

Headteacher's Newsletter 4 December 2023



Article 12: Every child has the right to have a say in all matters affecting them.
French Phrase: Joyeux Noël – Happy Christmas!

Dear Parents and Carers

The crisp, cold weather has arrived and coats, scarves and gloves are the order of the season. Please ensure that your child arrives at school, in warm winter clothes. As the term draws to a close, the final celebrations of the school year and Christmas are in full swing! Take a moment to read the Calendar of Learning and Celebration below and make sure that you are prepared for the High Performance Learning year ahead! It is timely to thank you for all your support and cooperation, as we embrace the challenges and joys of a new year. Collaboration is key.

Goodbye, 2023. It has been an eventful year and as we leave it behind, we look forward immensely to 2024.

Enjoy Learning!



Mrs D. Hughes-Mulhall

Headteacher

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing, please act on it. School is here to help and support. We all share the responsibility of safeguarding children.

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Safeguarding Lead | Mrs D. Hughes-Mulhall Headteacher |
| Safeguarding Deputy | Ms G. Uppal Deputy Headteacher |
| Safeguarding Deputy | Mrs N. Tanner SENCO |
| Safeguarding Officer | Ms N. Reeves School Business Lead |

Christmas Party Time

Class parties take place on Tuesday 19th December. Please send your child with their own party food, in a bag. Children should only bring a party bag for themselves. This should contain food and a drink and cannot be shared. Thank you for your support with this.

Children can wear party clothes to school, on the day. (non uniform day)



Birthdays and all other Celebrations

We all love birthdays and want to share the joy of this special day with friends, at school! Should you wish your child to give a gift to members of their class, **please ensure that it is not any type of food. All birthday food will not be distributed and will be returned to the parent/carer.**



We have many children with severe nut allergies. Please ensure that any snacks and packed lunches do not contain nuts or nut products. (Always check the label)

Christmas Card Competition

Well done, to everyone who entered our Christmas Card competition! Amazing designs...and all are on display, in the school Reception.

In third place was
....Noureen!
In second place was
Neal
and the winning
creation
was made by... *Sabah!*



Christmas Fair

We raised a whopping £2,241.20 thanks to your generosity and support. A fabulous time was had by all and....Santa paid us a visit, too! Our lucky winner of the *Beauty Basket Raffle* is – Zaviyer in 5R.



Thank you to all our wonderful parent and adult helpers, who gave their time to run stalls with effervescence and endless enthusiasm!



Crafternoon and Festival of Light.



A fantastic opportunity to explore techniques and cultures through art, with your family! Set against the backdrop of festivals and celebrations that take place at this *most wonderful time of the year*. This was a truly joyous event.



Christmas Panto – Jack and the Beanstalk

A great time was had by all, when the pantomime came to Parkhill Junior School.

Look out! It's behind you!



Year 5 Christmas Production

Hair, make-up and lights! What a fabulous performance from Year 5! The audience was treated to an all-singing all-dancing galaxy of superstars! *Well done*, to all involved on and off stage.

No One Wraps Like an Elf!



Petition for Safer Streets – We are not giving up!

In all our newsletters over a very long time, Parkhill has urged our community to walk to school and avoid driving. *Thank you*, to everyone who has supported the school on this. Regrettably, the traffic situation has deteriorated significantly over time and action is needed. Together, both Parkhill Infants' and Junior Schools are on a mission, to make our streets safer during the school run, at the beginning and end of the day.



Lockdown

Please note that as well as our termly fire drills, we are resuming our termly lockdown. Teachers explain how this works to the children before it happens. This is part of our Security Policy.

Thinking of Employing a Private Tutor?

Please visit the website below for more information and guidance.

<https://www.redbridgescp.org.uk/parents-carers-and-the-public/private-tuition/>

Online Safety

On more than one occasion, it has come to our attention that, without their parents' knowledge, children are using chatrooms, social media platforms and other forums to communicate. We cannot emphasise enough, the danger of this or any unsupervised online activity. We send you a monthly online safety newsletter to advise you about the risks and dangers that our children face. Please ensure that you know what your child is doing at all times, when they are online and especially during the holiday season.

PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE TO SEE THE SUPPORT MECHANISMS AVAILABLE TO YOU, FOR THE ONLINE SAFETY OF YOUR CHILD

Our Website – www.parkhilljunior.com

Important dates, information and so much more can be found on our website. Please pay regular visits. Updates are frequent and feature aspects of our school curriculum and daily school life.

School Uniform

Our Parkhill uniform is worn proudly, by all of our learners. It is practical, distinctive and...was designed by our learners. We insist on comfort, safety and, adherence to the Parkhill school colours. Trainers are acceptable. They must be black. Jewellery is not permitted. Ear rings must be studs only. Learners are permitted to wear religious items of jewellery, only.

After School Clubs

Parents/carers **do not** have to re-apply for clubs in, January 2024. Children simply continue to attend the club they attended in the autumn term. Clubs resume from the week beginning, 15th January 2024. Breakfast Club is open every day.

Attendance and Punctuality

With your support, we work hard to ensure that our young learners hold high, the value and importance of both. Core values instilled at this stage of their education, remain with them as they grow into citizens of the world and of the future. Weekly attendance champions are rewarded with being the first class in the dining hall, for the following week!

‘A day away from Parkhill, is a day lost.’

Miss education... and you miss out!

Attendance champions for autumn 2023: 4N, 3B and 5P, 6S

‘A minute late for Parkhill, is a minute wasted!’

Every second counts!

Punctuality champions for autumn 2023: 3G and 5C



Your reward, is a *Super Play* session in January 2024!



Appointments

Dental appointments, optician appointments and GP appointments must be booked, outside school hours. **Appointments booked during school time will be unauthorised.** Hospital appointments, with supporting evidence, are routinely authorised.

Absences before or after a school holiday

If your child is absent before or after a school holiday, you must provide evidence explaining the absence. This may be medical evidence if your child is unwell or evidence of flight delays or circumstances beyond your control. **Without this evidence, you risk being issued with a penalty notice.**

CALENDAR OF LEARNING AND CELEBRATION

| DATE | LEARNING and CELEBRATION |
|--|---|
| 18 th December 2023 | Christmas Class Parties for all Year Groups. |
| 20 th December 2023 | Big Breakfast for Parents |
| 21 st December 2023 to 3 rd January 2024 | <i>Christmas Holidays begin and not a day sooner!</i> |
| 4 th and 5 th January 2024 | <i>Training Day 3 and 4 - School closed to children</i> |
| 8 th January 2024 | First Day Back to School for Children. Hurrah! |
| 15 th January 2024 | Afterschool Clubs Resume this Week |
| 31 st January 2024 | No Pens Wednesday!  |
| 5 th to 9 th February 2024 | Children's Mental Health Week |
| 6 th February 2024 | Safer Internet Day |
| 7 th February 2024 | Wonder Dome for Year 5 and 6 (in hall) 1 st March 2024 |
| 10 th February 2024 | Chinese New Year |
| 11 th February 2024 | International Women and Girls in Science Day |
| 14 th February 2024 | Parents Evening (1) |
| 19 th to 23 rd February 2024 | <i>Half Term Holiday</i> |
| 28 th February 2024 | Parents Evening (2) |
| 1 st March 2024 | Secondary School Allocations (Year 6) |
| 4 th to 8 th March 2024 | Book Week |
| 7 th March 2024 | World Book Day (dress-up day) |
| 29 th March to 12 th April 2024 | <i>Easter Holidays begin – and not a day sooner</i> |
| 24 th April 2024 | No Pens Wednesday  |
| 6 th May 2024 | Bank Holiday |
| 13 th May 2024 | SATs Week for Year 6 |
| 27 th to 31 st May 2024 | <i>Half Term Holiday</i> |
| 3 rd June 2024 | <i>Training Day 5 - School closed to children</i> |
| 4 th to 7 th June 2024 | Arts Week |
| 10 th to 14 th June 2024 | My Money Week |
| 24 th July 2024 | <i>Summer Holidays begin – and not a day sooner!</i> |

• **Make this Christmas
the most memorable one yet**



Foster for Redbridge

020 8708 6068

fostering@redbridge.gov.uk



**Wishing all our families, during this holiday, a peaceful, safe
and happy time.**

