

## Parkhill Junior School HT Newsletter 7 March 2026

*HPL: agile through enquiring (behaviour) and linking through connection finding (skill)*  
*RRS: Article 42 – every child has the right to learn about their rights and adults should learn about them too.*

Dear Parents, Carers and High-Performance Learners

It is with great delight that we share all of our high performance learning experiences and adventures with you, in the year group pages below! From the sensational *Generation Celebration* to an exciting visit to Finchingfield, Bancroft Science Fair and the local high street! It has indeed been non stop, during the last several weeks.

We have had a wide variety of competitions to keep us on our toes, including the Redbridge Choir competition to the School Uniform Poster competition (see below). While we like to win, it is the taking part that we really love and, let's face it...every single learner, at Parkhill Junior School, is a winner and a high performance learner.

During British Science Week, our fluffy ducklings sparked awe and wonder, for everyone at Parkhill Junior School so... they deserve a special mention!

Finally, as we reach the end of the spring term, we take the opportunity to thank you for all your support, generosity and kindness.



Enjoy Learning!  
Mrs D. Hughes-Mulhall

Headteacher

### 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.



# 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

<b>Safeguarding Lead</b>	Mrs D. Hughes-Mulhall <b>Headteacher</b>
<b>Safeguarding Deputy</b>	Mrs N. Tanner <b>Deputy Headteacher and SENCO</b>
<b>Safeguarding Deputy</b>	Ms G. Uppal <b>Deputy Headteacher</b>
<b>Safeguarding Deputy</b>	Ms N. Reeves <b>School Business Lead</b>
<b>Safeguarding Deputy</b>	Mrs M. Ahsan <b>Senior Leader and Phase Lead</b>
<b>Safeguarding Deputy</b>	Mrs N. Hossain <b>Senior Leader and Assistant SENCO</b>

## Fairtrade Fayre

Our learners raised a phenomenal £455 for this charity to support others around the world. All product sold, are made by our very own high performing learners!



## Eid Cards

Our Reception area lit up, with the beautiful Eid cards designed by children across the school. Well done to everyone.



## Uniform Poster Competition

Organised by our Parkhill Prime Minister, Simran and deputy Prime Minister, Alisha, the standard of quality of entries was sky high and it took a long time to select the winner! *Aizah in 4H!*

Congratulations to Aiza and, to Lamees – in second place and, to Zainah in third place. Fabulous.

Copies of Aizah's wonderful poster are on display all around our school, serving as a reminder, to always wear the correct Parkhill uniform with pride.



## Choir Competition

Our fantastic choir recently took part in the Redbridge Choir Competition. They not only sang beautifully but they were supreme rights-respecting role models.



## Book Week

From reading in strange and unusual places, to dressing up as a favourite book character. Plus the sponsored read raised £155.85, with Class 5K Raising the highest amount. Well done! National Book Week was simply fabulous! Its clear message...*read, read, read!*



## British Science Week

It was not just about the ducklings but they were, undisputedly, the stars of British Science Week!



*Not shy but  
just came out  
of my shell!*



*Growing  
fast and  
having fun.*



*Duck bath  
...and going  
home today!*

## After School Clubs

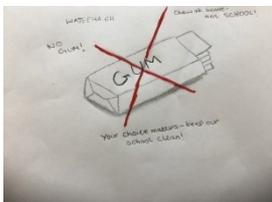
Afterschool clubs continue weekly until Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026. They resume from the week beginning, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026. You **do not** need to re-register your child for a club in April 2026. Breakfast club runs every day, all year round and provides a delicious and healthy breakfast.

## 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 remind 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)*



**Chewing gum is strictly forbidden at Parkhill Junior School and must never be brought into the building or the playground. We are very proud of our school and want to keep it clean and clear of all that is unpleasant and unhygienic.**

## Fruit Time

A midmorning energy boost for our learners. Please provide a piece of fresh fruit daily. No other food is allowed.



## 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 getting a penalty notice.**

## 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. Please follow the link to see our Attendance Policy.

<https://parkhilljunior.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/attendance-policy-2025-2026.pdf>

## **Attendance and Punctuality**

We work hard to ensure that our young learners hold high, the value and importance of attendance and punctuality. Core values instilled at this stage of their education and life, remain with them as they grow into citizens of our world and of the future.

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

**Miss education... and you miss out!**

**This spring term’s attendance champions are 3PN, 4G, 5WA and 6P.**

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

**Every second counts!**

**This spring term’s punctuality champions are 3C and 6S**



**Well done, to all the above classes! They have each won a super-play session.**

## **School Uniform**

We are very proud of our school uniform. Please adhere to our school uniform policy. It can be found by clicking on the link below.

<https://parkhilljunior.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Parkhill-Junior-School-Uniform-Policy-2025-26.pdf>

## **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/2025/09/Home-school-Communications-Policy.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 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](http://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.***



**Our March 2026 High Performance Learners.**  
Well done, to everyone!



3PN Aarav Singh	For using HPL skills of linking, <b>meta- thinking and automaticity</b> to research topics out of class and creating fact files and information leaflets to share information with peers and teachers. Keep it up, Aarav!
3C Ekamjot	Ekamjot used <b>self-regulation, hard work, and resilience</b> at home by managing his time, staying focused, and persevering to complete his science homework.
3RN Yusuf	Yusuf used his <b>enquiry skills</b> , effectively, to carry out important research on climate change.
3M Sana	Sana showed strong <b>hardworking</b> skills while creating her canopic jars, carefully shaping and decorating them with attention to detail. Her finished canopic jars show <b>creativity</b> and effort.
4W Varoon	Varoon is always <b>hardworking</b> and tries his best in all subjects across the curriculum. He demonstrated great <b>empathy and understanding</b> towards others. He is a fantastic role model to others.
4G Alya	Alya has demonstrated <b>hardworking</b> skills across the curriculum. She has practised presenting her work neatly and dramatically improved on her handwriting. Well done!
4A Lilianna	Lilianna is <b>hardworking</b> and always tries her best in all subjects. She presents work neatly and has taken care to write clear explanations for her answers in maths. Well done!
4H Aizah	Aizah used the HPL skills of <b>creating and realising</b> to construct a colourful and vibrant Roman mosaic. First, she created a still life of a piece of fruit and then created an authentic Roman mosaic version of it.
5MA	Arjan has worked extremely hard in maths. He has shown HPL skills of <b>analysing</b> through complex and multi step problem solving to solve a range of challenges and extensions in maths. Arjan has also shown his reasoning alongside his working out.
5J Arhum	Arhum used his skills of <b>understanding and analysing</b> a protagonist's inner thoughts which he was able to associate with his feelings. By doing this, he was able to create an effective diary entry relating to three key events experienced by the main character.
5K Amaan	Amaan has demonstrated HPL learning in English through his carefully crafted diary entry. He has <b>created links</b> across the story and in his learning in English lessons, to create his diary from the perspective of Jim.
5WA Ansara	Ansara used her <b>analysing skills</b> in science as part of our topic 'plants and animal lifecycles'. She was able to categorise and discuss the different parts of a plant, dissect it and then explore the effectiveness of each part.
6H Benjamin	Benjamin has demonstrated the <b>agile</b> skill of <b>enquiry</b> by developing his natural curiosity and undertaking his own research, to create a model volcano for his group's presentation.
6I Deen, Viknesh Esma, Alisha, Shams and Eshaal	Deen, Viknesh, Esma, Alisha, Eshaal and Shams demonstrated strong <b>collaboration skills</b> by sharing ideas, dividing tasks fairly, listening to one another's opinions, and working together respectfully to complete their geography project successfully.
6P Nithyasri	Nithyasri has shown excellent standards of HPL in recent maths activities. She <b>collaborates</b> with others to further her understanding and is using her <b>analysing</b> skills to solve <b>multi-step</b> reasoning problems.
6S Dmitri	Dmitri demonstrated strong <b>creativity and risk-taking</b> , using HPL skills to experiment, refine techniques, and confidently produce an impressive clay sculpture.

## **CALENDAR OF LEARNING AND CELEBRATION**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>LEARNING and CELEBRATION</b>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026</b>	<b>Big Pedal Week (cycle or scoot to school)</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup> March 2026</b>	<b>Big Breakfast for all our parents and carers.</b>
<b>30<sup>th</sup> March 2026 to 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>	<b>Easter Holiday</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>	<b>Hurray! Children return to school today...and not a single day later!</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>	<b>Clubs Resume This Week.</b>
<b>30<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>	<b>HPL Take Over Day. (Our learners are in charge!)</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	<b>Bank holiday</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	<b>Local elections – school used as a polling station. (Closed to children)</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	<b>National End of Key Stage 2 Test Week. (SATs)</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> May to 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	<b>Half term holiday</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> June 2026</b>	<b>Professionals Training Day 4 (school closed to children)</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	<b>My Money Week</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	<b>Enterprise Day</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	<b>Healthy Eating and Active Week</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	<b>Sports Day</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	<b>Summer Fair</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>	<b>Last Week of Clubs</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> June to 1st July 2026</b>	<b>Parent Evenings from 1:45pm to 5:45pm</b> <b>Year 3 – Monday</b> <b>Year 4 – Tuesday</b> <b>Year 5 – Wednesday</b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	<b>Parent Evening from 1:45pm to 5:45pm</b> <b>Year 6 - Thursday</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	<b>Last day of term...and not a single day sooner!</b>

# Year 3

Year 3 have had a busy and exciting term with many opportunities to explore their learning in different ways. From the Fairtrade Fayre and Ancient Egyptian art to British Science Week and our geography visit, pupils showed curiosity, creativity and a deeper understanding of the world around them.



## Fairtrade Fayre – PSHE

Year 3 enjoyed visiting the Fairtrade Fayre organised by Years 5 and 6, exploring and purchasing items such as handmade keychains, bookmarks, jewellery and paintings. The experience linked to their PSHE learning on wants and needs, helping them make thoughtful choices and understand the importance of fair trade. Pupils developed their ability to connect classroom learning with real-world values like fairness and global responsibility.

*'The Fairtrade Fayre was a way to show us the difference between wants and needs and how we can help farmers and producers. It was a lot of fun and kept us motivated the whole day in our learning.'* - Ambar S. 3M



## Canopic Jars – Art, History and English

In art, children designed their own canopic jars inspired by ancient Egyptian artefacts, linking their history learning with creative design. They also used descriptive vocabulary from English to explain their work. Pupils showed strong creativity and connections, thoughtfully considering the jars' purpose and symbolism while expressing their ideas artistically.

*'We had fun carving the Canopic jar. The best part was when I made the face of my animal. I persevered when I tried to pull the jar upwards to give it a good shape because it kept on breaking. This was the first time I made a Canopic jar!'* - Anaya P. 3RN



## Finchingfield Village Visit- Geography

In geography, we visited Finchingfield in Braintree, a picturesque Essex village. Children explored village life and compared it with Clayhall, observing the environment, buildings and community spaces. This helped them understand how places differ and supported their ability to compare locations and reflect on how they shape people's lives.

*'I liked that the village was clean and beautiful. I enjoyed looking at the River Pant, the windmill and also exploring the artefacts in the museum. I learned that the Guildhall building was 556 years old.'* - Mustafa A. 3PN



## British Science Week – Curiosity in Action

During British Science Week, Year 3 took part in activities celebrating the theme of *curiosity*. They planted daffodil bulbs to support fundraising for Great Ormond Street Hospital and Cancer Research, learning how bulbs grow into plants, and observed newly hatched ducklings up close. These experiences encouraged pupils to ask questions, observe changes over time, and develop their analysing skills as young scientists.

*'I enjoyed Science Week because we planted bulbs and learned how plants grow, and it was amazing to watch ducklings hatch and see how animals grow too.'* - Ekamjot 3C



Enjoy learning and growing together  
Ms Castell, Mrs Nangia, Mrs Nayak, and Mrs Malik



# Year 4



This term has been full of exciting learning across the curriculum. We explored coastal landscapes, met newly hatched ducklings, planted our own bulbs, and even travelled through the decades with music and dance. Curiosity and enquiry have been at the heart of everything we have done. Read on to find out more...

## Science Week

The children have been exploring our science theme of curiosity and enquiry through hands-on experiences. They particularly enjoyed visiting the ducklings after hatching. They also planted bulbs and created their own scientific enquiry questions.

*"I liked planting the bulbs, it gave us the chance to grow our own flowers. Even though it wasn't the cleanest activity."* – Elif, 4H



## Geography

Coasts has been our topic this term, and the children have explored a range of coastal landscapes through photographs and VR headsets. They generated their own higher-level questions to guide their learning. The children also carried out a rock investigation, comparing samples from different coastlines and discussing how water changes them over time through erosion.

*"Learning about coasts is interesting, especially Durdle Door."* – Elishia and Yusuf, 4W

## Generation Celebration

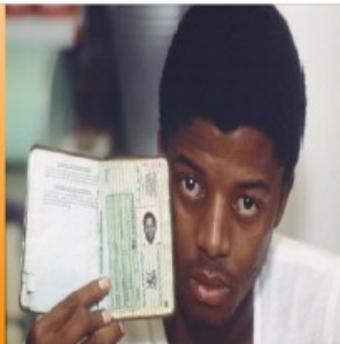
From the 1950s to the 2020s, the children worked incredibly hard with *Dance Days* to create spectacular routines for our Generation Celebration. Alongside Year 3, they also learned a song from their chosen decade, making the performance a true celebration of music and dance through the ages.

*"We were able to express ourselves and enjoy ourselves! We were taught resilience – never give up!"* – Romilda, 4G.



## The Pass

Black people over the age of 16 have to carry something called a *Dompass*. If you forget to bring your *Dompass* you will get arrested over 17,255,000 people got arrested for not carrying their *dompass*. There was also discrimination towards arab, indian and chinese people. Women didn't have to carry a *dompass*. From 1950s women began to carry a *Dompass*. The use of the *Dompass* used to start to be used late and here.



## English

Before beginning the class novel *Journey to Jo'burg*, the children took time to research apartheid. Working in groups, they gathered key facts, created clear notes, and transformed these into PowerPoint presentations. They then presented their work to one another, sharing their learning in an engaging and collaborative way.

*"I really like the story because the main character has to travel alone to save her baby sister."* – Inayah, 4A

## Reminders

- \*Remember to bring in your PE kits every Monday, and take them home on Friday.
- \*Homework is uploaded 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.

Ms Gay, Mr Hansen, Mrs Wright and Ms Andaya.



# Year 5



*Apprends en t'amusant! Enjoy learning!*

Year 5 have had another fabulous month of learning! We continue to be incredibly proud of how they are 'Enjoying Learning and Growing Together.' Please read on to find out what our fantastic learners have been up to.



## Book Binding

As part of Parkhill's Melting Curriculum, this half term, in DT the children have applied their knowledge of William Morris to write and make their own book. The children in Year 5 have made links to their knowledge of William Morris from last half term to write a non-fiction book that meets the needs of a target audience and specific brief.

*"The D&T booklet was great because we got to learn how to sew and we learnt about a new artist William Morris. The HPL skill we used was creating through originality."* Veeran 5MA

## World Book Day

Year 5 celebrated World Book Day in a variety of ways, including, dressing up as their favourite book character, carrying out sponsored reads and reading to Year 2 students! The children have shown their passion for reading and it is clear that it stretches beyond the classroom!

*"I loved dressing up on World Book Day, it was a fun! I was creative and worked hard this week to read lots of books."* Gurfateh 5J



## The Life Cycle of a Duck

This half term in science, Year 5 have been learning about the life cycles of plants and animals. To further enhance their understanding of the topic, this children had the opportunity to observe the life cycle of a duck at Parkhill! The children visited the ducklings on different occasions and watched them transition through their life cycle, from an egg to a hatchling. In the two weeks the ducklings were at Parkhill they grew and developed quickly.

*"They were really fluffy. I'd like to know why the cracks on the egg shells were so dark. I'm excited to see them again and how much they've changed!"*

*Saif, 5KH*



## Computing

In computing lessons, Year 5 are building on their prior knowledge of using google sites to create their own website. Their brief is to make an improved website for Parkhill Junior School, using their HPL skills to analyse the current school website, carefully selecting topics and key themes to include in their version of the website, while ensuring it remains user friendly.

*"We needed to think about how we wanted to present things on the website and who our audience was. I found it quite easy to make."*

*Faris 5WA*



## 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.

Reading Records – please ensure that your child uses their reading record each day to reflect on their reading.

Homework – weekly homework tasks are uploaded to Google Classroom. These must be completed and 'turned in' so your child's class teacher can see.

Keep up the wonderful work. Enjoy Learning!  
Mrs Ahsan, Mrs Alveranga, Mrs Khanam-Haque and Ms Jarvis



# Year 6



It is hard to believe that we are over half-way through the year. March has been another month packed with fun-filled learning. The Year 6 teachers are continually impressed with the mature, rights-respecting attitude the children show daily and the confident use of HPL language when talking about their work.

## Art

For our art project this term, we have been studying sculpture and in particular, looking at the head and shoulders. We learnt that artists use different materials such as wood, stone, metal and clay. We used clay to create our busts.

*“When we were moulding the clay, I used the HPL skills of agile as I abandoned one idea for a better one when I was constructing the shape of the head. This shows I thought around the problem to explore different paths.”*

*Jia 6H*



## Geography

Year 6 pupils proudly presented their geography projects, choosing to focus on either volcanoes or mountains. They used their empathy and confidence skills to share their learning with the class, explaining key facts and ideas clearly. The presentations showed not only their understanding of geographical features but also their ability to speak thoughtfully and respectfully, listening to others and celebrating each other's work.

*“We supported each other and celebrated everyone's work, which made me feel proud to share my ideas” Eshaal 6I*

## Science

During British Science Week, the learners at Parkhill enthusiastically took part in a range of exciting daily challenges. They used their *linking skills* to connect new scientific ideas with what they already knew, helping them solve problems, make predictions, and explore different outcomes. Through teamwork, curiosity, and creative thinking, the children showed great determination as they investigated, experimented, and shared their discoveries throughout the week.

*“I enjoy working with Mrs Simms to help look after the ducklings and finding out more about them.” Jessica 6S*



## DT

For our DT project this half term, Year 6 have followed the design process to plan, make and evaluate a motorised vehicle. First, the children used their analysing skills to observe and draw a 2D isometric plan of their vehicle. Then they collaborated to create a 3D prototype and labelled the key features, using technical vocabulary. Finally, the children persevered to carefully follow each step to create their motorised vehicles.

*“I enjoyed using 3D shaped to bring our prototype to life. It helped me picture what our design would look like.” Duaa 6P*

Keep up the fantastic work. Enjoy Learning!  
Mrs Hansen, Mrs Simms, Mrs Ibrahim and Miss Pover

# LABEL YOUR UNIFORM



- Saves money
- Helps us return them to you
- Saves time



LABEL IT NOW, SAVE YOURSELF TIME  
LATER!

Thank you, from **The Official Helpers** (Years 3 to 6)