

Parent Newsletter



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PRESTON
HEDGES
TRUST

Parklands Newsletter 15.12.23

From the Principal

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Festive Fun!



1 - Merry Christmas from Parklands!



I can't quite believe that I am writing the final newsletter of 2023! It has been a fantastic Year for us here at Parklands, with our very successful Ofsted inspection back in January, incredible achievements and performances by our children throughout the year, and scooping our fantastic Primary and Headteacher of the Year awards last month! Let's hope that 2024 brings as much for us to be thankful for and celebrate together.

None of what we do would be possible without you and your incredible and continued support! We are truly grateful to have such a wonderful community and wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and a happy New year!

A huge Thank you to everyone who has attended our recent festive fun! We raised a fantastic amount of money from our Christmas Fair which we are excited to put towards some exciting educational experiences for our wonderful children! We are so grateful for the hard work and fabulous efforts from our wonderful PTA on organising our Christmas Fair.



Thank you to everyone who joined in our Reindeer run, we have raised over £1000 for local hospice Cynthia Spencer, which provides incredible support for families and patients with terminal illness. We have a super time on our reindeer run and loved giving back to our local community.

Community connections



Our incredible choir went along to perform at Squire Mews care home where they loved performing for the local residents! As part of our worldly wise week, we were exploring what AGE means and why people of all ages deserve the same respect. The super reading ambassadors also enjoyed visiting Rathgar House where our children enjoyed reading with the residents. It was wonderful to see our children share their love of reading but also for them to forge a bond with the residents who we look to visit again next term.



Our wonderful Parklands Press team also visited Squires Mews Care Home to speak to their residents about the experiences that have shaped them throughout their lives. The children (like all good journalists) had prepared many questions for the residents, but also found their curiosity piqued by the stories shared with them. We are delighted with the link we have forged with the care home, and we are so proud of our children for the polite and caring attitude they displayed towards the older members of our local community. The residents were also delighted to receive an invite to

Year 5 and 6 production



We are so excited for our fabulous Year 5 / 6 production next week, a new Parklands Production of The Grinch! A huge thank you to the children and staff are worked so incredibly hard to put on a show stopping performance for you all next week!

Hot drinks and snacks will be sold before the performances.

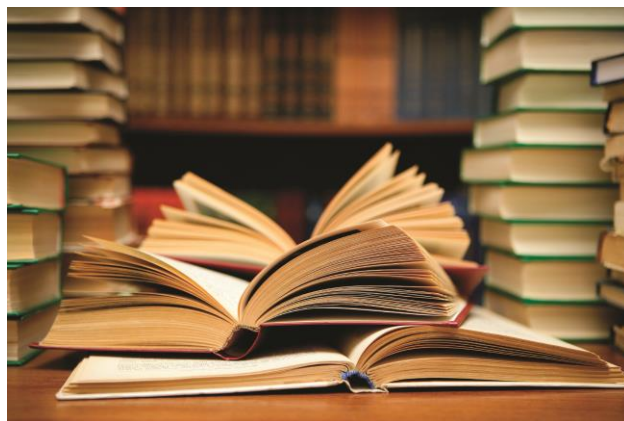
Global Guardians



The Global Guardians would like to thank the whole school community for the ink and toner cartridges we received. They have now been collected and we are waiting to find out how much we have raised, we will share the total with you once we know. How fantastic that so many cartridges have been saved from landfill.

We are also extremely proud of Charlie for raising an amazing £100 from his biscuit sale at the Christmas fair! We are so excited to get stuck in to rejuvenating the forest school area in the new year! From Mrs Shirley and the Global Guardians

5 signature reading challenge!



We've been really encouraging all children to be engaged in reading at home because the more our children read, the more they understand - it's that simple! This autumn term, we've kept our class leaderboard updated and we're delighted to share that 2L are the winners with 2M in 2nd place and

1B coming in just 5 points behind! 2L will get to choose a special treat next week as a well done to reward their brilliant attitude to reading at home.

Healthy eating



We have noticed that a lot of our ks2 children are bringing in unhealthy snacks for break and lunch times. Please ensure that you are limiting the number of crisps and chocolate and ensure that children are sent in with a healthy snack.

Online Safety



As Christmas approaches, many children may receive new tech as a Christmas gift. We would strongly urge parents to look at the following parent guides with regards to online safety, as we often see an increase in the number of online issues over the Christmas period as children maybe online more, or have access to new Tech.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/whatsapp-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Key dates

Monday 18th December - Year 5 and 6 Christmas evening production

Tuesday 19th December - Year 1 Christmas Carols in the hall - 9:30am

Tuesday 19th December - Year 2 Christmas carols in the hall - 10:15am

Tuesday 19th December - Year 5 and 6 Christmas afternoon and evening production

Wednesday 20th December - Year 3 Christmas carols in the hall - 9:30am

Wednesday 20th December - Year 4 Christmas carols in the hall - 10:15am

Wednesday 20th December - Last day of term! Christmas jumper day and party day!

Thursday 4th January - Teacher training day

Friday 5th January - Children return to school

Friday 12th January - First Reception and KS1 Friday reading cafe of the term - Friday 9th February - Last Reception and KS1 Friday reading cafe of the term

Friday 16th February - KS2 reading cafe

Monday 22nd April - Simon Aston Parents workshop about online safety - Time TBC