

Parkhill Junior School

July 2025

Newsletter 11

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been quite a year! Our high performance learners have enjoyed and embraced every challenge and opportunity on offer. We are very proud of them.

We wish our Year 6 children continued happiness and success as they move to their next school. They will be missed. In recent weeks, they have visited their new school and are well-prepared to manage the exciting changes and challenges. They have been true high performance learners and set a wonderful example to the rest of the school.

A warm welcome to our new Year 3 children who have been visiting us regularly! Their parents and carers also came to view the school. We look forward to working with our new learners in September 2025.

To everyone in our current learning community, we say a big ‘Thank You,’ for all your support and cooperation this past year. Everyone at Parkhill Junior School, staff, governors and the learning community wishes you a safe and happy summer holiday!

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	Mrs N. Tanner Deputy Headteacher and SENCO
Safeguarding Officer	Ms N. Reeves School Business Lead

The Parkhill Vision

At Parkhill Junior School, we passionately believe in the potential of our children, regardless of their starting point. They are at the heart of everything we do.

Everybody in our culturally diverse community is valued, celebrated and encouraged, in a positive, safe, happy and caring environment.

Through our rigorous, systematic and holistic approach, we aim to empower every child to recognise that there are no restrictions on learning and anything is possible.

We constantly explore new approaches to teaching and learning, in order to encourage them to become global citizens.

Our goal is to ensure that children learn how to learn and barriers to success are overcome. Our vision is to equip each child with advanced cognitive skills and the essential values, attitudes and attributes that they will need for lifelong success.

Every child can be a high performance learner.

We encourage everyone in the Parkhill community to make a positive contribution to our world class school.



Takeover Day

Headteachers, teachers, receptionists, middays and school business leaders! Our high performance learners took over the entire school on *Takeover Day*. They did a spectacular job and were so well-prepared. Important HPL attributes and life skills were developed including, diplomacy, patience, autonomy, courtesy and compromise. Leaders in the making! We cannot wait to do it all again next year!

'I enjoyed being a Headteacher because I experienced what it is like to do the job.' Zahra (5P)

'I really enjoyed being Mrs Hughes! I hope we do this again!' Alyssa (5H)

'I enjoyed being the Headteacher. It was fun to do jobs that are important.' Fatima (5H)

'I really enjoyed the experience of being a Headteacher because now I understand what it is like to be Mrs Hughes! I also liked seeing other children teach.' Arafah (5P)

'I enjoyed the opportunity to step into the shoes of a Headteacher and I hope this will be done again, next year.' Zoeya (5P)

'It was a great experience and it was an honour to be a Headteacher.' Maya (5H)

'I really enjoyed being Mrs Hughes because I liked doing the learning walk.' Jessica (5A)

'I enjoyed being Mrs Hughes and doing cool jobs around the school.' Zynah (5H)

I really loved being a Headteacher. The roles were amazing. I want to do it every day. Kinza (5H)

I really liked being the Headteacher because I liked giving positive and negative comment! Ishaaq (6H)

I liked being diplomatic and assessing everything. Haider (5H)

I enjoyed this job. (Iliana) (5P)

Today was fun. I felt like I had a lot of power! Dylan (5H)

Enjoy learning! I like being Headteacher! Micah (3N)

I really enjoyed taking on the role of Mrs Hughes. Yunus (5H)



Debating Competition



The final stage of this incredible competition, took place on 3rd July. The participants came from sixteen schools across the borough and were skilled in their debating and powers of oratory. Parkhill Junior won their first round and did us proud. The overall winning team – Our Lady of Lourdes Primary - were deserving of their triumph! Congratulations to all the children and adults involved.

Create Day

To mark our first anniversary since gaining HPL status as well as celebrating our Rights Respecting School status, we all celebrated Create Day, in grand style! Working with The Royal Opera House who introduced this fabulous day in 2024, we followed the Alice in Wonderland theme. There were Alices, rabbits, Mad Hatters and Queens attending the special afternoon tea party in the Parkhill Junior School *royal grounds*! The entire school performed a short ballet sequence simultaneously just before the party began! A recording of the event will be available on our website, by September.

Year 5 Residential.

Our Year 5 children waved happily, as they left for their residential. They enjoyed many activities including ziplining, archery, raft building, orienteering, giant swing, survival skills and so much more! A fabulous and unforgettable experience.



Summer Fair

The sun shone brightly for our Summer Fair, as the children shopped happily with their friends. It was a splendid affair with a huge variety of wonderful items to buy! We raised £1985. This will buy much-needed books for the library and classroom book corners.



Year 6 Performance – A Time to Shine!

Year 6 children are performing to their school and to parents this week. Photos will be uploaded onto the website. It promises to be a phenomenal show!



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/sweets. All birthday food will not be distributed and will be returned to the parent/carer. We respectfully ask you not to distribute birthday food, in the playground.**



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)



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!**

**A minute late for Parkhill, is a minute wasted!’
Every second counts!**



Appointments

Dental appointments, optician appointments and GP appointments must be booked, outside school hours. **Appointments booked during school time will be unauthorised.** N.H.S. and 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 receiving a penalty notice.**

Communication with our Learning Community

It is crucial that we have your up-to-date contact details i.e. mobile number and email address. All letters and messages are sent via email. You risk missing important information if school has not been given accurate details. **You can find our Communication Policy on our website. Please take a moment to read it.**

<https://parkhilljunior.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Home-school-Communications-Policy.pdf>

School Uniform

Our Parkhill uniform is worn proudly, by all of our high performance 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: our learners are permitted to wear religious items of jewellery, only. Earrings must be studs. Please follow the link below, to read our School Uniform Policy.

<https://parkhilljunior.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Parkhill-Junior-School-Uniform-Policy-2024-25.pdf>

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.

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.

CALENDAR OF LEARNING AND CELEBRATION

DATE	LEARNING and CELEBRATION
18th July 2025	Summer Day (non uniform day)
22nd July 2025	Last day of term <u>and not a day sooner!</u>
22nd July 2025	<i>Big Breakfast</i> for Parents and Carers
Summer Holidays 23rd July to 31st August 2025	
	
1st and 2nd September 2025	Professionals' Training Day 1 and 2 – School closed to children
3rd September 2025	Hurray! Children return to school today...and not a day later.
27th to 31st October 2025	Half Term Holiday
22nd December 2025 to 2nd January 2026	Christmas Holiday
5th January 2026	Professionals Training Day (school closed to children)
6th January 2026	Hurray! Children return to school today...and not a day later.
16th to 20th February 2026	Half Term Holiday

Year 3

The Year 3 children have been thriving this year even in this heat! They are determined to continue progressing in all their learning. Our High Performance Learners have come a long way. Please continue reading, to find out what all of the children have achieved in the final term of the year!

In science, the children have been learning all about plants. The children have also studied which conditions are the best to allow plants to grow. To observe this, they conducted experiments to grow cress, water them daily and leave them in the sunlight.

"I thought it was interesting to touch the mud and the cress seeds. I am looking forward to see how the amount of seeds can affect the growth of the plants." Zayan – 3N



In art, the children were inspired by Frida Kahlo's portraits and created their own. The children worked on painting their skin tone and used a variety of materials to make their collage for the background.

"I was inspired by Frida Kahlo and used different colours to create skin tone. I enjoyed using different materials to create my background."

Fatimah – Zahra – 3A



Our focus for this half term in geography is Mexico. The children learnt about the human and physical features of Mexico and made comparisons to the UK. The children then designed leaflets to present all that they had learnt.

"I can identify key physical and human characteristics of Mexico City. It is surrounded by mountains and built on a high plateau, which is very different from London. Mexico City is very busy and has lots of people, buildings, and roads. I used my linking skills to spot the differences and similarities, and my 'big thinking' to explain what I found out." Hussain – 3C



Across the school, the children have been taking part in 'Take Over Day'. They have chosen a specific role in the school to take over and have had a lot of fun role playing what the teachers, receptionists and head teacher do, daily.

"I really enjoyed teaching a creative writing lesson. Managing behaviour was as hard as I thought it would be."

Zahra – 3B



Enjoy learning and growing together
Ms Castell, Mrs Nayak, Mrs Ahmed and Ms Bibi



Year 4



Finally, here we are at the end of our journey in Year 4, ready to begin a new one, soon! Let's celebrate this journey, hold on tight! We are proud of all our children who have cultivated high performance skills, matured over the year, taken risks across various subjects, remained resilient, showed a rights-respecting attitude always and enjoyed learning. We wish them all the best for Year 5!

This year, we have had some wonderful and extremely educational visits. We visited religious places of worship, our local area to study land use and Hainault forest to study animal habitats. Each visit was a huge success helped by our lovely parent volunteers!

"Hainault Forest was cool because there was lots of foliage! I really enjoyed having to collect the animals in the jars." Shayan 4G



Children in Year 4 have worked hard and have gained knowledge and maturity over the year. Through a range of activities and events such as Apartheid presentations, science investigations, Arts Week, Generation Celebrations, Create Day and weaving lessons, they have demonstrated their talents and skills. We are very proud because our high performance learners are now able to work collaboratively and understand the importance of respecting each other and being resilient.

"Weaving has been a great experience! It was challenging to begin with but with practice, it became calming and relaxing. I used my realising skills when I made mistakes and used these to improve on my next draft." Umaira 4D

This year, children had many opportunities to make healthy choices, from learning about tooth decay, making healthy sandwiches with hand baked bread to participating in the Sports Day, we were able to cover different ways we can stay active and fit for life.

"On Sports Day, there were many challenging but fun activities to complete. We were very eager for our teams to win. My favourite activity was the relay race because we had to work as a team to succeed." Alana 4F



Over all, we have had a wonderful and productive year! As you can see, we have completed an eclectic range of activities, all productive and educational. Hopefully, next year, we will have as much fun and learning packed into Year 5.

"In Year 4, I have made so much progress, I absolutely love maths now and have improved my spellings too. I can also work collaboratively and use my oracy skills to work with my group. I really enjoyed the Create Day because we got to do a dance as a whole school!" Arissa 4N



Year 5



Apprends en t'amusant! Enjoy learning!

This year, Year 5 have enjoyed learning and growing together. The children have shown excellent standards of high performance learning across this academic year. We have been continuously impressed by the behaviour and positive attitude to learning shown by the Year 5 children and wish them the very best for Year 6. Take a look at some of the fabulous learning that has taken place this year.

The children have been working collaboratively and showing perseverance conducting experiments in science. They designed their own parachutes (of different sizes) and worked out the time it took for each one to drop to the ground. Following on from this, they drew conclusions about which were the best parachutes.

'In science, my group and I were figuring out whether the surface area of the parachute matters when it brings a human down. I used my collaboration skills to work with my group.'

Jiya, 5A



In maths the pupils used their collaboration attributes and their agility skills to be flexible in their approach to learning. They used concrete resources to investigate volume. They created a range of complex shapes and challenged their partner to work out the volume. The children also worked together to create a range of shapes that had the same volume.

"This was different to our usual learning and I enjoyed it". "Instead of looking at paper and writing, we could create the shapes and see them to find the volume. Varun and Kanisha, 5GP. "I liked giving a challenge to my partner to solve." Rayaana, 5GP

Design and Technology has been very exciting this term. The children have been using their creativity and hard work to design and create their very own cam toys. Through challenges, they persevered and created amazing toys that moved in different ways. *"This half term we have worked hard to make cam toys. I loved doing this because it is something different to other lessons. I had to use my HPL skills of linking and creating to make a successful cam toy."* Zahra, A 5P



WW1 has been the focus for our English lessons, the children have been engrossed in the text- 'Private Peaceful'. Watching videos of life in the trenches gave children the opportunity to visualise and capture the detail in their writing.

'We spent a long time annotating and trying to visualise what it was like to be in a WW1 trench. We used all of our senses to write the most detailed setting description possible.' Khaylan 5H

Thank you to all parents and carers, for your help and support this year.

Mrs Ahsan, Mr Hansen, Ms Habib and Ms Pover



Year 6



As the summer term draws to an end, we reflect on the exciting learning journey we have experienced, and what an exhilarating end to an amazing year. This half term, we sang, danced, performed, designed, produced and used many of our high performance learning skills. Here are just a few of the highlights, of Year 6.

"Year 6 has been filled with lots of memories and it is hard to choose which one. For me, I loved the art gallery." Priya 6S



"I have enjoyed all the trips I have been on during year 6. I have used my HPL skills, linking and realising to develop my knowledge." Aaliyah 6I



It has been a privilege to work with you this year. I have seen you show HPL hard working skills of resilience and perseverance through a range of challenges you have faced. You have matured greatly and shown a deep respect for each other. I wish you all the best for the future.
Mrs Hansen



I am incredibly proud of your achievements this year. Keep smiling, working hard, and being yourselves. It has been a joy to witness your development and growth as HPL learners as you faced challenges with determination and resilience.
Mrs Simms



It has been an absolute delight to have been your teacher. I think each and every one of you has so much potential that I'm certain you will all go on to achieve great things.
Mrs Alveranga



It has been a pleasure to have been your teacher this year. I wish you all the best for the next stage of your journey.
Well done Year 6!
Ms Ibrahim

"I enjoyed maths this year, putting all my learning from over the years into practice using my HPL skill of linking." Kian 6K



"I have enjoyed going to different types of interesting visits where I used my empathetic skills." Gurtek 6H

Enrich a Life. Foster for Redbridge Council.

Do you remember jumping over the waves at the beach in the summer? Or the dance show you were in when you were 6? If you would like to create fun and lasting memories for children who may have never had these experiences, please call us on 020 8708 6068 or join us on our next virtual information session. Visit <https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/fosteringschools> to book a place.

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