

Headteacher's Newsletter 6 February 2024

Article 12: Every child has the right to have a say in all matters affecting them.



This month's High Performance Learning attitude is, open-minded.
This month's High Performance Learning characteristic is, linking.



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term. Be warned and prepared... it will be an action-packed few weeks ahead so do check the Calendar of Learning and Celebration, in this newsletter!

Last half term, we held our first celebration assembly, for High Performance Learning! What a celebration it was...learners and teachers were equally proud, to showcase many exceptional high performance learning outcomes. Please see our new HPL pages in this newsletter, for all the details! It was a pleasure to meet with so many parents and carers, during the recent Parent Evenings, to further explain the importance of the HPL award for our learners.

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

Drumming

On the last day before our half term break, our dynamic drummers performed to parents. Rock stars indeed! It was a supreme display of talent, passion and joy! Super stars of the future.



Chinese New Year

We celebrated Chinese New Year in grand style! The Reception area was a sight to behold, with the dragon (not to be ignored as it is the year of the dragon!) commanding attention, to all who passed through. Chinese dance sessions were exceptional, with our learners demonstrating finesse and a sheer love of rhythm and movement.



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)

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. 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

www.parkhilljunior.com

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 and our learners are permitted to wear religious items of jewellery, only. Earrings must be studs only.



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 the first half of the spring term

2024: 3G and 5

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

Every second counts!

Punctuality champions for the first half of the spring term

2024: 4A and 5R



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.***



High Performance Learning was celebrated during our first-ever HPL assembly! Sharing their work, were the amazing learners listed below. Well done to everyone.

High Performance Learner	High Performance Learning
Immani – 3G	Strategy planning - deciding on a strategy to solve a maths problem
Amelia U - 3C	Presented a problem-solving task; we have been focusing on meta-cognition and analysing through multi step problem solving.
Jasmin - 3O	Shared her non chronological report about the Ancient Egyptian hierarchy, using technical vocabulary in her work, from the research undertaken in previous lessons – demonstrating analysing and precision.
Rehaan – 3B	Showed the HPL skills of meta-thinking through meta-cognition and hard-working through practice, in maths.
Zoeya – 4N	Presented a recount from her English lesson to demonstrate how she took the risk to go beyond expectations and explore language to engage the audience.
Arya - 4H	Presented her creative diary entry, detailing life in Celtic Britain
Aathavi – 4A	Wrote a transcript for the <i>Horrible Histories</i> , new video - the formation of the Roman Empire. Aathavi linked her previous learning and was creating through revolutionary thinking. She was able to create new ideas through building on existing ones
Zaynah - 4DO	Demonstrating creativity in writing a chapter for our class' novel 'The firework-makers' daughter' Zaynah analysed the text, planned her chapter and wrote it, using descriptive language.
Mustafa and Wildan - 5P	Worked collaboratively, to research and gather information about life, in a Victorian workhouse.
Ayana - 5R	Worked very hard, in researching the work of William Morris. She observed his pieces in detail and applied his techniques to her own art work.
Santa - 5C	Showed resilience and perseverance (hardworking) throughout the whole week, focusing on her speed and accuracy (realising) when problem solving.
Habirna - 5A	Demonstrated supreme problem – solving skills.
Rayaan - 6S	Used his meta-thinking, to write a job application letter, to Ernest Shackleton. Rayaan wrote in character, as the photographer, for the expedition to Antarctic, in 1914.
Laila A, Olivia, Hafsa, Rania and Shakya - 6I	Children worked collaboratively to generate descriptive sentences and then improve on them.
Amelia- 6H	Amelia shared her science work, showing intellectual confidence (a part of meta-thinking) and explaining her ideas using the experiments as evidence.
Aarlin – 6F	Demonstrated meta-thinking in considering how to edit and improve her writing, as well as hard-work and perseverance.

<https://parkhilljunior.com/hpl-high-performance-learning>

Our very first HPL assembly, sharing WOW work!



High Performance Learning

Parents were treated to the HPL experience, during both parents evenings this month! Our learners explained to their parents and carers, everything they need to understand about WOW work, recorded in the now famous WOW Book!

You can help your child on their journey towards High Performance Learning, by completing the HPL survey below. The deadline is Monday 4th March 2024.

<https://surveys.rsacademics.com/s3/a056cfc15b88?sc=33&sg=2>



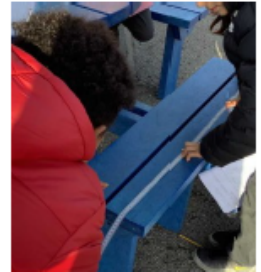
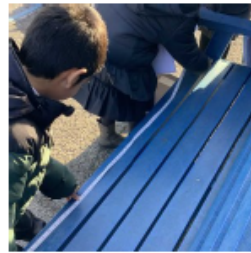
Year 3

Our *high performance learners* have shown great enthusiasm, exploring new concepts. With the anticipation of the spring and summer days ahead, their impressive readiness for learning continues to shine.

Maths

In maths, we have been learning about length and perimeter, measuring and converting cm into mm, m into cm and vice versa. We have enjoyed outdoor learning activities, measuring the equipment from the playground.

"We are learning about centimetres and metres. I like using the part whole model." - Saian, 3G.



No Pens Wednesday

We enjoyed another *No Pens Day*, where we abandoned our pens and pencils and completed lots of different tasks. It helped the children to consider different strategies in order to complete them and allows them to assess their own learning through discussion.

"We are so used to answering maths questions, using written methods!. We had to work together, sharing our ideas and we found a way to solve the problem, with the resources we had." Noor, 3C



Chinese New Year

To celebrate the Chinese New Year, we enjoyed a workshop provided by Dance Days. We learned a choreography, using fans and parasols. To wrap up the session, we took part in a dragon parade. We had to use our collaborative skills as only the person holding the head at the front could see.

"In our dance lesson, we were learning a Chinese dance for Chinese New Year and it included canons!" Alana, 3O.



Reminders

- *Please remember to bring in your PE kits every Monday, and take them home to be washed on Friday.
- *Homework is sent out every Friday on Google Classroom and it is to be completed by Wednesday.
- *All children will need to purchase an ocarina in order to take part in their music lessons.

Excellent work so far and continue to **Enjoy Learning!**
Mrs Ozkan, Ms Castell, Mrs Begum and Ms Gay.



Year 4



We are so impressed with the high quality of our children's work; they have shown high performance learning during such an eventful and exciting term! The children have enjoyed taking part in a range of learning activities, such as; Children Mental Health Week (CMHW) including Dress to Express Day, No Pens Day, celebrating Chinese New Year and welcoming our guest visitor, Oscar the dog, to our school. Read on to find out more...

Science -Sound

In science, we have learnt how sound travels to the different parts of the ear which allows us to hear sound. We have linked this concept by making sounds using musical and non-musical instruments.

'We were exploring sounds by investigating and analysing, how sound is produced and how we hear it. We were tapping, shaking and banging different, musical instruments. We closely examined and observed, how the sound waves vibrated was travelled.' Varun, 4DO



Special Guest Visitor!

In order to create a good first impression to Oscar the dog, we were calm and quiet. We also had the opportunity to feed and pat him! We hope that he will visit us again.

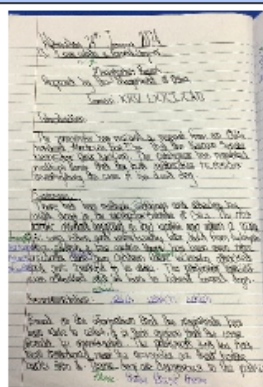
'I felt a bit nervous when I met Oscar but then when I patted him, I felt better. I like Oscar and I want him to visit again. We fed Oscar treats and performed a reader's theatre to him - I think he enjoyed it!' - Maham, 4A



Celebrating Chinese New Year

We had fun learning a Chinese dance; it included basic steps and a folk song. We particularly enjoyed the dragon movement; it also helped us to improve our overall physical wellness and body posture.

We showed perseverance and this enhanced our self-confidence. 'I love dancing and we got to use a parasol and fans for the routine. We used our linking skills from P.E lesson and we had fun!' Sahib, 4N



English and History

As a part of our melting curriculum, we are reading a class novel called, 'The Thieves of Ostia.' We are investigating the murderer of Jonathan's dog. We are using our analysing skills to solve the mystery. Can we discover who is killed the dogs in Ostia, and why? 'I can't wait to find out if who I suspect is the right culprit!' Arnika, 4H



Reminders

- *Remember to bring PE kits every Monday, and take them home to be washed on Friday.
- *Homework is sent out every Friday on Google Classroom and it must be completed by Wednesday
- *All children will need to purchase a recorder in order to take part in their music lessons.

Mrs Ahsan, Mr Hansen, Mrs Nayak and Mrs De Oliveira.



Year 5



Apprends en t'amusant! Enjoy learning!

We continue to be incredibly proud of how our Year 5 pupils are 'Enjoying Learning and Growing Together,' every day. Please read on to find out what our fantastic learners have been up to.

William Morris Gallery

This term we have been studying a Victorian artist - William Morris. William Morris was a famous activist and revolutionary artist during his era. Due to the boom of the industrial revolution, he was able to mass produce his wonderful prints, which we still enjoy today! We had the opportunity to visit Morris' home which is now a gallery open to the public. While at the gallery, we enjoyed seeing the original casts for William Morris' prints and we were able to enjoy the building's interior design dating back to the Victorian era.

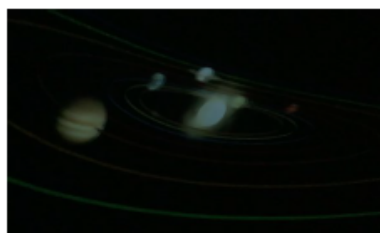
"William Morris gallery had interactive elements such as games. We made drawings from our observations of William Morris' design and patterns." Nial (5R)

"We saw a whole different perspective of art. His artwork was inspired by nature and used for many designs." Shaambavi (5P)



Some of the images

from inside the dome:



Victorian Day

To bring our learning to life, we were immersed into a Victorian experience where we had the opportunity to dress up and reimagine schooling in Victorian times. We experienced English, maths, art and history from the perspective of a Victorian child. We then created William Morris inspired book marks and learnt about the inventions from the Victorian era, which are still visible around the world today.

"Victorian day was epic! We had the chance to see what it's like to be Victorian and what they went through, during this time. Maryam, 5R

"I really enjoyed Victorian day, I learnt that if you mix flour and water you can make glue. It was fun to learn how Victorians were treated." Apinayaa (5P)

"It was fun and interactive - our teachers were strict and our classroom was set up like Victorian day. Boys and girls were separated. We wrote lines." Hansi and Sevraj (5C)

Wonderdome

In science this term, we have been learning about space. To enhance our learning, we were transported into space via the wonder dome. During our wonder dome session, we were able to look at space from different perspectives and explore our galaxy from outer space. Our space specialist was keen to answer as many questions as he could, allowing us to enquire about planets, moons and galaxies. After all, space is infinite!

"The wonder dome was great - when I went in I felt like I was moving in space. I learnt there was more than one dwarf planet and so much more!" Yusef (5P)

"The wonder dome was amusing and I learnt so much more about space, I wish I could experience it again" - Kimoyo (5A)



Reminders

P.E: Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit with them on their allocated days and that their drawstring bags are labelled with their name.

Reading Records: Please ensure that your child regularly uses their reading records to reflect on their book.

Homework: Please ensure that your child submits their homework by the following Wednesday

Keep up the outstanding work. Enjoy Learning!
Ms. Ali, Ms. Rahman, Ms. Campbell, Ms. Pover

Year 6

Enjoy Learning! We cannot believe we are now half-way through the year! We are pleased to say that we have continued to be incredibly impressed with the hard-work, resilience, empathy and meta-thinking shown by our amazing Year 6 pupils. Please read on, to find out more about their learning and achievements.

Music

This half-term, we have been developing the High Performance Learning skill of hard-work through practice. Through our drumming lessons, we have been learning to drum to a beat and read different musical notes, from minims, crotchets, quavers and many more.

We are really looking forward to next half term, when we will use our learning, to tell a musical story using the drums.

"I've been enjoying music as it is different every year. The drumming has been fun as well as challenging."
Maheem (6I)



"I really enjoy the experience of science, especially learning about shadows. I've learned a lot about how light travels. For example, it doesn't bend."
Rhoop (6S)

Science

In science, we have been developing the High Performance Learning skills of linking and connection finding. We have been learning out how we see light and how light rays can be reflected to help us see round corners. We had a great time making periscopes and using our knowledge to create diagrams and write explanations of our learning.



Maths

As part of *No Pens Wednesday*, we had to apply our knowledge of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) to complete a tarsia puzzle. The challenge was that we were not allowed to make written notes and had to complete each problem mentally.

This really encouraged us to develop our High Performance Learning skills of empathy and collaboration. We had to work together to decide upon a strategy to complete the task and make sure we remembered each of the steps we took to solve each part of the puzzle.

"I enjoyed working creatively, using my HPL skills. I had to really think about each step I took....!"
Aminah (6H)



"Doodle Homework makes homework more fun. It has excellent games that make learning spellings and multiplication tables more interesting."

Doodle Homework

The Year 6 children are using *Doodle Homework*, to complete their homework. This includes English, maths, multiplication tables and spellings. Homework is due in every Wednesday and the spelling test is on Friday. Instructions of how to download it can be found on the Year 6 page, on the website.

Keep up the fantastic work. Enjoy Learning!
Mrs Hansen, Ms Ibrahim, Mrs Simms and Mr Forbes

CALENDAR OF LEARNING AND CELEBRATION

DATE	LEARNING and CELEBRATION
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)
** 15 th March 2024	Red Nose Day
29 th March to 12 th April 2024	Easter Holidays begin – and not a day sooner
24 th April 2024	No Pens Wednesday 
2 nd May 2024	School used as a polling station - closed to children
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	<i>Arts Week</i>
10 th to 14 th June 2024	<i>My Money Week</i>
24 th July 2024	<i>Summer Holidays begin – and not a day sooner!</i>

**** NEW DATE ADDED.**

*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.***

Make memories



Foster for Redbridge



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