



### Headteacher Message



We have so much to celebrate this term. The children have engaged in some fabulous learning and the classrooms have been buzzing with new vocabulary. Our focus on reading continues and we are pleased with the amount of reading children are doing at home and at school. Thank you for your support with this as we all know how important reading is for our children.

This term has also seen some wonderful dance performance for parents in Year 4 and Year 6, your attendance at these is much appreciated and gives us an opportunity to share key messages with you.

This term we also had our Trust Peer Review where other headteachers and leaders from our Academy Trust spend two days with us evaluating our school and helping us to identify next steps.

I would like to share a couple of statements from the report:

- **Leaders have worked hard to establish a strong team at Parkland, where all staff work toward the same vision for the pupils at the school.**
- **Pupils at Parkland are polite, confident and courteous. This starts from the Early Years where time is invested to practise social skills. This is having an impact as children move through the school so that behaviours are deep-rooted and confidence shines.**

We are very proud of the report and how it recognises the positive ethos of our school and community, and in particular, how amazing our pupils are.

Have a wonderful half term break.

Kind regards,

Mrs Bishop

### Key Dates

**Monday 24 February 2020**

School Re-opens

**Friday 28 February 2020**

Parkland 'Dig-aThon'

9.00am—11.00am

Year 1 'Fun Friday' Reading Session

8.40am—9.30am

**Tuesday 3rd March 2020**

Parents Evening

**Wednesday 4th March 2020**

Parents Evening

**Thursday 5th March 2020**

World Book Day

**Monday 9th March 2020**

Year 3 Swimming Lessons start

**Friday 13th March 2020**

Sports Relief

**Friday 27th March 2020**

Year 1 'Fun Friday' Reading Session

8.40am—9.30am

**Thursday 2nd April 2020**

Last Day of Term

**Parent's Evening** will be taking place on :



**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

4.00pm – 6.30pm

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

3.30pm – 5.30pm

It is very important that you attend these meetings so that we are able to share information about your child's progress

# Foundation

Foundation Stage have been learning about Pets. In literacy, they have been reading lots of different pet stories. The children have started independent writing and are using their phonics to write some sentences.



In Maths, they been learning about shapes and patterns. The children have enjoyed some new exciting activities during *Continuous Provision* time

# YEAR 1

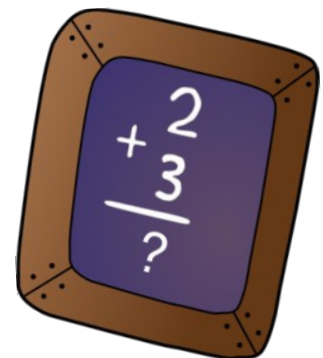


This half-term Year 1 have really enjoyed learning about their new topic, 'Moon Zoom'. The children have learnt about the life of Neil Armstrong and why he was an important person. We have read books with a space theme such as, 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers and 'BEEGU' by Alexis Deacon. The children have produced some fantastic writing based on these books and have even started to include question marks and exclamation marks!

Last week an alien spaceship crashed on our playground! The aliens sent us a message explaining that they are stuck here and that they need a new spaceship. After researching materials, we are going to be making spaceships for the aliens.



In Maths, we have now been adding and subtracting with numbers up to 20, and have been practicing counting in 10s. We also have been trying to remember the number bonds to 10 and the number bonds to 20.



# YEAR 2



There has been a real buzz in Year 2 about our new topic “The Secret Garden”. The children have been learning all about bees and have become bee experts. Ask them how bees make honey if you see them – although be prepared to be put off honey for life! They used their knowledge to re-write the story of “Emily’s Bees”.

We have also been learning about how to classify living things into groups by learning about the features of each group. This has helped us to think about why animals live in different habitats and have different diets. We are going to create an information poster to share our learning.



In Maths the children have been using our knowledge of times tables to help them to multiply. This week we have moved onto division and they have recognised that there is a connection between the two. They are getting very good at grouping objects into equal groups to help.

The children have also been doing some past KS1 SATs papers to assess their understanding in Maths and Reading. We were very impressed by their enthusiasm and resilience when completing them.



# YEAR 3

## “Who let the Gods out? Who? Who?”



This week, Year 3's 'Gods and Mortals' learning has moved onto Greek Pottery. The purpose of this art focused learning journey is to teach children how to join pinch pots to create Greek style vases, as well as creating geometric patterns and simple figure designs to decorate their work. This follows on from our English learning journey which used drama and Greek mythically to support us writing a set of instructions '**How to defeat Medusa**'. Previously our History journey looked at how life in Ancient Greece differed from life today in South Wigston.



In Maths, we have been learning all about 2-digit by 1-digit multiplication and division. We learnt how to use our times tables knowledge with different strategies to solve calculations and word problems and we'll continue to use these skills as we move onto fractions.

Next half term has a big science focus as we learn all about light, plants and rocks. We'll continue learning songs for our musical extravaganza and then there's swimming.

We can't wait!

# YEAR 4



This half term, Year 4 have been exploring the human body.

We started within our mouths, finding out about the different types of teeth we have and their functions. Classes conducted an experiment on the effect different liquids would have on teeth then wrote this up to show the findings. Next, we took a journey through the digestive system. Everyone enjoyed learning about the different body parts food passes through as it is turned into energy.



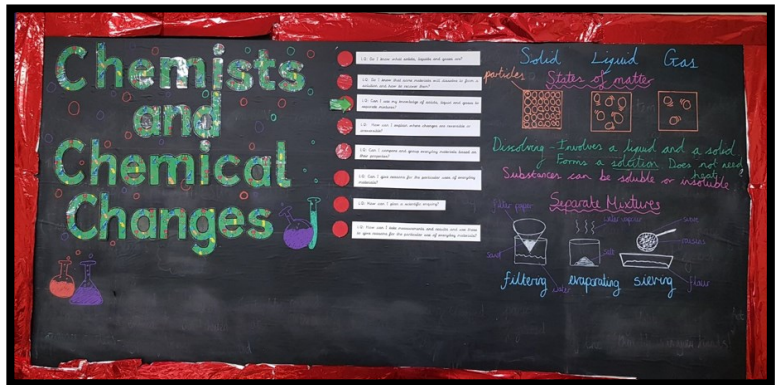
In Maths, we've been applying our knowledge of the times tables while learning how to use the bus stop method for division. We've also learnt how to find the area of rectilinear shapes using different units of measure.

Year 4 have also been doing lots of reading! We've been exploring new, exciting vocabulary and enjoying sharing texts with each other.



# YEAR 5

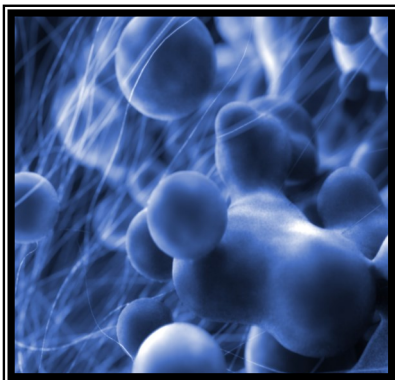
This half term we have been Scientists investigating chemical changes. We have been looking at the properties of materials and how to separate materials using sieving, filtering and evaporating.



We have conducted different experiments to help our understanding and we are now writing a Scientific report using formal tone and prepositional phrases.



In Maths, we have been doing multiplication up to 4 digits multiplied by 2 digits. Children have been using their multiplication facts to help them. We are now starting to divide using different methods.



For the end of this half term, we will be completing an Art Learning Journey, where we will learn about microscopic photography. We will be presenting what we have learnt in our new sketchbooks, which we are all very excited about.



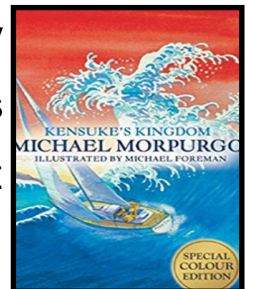
# YEAR 6



Year 6 have been working very hard this term, as always. Our new topic is Darwin's Delights; we have been learning about fossils, evolution, adaptation and inheritance – we have even made our own mold and cast fossils.

As part of the PE curriculum, the children have been learning dance to *Thriller* by Michel Jackson. Mrs Ellis and the children worked very hard rehearsing and putting together the routine which culminated in a performance to parents. We were thrilled to see so many parents at school

The class text we are reading is *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo – it is about a boy called Michel who goes sailing around the world with his family, on their boat '*Peggy Sue*'. The journey doesn't quite go to plan and Michel ends up having his own adventure on Kensuke's island.



Year 6 are working really hard to prepare themselves for their KS2 SATs in May. Last week they had a mock SATs week which involved them sitting past papers in Reading, Maths, Spelling and Grammar. The children showed a positive attitude and great resilience throughout the whole week. We are so proud of their efforts and know that when they take the real SATs they will do their very best!

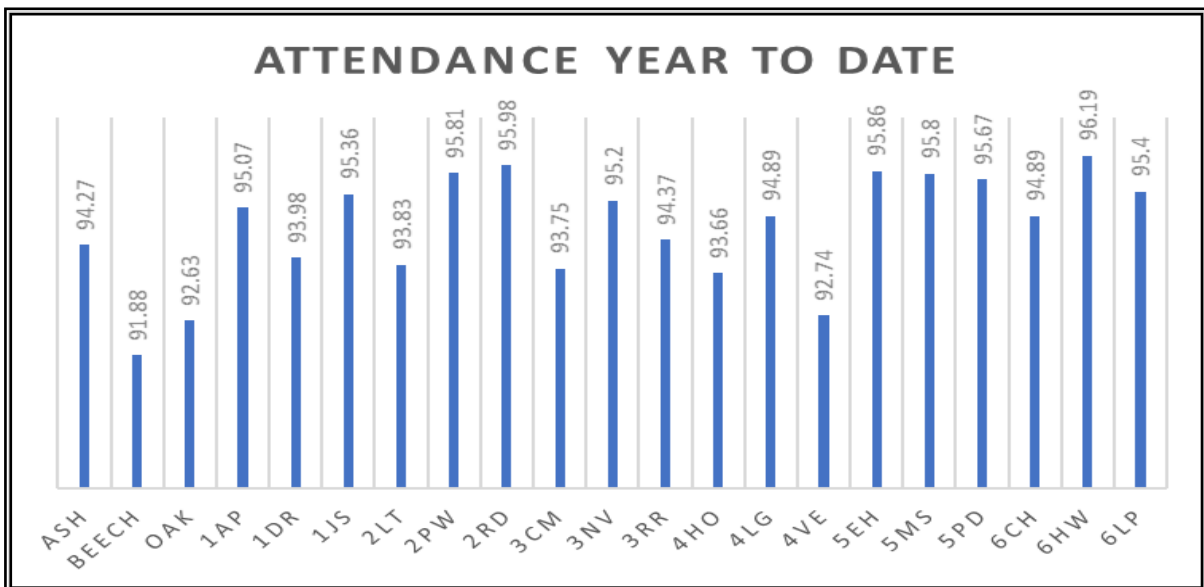


## Attendance

At Parkland Primary we want all children to meet target level of attendance by the end of the academic year.

**TARGET**  
**96%**

The chart below shows the up to date attendance levels in each class. As you can see some classes have a way to go to reach target.



Help your child and their class achieve target by bringing your child into school every day and on time.

*We are available to help with many issues that may prevent children from coming to school each day. Please come and have a coffee and talk to us.*



**THANK  
YOU**

A big thank you to all those that helped to raise over £403.23 for the Royal British Legion, through the purchase of poppies, slap and wrist bands, key rings etc from the school's poppy appeal box.

**Parkland are looking for some green fingers!!!**

## **Parkland Primary Dig-a-thon**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February - 9am – 11am**



***Free on Friday mornings?***

***Enjoy being outdoors, digging, gardening and planting?***

**Then we need your help...**



We are planning to set up our **Parkland Primary School Allotment** to support our STEMterprise curriculum in the Spring Term so that children can learn about planting and growing flowers, fruit and vegetables.

**But**, we need help to clear the raised beds of weeds and grass and prepare them for growing first.

If you are free and happy to come and help on **Friday 28th February** morning, please bring any spades and forks that you have and meet at the **wooden gazebo in the playground at 9am** and stay for as little or long as you can to help set up our allotment.

**Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided throughout the morning!**

*We are also looking for volunteers that might be interested in helping to maintain the allotment on an ongoing basis by giving a little time each week. If this is something you would be interested in, please see the letter sent home with children this week and return the attached slip or email: Mrs Phillips (Assistant Head) at [sphillips@dsatparkland.org](mailto:sphillips@dsatparkland.org).*

## Parkland School Bank News



Ella, Chloe and Katelin have been working hard in the school bank and would like to welcome more Parkland pupils to open accounts and start to save.

In the coming few weeks they will be talking in assembly to explain the importance of learning to save at an early age.

Your child will come home with information and an invitation to open an account. Please support your child and help them to learn this important life skill. Call into the School Bank or talk to Helen Brown in the School Office.

### Parkland School Bank

**Open Wednesday 8.30 – 8.45am**

***Situated in the Year 5 building in the Key Stage Two playground***

**Please pop in and visit the School Bank:**

- Come and meet the staff
- See how easy it is to open an account
- Look at the exciting incentives available for opening an account
- Learn how your money will grow



**We look forward to welcoming you**



**Learning South Leicestershire School Sports Partnership Health and Wellbeing — Oral Health and Hygiene**

**Dental and oral health is an essential part of your overall health and well-being. Poor oral hygiene can lead to dental cavities and gum disease, and has also been linked to heart disease, cancer, and diabetes.**

**Maintaining healthy teeth and gums is a lifelong commitment. The earlier you learn proper oral hygiene habits — such as brushing, flossing, and limiting your sugar intake — the easier it'll be to avoid costly dental procedures and long-term health issues (Health Line, 2019).**

**Worryingly an oral health survey, Public Health England found that just under a quarter of 5 year olds have tooth decay. Excess sugar intake is listed as the main cause.**

**To learn more about dental health visit <https://www.dentalhealth.org/>**





## Other News/Reminders



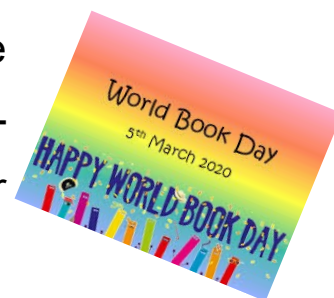
**Sports relief is fast approaching...we will be holding our Sports Relief Day in school on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March.**

There will be a basketball shoot-out running in school on that day and children can come dressed in **appropriate sports clothing or dressed as their sporting hero.**

They can choose to bring a **voluntary £1** for the **Sports Relief Charity on this day.**



This year to celebrate **World Book Day** at Parklands on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**, we would like to welcome you to come into school between 9:00am - 10:00am, to spend some time reading with your child/children in their classroom.



**Reminder!**

If your child requires medication during the school day, please see the school office to complete a medical consent form. Please be advised that we can only administer prescribed medicine if the label states that it is to be taken **4 times per day.**

If you feel your child is well enough to come in to school but may require Calpol during the day, please ensure that you give them this medicine **before** school.

Can we also remind you that if your child suffers with a sickness bug **please allow 48 hours** after their last bout of sickness before returning to school. Thank you.