

Parent Newsletter



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PRESTON
HEDGES
TRUST

Parklands Newsletter

Friday 6th October 2023

From the Principal

In this newsletter:

- Information about Families

Families in Partnership



As you all know, we had our very first Families in Partnership meeting of the academic year last week and it was an incredibly positive meeting. A huge thank you to all of our parents that gave up their time to pop along to school.

To us as a school, our Families in Partnership meetings are invaluable; they provide us with feedback from our parent community to make our school even better. To ensure our school community is aware of our discussions, I wanted to share some of the key points that were raised at the meeting by our families, and how we are working to address them already.

- Parents were keen to have as much notice for events, such as Christmas productions to ensure that they can book time off work. We completely understand this, and our dates are in our newsletter today for the festive season. We will also be posting dates with as much notice as possible, where ever we can
- Some of our Early Years parents requested an additional time for the recent phonics, Maths and handwriting workshop, a date has been set for 13th October at 2:30pm. Recordings of these workshops will be shared on our website shortly
- Uniform was also raised by many of our parents, as they have noticed changes when buying from the supplier Stevensons. Becky our COO has already booked a meeting and will raise this with them. I will keep you updated as soon as I have any more information.
- More notice for residential trips so parents have time to save, this will be reviewed and hopefully a plan will be put in place.
- Looking at music offerings across the school to nurture talent and passion for music
- Communication beyond history and Geography about what is being taught each term in the wider curriculum.

Our Families in Partnership meetings really do bring change and already we have achieved so much. As a result of our three meetings last year, your contributions have already made a huge difference to our school. Here are just a few key changes we have made to improve our school from your contributions.

- We have now started selling second hand uniform at school events
- We have also planned a wider range of trips, providing memorable experiences for the children. We have already had Year 3 visit London to watch the incredible Lion King musical at the Lyceum Theatre!

I hope from our achievements, families are able to see the impact of their feedback, your viewpoint really matters.

Finally, we had a fantastic number of parents at our last meeting and lots of interesting discussions were had over tea and cake! I hope that at our next meeting, on Thursday 25th January at 7pm, even more of you will join us, so that we can gather your views to continue to make Parklands an exceptional place to learn.

Wear Yellow for mental health



On Tuesday 10th October children are invited to wear something Yellow as part of mental health awareness

Year 3 - Out of Africa

To begin our journey through Year 3 will be completing the topic, 'Out of Africa.' We will be looking at everything Africa, including where it is, the names of it's countries and the features of these countries. Without hopping on a plane, we will be getting as close to Africa as possible by using our hi-tech VR headsets alongside traditional atlas and map reading techniques. This will help us discover all the wonders hidden within this amazing continent. We will be delving in to African Rainforests and African Savannah and investigating the animals and plants that thrive in these environments. Alongside expanding our geographical knowledge we will be working on our artistic skills to create stunning African landscapes.



YEAR 4 - Fiesta in the South!

Year 4 is embarking on an exhilarating journey as geographers, delving into the captivating continent of South America through our exciting new topic, Fiesta in the South! Armed with atlases, globes, and the extensive resources of Google Maps, we will delve deep into this fascinating region!

Our exploration begins next week by unraveling the mystery of South America's precise location and its diverse features. We will uncover the remarkable rainforests and transform ourselves into rainforest experts! Our quest will include a look at the rainforest biome, comprehending the intricate workings and importance of the rainforest water cycle, and exploring the devastating consequences of deforestation.



YEAR 5 - Space and Earth

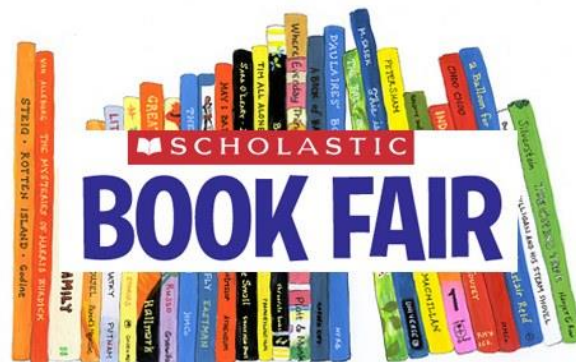
This term Year 5 are flying into space to explore our solar system! They will be getting ready to blast off to explore each planet, identifying how life on earth is sustainable for humanity and why humans haven't been to mars yet. Discovering ways in which we could overcome this. So, watch out for a group of Year 5 astronauts on the news soon as we welcome the challenge of the journey to Mars. The children will use multimedia to design a presentation including a range of film, image, sound and text to present to an audience, using their astronaut minds, on why life on Mars could be sustainable. Could Mars be a new home for human kind? Year 5 will explore!



Year 6 - Leaders of Tomorrow, making a difference today

This term, Year 6 will be learning all about democracy and elections. They will look at past and present influential leaders and use this to form and run their own political campaigns, writing their own manifestos about the change they look to bring to our own local community. All of this will lead to our very own general elections, which will take place in November, during national Parliament week, resulting in a Parklands elective to be voted in to work with other Year 6 representatives from our Trust to bring about the change they wish to see! Watch this space for more updates on how the political campaign is going!

Reading Fair



Thank you all the parent who bought books from our Scholastic book fair! We took over £1006! We get to enjoy 10% of the proceeds towards reading corner books which we are looking forward to picking this autumn. Keep a look out at our Christmas fair for another bargain book fair!

[Upcoming events](#)

Monday 25th September 5pm - KS 1 parent workshops - Phonics / Maths / Handwriting

Wednesday 27th September 5pm - KS2 parent workshops - Reading / Maths /SPaG

Wednesday 4th October - Year 3 school trip

Friday 6th October - Whole school reading cafe from 2:45pm

Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th October - Parents evening

Friday 13th October - Ks1 reading cafe from 2:45pm

Thursday 19th October - Halloween disco - more information to follow

Friday 20th October - Ks1 reading cafe 2:45pm and Last day of term!

Monday 30th October - Teacher training day

Tuesday 1st November - Children return for Autumn term 2