, the best thing to do is talk to us at school. Please call and ask for Mrs Glover or Mrs Boardman. Alternatively, email [office@parkhillprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@parkhillprimary.co.uk)



## ♪ School Bands ♪

We were treated to a whole-school workshop from Rocksteady Music, who inspired plenty of us to want to learn to play a new instrument or sing.

Our Rocksteady lessons have now begun and our bands are busy learning vocals and how to play the electric drums, guitar, bass and keyboard – Wednesday mornings sound GREAT at school! If your child is in a band, you'll be invited to their first concert near Easter.

## Park Hill Governors

Before we all enjoy the festivities at home, we would like to say well done to all of the children. Every visitor to the school has commented on the good behaviour and politeness of the children at Park Hill.

The Governors' last visit was looking at the wider curriculum. We viewed curriculum maps and planning, we spoke to staff, we observed lessons and we talked to the children about their learning. All children were able to share their learning with us and were eager to share their work. We can see the impact of the changes to the curriculum already.

Many of the Governors also attended Christmas shows and the Early Years jamboree. Again, children's behaviour was impeccable and it was a pleasure to be invited to these celebrations. On behalf of all of the Governors, I wish you an enjoyable Christmas and Happy New Year!

From Laura Lohan  
Chairs of Governors

A warm welcome to Mrs Shepherd-Green, who is our new parent governor. We look forward to working together after Christmas.

## Christmas Raffle & Game Winners

Number	Prize	Ticket number	Winner	Year group
1 <sup>st</sup>	All4One £30 voucher	528	Harper	3
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Drinks Hamper	635	Chelsi	5
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Drinks Hamper	4	Emily J	2
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mecca Voucher for 4	548	Amorae	3
5 <sup>th</sup>	Mecca Voucher for 4	365	Mrs Ffrench	Staff
6 <sup>th</sup>	Mecca Voucher for 4	266	Aurora J	6
7 <sup>th</sup>	Blue Sheep Books Voucher	679	Lilo	1
8 <sup>th</sup>	All4One £15 voucher	324	Kayla	4
9 <sup>th</sup>	All4One £15 voucher	967	Brenda	Mrs Southall's mom
10 <sup>th</sup>	Chocolate & Biscuits	937	Jacob B	6
11 <sup>th</sup>	Soap & Glory	451	Tilly	5
12 <sup>th</sup>	Food Hamper	671	Charlie J	1
13 <sup>th</sup>	Gin & Maltesers	995	Mrs Rowbottom	Staff
14 <sup>th</sup>	Bayless & Harding	864	Charlie P	1
15 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary Set	489	Ella B	4
16 <sup>th</sup>	Chocolate Hamper	962	Addison M	1
17 <sup>th</sup>	Chocolate Hamper	619	Lenny A	1
18 <sup>th</sup>	Big Reindeer & biscuits	322	Sue	Cook
19 <sup>th</sup>	Ted Baker Set	286	Freddie F	2
20 <sup>th</sup>	Small reindeer & biscuits	758	Millie R	REC
21 <sup>st</sup>	Men's Gift Set	457	Aurora J	6
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Men's Gift Set	692	Greyson	1
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bottle of Wine	594	Charlie J	1
24 <sup>th</sup>	Haribo Teddy & Sweets	450	Tilly	5
25 <sup>th</sup>	Teddy & Wine	790	Kaiss	REC
26 <sup>th</sup>	Teddy & Wine	669	Arabella	5
27 <sup>th</sup>	Teddy & Wine	388	Henry & George	4 & 6
28 <sup>th</sup>	Boys Haircut	690	Rue	1

GAME		Winner	Class
Name the Bear	Ambrose	Lucas	REC
Guess the Weight of the cake	4lb 6oz	Stacey	Public
Where is Santa	Door 37	Toby	3
How many Sweets in the jar	147	Kishan	5
Programme Number	35	Rosie	4

Well done to all our winners and thank you to all our Park Hill families for all your donations and support.

We raised £1200 – this is amazing!! 😊

Thank you also to Morrisons, Mecca Bingo, Blue Sheep Books, our Governors, the Post Office, Premier Express and Raw the Barber for donating gifts for our raffle. It is very much appreciated.

## Dates for Your Diary



- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January – school closed to children (staff training day)
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January – children return for spring term
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January – sports club starts for spring term
- Week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> January – all other spring term after-school clubs start
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January – swimming starts for Year 6
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January – Year 4 visit from the fire service
- Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January – Year 6 transition for high school visitor (in school)
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Key Stage 2 trip to Belgrade Theatre
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – break up for half-term
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February – children return after half-term
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Year 6 Bikeability (more details will follow)
- Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> March – British Science Week
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March – residential trip for Year 2 and Year 3
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Year 5 trip to Houses of Parliament, London (more details will follow)
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – break up for Easter
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April – children return for summer term
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April – EYFS trip to Ash End Farm