



Dear Parents and Carers,

As another busy half term draws to an end, we can reflect on all the hard work that the children have been doing. The Year Six pupils have shown great focus and a positive attitude whilst completing their SATs last week and made us all proud. The Year 2 pupils have also been involved in taking the standardised tests and have also shown great resilience and concentration in showing their learning from Year 2.

There have been trips, sporting events and lots of exciting learning opportunities across the school and more exciting events to come before the summer term is over. In June we will be sharing work we have done around character and resilience at Highcross in Leicester. More details to follow.

It is at this time of year we begin to think about the new academic year. As a staff we have already been looking at our curriculum and how we can make it even better for pupils next year so that we can continue to drive up standards across the school. Recently we have introduced oral storytelling to support teaching of writing and this has produced some fantastic outcomes and quality stories from the children. We will contact you next half term with staffing arrangement and any updates for the autumn term as well as completing transition work with the children so they are well prepared for the new academic year in August.

Thanks as always for your ongoing support. It is through working together that we can ensure that your children have the best possible opportunities and experience at school.

Warm wishes,

Sarah Bishop
Headteacher

EYFS

As part of our topic 'Can I Have A Dog Yet?' the children have read the *Funnybones* story 'The Pet Shop'. During continuous provision, the children have enjoyed looking at X-Ray photos of different body parts as well as exploring our human anatomy model. They also had a go at making their own skeleton pictures.



In maths, the children took part in a variety of investigations to learn about capacity. Each class set up 4 stations for the children to work around. They worked

together to answer questions such as 'How many cups of water can we pour from the teapot?' and 'How many spades of sand will fill the bucket?'

Thanks to the sunny weather, the children have been very busy outside. Each class has planted flowers and vegetables in our garden and are enjoying watering and maintaining them. We have begun practising our dance for the dance festival and the children cannot wait to perform for their families.

Year 1

The children have really enjoyed our 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers' topic. We have learnt about different animals and their habitats. The children made lots of animal themed artwork and they have learnt about what life is like in Africa. We had a great time at Twycross Zoo and came face to face with the animals we have been learning about!

In English the children have written their very own stories and made them into books.

In maths the children have been learning about halves and quarters of shapes and quantities. They have also been learning to show multiplication using arrays and how to share objects into equal groups.



Year 2

This term's topic has taught us a lot about different minibeasts, where they live and what they eat. After researching about different minibeasts we created a fact file to present all the interesting facts we learnt. In science we have learnt about life cycle of a bee and how bees make honey. Did you know that bees have two stomachs? One for eating and the other for collecting nectar. We are looking forward to new topic next term: Scented Gardens.

Year 3

In Year 3 we've fallen in love with storytelling! Everyone has been working very hard to learn a story, and then write it changing some parts to make it our own. First we listened carefully to our teachers who told us the exciting story of The Freedom Bird. When writing, we challenged ourselves to include: inverted commas, expanded noun phrases, adverbs and subordinating conjunctions.

We also wrote poems about the story then read them aloud as a class.



Our Maths lessons have also been very exciting as we've been measuring angles, mass and volume. We love hands on learning!

Next week, we will finish our half term with a visit to Leicester Synagogue to learn more about the values of Judaism.



Year 4

This half term we were able to visit a local Gudwara and learn more about the Sikh faith. The experience was really interesting for us and the children were really engaged and asked lots of questions during the visit.

As a year group, we have been exploring one of our characteristics of learning. We discussed 'Gratitude', what this means to us and how we show it in our everyday lives. We used this discussion to create our own art work by print-making. We really enjoyed learning how to practise this new skill, including scoring Styrofoam, using rollers and printing our designs.

Using the story of The Freedom Bird, we have been able to develop our oracy skills in English and use this tale to inspire us to write our own adaptation of it using our year four writing expectations. We have continued to use Harry Potter as our quality text, this has been so engaging that we have been able to extend our reading skills and furthermore, create our own narratives based on ideas from this text.

We are looking forward to taking a road-trip across the United States of America next half term in our new topic 'Road-trip USA'. We are currently getting our passports ready in preparation for this journey!



Year 5

We have really enjoyed learning to retell stories as part of our 'Time Travellers' topic. We immersed ourselves in *Godmother Death*, a Mexican folk story about power, justice and mercy. To begin with, we represented the story using art and poetry. The thesaurus became our best friend in helping us collect new and interesting vocabulary. Using this vocabulary, we wrote some sinister character descriptions of our main character before becoming news reporters. We were tasked with reporting the disappearance of one of the characters in the story. We worked really hard to impress our reader with our excellent vocabulary. We love learning stories off by heart, and we have just begun to do the same with *The Freedom Bird*.

In maths, we have been learning all about angles. We have learned to recognise acute, obtuse, right, straight line and reflex angles. We have become more accurate in using a protractor to not only measure the different types of angles, but also draw a specific angle. We've begun to notice patterns in shapes as well. For example, the sum of the interior angles in a triangle equal to 180° , a quadrilateral to 360° and a pentagon to 540° . We're continuing our learning with angles and shape in the coming weeks.

Year 6

Over the last few weeks, Year 6 have been working incredibly hard for their SATs. We are very grateful for the support that you as parents have given us and for the children for attending boosters and working as hard as they have. We have been really impressed with their attitude, focus and resilience in a very demanding week. We have been working on our Oliver narratives and learning how to add suspense and dialogue to advance action in our writing. After Half Term, we are now looking forward to our brilliant production of Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies and going swimming every Monday.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

OFFER

A full range of Parkland Primary School uniform bearing our school logo can be purchased online from Marks and Spencer, M&S Your Uniform website. We are pleased to inform you that M&S are offering a fantastic 20% off all uniform. This will run from June 5th to July 3rd 2018. To ensure that you receive your order in time for the start of the new academic year, please order by the end of July. All orders over £50 continue to be free of standard delivery charges.

Uniform without the school logo can be purchased from many other retail outlets including large supermarkets.

Key dates for your diary:

Assemblies:

Friday 8th June: 6SH/6LP

Friday 15th June: Ash

Thursday 12th July 9.20am: Year 6 Leaver's assembly

Other dates:

Week beginning 11th June: Year 1 phonics screening check

Wednesday 13th June UKS2 outdoor theatre (PM)

Parkland dance festival: Friday 15th June

Week beginning 18th June: Wellbeing week

Tuesday 19th June KS1 sports day (PM)

Thursday 21st June KS2 sports day (PM)

Week beginning 25th June: Book fair in school

Thursday 28th June 5.30 – 7pm: Sports awards night

Friday 29th June: non-uniform day (bring a tombola/raffle prize)

Y5/6 production: Monday 2nd July 6pm,
Tuesday 3rd July 1.30 pm and 6pm

Wednesday 4th & 5th July: Y6 transition days

Thursday 5th July 3.00-5.00pm: School fair

Attendance

After a long winter we are finally enjoying some nice sunny weather.



We are pleased to report that attendance levels throughout the school are improving.

Thank you to all parents who ensure that their children are in school every day and on time. We have also noticed an improvement in communication between parents and school, in relation to attendance concerns. Below are a few tips for parents:

- Talk to your child about how **important** it is to attend school
- Ask regularly about **how school is going**
- If your child complains of **any concerns or worries**, contact their class teacher
- Find out if your child wants to avoid school for a reason that they're frightened to tell you about.

Our Pastoral Team and Attendance Office, Helen Brown, are always here to offer help and advice to parents, please come and talk to us if you have any concerns.

May Birthdays



| | | days |
|--------------------|---|------|
| Autumn term | | |
| School opens | Wednesday 29 th August 2018 | 76 |
| Half term | Monday 15 th to Tuesday 23 rd October 2018 | |
| School opens | Wednesday 24 th October 2018 | |
| School closes | Friday 21 st December 2018 | |
| Spring term | | |
| School opens | Monday 7 th January 2019 | 65 |
| Half term | Monday 18 th to Friday 22 nd February 2019 | |
| School closes | Friday 12 th April 2019 | |
| Summer term | | |
| School opens | Monday 29 th April 2019 | 49 |
| May day | Monday 6 th May 2019 | |
| Half term | Monday 27 th May to Friday 31 st May 2019 | |
| School Closes | Friday 12 th July 2019 | |
| | Total days | 190 |
| Teacher days | Friday 24 th August 2018 Tuesday 28 th August 2018 Monday 22 nd October 2018 (disaggregated) Tuesday 23 rd October 2018 Friday 4 th January 2019 | 5 |

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