



**PARKLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**Reception  
Under the Sea**



Our Reception children will be diving into their first term with an Under the Sea theme! We will be exploring our new environment, making lots of new friends and getting to know one another by sharing our 'All About Me' bags. We will have our first taste of school dinners in the hall, running around on the playground and going for wild walks at Forest School. In English, we will be looking at 'The Rainbow Fish' which carries two very important themes; sharing and

celebrating our uniqueness! In Maths we will be focusing on numbers and counting using shells, sea creatures and sand! Grab your snorkel and flippers, our under the sea Parklands adventure is about to begin!

Mrs Green and Mrs Bhangal.

**Year 1  
Monarchy Madness!**

This term Year 1 are becoming historians and learning all about the British monarchy. Using their historical enquiry skills children will discover what it means to be a king or queen, including how you become a monarch and what makes a king or queen special. The children will learn about some key monarchs throughout British history and be able to compare them, thinking critically about the decisions they made and the impact it had on Britain. Finally, the children have been given the special task of organising and attending a royal banquet! The children will become a king or queen of their choice and dine together as royalty whilst convincing one another that they are in fact the best British monarch to have ruled. We are so excited to get going with all of our exciting learning in Year 1!



Mrs McHale, Mrs Henson and Mr Fisher



## Year 2

### Route 66



Howdy all, this term, year 2 will begin refining our geographical skills by exploring the famous Route 66. We will start by looking at America and the journey of Route 66 through this country. We will spend some time looking at a few of the stops that you could take and would pass, we will look into closer detail at the physical and human features that you would expect to see on your way. After a whistle stop tour of this journey, we will put on our rootin' tootin' history boots and will take a step back to the Wild West and be comparing what Arizona is like now and what it would have been like back then. We will look at their lifestyle, clothing and modes of transport and think about how this may be different to today's society. We will saddle up and lasso our knowledge about cowboys and their crazy ol' lives during our celebration day where we hope to recreate a barn dance. To end, we will explore the native American crafts of dream catchers and have a go at designing and making our own. YEE-HAW!!! For our Literacy, we will be doing some lovely pieces of writing around "The Gingerbread Cowboy". We will be using our senses to describe the setting of the stunning "Wild West". We look forward to the first term and seeing the children setting into the new year!

Miss Thompson and Miss Laundon

## Year 3

### Mother Earth

This term, year 3 will be exploring the amazing phenomena of Mother Earth. Year 3 will build a knowledge around the structure of the Earth and how natural disasters can occur. We will be looking at how earthquakes and tsunamis are formed and how they are measured. We also study the effects of earthquakes in different areas of the world, due to their economical status.

We look at why some countries are less affected due to protections they have in place, compared to poorer countries that suffer from destruction of buildings and farming. Year 3 will also discuss how volcanoes are formed and why they only occur in certain areas of the world. We will also observe the structure of a volcano and the effects they have on the world if they erupt. Year 3 will learn how to monitor volcanoes and how scientists can identify patterns of volcanic activity. By the end of the unit, we





will be incredibly knowledgeable on earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis and will be reporting back all our learnt knowledge in order to highlight that we are natural disaster experts!

We are so excited for a fantastic year and seeing the children excel.

Miss Millar and Miss Zaman

#### Year 4

#### Life on the Edge



This term, Year 4 have an exciting term with our first topic 'Life on the edge: Extreme Deserts' where we will be focusing on both Arctic and desert biomes across the world. Children will be given the opportunity to explore these diverse biomes using our VR headsets to then record their initial observations of the environments and forming their own questions that they wish to discover the answers to before moving onto refining their skills in using maps and atlases to locate extreme biomes around the globe. As the term goes on, the children

will dive into lifestyles of humans in both the desert and the Arctic which will involve an Arctic day where children will experience some of the real life aspects of the Indigenous people who live in the Arctic. The children of Year 4 will then continue to develop their computing and research

skills where they will look to find out more about the climate of the extreme biomes before finalising the topic by creating their own David Attenborough style documentary that will allow them to demonstrate their new found knowledge on extreme biomes. We hope the children are as excited as we are for all the exciting learning in Year 4!

Mrs Winstanley, Mr MacKenzie and Mrs Garfield



## Year 5

### The world at War

This term, Year 5 will be focusing on how and why Britain declared war in 1914. This is a fascinating topic to kick off an exciting year for our children. We will be exploring not only life during the war but also how it affected everyday life for the people of Britain. Furthermore, the children will also be taught the sacrifices women made during the crucial period of 1914 – 1918 and the impact they had not only in battle but how they revolutionised rights for women in the 20th Century. In order to be able fully immerse the children in this exciting topic, we have already

experienced our 'Wow' day where an artist visited the children and created beautiful artwork based on poppies as well as using drama to recreate the tensions of early 19<sup>th</sup> Century and explored the trenches using Virtual Reality. In addition to this, our children will be fully immersed into the curriculum where we will recreate trenches in the classroom, have a war room where we look at strategies and tactics used in battle. Then to end this exciting topic, we will be focusing on remembrance to commemorate all of the people who sacrificed themselves for our country. The children have already made a wonderful start to Year 5 and we



look forward to seeing all they can achieve.

Miss Briddon and Miss Samandi

## Year 6

### Vietnam



Year 6 will be kicking off this year with the very interesting topic of the Vietnam War and the Sixties! In the first term, they will investigate the geography of the country, finding out about major cities as well as finding out key information about life in Vietnam. Moving onto how the Vietnam War was fought and how this impacted the terrain. In the second term, the children will study the causes of the war and learn key facts about the wider background of the Cold War. The focus will move to the anti-war movement, where through art and music, they will explore the rise of the peace movement, which will give the children great understanding of the power of music and art in

working for a peaceful world. They will compare this to other movements that have had impact such as Suffragettes and the Montgomery Bus Protests. Finally, they will explore how we still use art and music to have a voice and portray a cause.

Year 6 have an action packed Year and have already got off to a flying start!

Miss Lewis, Miss Summers and Mrs Farmer



## KEY DATES

### **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

Year 1 – Welcome to year group meeting (Zoom) – 16:00

Year 4 – Welcome to year group meeting (Zoom) – 16:30

### **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

Year 3 – Welcome to year group meeting (Zoom) – 16:00

Year 6 – Welcome to year group meeting (Zoom) – 16:30

### **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**

Year 2 – Welcome to year group meeting (Zoom) – 16:00

Year 5 – Welcome to year group meeting (Zoom) – 16:30

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Parents evening

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Parents evening

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Last day of term

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November – Training day

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Children return to school

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