

## Park Hill News – Spring 2

### Welcome to our Park Hill Newsletter.

We have been thinking about Empathy this term and considering other people's feelings. Our half term has been very busy as usual. School thoroughly enjoyed Year 4's class assembly and all of our Easter activities. The INSPIRE family sessions, focused on Writing, were a great success and we continue to improve our Writing across the school.

Thank you for all your support as usual.  
Park Hill families are the best!

Have a lovely Easter.

Mrs Logan and Mrs Boardman



Our Next REACH value will be  
Ambition.



'Ambition is a strong wish to  
achieve something.'



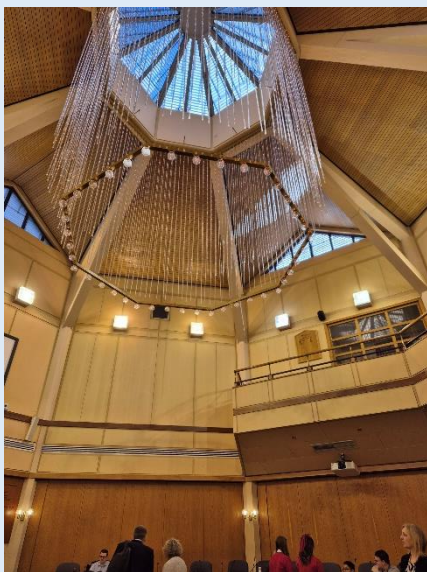
Our sensory room is now open officially  
and children are enjoying using it. I would  
like to thank Wooden Spoon for giving us  
money towards the refurbishment.



## Public Speaking Competition

Two children from Park Hill entered the Wednesbury Public Speaking competition, along with another 8 schools. Eva and Evander went along to the Council House and did us proud! They presented their speeches, which were based around the question, 'What challenges do children today have compared to the last generation?'

I really enjoyed the speaking at the council house. My tummy was scared but once I was up there, I enjoyed it.



## Edgmond Hall visit

32 children from Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 went to Edgmond Hall in March. They had a great time and really enjoyed the whole trip. Thank you to all of the children for being brilliant and thanks to all the staff who went.



I liked feeding the animals, the food and homemade biscuits.

Pippa Year 3

The children were all superb and brilliant, they enjoyed the activities and slept well.

Mr Dingle





### Empathy – Red Nose Day



We raised £160 for Red Nose Day by dressing up in red or wearing non uniform. Thank you for your generous donations.



### Netball Competition

For the first time our school took part in the Wednesbury Netball competition. Go Team Park Hill and well done!



### World Book Day – 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025

As usual, we celebrated World Book Day in March. Children had the opportunity to choose which story they wanted to listen to and visit different members of staff to hear them read aloud. Our older children also visited our younger children and read to them. We love reading at Park Hill and thoroughly enjoyed our day.



## Trip to The Houses of Parliament

Last week, we took Year 5 (and some Year 6 children) to the Houses of Parliament in London! Along the way, we made a little detour to see some famous landmarks, including Buckingham Palace, Downing Street and the London Eye.



Seeing our children soak up the sights and the history in the Palace of Westminster was a pleasure. They amazed us (and their guides) with some impressive information about Oliver Cromwell, King Charles II and the Tudors, who all played an important role in the development of parliament today. We learned about how bills become laws, how the House of Commons and the House of Lords work and we even got the stand at the benches in both houses! A highlight was standing in the “no lobby,” where members of parliament go to make their votes.



It was a fantastic day, full of wonder and we hope to do it again next year.

## Attendance Matters with Mrs Boardman

We've had a bit of a dip with attendance but we totally understand: the dreaded chickenpox hit us! At the moment, our whole-school attendance is 94.7%. Let's aim to get it back up over 95% in the summer term.

### Attendance Rewards

Our next attendance raffle is:

## Never Missed School in May!

**Come to school every day that we're open during May and your child could receive plenty of goodies: we even include some treats for you as parents and carers too!**

### Leave of Absence

Please visit the school office and complete a purple 'leave of absence' form before any planned absence that your child has from school.

Please also be aware that the Local Authority expects schools to make 'reasonable enquiries' about a child's whereabouts if they are absent from school for a length of time, which may result in a home visit. If it is found that a child has gone on holiday, we have to complete a green 'leave already taken' form, which can still result in a penalty notice.

We understand that the penalty notices for school absence may seem unfair or hard on families but we have a legal duty to ensure that the government's updated attendance framework is upheld.

### National Tests

It is really important that children are at school during weeks where national tests take part, otherwise they must be recorded as absent and won't receive a mark. Year groups where national tests take place during the summer term are; Year 1, Year 4 and Year 6 (plus any children who are re-taking their Phonics Screening Check in Year 2). Please check the calendar for these dates.

Thank you for your support

## Office News



Please make sure you are reading the messages that come through our School App.

You will get a notification on the school app if you have a message.

If you are not getting messages, please come into the office and we will help you to set your phone up.




## Lateness




Please make sure you bring your child to the school office and sign them in if they are late.

Siblings can enter school together through the preferred gate. If a younger sibling comes in with an older sibling through the KS2 gate they can take them to their class.

Please be aware the first bell sounds at 8:45am. Children should come in to school at this time ready for registration at 8:55am.

## Concerns During the Holidays

If you need anything out of school hours, please email  [office@parkhillprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@parkhillprimary.co.uk)

 and someone will get back to you. If you are worried about a child out of school hours, please email NSPCC on  [help@NSPCC.org.uk](mailto:help@NSPCC.org.uk) 



## APRIL



16th – Reception places confirmed

28th (and every Monday after) – swimming for Year 5

29th – Athletics Club starts – allocated children

Fine Motor Club starts – allocated children

30th – Tri Golf Club starts – allocated children

## MAY

1st – Forest School Club starts – allocated children

2nd – Makaton Club starts – allocated children

5th – Bank Holiday Monday – school closed

6th – School Nurse visits:

- Heights & Weights – Reception and Year 6

- Hands & Teeth Talk – Reception

- PANTS session – Year 2

- Healthy Eating Talk – Year 3 & Year 4

7th – Tennis Club starts – allocated children

8th – VE Day celebrations – whole-school

8<sup>th</sup> – School Nurse visits:

- Puberty Talk – Year 5

- Emotional Health Transition to secondary school – Year 6

12th -15th – Year 6 SATs

19th – Drayton Manor Park trip – Year 6

23rd – Break up for Whitsun

## JUNE

2nd – Training Day – school closed to pupils

3rd – Children return to school

3rd – Boys' Football Tournament at Old Park – selected children

3rd – 13th – Multiplication Tables Checks – Year 4

4th – Girls' Football Tournament at Old Park – selected children

6th – EYFS Wyre Forest trip

9th – 13th - Phonics Screening Checks - Year 1 (plus any children in Year 2 who are re-taking this year)

18th – Sports Day – Whole School am (weather permitting)

27th – KS2 Book Quiz – selected children

## JULY

1st – Music Share at Lichfield Cathedral – allocated children

2nd – Sports Day am (back up day if it couldn't take place in June)

8th – KS2 SATs results

11<sup>th</sup> – End-of-year reports sent home

14<sup>th</sup> – End-of-year reports drop-in sessions with teachers

14<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 Fun Day

17th – Year 2 Assembly

18th – Year 6 Leavers Assembly

18th – Children break up

21st – Training Day (staff only)



## PE and Forest School Days

Please ensure your child is in the correct PE kit on their PE day: navy tracksuit or leggings, a navy jumper or hoody, a white t-shirt and plain black or white pumps / trainers. Children cannot take part in PE in crocs or any pumps that have a platform, due to health and safety risks, and long hair must be tied up. Thank you.

Please note the changes to PE and Forest School Days in the summer term.

| PE  | Forest School   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monday am – Year 3 and Year 4</li><li>Monday pm – Year 2 and Year 1</li><li>Tuesday am – Nursery and Rec</li><li>Tuesday pm – Year 5 and Year 6</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monday am – Year 2 and Year 1</li><li>Monday pm – Rec and Nursery</li><li>Thursday am – Year 4 and Year 6</li><li>Thursday pm – Year 5 and Year 3</li></ul> |

## Any other matters

If there any parents that would like to set up a coffee morning, maybe once a month at the church hall, please contact John on 07947447664.

This would entail a couple of parents setting up and running a coffee morning for other parents to attend after dropping their child/ren off at school.



## Easter winners

WBA ticket winner – Arthur (Y4)

### Class Raffle Winners

Nursery – Quinn  
Reception – Evie-Rose  
Year 1 – Darcie  
Year 2 – Ryker  
Year 3 – Avaneesh  
Year 4 – Darcie-Rae  
Year 5 – Jackson  
Year 6 - Chelsi

### Easter Bonnet Winners

Nursery – Darcie & Jordi  
Reception – Amari-Jay  
Year 1 – Lucas  
Year 2 – Cora

### Decorated Egg Winners

Year 3 – Dougie  
Year 4 – Evie  
Year 5 – Henry  
Year 6 – Ella-Rose

## Message from Governing Board

It's been a busy term for our Governing Board, who have continued to visit school and provide support so that Park Hill remains a place where children can flourish.

The term began with an important meeting between leaders within Sandwell's SEND team, school leaders and myself, as Chair of Governors. During the meeting, we outlined concerns that we have regarding the support for children with SEND, failures within the current system and the length of time that children and their families are left waiting for support. We also discussed the impact of this on the school's ability to secure the best support for children and their families. I am pleased to confirm that the meeting was a positive one, where assurances were made regarding early identification of children's needs and clarity around seeking support was given. We hope that these changes within the Local Authority will soon be felt by families.

Other school visits and meetings have also been successful: we are working hard to ensure that the wider curriculum continues to improve and have visited school to see how staff are supporting the depth of learning within History, Geography and Art, as well as Writing and Maths.

As we move into the summer term, I would like to thank you once again for your support. Our Park Hill community makes us very proud indeed!

From Laura Lohan (Chair of Governors) and the whole Governing Board

