

# P.H.I.N.N

Park Hill Infants News & Notes Issue 20

Autumn 1 2021

## *A message from Ms Charman, Headteacher*

Dear Dads, Mums and Carers,

It's such a pleasure to have all the children back in school enjoying their usual routines—playing, learning and socialising together.

It has also been wonderful to invite parents back into school. We have missed you! I'm so proud of our Park Hill community. As one of our children said recently "we are one big family."

We are now also welcoming visitors back into school and it is always a delight to walk around the school and feel the buzz and excitement for learning.

Last week one of my visitors, after finishing the tour, said to me "What an amazing school! You can just feel the love!" I absolutely agree.

I look forward to seeing you all at future events and want to thank you for your ongoing commitment, support and generosity (even helping me out with reading glasses when I forgot them! Much appreciated!)

*Best Wishes from Ms Charman, Headteacher*



## Headteachers' Awards



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

Class 4 [Bilkis-Napaa, Hope, Nathan and Shreyan](#)

Class 5 [Farhan, Sameeksha, Kai and Noah](#)

Class 6 [Jake, Suhavi, Sachita and Anais](#)

Class 7 [Beau, Pragati, Gerta and Karthik](#)

Class 8 [Samantha, Zakhary, Vaseegaran and Sara](#)

Class 9 [Kayal, Tyler-James, Prisha and Ahmed](#)

These children's achievements were recognised in special awards assemblies on Thursday 21st October 2021.

*Congratulations and well done!*

## A very warm Park Hill Infants Welcome

Since the start of September 2021, we are pleased to welcome:

⇒ [Miss Roberts as Learning Support in Class 3](#)

⇒ [Mr Brooks as Learning Support in Class 8](#)

⇒ [Miss Nicolaou as Learning Support in Reception](#)

⇒ [Mrs Croucher as Assistant Business Manager in the School Office](#)



## Gratitude is our Attitude

Thank you for your support and generosity so far this academic year regarding your voluntary financial contributions to School Fund. Thus far, you have kindly donated over **£2,224** and we are supremely grateful.

We intend to use your School Fund contributions in the following ways:

- *To purchase new books and phonics resources for our reading scheme, library and book corners*
- *Improve and re-establish our gardening area in Cotelands*
- *Curriculum Enrichment including:*
  - *a visit from Father Christmas and his reindeer (the price of petrol/fairy dust for his sleigh has increased considerably this year)*
  - *'Safari Pete', Golf and Skateboarding workshops*
  - *A Virtual Dinosaur Experience*
  - *A Virtual Reality (VR) Space Day*
- *Core Value Signs and an Outdoor Playhouse for Reception*
- *A Christmas pantomime for the Whole School*

These purchases would not be possible without your contributions.

You are still able to make donations to School Fund up until the end of this academic year via ParentPay.

Thank you once again for your generosity—it is very much appreciated.



## CORONAVIRUS REMINDERS

If your child has any symptoms of coronavirus (Covid-19), you will need to keep them at home and book a PCR test (test that is sent to the lab) - even if the symptoms are mild!

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

To book a PCR test, **call 119** or visit <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

**If your child's PCR result is negative for COVID-19:**

Please send your child's test result to the school by email via [enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk)

Your child will no longer need to isolate and can return to school as normal.

**If your child's PCR result is positive for COVID-19:**

Please send your child's test result to the school by email via [enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk) for us to note the return date to school. Your child will need to stay home and isolate for the period set out by the test result notification or 10 full days after the symptoms started.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your co-operation.

## Who's Who?

Many Parents and Carers now know their child's class teachers/ learning support 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 Croucher.

I'm the new Assistant Business Manager at Park Hill Infant School. When you call the school office to report your child's absence, or for any other school-related queries, you will usually be speaking to either my colleague Mrs Crosby Per or myself.

I've worked in two other primary schools within the Croydon Borough since 2014, and I have a daughter who is almost two years old! I have also lived in Croydon since I was five years old and attended Croydon schools and Croydon College. I love watching football and supporting the England football teams at every tournament!

As a parent, I understand that mornings are usually busy and eventful, so I am dedicated to making sure that I do my utmost to help you get your child into class on time and assist you with any information you need regarding school attendance and absence.

I am really enjoying being a part of the team at Park Hill Infant School.



## Curriculum Enrichment

We are glad to see a return to our curriculum enrichment this term with parental involvement, visitors to the school and clubs taking place after school.

We have had the following clubs for Years One and Two this term: **Musical Theatre, Art Club, Multi Sports, Football and Modern Dance Club.**

From the start of the next half-term, we will also have **Yoga Club** for Year 2 with a teacher from BEAM Academy. Please check our recent Year Two Clubs letter for details. Please note, clubs for Reception will start in the Spring Term (January 2022).

We have enjoyed greeting Parents and Carers every morning at the start of the day whilst you drop your children to class. Our **Wonderful Wednesdays** (Year One) and **Thrilling Thursdays** (Year Two) have returned this term and have been very successful. We are looking forward to seeing Terrific Tuesdays start on 9th November for Reception Parents and Carers.

It was wonderful to see the inventive Superhero costumes children wore for Super-Skills Day on 24th September (Year One) and the amazing Space-themed costumes children wore for Intergalactic Day on 23rd September (Year Two.)

We have upcoming workshops where the children will be learning about Fossils and Circus skills, plus a Dressing up 'Wild Rumpus Day' for Year One pupils- based around "Where the Wild Things Are!".



## Year Two Phonics Screening Check

As Year Two did not complete their Phonics Screening Check in June 21, it will now take place in the second half of the Autumn term. There is no need for you to do anything to prepare your child for this check - just keep reading with them at home as usual.



## ParentPay

**Reception Parents:** If you have not yet paid for your child's Book Bag, PE Bag or School Tie (given out at the Stay and Play sessions that took place in September or at the School Office) please do so as soon as possible. If you do not have a login for ParentPay, please contact the school office on 020 8680 0747 or by emailing [enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk)

If you are returning any consent slips or paperwork to the school, please send it in your child's book bag or email a copy to us.

## Dietary and Religious Requirements

We are updating our records. If you have not already done so, please can you visit

<https://forms.gle/ZvB3HaSCvv4VGfcD7> and fill in the questionnaire with any dietary/ religious requirements. We will use this information to update our school management information system (SIMS) and to ensure that our dinner badges contain the most up to date dietary and allergy information for each child.

**Please note, if you did not enter your child's name and class, we will be unable to identify them—please fill in the questionnaire again.**

## Year Two to Year Three (Infant to Junior School) Transfer

If your child is in Year Two this academic year, you will need to apply for a Year Three place in a Junior School for September 2022. There is **no automatic transfer** from an Infant School to a Junior School, you must complete an online application which is available at [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk). Therefore, if you want your child to transfer to Park Hill Junior School (or any other school of your choice), you will need to complete an online application. The login details are the same as those you used when you applied for your child to start Reception.

The closing date for **Junior School applications** is **15th January 2022**.

Please visit <https://new.croydon.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools/transfer-infant-junior-school-step-step> for full information on how to apply.

## Santa and his Reindeer

### (message to the children)

I have been emailing Santa and guess what?!

**He has agreed to visit our school with his reindeer!**

He has managed to get enough fairy dust/petrol for his sleigh to make the trip and he can't wait to see you all because he knows how fantastic you are. The magic candle flew to the north pole to tell him!

Much Love,

Ms Charman



## GIVING BACK

This year, your Harvest donations were gratefully received by *Croydon Voluntary Action* who will distribute them to people and families who need them the most.

As a school we also raised £151 for *Young Minds*, the children's mental health charity, when we participated in #HelloYellow Day on Friday 9th October 2021. Thank you for your generosity.



**YOUNGMINDS**

## SCHOOL PRIORITIES 2021-2022

Each year the Governing Body and Headship Team, along with members of teaching and support staff, create a School Improvement Plan for our school.

The school's priorities for 2021-2022 are summarised below, alongside the action we will be taking to ensure that Park Hill Infant School continues to provide a stimulating learning environment where all children can grow, develop and be happy whilst working towards their full potential.

We thank you for your continued support in helping us to achieve our goals in order to make our school the best it can be for all our children.

<i>What are we working on this year?</i>	<i>What is the goal?    How will we achieve it?</i>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>QUALITY OF EDUCATION</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To further enrich / adapt our curriculum with a focus on pupil well-being and establishing/re-establishing routines that were different due to Covid-19 during 2021. E.g. Learning to Learn, collaboration / socialisation with other classes and year groups, visits / enrichment, assemblies / performances, parental involvement</li> <li>• To re-focus our highly effective key principles of teaching and learning appropriate to our school, due to disruption by Covid19, through:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Focus on metacognition</li> <li>⇒ Superskills for learning</li> <li>⇒ Growth Mindset</li> <li>⇒ Self / peer assessment</li> <li>⇒ Values</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupil well-being / mental health is fully supported by the broad curriculum with emphasis on Personal Social Health Education and Social Moral Spiritual Cultural areas, to continue the recovery process</li> <li>• Pupils feel safe and nurtured, enabling them to make effective progress and to catch up on lost learning through the use of our adapted / enriched curriculum</li> <li>• Enhanced cohesion in the school community due to re-established assemblies, parental involvement and whole school activities</li> <li>• All pupils are equipped with the key knowledge they need to move forward and to make progress, ready for their next stage of education, after the disruption of Covid-19</li> <li>• Continue to employ additional intervention teacher</li> <li>• Comprehensive programme of research-based intervention programmes led by intervention teacher / senior staff</li> <li>• Intensive Early language intervention (NELI) to continue for Year One, and for identified reception pupils</li> <li>• Ensure all pupils, where applicable are in interventions (including support and booster). Children identified and signposted accordingly</li> <li>• Subject Leaders / Year Group Leaders to plan opportunities for further enrichment – visitors and visits to further enhance the teaching and learning of their subject</li> <li>• ‘Helicopter stories’ project, (children create stories verbally, adults scribe and peers role-play), in Reception – supporting children’s confidence and language development</li> <li>• Re-establish parental involvement in learning. e.g. Terrific Tuesday, Wonderful Wednesday, Thrilling Thursday, family curriculum workshops, Headteacher Award assemblies, information workshops, open classroom etc</li> <li>• Simple practical strategies will be given to parents / carers suggesting ways they can support their child’s mental health and well-being</li> <li>• Continued emphasis on mindfulness, well-being and promoting positive mental health across the school</li> <li>• Continued promotion of our school’s five core values promoted in every day school life – Honesty, Kindness, Courage, Positivity, Respect</li> </ul>

## SCHOOL PRIORITIES 2021-2022

What are we working on this year?	What is the goal?    How will we achieve it?
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES</u></b></p> <p>To re-focus playtimes, as the school has previously been working in small bubbles. Children now have the opportunity to mix more widely in the playground.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children are calm and happy, and engaging in stimulating physical activity at playtime, where appropriate</li> <li>• Explicit expectations across the whole school ensure cohesive and structured school routines are in place allowing children to feel safe, secure and confident to learn.</li> <li>• Pupils will experience calm and happy playtimes and lunchtimes which enable them to reintegrate into school life outside of the classroom</li> <li>• Gather pupil Voice: What would improve play times? School Council and class questionnaires to provide feedback for planning</li> <li>• LSA's and PE Leader organise play leaders.</li> <li>• Re-design quiet areas and order resources</li> <li>• Year group assemblies – What makes purposeful playtimes? What's good about playtimes now? What would make them better? Any worries about playtimes?</li> <li>• Utilise the Sport Premium Funding effectively to purchase playground resources, create extra outdoor area at the back of reception and re-design quiet area</li> <li>• Adults to re-establish and ensure high standards in routines e.g. play-times, assemblies, dining hall etc</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT</u></b></p> <p>To re-establish high levels of pupil well-being / positive mental health including helping children to self-regulate, be emotionally literate and understand and express their feelings. To encourage pupils to build positive relationships – refocus on socialisation, sharing, turn taking and conflict resolution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a calm, positive atmosphere in the school</li> <li>• Children show self-awareness of their feelings / emotions and will be able to effectively verbalise how they are feeling</li> <li>• Children will know how to self-regulate ensuring they are calm and happy in the school environment, and able to ask for help if needed</li> <li>• Children and adults will understand and demonstrate the school values - Kindness, Respect, Positivity, Honesty and Courage and will use these values in their daily life</li> <li>• Class sessions continue to focus on well-being and mindfulness (Flip - your-lid, resilient thinking, thinking traps), and include stories which identify specific emotions and values</li> <li>• School counsellor / Nurture Support Mentor (NSM) to provide additional 1:1 / small nurture groups for those families/pupils who require support</li> <li>• 'Daily Pause' to be continued in all classes as a daily mindfulness activity</li> <li>• Wellbeing strategies to be embedded in every class as part of the SMSC curriculum. (Balloon breath, ABC, name your emotion, Tribal classroom etc.)</li> <li>• 'Anti-Bullying Week – One Kind Word' from November 15th to the 19th</li> <li>• Children's Mental Health Week will take place from February 4th to February 11th – parent workshops, mindfulness art, meditation etc.</li> <li>• Every opportunity will be taken to promote self-regulation e.g. controlling emotions helping pupils to manage and organise their thoughts and convert them into skills used for learning</li> </ul>



## SCHOOL PRIORITIES 2021-2022

What are we working on this year?	What is the goal?    How will we achieve it?
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT</u></b></p> <p>To embed existing and new strategies to maintain/improve staff wellbeing/reduce staff workload, support mental health and further improve teamwork and relationships within the school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school provides a supportive working environment where all members of staff are supported and valued</li> <li>• Coaching and mentoring between senior and middle leaders</li> <li>• All staff will be given individual feedback on specific role and will be clear about areas of strength and development, linked to appraisal. They will be paired with other staff in a coaching/mentoring situation, using and spreading existing talent and developing new outstanding practice</li> <li>• Flu jabs offered to all staff</li> <li>• Mindfulness days / training for all staff</li> <li>• Regular 1:1 sessions for all staff with leaders focussing on workload and well being</li> <li>• Team building activities planned for all staff</li> <li>• Staff insurance provides free physiotherapy, medical appointments, counselling etc for staff who feel they would benefit</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>EARLY YEARS</u></b></p> <p>To adapt the Early Years Curriculum in light of national changes to the Statutory Framework of the Early Years Foundation Stage and Development Matters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All pupils are equipped with the key knowledge and skills they need to make progress and to be ready for the next stage in their education.</li> <li>• Early Years (EY) leader to adapt the long term/medium term planning and EY curriculum</li> <li>• Class teachers to adapt weekly planning in line with new curriculum</li> <li>• EY leader to attend necessary training and CPD including EYFS forums and network meetings</li> <li>• EY leader to deliver training to all EY staff regarding new curriculum and new ELGs</li> <li>• EY leader to deliver whole school training during Inset and support subject leaders to understand the progression from EYFS to KS1 in their subject area</li> <li>• New Baselines to assess children are completed within the first 6 weeks of children joining school</li> </ul>





## Dates for your Diary



### November 2021

1st	INSET Day - school closed for all pupils
2nd	All children return to school (9am)
5th	Year One—Wild Rumpus Dress Up Day
9th	Year Two—Visit to the War Memorial
12th	Open Day for prospective parents – by appointment only
15th–19th	Anti-Bullying Week
18th	Individual School Photos—Consent Required
18th	Calculation Workshop—Timings to be confirmed
19th	Open Day for prospective parents – by appointment only
22nd	Parent Consultations
24th	Parent Consultations

### December 2021

6th	Year One Christmas Performance 2pm
7th	Reception Nativity Performance 10am
7th	Year Two Christmas Performance 2pm
8th	Christmas Lunch
9th	Year One Christmas Performance 10am
9th	Year Two Christmas Performance 11am
9th	Reception Nativity Performance 2pm
10th	Christmas Jumper Day
15th	Parent Day/ Santa Visit/ Reindeer Visit
16th	Headteacher Award Assembly—by invitation only
16th	Christmas Panto
16th	Last day of Autumn Term

### January 2022

4th	School Open for first day of Spring Term
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### February 2022

11th	Headteacher Award Assembly—by invitation only
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## Attendance and Punctuality

Our school gates open at **9:00am**. Children need to be in class and ready to learn by **9:10am** each day, when the register is called. Children arriving after the gates have closed need to be signed in at the School Office.



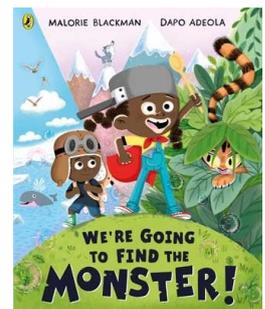
To report your child's absence from school, please call the School Office on **020 8680 0747** or email [attendance@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk)

## Our Autumn Recommended Reads

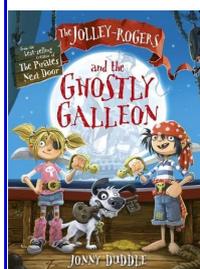
Please find Mrs Clarkson's Recommended Reads for this half term below:

[We're Going to Find the Monster by Malorie Blackman](#)

Join two adventurers as their imaginations transform their house into a wild wonderland - and their big brother becomes a mighty monster. A joy to read-aloud with funny, relatable characters.



[The Jolley-Rogers and the Ghostly Galleon by Jonny Duddle](#)



Do you love a pirate story? Then this is a fabulous book for you! This early chapter book is full of intrigue, spookiness, and pirate tales that will capture the attention of emerging readers.

[RAINBOW GREY by Laura Ellen Anderson](#)

From the creator of the brilliant 'Amelia Fang' series comes the start of another delightful series. Ray Grey lives in Celestia, a city in the sky, with other Weatherlings who use their weather magic to help control the Earth's weather and defend the planet. What she finds along the way changes everything and is the start of a thrilling expedition!



# Park Hill Schools' Association

PARK HILL SCHOOLS'  
ASSOCIATION



## Upcoming Events

October: Christmas card artwork

December: Christmas Raffle

## Fireworks Night

Sadly, we have decided to cancel this year's firework display but hope to be back next year for another fantastic evening of

## Christmas Raffle

There are lots of exciting prizes to be won including a kindle, £30, a food hamper and many other things!

Raffle tickets will be sent out after half term for you to buy.

The raffle will take place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December.



## Christmas Card Artwork

You should have received your form telling you all about how you can have your child's artwork professionally printed on a range of cards, wrapping paper or gift cards.

The designs need to be returned to school by Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

Items can be paid for, online, directly to Cauliflower Cards. Don't forget that the PHSA receive a percentage of all items bought!

## BAGS2SCHOOL

Get sorting all of your clothes! Donate any unwanted items you have and fundraise at the same time! Bags will be given out in January and collected on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January.



**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

## Amazon Smile

Don't forget to add us to your Amazon Smile account! Raise important funds for the school while you shop!

You can now find us on Facebook and Twitter so you can keep up to date with all the events that are taking place.

Please find us at:

Park Hill Schools' Association



Twitter  
@park\_schools

We are always looking for help and support for our different fundraising events. If you can help in any way please let us know!

[phsa.croydon@gmail.com](mailto:phsa.croydon@gmail.com)