

P.H.I.N.N

Park Hill Infants News & Notes Issue 18

Spring Term 2021

Dear Dads, Mums and Carers,

Spring has finally sprung and we are sure that all in our school community are looking forward to longer, brighter days ahead.

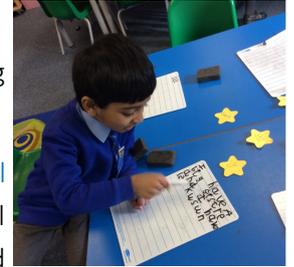
During the lockdown, we were pleased to still be able to participate in [Children's Mental Health Week](#) and deliver on our promise to prioritise the mental health and wellbeing of all pupils, particularly during this difficult time. [Book Week](#) was also a success—did you and your child guess the 'masked readers' correctly?

It has been wonderful to witness the enthusiasm the children have displayed for their learning since the school fully reopened on 8th March. Our focus has been on ensuring their mental health and wellbeing is taken care of because happy children do their best!

We are so impressed with their resilience and 'can do' attitude. Learning routines have been re-established and the 'buzz' of learning can be felt across the whole school. It is so fantastic to have the children back with us, where they belong. We wish you all a happy - and hopefully, sunny - Easter break.

Best Wishes,

Park Hill Infant School Headship Team



HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS



Every half term, we celebrate children who have consistently displayed one or more of our **10 Learning Super Skills** or **one of our School's 5 Values for Life**—or both!

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

Class 4 - **Abhinav, Anise, Brian and Nell**

Class 5 - **Jacob, Marcelo, Marlo and Mishika**

Class 6 - **Dhruvika, Janice, Zakariya and Zehan**

Class 7 - **Ishan, Jasmine, Michelle and Zayaan**

Class 8 - **Michaela, Mithanya, Navami and Nilan**

Class 9 - **Arnav, Mahith, Miranda and Sakeena**

These children's achievements were recognised in special awards assemblies led by Ms Charman on Tuesday 30th March 2021.

Congratulations and well done!

Year 2 - Endangered Animals and Climate Change



This half term, Year 2 have been studying the effects of climate change on our planet within their topic 'Endangered Animals'.

We encourage the children to think about the changes we can all make to keep our Earth healthy for many years. Please read the message below for a child's view on this important topic:

"We really need YOUR help! The poor, sad animals are losing their habitats and animals like polar bears have their ice melting. There are animals like elephants being hunted and animals all over the world are in danger!

In Year Two we are writing letters to ask more and more people for help, including Ms Charman because we want to adopt an endangered animal to help. So we were wondering if you can also spread the message at home?

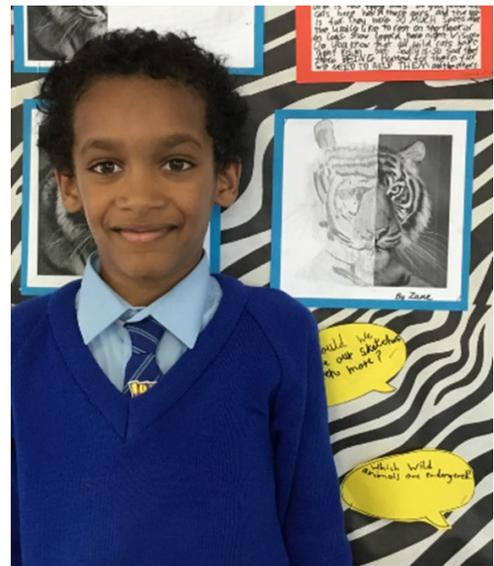
SAVE the endangered animals!

SAVE THE ENDANGERED ANIMALS!!!

Year Two are planning a protest to tell everyone about these issues. Please research what is happening and about how you can help at home and look out for our posters!"

- Adelina and Ishan

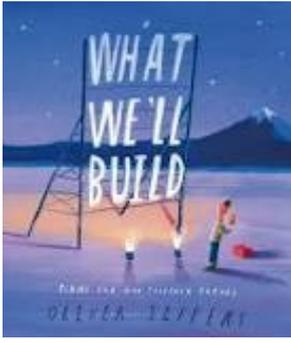
Year 2 have also produced some stunning artwork:



Well done Zane, Sofia, Aaradhya and Anvith - your art is amazing!

RECOMMENDED READS

Please find Mrs Clarkson's Recommended Reads for the Spring break below:

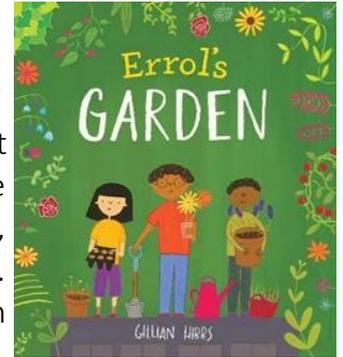


'What We'll Build' - Oliver Jeffers

'What We'll Build' is a brilliant new read from international bestseller Oliver Jeffers. This is a touching story about a parent's boundless love, life's endless opportunities and all we need to build a together future. A beautiful story to help you to talk about the world positively and begin to build new dreams.

'Errol's Garden' - Gillian Hibbs

In this story by Gillian Hibbs, the main character Errol loves gardening, but he doesn't have a garden! He is fast running out of space to grow any more plants in his family's flat. Then he comes up with a very creative solution, thanks to the discovery of a disused area at the top of his apartment block. This is a simple but hugely engaging book with vibrant artwork which children will love.



YOU SPOKE...



...WE LISTENED

Reception Parents and Carers expressed concern about the dangerous driving and parking directly outside the car park entrance to the school on Stanhope Road –a long standing issue. Besides sending reminder communications to all parents and carers, Mr Trawczynski, our caretaker, now puts out traffic cones and barriers on either side of the entrance (on the yellow lines) to keep our children safe. Given that the majority of families associated with both Infant and Junior schools live within a short walking distance, we strongly urge all children to walk to and from school and leave the car at home!

ABSENCE REPORTING

If you 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). Thank you for your co-operation.



Child Wellbeing and Mental Health Useful Contacts

Park Hill Infant School Headship Team

Ms Charman - Headteacher, Safeguarding and Mental Health Lead

Mrs Parry - Deputy Headteacher and Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Newell - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Clarkson Deputy Safeguarding Lead / Curriculum Lead

Miss Hulet - Deputy Safeguarding Lead / Inclusion Manager

Mrs McGuinness - Deputy Safeguarding Lead & Deputy Headteacher at Tunstall Nursery School (secondment)

E: headshipteam@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk

T: 020 8680 0747

Ms Mascarenhas - Nurture & Support Mentor

E: enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk

Our experienced team are here to support you and your child.

Please contact us as soon as possible if you need support.

Young Minds – children's mental health charity

W: www.youngminds.org.uk

NHS: Every Mind Matters

W: <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/childrens-mental-health/>

NSPCC:

W: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mental-health/>

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

Year One Parents: year1@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk

Year Two Parents: year2@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk

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

Please note that none of the above email addresses should be used to report your child's absence.

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

Please note that these email addresses will not be checked during the Easter holidays. Any COVID19 related reporting should be sent to enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk

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!

Mrs Newell, Assistant Headteacher



Hello, I'm Mrs Newell and I am an Assistant Headteacher at Park Hill Infant School. I have been teaching for 12 years and have worked at Park Hill for 9 years. You will find me teaching in Reception and working in the office. My favourite part of my week is when I am in class teaching. I love to teach Phonics because it helps us learn to read. My favourite stories are the Gruffalo, The BFG and Harry Potter.

What are your favourite stories? If you see me on the gate in the morning come and let me know!

Mrs McGuinness, Assistant Headteacher

Hi, I'm Mrs McGuinness. Some of you will know me as Leigh from Tunstall, others will probably not have a clue who I am!

I have had the pleasure of being a member of staff at Park Hill Infants for almost 19 years. I'm currently an Assistant Headteacher at Park Hill Infants on Thursdays, the rest of my week I am based at Tunstall Nursery School where I am a Deputy Headteacher. I work closely within the Headship team at Park Hill Infants and support Inclusion within the school. Although I no longer have as much contact with children at Park Hill I sometimes lead 'Stars of the Week' assemblies where I get to see most of the children.

I have spent the majority of my career in Early Years and have a passion for early education... it's definitely where the magic happens! Teaching and working with young children is a delight, helping children to develop a love of learning is a privilege. I hope that I have given the children I have worked with over the years as much enjoyment as they have given me.

The impact of COVID 19 has meant that I'm even more behind the scenes than usual...but I'm still here. I'm looking forward to seeing you all soon at one of the school gates on a Thursday.





PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

Further to the letter which went out to all parents on Thursday 25th March 2021, we encourage you to make the time to speak to your child's class teacher at one of the upcoming Parent Teacher Consultation Days in April 2021.

If you have not submitted your appointment slip yet, please email this directly to your child's teacher using the relevant year group email:

Reception: reception@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk

Year One: year1@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk

Year Two: year2@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

We are pleased to inform you that after school activities will recommence after Easter. The session times are 3.30pm - 4.20pm ; relevant dates below:

Year 2 Art Club: Mondays 19th & 26th April and 10th, 17th & 24th May 2021

Year 2 Modern Dance: Mondays 19th & 26th April and 10th, 17th & 24th May 2021

Reception Multiskills: Tuesdays 20th & 27th April and 4th, 11th and 18th May 2021

Year 1 Musical Theatre: Wednesdays 21st & 28th April and 5th, 12th and 19th May 2021

Collection Point for all Clubs: Main School Gate on Cotelands

P.E KITS

P.E is a mandatory and vital part of the curriculum. Please make sure your child has their P.E kit in school every day so they can take part in this lesson.

As with all uniform items, please ensure that all items are clearly named! Thank you.

SUMMER SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please ensure your child arrives at school in the correct uniform each day.

As the weather gets warmer, you may wish to send your child to school in summer uniform.

Summer dresses should be **blue check** and shorts should be school grey.



OUR SCHOOL ETHOS

All different, All equal, All achieving

OUR 5 SCHOOL VALUES

Honesty, Kindness, Positivity, Respect and Courage

OUR 10 LEARNING SUPER SKILLS

An effective learner:

makes connections, collaborates, communicates, perseveres, is reflective, is confident, is creative, is a risk taker, is resourceful, is curious.

EQUALITIES STATEMENT

At Park Hill Infant School, we continue to teach our children about what it means to be strong, positive and productive members of society. We have always taught our pupils about equality and this remains an important part of our curriculum. We ensure that we always celebrate diversity, promote equality, demonstrate respect and stand together to challenge all forms of discriminatory language and behaviour.

We recognise that education is a vital tool for powerful, permanent and informative change. Our continuously evolving curriculum demonstrates our determination to use education to tackle issues of racism and inequality. We strive to ensure our curriculum and supporting resources reflect values of inclusivity, diversity, equality and belonging. We do this by planning to meet the needs of all genders, of children with special educational needs, of children who are more able, of children with disabilities, of children from all socio-economic backgrounds, children from different ethnic groups, religion and cultural backgrounds, and of those from diverse linguistic backgrounds.

PUPIL and PARENT FEEDBACK

Our children say: *"I feel happy at school because my friends are around to care"*

"Teachers help us to learn and they are very kind to everyone"

"Our school is the happiest school ever!"

"I love being at the school everyday because we learn lots of exciting things like drama, karate and gardening"

Our parents say: *"I love the school's structure and work ethic"*

"They make sure the child is the centre of learning. The teachers understand the individual, therefore the progress they make is amazing!"

"I feel confident about having made the right choice with my child at Park Hill Infants"