

Parkhill Junior School
HT Newsletter 9
May 2026

HPL: empathy through collaboration (behaviour) and linking through imagination (skill)

RRS: Article 6 – every child has the right to life. Governments must do all they can to make sure that children survive and develop to their full potential.

French word(s) of the Week: Il fait beau. (The weather is lovely)

Dear Parents, Carers and High-Performance Learners

Once again, test season is upon us, with Year 6 sitting the end-of-key stage 2 SATs and our Year 4 children taking the national Multiplication Tables Check. We are very proud of them, the calm and mature manner they demonstrate, and their wonderful supportive attitude towards each other. Fabulous role models for the rest of the school.

Please note, as the warmer weather creeps in, very slowly, summer uniform does include sensible sandals. Children should bring their own water bottles every day.

Our Calendar of Learning and Celebration, is worthy of a very close look, to ensure that you do not miss a single special day, at Parkhill Junior School.

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.

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

HPL Takeover Day

What a day! We had maths teachers, English teachers, PE coaches, several caretakers, receptionists, school business leads, senior admin managers and Headteachers! Our high performance learners took their roles to new heights...and gave the adults a run for their money! Well done to all! Further details to come in our HPL newsletter soon but for now, here is a little taster from the children ...



Reflections from our High Performance Learners

“My experience as a Headteacher was amazing. I got to observe and grade classes and our Parkhill students are great!”

“I loved being a Headteacher and visiting 3PN!”

Zynah, Hoor-ul-Ain, Maryam and Kinza – Year 6.

Plant a Bulb

Thank you for your generosity in contributing to our *Plant a Bulb* project, with all proceeds going to GOSH. Deeply appreciated. It was also a great opportunity for families to nurture a bulb and watch it grow at home and in school. Simply wonderful!



Oviyaa – fundraiser extraordinaire!

From the actual planning, to the realisation of the plan and all the creativity and hard work that went into it, Oviya simply shone! She designed the posters, made and sold the lemonade and raised a princely sum! All of which was donated to Parkhill Junior School. A true high performance learner! Well done and *Thank you*, Oviya.



...and for no particular reason, Zahra, Maryam, Romilda and Aliyah decided to design and create a den for the ant population! Never a dull moment.



Mini Marathon Champions

They trained and trained, relentlessly. They persevered. They broke through the pain barrier! WOW!
Meet our magnificent mini marathon champions who ran on, Saturday 25th April 2026. Each runner was awarded a unique medal, for charging across the finishing line, in spectacular fashion! Our children exemplify what high performance learning means and, their every achievement is celebrated and valued.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS THAT MAKE PARKHILL UNIQUE AND SPECIAL AND SAFE, FOR YOUR CHILD

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.

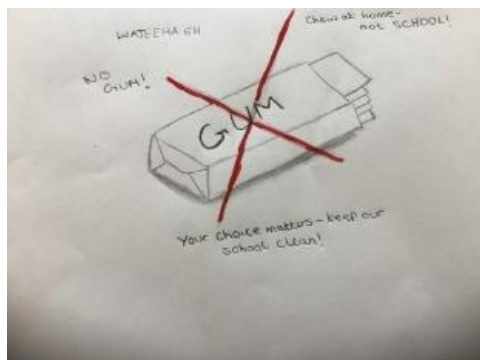
<https://parkhilljunior.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Parkhill-Junior-School-Uniform-Policy-2025-26.pdf>

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.



Our April and May 2026 High Performance Learners.

Well done, to everyone!



3PN Kyra	Kyra for demonstrating critical and logical thinking, speed & accuracy and being creative and enterprising when writing and performing a Haiku about a forest.
3C Vlada	Vlada for hard working , through practice, to improve her handwriting and presentation.
3RN Amelia	Amelia for pronouncing French words accurately and at speed
3M Zain and Inaaya	Zain and Inaaya have demonstrated excellent collaboration and empathy in their maths learning. By supporting each other, sharing ideas, and showing real perseverance, they have made fantastic progress and shown how teamwork can lead to success.
4W Havisha and Kanishka	Havisha demonstrated how hardworking she is, by completing extra work independently with effort and perseverance beyond expectations. Kanishka was able to use her linking skills by connecting her classroom learning to create a detailed Viking ship.
4G Daria	Daria's confidence has grown significantly across all areas of her learning. In maths, she is beginning to work more independently and is using her self-regulation skills to identify and correct her errors, showing real resilience . Well done!
4A Arun	Arun has shown his advanced thinking by using creativity , making connections and presenting ideas, through his AI presentation. Reflecting the values of independence, curiosity and striving for high-quality work .
4H Abdul-Hadi	Abdul- Hadi used his HPL skills of agility to enquire about the insects around his home. He brought a wonderful piece of research into school and everyone was amazed by his level of detail.
5MA Ellie Mae	Ellie Mae wrote a fantastic diary entry written in Tommo's voice, showing clear understanding of his experiences and emotions. She demonstrated strong analysing skills and worked hard to develop detailed, thoughtful ideas. A great piece of work—well done!
5J Amaya	Amaya has used linking skills in her writing when she researched about family life in 1914. She demonstrated that she was able to identify the similarities and differences of family life in the UK in 1914 and present day. In her presentation, both orally and written, she demonstrated hardworking skills and enthusiasm.
5K Isha	During the Easter holidays, Isha took the initiative to create an interactive life cycle model to share with her classmates to help with their understanding in Science lessons for this half term, thus demonstrating her creative and agile HPL skills.
5WA Arjun	Arjun has used his creating skills in science to design an infographic giving detail about the human lifecycle. He chose to present this in an innovative way using his linking skills to apply learning.
6H Jia and Mahati	Jia and Mahathi demonstrated many of the HPL skills when they taught a maths lesson. They prepared a PowerPoint which contained examples and links to help the class to understand the mathematical concept they were covering. Questions were written and photocopied so that the class had the resources they needed. Well done.
6P Mysha	As part of HPL <i>Takeover Day</i> , Mysha thought fluently and critically when creating an English lesson. Mysha used empathy to seek the viewpoint of her audience, considering how they would respond to her lesson.
6S Keven	For using his meta-cognition and hardworking skills to excel in his reading comprehension papers- doubling his score from the beginning of the year!
6I Lorenzo, Florinel, Robert, Rifaat, Aiza	Lorenzo, Florinel, Robert, Rifaat, and Aiza demonstrated strong meta-thinking and meta-cognition by explaining the steps and problem-solving strategies they used while designing and building their electric cars, showing clear awareness of how their ideas developed.

CALENDAR OF LEARNING AND CELEBRATION

DATE	LEARNING and CELEBRATION
25th May to 29th May 2026	Half term holiday
1st June 2026	Professionals Training Day 4 (school closed to children)
2nd June 2026	Class photos (not individual)
5th June 2026	Art Auction in the hall at 3:35pm
8th June 2026	My Money Week
11th June 2026	Enterprise Day
15th June 2026	Healthy Eating and Active Week
17th June 2026	Sports Day
22nd to 24th June 2026	Year 5 Residential
25th June 2026	Summer Fair
29th June 2026	Last Week of Clubs
29th June to 1st July 2026	Parent Evenings from 1:45pm to 5:45pm Year 3 – Monday Year 4 – Tuesday Year 5 – Wednesday
2nd July 2026	Year 6 Transition Day (visit to secondary school)
7th July 2026	Dance For Rights Day (Royal Opera House)
9th July 2026	Parent Evening from 1:45pm to 5:45pm Year 6 - Thursday
14th July 2026	Year 6 Performance and Graduation to parents and carers – 6I and 6H
15th July 2026	Year 6 Performance and Graduation to parents and carers – 6S and 6P
16th July 2026	Summer and Culture Day
17th July 2026	Big Breakfast starring, Year 6 <i>Dance on the Decking!</i>
17th July 2026	Last day of term...and not a day sooner!

Year 3

Year 3 have had a busy and exciting half-term with many opportunities to explore their learning in different ways. From visiting the British Museum, learning about Ancient Mayans and sports in French. It has been a fast paced, action packed time for developing our learning.



Visiting British Museum

It was an absolute high performance learning experience to visit The Ancient Egyptian galleries. We were able to link our learning in the classroom with the exhibits in the museum. Exploring the artefacts and realising their exact age and importance was an awe-inspiring moment!

'I enjoyed going to the British Museum because there were lots of interesting objects and other items related to our learning about Ancient Egypt. I especially loved looking at the bones.' - Laith 3M



Ancient Maya Civilisation- History

It has been a busy term, time-travelling through ages from Ancient Egypt, straight to the Ancient Maya Civilisation! It has been a wonderful opportunity to learn about their culture, religion and contributions to the society. Did you know the chocolate that we eat was gifted to the Mayans by their feathered god, Kukulkan? Also, another interesting fact is that corn is actually man-made. We analysed and compared our diet with the ancient Maya's diets and realised that there are many commonalities.

'We have learned about the Maya and their contributions, like the calendar. Also, we compared our diet to the Maya diet and discovered we have a few things in common.' - Zak 3C



Our favourite sports- French

This month, we have really enjoyed learning about sports, in French. We learned different words such as la natation for swimming, la danse for dance and le tennis for tennis and many more. We also learned how to ask and answer questions about which sports we like and dislike, for example: J'aime le tennis or Je n'aime pas le rugby!

'It has been really fun to learn French words for sports. It is the first language I have learned after English. The best part was singing the song and using the actions for each sport. We must always remember to use the correct articles and accents!' - Vinay 3PN



Gymnastics and Rounders- PE

During PE lessons, we have been learning how to make our bodies as tall, small and wide as possible! We have been working collaboratively, with a partner, to develop synchronised positions and to balance and maintain these, for five seconds. In outdoor PE, we have been making the most of the sunny afternoons, playing rounders to improve our hand-eye coordination and develop teamwork skills.

'I enjoy P.E because you become active, fit and strong. I have really enjoyed playing rounders. P.E motivates us to work collaboratively.' - Sami 3RN



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



Year 4

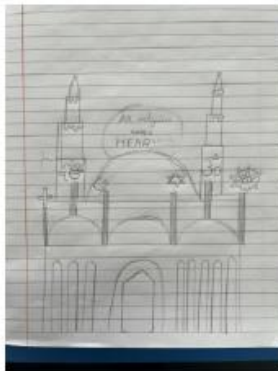
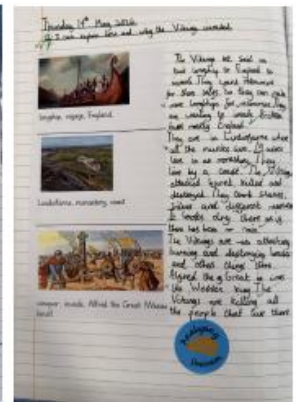


The summer term has begun, and we've already had such an exciting start! With HPL at the heart of our learning, the children have been showing fantastic curiosity and creativity. Take a look below to see all the amazing things they've been learning and creating.

History

Year 4 have been diving into the world of the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, exploring how these early settlers shaped life in Britain. They learned about village life, warrior culture, and the incredible journeys these groups made across land and sea, bringing this fascinating period of history to life in the classroom.

"I think the Vikings sound really scary, they liked to attack and invade other countries. They even attacked England!" - Alwan 4H



R.E.

This term, the children are exploring Sikhism and learning about the lives of the different Gurus and why they are so inspirational to Sikhs. They have also been discovering the key features and purpose of the gurdwara. Their research is helping them prepare for an exciting upcoming class visit!

"R.E is my favourite subject. I enjoy learning about different religions. We have compared our own religions to the Sikh religion." - Aleena 4G

HPL Takeover Day

During HPL takeover day, the children taught an art class how to weave paper. They experimented with different techniques and created colourful, imaginative designs. The activity encouraged them to work hard and show resilience as they developed new skills and overcame challenges.

"We have used all our HPL skills for HPL day. We used hard working, agile and creativity in our art lesson."

Unais 4A



English

In English, we have been reading Beowulf, an epic poem written in Old English over 1000 years ago. The children wrote a persuasive speech in character and used role play to help them understand how the legendary hero would have felt and spoken at the time.

"It was really challenging to think about how to speak like Beowulf, using powerful vocabulary but I was able to do it. The role play really helped me with my writing." - Varoon 4W



Reminders

- *Remember to bring in your PE kit every Monday, and take it home to be washed on Friday.
 - *Homework is uploaded every Friday on Google Classroom and it must be completed by Wednesday
- Ms Gay, Mr Hansen, Ms Uppal and Ms Choudhury

Year 5

Year 5 is diving into an exciting summer term filled with new adventures and learning opportunities! From engaging new topics to outdoor activities, we can't wait to make the most of the sunny days ahead

History

In our recent history lessons, we delved into the significant events of World War I, exploring the stories of bravery and resilience. To bring our learning to life, we created a comic strip that captures the essence of this pivotal moment in history. Through illustrations and dialogue, we expressed our understanding of the event's that lead to WW1, showcasing our creativity while honouring the past.

"For HPL takeover day, we created a quiz about WW1 to help people remember their learning."

Ananyaa 5WA



HPL Takeover Day

The children stepped into a variety of important roles across the school for the day, showing fantastic enthusiasm, responsibility and teamwork, and embraced every opportunity with confidence and maturity. It was wonderful to see Year 5 develop new skills, solve problems creatively and gain a deeper understanding of how our school community works together each day.

"HPL Takeover Day was a delight. It was interesting being a teacher but it felt strange having all my classmates looking at me. It was really fun!" Ibrahim 5K

Science

We have been exploring the fascinating journey of animal and human life cycles in science. Using their research skills, the children investigated interesting facts to expand their knowledge, while collaboration and critical thinking helped them share ideas and make connections. This unit has been a wonderful way for children to nurture their curiosity about human growth and development.

"I used meta-thinking in my learning because I explained my thinking clearly using what I already know about human and animal life cycles." Ruby 5MA



English

In English, we have been reading *Private Peaceful* and exploring life before the outbreak of World War I. The children particularly enjoyed discussing the author's descriptive language and how it helped to convey the characters' emotions and experiences. Alongside their reading, we researched different aspects of family life in 1914, including the roles of soldiers and women during the war. They confidently presented their findings to their peers, demonstrating excellent speaking, listening and research skills.

"Learning about propaganda showed me how people's opinions were influenced during the war and helped me develop my analysing skills."

Zayne 5J

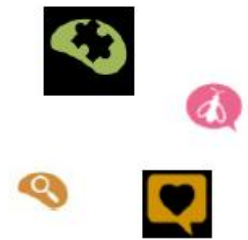
Reminders

P.E- Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit with them every Monday 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

Truly inspiring! The Year 6 children have shown their resilience and commitment to their learning in the run up to their SATs exams. Well done, you have demonstrated many of the qualities of a high performance learner such as hard working – practice, resilience and perseverance.

DT

In DT, the children made battery-powered vehicles. They designed, created and evaluated our vehicles against a criteria. Using their HPL skills of agile and empathy the children moved their thinking forward in a collaborative manner while ensuring the design criteria was met.

“I used my critical thinking skills and linking to design and make an electric car. I enjoyed designing the car using existing models as inspiration.” Issa 6I



HPL takeover day

Our recent HPL Takeover Day was a fantastic celebration of student leadership and the power of High Performance Learning. Throughout the day, children took on a variety of roles across the school—from teachers and administrators to support staff—demonstrating key HPL skills such as collaboration, resilience, creativity, and independence.

“We linked each of our lessons to our HPL ACPs and VAAs. I chose to teach an art lesson. We linked this lesson to fluent thinking and perseverance. This opportunity has given me the first-hand experience of what a teacher has to do.” Zaynah 6H



Oracy and DT

As part of their DT learning, pupils designed electric cars and brought their ideas to life through confident pitches and creative advertising. Using key HPL skills such as communication, creativity, and critical thinking, they presented their designs with clarity and enthusiasm, showcasing both their technical understanding and persuasive speaking skills.

“It was frustrating at first when our vehicle wouldn’t work but we worked together and used our problem solving skills to succeed.” Ismail 6S



Dance

Over the past few weeks, the children have been lucky to have a specialist dance instructor teaching them different dance styles, including street dance and Bollywood. This has helped them develop their confidence and creativity ready for their dance performance at the end of the year.

“Dancing with Holly is an incredible experience, as we get to learn lots of different dance styles. I can make links to the dances I have done at Parkhill from Generation Celebration to the Year 5 performance and now a Bollywood dance.” Kinza 6P



Reminders

Homework is due in every Wednesday and the spelling test is on Friday. Please bring in your PE kit on Monday and take it home every Friday.

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