



PARKLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER  
Friday 23rd April 2021



Spring has defiantly sprung! We have had a wonderful start to the term, the children have impressed us with their hard work and enthusiasm and we have certainly hit the ground running as we head into our summer terms. These are always very busy but very enjoyable terms!

VALUES

This term's value is kindness. We will be encouraging the children to reflect upon the act of kindness and providing them with opportunities to display behaviour marked by acts of generosity, consideration, or concerns for others. Children will have time to reflect upon how they can display kindness throughout their time at school, at home and in their everyday life.

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted" - Aesop

CURRICULUM

We are so excited to be able to teach some very exciting curriculum topics back in the classroom and have lots of fabulous activities planned across all year groups.



## Reception



This term's topic is all about jungles! We will be exploring and learning about all the different types of jungle animals, focusing on a different animal each week in the afternoons! So far, we have explored snakes and parrots! We will be using our senses to explore jungle life and describing lots of animals using adjectives! In maths we are focusing on developing our number bonds and subtraction.

## Year 1

This term Year 1 will be exploring the wonderful country of Japan and comparing it to the UK and their local area. They will be immersed into the culture by taking part in Karate sessions, which also links with our way to well-being of 'Keep Learning'. In addition, they will find out about human and physical features by exploring a range of sources, including taking part in a Celebration Day. This will take place on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May and we would love it if the children could wear clothing associated with Japan. Further details to follow nearer the time. As well as a geography focus, the children will have the opportunity to complete amazing artwork which we hope to be able to display in the classroom.



## Year 2



This term, Year 2 will be introducing the topic Blue Planet with a focus on plastic pollution and the impact it has on our environment and the animals (in particular the ocean). We will also explore the properties of plastic, uses of plastic, good/bad choices when using plastic and how we can use plastic more effectively to help the environment. We hope this will highlight the importance of looking after our planet and being aware of the impact some choices can have resulting in an encouragement for the children to make positive choices with plastic. The topic will



involve lots of investigating, practical activities to help in our local environment, debating, letter writing and drama.

### Year 3

Year 3's topic this half term is Mediterranean Fiesta. This term, year 3 will be exploring countries that surround the Mediterranean Sea. The children will be using map and compass skills to locate these countries and their capital cities. Each week, the children will be focusing on one country and investigating the human and physical features of each country. The children will



have the opportunity to experience what it would be like in the different countries by tasting their cuisine, looking at the climate, famous landmarks and tourism. The children will have their own 'passport' which will be stamped when they have gained knowledge on each of the Mediterranean countries.

### Year 4

In year 4, our topic this term is entitled 'Spring Watch.' The children will be spending a lot of time outside the classroom and using our wonderful wildlife area to drive their learning. Our main focus will be widening their understanding of animals and their habitats by undertaking field work studies and investigating our school environment, as well as highlighting the human and physical features.

Another key focus will be to develop the children's digital literacy skills. They will have the opportunity to become photographers learning how to edit and adjust the photos they have taken as well as becoming animators and creating a start stop animation film linked to our topic. Finally, our art this term will also be inspired by our wildlife area, where the children will be creating collages from items they have found outside to create a one off piece of artwork.





### Year 5

This term, Year 5 will be focusing on their new topic 'The Reef, where they will be learning all about the wonders of the Earth's coral reefs. We will begin the term by exploring maps using atlases, globes and digital mapping programmes such as Google maps and Google Earth, allowing the children to explore locations of particularly significant reefs. As we move further into the term, the children will begin to investigate the coral reefs: identifying the different types of reefs and the varied species of nature that can be found there. Our topic will then lead us through discussions on the impact that tourism

has on the reefs, giving the children the opportunity to debate with their peers on the effects that tourism has on reefs around the world. Towards the end of our topic, Year 5 will partake in a week of eco-science that will allow them to dive into the world of plastic pollution, looking at how it has impacted the



world and what we can do to play our part in preventing further damage to the ecosystems of the world.

### Year 6

'Turning to the Future' This half term, Year 6 will be learning about renewable,

sustainable energy sources. We launched this topic with a fantastic workshop where the children were able to build their own wind turbines to power a light and look at models and robots which show how other sources of renewable energy work. This very practical topic will give the children an opportunity to build their own renewable energy sources such as environments to capture biogas and water wheels whilst also understanding their importance and use in the real world. To end the topic, they will use this knowledge to build their own eco-friendly car.





### PARKING

As you are aware, we have had several complaints from local residents regarding unsafe parking, often blocking driveways and over yellow road markings. We are now working with local police officers to help to resolve this matter as it continues to be an issue. You may see police officers on school site at drop off and collection times.

### KEY DATES

Bank Holiday – school closed – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May  
School photos – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May  
Year 1 Japan celebration day – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May

**Take care and have a wonderful weekend!**



**A few highlights from the last few weeks!**



We have been enjoying getting outside in the better weather to enjoy a good book!

Reception have been making Prayer mats to learn about Ramadan



Year 6 have been busy learning all about renewable energy

Watch out....Year 1 have been learning Karate this week!



