



PARKLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER
Friday 5th November 2021

COP26 and Eco Week



We have had a fantastic start to the term with our eco-themed week to celebrate the Conference of the Parties 26. The Conference involves representatives from across the globe discussing ways to reduce global climate change. Within the week, we have had a fantastic visit from Atomic Tom, taken part in our “One Step Greener Pledge” and finished with our GO Green non-uniform day.

To further promote eco-friendly thinking there is a competition that we have shared with the children. To participate in the competition, the children have created an eco-friendly design of a ‘carbon cutting’ concept that we can implement into Parklands Primary School! We have had so many entries for this and we look forward to announcing the winners from Phase 1, 2 and 3 next week!



TT Rock stars

At Parklands, we know how much our children enjoy working hard on Times Table Rock Stars. Next week, children in Year 3 - 6 will be taking part in a friendly competition involving schools across England from Monday 8th November to Thursday 11th November. For every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, your child



will earn their class a point. There will be certificates handed out at the end of the competition.

All children in Year 3 – 6 will have 2, 1 hour sessions across the week to take part in the competition however, children can still take part at home. All game modes will count but only from games played between 7:30am and 7:30pm on Monday 8th - Thursday 11th. To support player wellbeing, there is a daily time limit of 60 minutes per player so each player can earn competition points for up to 60 minutes between 7.30am and 7.30pm. Once the player goes beyond 60 minutes of play on a given day, they will still earn coins but will no longer earn points towards the competition. We can't wait to see how well our children do!

EYFS: Pirates

Ahoy there me hearties! Our swashbuckling topic this term is pirates! We are kick starting the term with a Pirate themed Day so get your sea legs ready to walk the plank and sing some good ole' sea shanties! Our provision and curriculum learning will reflect this terms topic so be prepared for plenty of treasure, map reading and messages in bottles. In our literacy lessons we will be using the text 'Pirates love Underpants' as a stimulus for our reading and writing. In Maths, we will continue to develop our number sense as well as learning about positional language and measurements. Towards the end of term, we will also be performing our first Nativity which is super exciting! We cannot



wait to have fun, get creative and achieve even more in our second term of school.

Year 1- The Victorians



This term Year 1 are exploring the Victorian Era, learning about Queen Elizabeth I and her reign as well as lifestyles, schooling and Christmas! We will be comparing all the monarchs we have learnt about and exploring how they are similar and different.



Schooling was very different in Victorian times and we will spend a day immersing ourselves in a Victorian school experience, noting the contrasts to modern day teaching. As we are getting nearer to Christmas we will also compare the lifestyles of the rich and poor, and compare our own Christmas celebrations to those from 1837. For literacy we will be writing setting descriptions, using the book *Lost and Found* and the VR headsets to help us create amazing noun phrases to bring our settings to life for the reader. In maths we are focusing on measure, using different methods to measure height and length, capacity and weight. As we approach Christmas we are also learning the songs and actions for our upcoming Year 1 Nativity – “A Miracle in Town”. Lines will be sent home for the children to learn. We can’t wait to see you all!

Year 2- Blue Planet



This term, Year 2 will become eco-warriors and will be introducing the topic of “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, and drama. We will be putting all our ideas into a letter to the Queen where we hope to get her to listen to all our fantastic new ideas.

Year 3- The Macro Nature



An exciting start back this term, we will be looking at nature not through our own eyes but through a lens. In Year 3 we will be delving into the history of photography and looking at some famous photographers. We will be trying our hand at becoming photo editors using graphics packages to help us apply filters to help us manipulate images to increase the impression on the viewer.



We will be planning, take and digitally processing our very own photographs to show Autumnal and Winter nature at school through the lens. We will be following this creative process to evaluate the effect of photography on mood, emotion and feelings of a person and how these can also be reflected through the image.

In English, we have begun looking at character development focusing on how past experiences and personality traits allow each character to overcome a dilemma. We will be working towards using our Class Read of Enchanted Wood by Enid Blyton to create our own description of a chosen character and the dilemmas they face. We are excited for another busy term in the lead up to Christmas.

Year 4- Ancient Civilisation

This Term, Year 4 will begin their new topic 'Ancient Civilizations' in which they will



be delving into the world of Ancient Egypt.

They will begin with learning about the location of Ancient Egypt, as well as where some of the key features such as the pyramids and river Nile were located within the society. They will then move on to learning about the timeline of Ancient Egypt and how it is embedded within the timeline of the Ancient world. Children then start to explore the lifestyle of the Egyptians looking at their clothing, what they ate and how the Nile impacted their lives. As part of this, the children will have the opportunity to make their very own papyrus paper and use this to

then paint their own hieroglyphics onto. Towards the end of the term, the children will be immersed into how the Egyptian Dynasties were formed ruled and will even get to discover and explore their own Pharaoh tomb.



Year 5- World War 2

This term, is another exciting term for year 5, as we are following on from the First World War by exploring why Britain declared war in 1939. This is a riveting topic where the children will become Historians exploring not only the battles and the ferocious fighting across the globe but also how it affected everyday people on the home front. By focusing on men, women, and

their lives during the Blitz and the 1.5 million children who were evacuated to the countryside for their safety against the German bombs. To fully immerse the children into the curriculum, we will be recreating Anderson shelters in the classroom, using Virtual reality as well as baking a ration chocolate cake. Then to end this exciting topic, we will be having our own VE day party to celebrate our learning and to commemorate all of the people who sacrificed themselves for our country.



Year 6 - The Vietnam War



This half term Year 6 will be continuing with their topic The Vietnam War. After finding out so much about the geography of Vietnam, we will be moving onto the causes of the war, the 60s and the peace movement. Beginning the topic by looking at a wide range of sources, they will become experts about the causes, key events and significant people of the Vietnam War. They will go on an adventure to visit the Cu Chi

Tunnels themselves and find out about America's involvement and the Vietnam Peace Protests before holding their own anti-war protest. They will have the opportunity to look at the role of music and art in the 60s peace movement and explore how we still use art, especially graffiti, and music to have a voice and portray a cause.





Football



A huge congratulations to our amazing Year 3 and 4 girls who took part in our first trust football competition of the year and came in 2nd Place! You did us proud girls and we were so impressed by your incredible performance, talent and teamwork!

Parking

Unfortunately, a member of staff had their car damaged this week, therefore we respectfully remind you to park appropriately and carefully when dropping off and picking up your child(ren). In addition, a reminder that parking in the school car park is limited to those who hold a blue badge, which should be clearly displayed. Many thanks for your support.

We have a very busy term ahead, as always, we would like to thank you for your continued support.

KEY DATES

- Wednesday 10th November – KS1 parent workshop at 6pm
- Thursday 11th November – KS2 parent workshop at 6pm
- Monday 15th November – New reception Sept 22 intake – Evening tour
- Friday 19th November – Children in need – Non-uniform day
- Wednesday 24th November – Year 5 Brass Band performance 2pm
- Wednesday 1st December – Reception Nativity performance 2pm
- Friday 3rd December – Year 1 Nativity performance 2pm
- Friday 10th December – Christmas dinner day – ABM
- Friday 10th December – Christmas jumper day and Reindeer visit
- Monday 13th December – Year 5/6 evening production
- Tuesday 14th December – Year 5/6 evening production
- Thursday 16th December – Parents Christmas crafts afternoon from 2pm
- Friday 17th December – Last day of term

Take care and have a wonderful weekend



A few Highlights from the last few weeks!





The whole school enjoyed their day
with Atomic Tom!

