

# P.H.I.N.N

Park Hill Infants News & Notes Issue 17

Autumn 2 2020

## Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

Time has flown by and I cannot believe we are at the end of this academic year's first term already!

I have been incredibly impressed with how well learning routines have been re-established across the school - this is a great credit to the staff, children and wider school community.

We have made it through the term without having to close a 'bubble' which is quite an achievement. Thank you for working with us to keep our whole school community as safe as we can. I'm sure that your vigilance and carefulness will continue as we head into January and February, which could be difficult months, but we will get through them together. Brighter times are ahead!

I hope you were able to speak with your child's class teacher in order to get a better understanding of their individual progress thus far this academic year. A record number of parent/carer questionnaires were received — thank you for your feedback.

Santa's visit to Park Hill Infants with his lovely reindeer was definitely a highlight of our festive timetable and I'm glad the children had the opportunity to have this unique experience. He came back with a helpful elf to distribute more presents!

Thank you as always, for your support particularly in these difficult circumstances - I wish you all a safe, happy and restful festive season.

Best Wishes,

*Miss Charman*



## 'Tis the season...for Festivities and Giving

The children enjoyed their [Christmas Lunch](#) on Wednesday 9th December 2020 - they made their own party hats, pulled crackers and enjoyed singing along to Christmas songs!



We are pleased to inform you that our school community raised [£155.00](#) for 'Save the Children' on Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 11th December 2020.

Thank you for your contributions in aid of [Santa and his Reindeers'](#) visit to Park Hill Infants School on Tuesday 15th December 2020. This experience was a wonderful Christmas treat for all children.



Reception have been able to perform a COVID safe

Nativity with the emphasis on dancing and actions rather than singing in their year group bubble. This was live streamed to the rest of the school. We have sent a private login to Reception parents in order for them to enjoy this wonderful performance. Usually, we welcome all parents into school during the festive period to watch performances and we use this as an opportunity to raise funds for the school and for charity. Sadly, this year, we're not able to do this but we are very grateful for any voluntary donations to School Fund via ParentPay.



## Who's Who

Many parents and carers are now able to recognise their child's class teachers through drop off and pick up at the designated gates but you still may not know who's who around the school. Every issue, we will focus on a member of the team who is working hard 'behind the scenes' so you can put a name to their face!

*Hello, I'm Mrs Parry and I'm the Deputy Headteacher here at Park Hill Infant School.*

*Being Croydon born and bred, I love the sense of community we have built around us.*

*I always wanted to be a teacher, so when the opportunity to work at Park Hill Infants came up (wayyyy back in 1998) I took it and am so very glad I did. Some of the children whom I taught in my early years of teaching now have their own children attending Park Hill Infants!*

*Fun facts about me : my favourite colour is purple, my favourite fruit is watermelon and my favourite singer is Jason Donovan. The children know a lot more about me since I introduced my five minute question time in assemblies!*

*I look forward to seeing you all at one of the gates before school.*



## Absence Reporting

If are going to keep your child at home due to illness or another unforeseen circumstance, please **call** the school office on 020 8680 0747 **before 9.30am on each morning of absence.**

Please note that there is no provision for reporting of absence via email. If you are unable to speak to a member of the office team, please leave a message clearly stating your child's name, class and providing a reason for absence. Please note that if the absence is due to illness, we need to know specifically what the illness is or what symptoms are present (i.e vomiting, fever, flu etc).

**Please pay particular attention to the procedures for reporting COVID19 over the holidays as outlined in a letter being sent to all parents/carers later on today.**

This letter can be found on our website: [www.parkhillinfants.co.uk/letters](http://www.parkhillinfants.co.uk/letters)



## Contacting your child's class teacher @

Please remember that you are able to contact your child's class teacher using the relevant email below during term time:

**Reception Parents :** [reception@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:reception@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk)

**Year One Parents:** [year1@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:year1@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk)

**Year Two Parents:** [year2@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:year2@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk)

Alternatively, please contact the school office on 020 8680 0747 and request a call back.

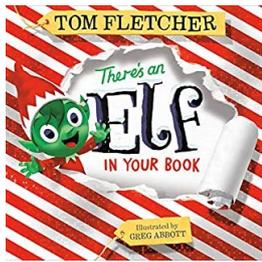
In the event that you wish to contact the **Headship Team** (i.e for a highly confidential or sensitive matter), please email [headshipteam@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:headshipteam@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk)

Please note that these email addresses will not be checked during the Christmas holidays. Any COVID19 related reporting should be sent to [enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk) as per the letter. Please note that none of the above email addresses should be used to report your child's absence.



## Recommended Reads

Please find Mrs Clarkson's Recommended Reads for the Christmas season below:

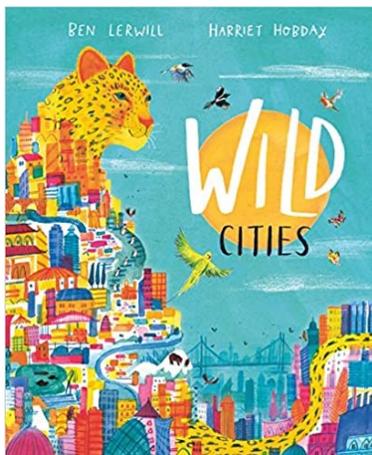
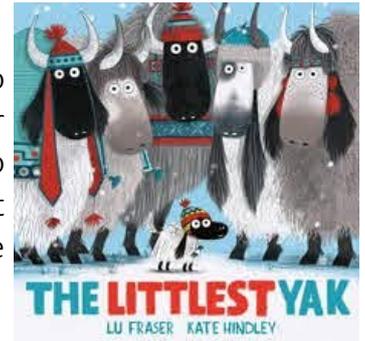


### *There's An Elf In Your Book? - Tom Fletcher*

Do you have what it takes to make Santa's Nice List? Don't let this cheeky elf trick you into being naughty! Children of all ages will be delighted with this fantastically fun and interactive treat from Tom Fletcher, the creator of *There's a Monster in Your Book*. Discover a wonderful new Christmas tradition in a story you can treasure and read again and again.

### *The Littlest Yak - Lu Fraser and Kate Hindley*

*The Littlest Yak* is a joyous, rhyming caper that teaches little ones to celebrate their own unique talents! Gertie is the littlest yak in her whole herd, and she's feeling stuck in her smallness - she wants to grow UP and have bigness and tallness! However, it turns out that there are some things that *only* Gertie can do...perhaps she will come to see that she's perfect after all, just the way she is?!



### *Wild Cities - Ben Lerwill and Harriet Hobday*

From the pitter-patter of penguins in Cape Town, to the prow of a leopard in Mumbai and the splash of a seal in Sydney, our cities are home to all sorts of unexpected residents. Keep your eyes wide open as you devour the magical illustrations, travelling the globe and discovering wild cities.

With beautiful storytelling, these incredible tales will fascinate every reader who loves to learn about the world, or is an animal fan, as they find out what else exists in our amazing world.

## Attendance and Punctuality

Whole School Attendance currently stands at 97.72% which, considering the challenges COVID-19 presents, is an incredible achievement.

Punctuality is still an area for improvement but we're sure that this will improve when we return in January 2021.

Thank you for your support in these areas.

## You Spoke...

### ...We Listened



Following feedback from our recent parent questionnaire, we are delighted to be offering after school activities again across all year groups. Adjustments have been made to ensuring these sessions are COVID- safe and we hope your child is able to participate in at least one after school activity this academic year.

## Parent Questionnaire Feedback

Thank you to all parents and carers who took the time to send in their completed questionnaires. Please find below some of the lovely feedback we received in response to the question:

**‘What is it like to be a parent at Park Hill Infants School?’**

*“We are happy that [our child] attends PHI. He’s safe and well looked after, constantly shows progress in his learning. We receive all necessary information.”*

*“I have thoroughly enjoyed all the years my children have attended.”*

*“The school will provide all necessary information we should know about our child. I am happy to be part of it.”*

*“Happy, satisfied and stress free.”* *“I feel so proud to be part of Park Hill family.”*

*“I am so grateful for all the support you have provided to not only my child but extended support to me too, when I needed it. My friends who are parents of other schools completely agree you are the best! Thank you”*

*“It is reassuring”* *“Wonderful”* *“Very, very happy.”*

*“I am a very happy parent, I know my son is safe and happy. My son has improved so much in everything”*

*“Happy. My son loves being at school, we appreciate all the hard work of all the teachers and staff.”*

*“I’m happy because I’ve seen my daughter progress and every morning she’s happy to go to school.”*

*“We feel happy about being a parent at Park Hill Infants School. Children are well appreciated and encouraged...”*

*“Joyful! Watching our daughter skip in to school each day is so reassuring. We feel she is safe, happy and progressing.”*

*“Pleasant experience. For me the most important thing is the safety and good education of my daughter. I feel that sending [my child] to this school has fulfilled my expectations.”*

*“We are very pleased with how my child has progressed – thank you. Thank you for your help. My child always talks about school and the work he is doing, he is getting on really well.”*

*“I think it’s a wonderful school that I’d love to recommend to other parents as well.”*

## SEASONAL ART AT PARK HILL INFANT SCHOOL

At this time of year, children have more than the usual opportunity to let their creativity flourish. All children were involved in the production of Christmas and Nativity themed Hall displays and made their own party hats - they really got into the festive spirit! Year 2 children did a wonderful job of making over 60 Christmas cards for various members of our school community

Thank you to all of the children and staff for their hard work and a special thanks to Miss Simpson, our Art leader, who organized and brought it all together.



## Dino Workshop

To enhance their understanding of their 'Dinosaurs' topic, Year 2 were fortunate enough to experience a dinosaur workshop in school.

After an educational talk in which they shared knowledge - and saw a T-Rex! -they became archaeologists, digging for pre-historic bones and other fabulous fossils during the interactive part of this workshop. All teachers are constantly looking for ways to deliver on our promise to deliver an enriched curriculum whilst remaining safe within year group 'bubbles'. Thank you to Miss M for arranging this—we are so very glad that Year 2 were able to enjoy this experience.



## Headteachers' Awards



Congratulations to the following Key Stage One children for earning a Headteachers' Award for this half term:

- Class 4 Akshay, Maira and Yusef
- Class 5 Aron, Ethan and Lavelle
- Class 6 Advita, Ellis and Shreya
- Class 7 Amruta, Nefeli, Vihaan and Yahia
- Class 8 Anika, Halima, Nilan and William
- Class 9 Juan, Mihika, Samara and Shreyan

These children's achievements were recognised in special awards assemblies on Thursday 17th December 2020.

Keep up with in school events via our Twitter page : [@ParkHillInfants](https://twitter.com/ParkHillInfants)

*Finally....have a Happy and Safe Christmas and a Peaceful New Year*

