

P.H.I.N.N

Park Hill Infants News & Notes Issue 35

All different, All equal, All achieving

Spring 2—Thursday 28th March 2024

A message from Ms Charman, Headteacher

Dear Dads, Mums and Carers,

This half term has flown by because we have had so much fun and excitement happening in school! Two highlights of this term have been our very special Book Week and Science Week.

During Book Week, it was such a pleasure to see how cosy everyone looked in their pyjamas for Pyjamas and a Book Day. The costumes for World Book Day were amazing this year and it was great to see the staff having as much fun as the children! It is so important to promote the love of reading to our children and I want to say a big thank you to Mrs Clarkson for arranging such an exciting and enjoyable week.

We have just finished participating in Science Week, which again was a wonderful week designed to enthuse our future scientists. We had workshops from Sublime Science, Night Owls and Mitcham Zoo. The joy and fascination on the children's faces was so lovely to see. Thank you to Miss Sockalingam for ensuring that our children were able to participate in this fabulous scientific fun.

Spring is just around the corner and I am sure we are all looking forward to some sunshine! I wish you all a relaxing Easter break. Ramadan Mubarak to you and your loved ones.

My love and best wishes to you all, as always, Ms Charman

We would like to say a huge thank you for your contributions to our school fund for Science Week and Book Week 2024, we raised £222 for Book Week, £110 from our 2nd-hand book sale and £290 for Science Week. We will use these donations to fund more in-house workshops, enrichment activities, visitors to the school and also to buy exciting curricular resources.



Wonderful Wishes

We would like to take this opportunity to wish Mrs Clarkson and her family the sweetest times ahead as she will be going on maternity leave from Thursday 28th March. We are looking forward to meeting baby Clarkson soon! Whilst Mrs Clarkson is on Maternity Leave, Mrs Rammohan will be teaching in Class 7.

Mr Daniel has left Park Hill Infant School for a new career outside of education. We wish him all the best for the future. We would like to congratulate our lovely volunteer Mrs Passos, who will be a Teaching Assistant after the Easter break.

Who's Who?

Every issue, we focus on a member of the team so that you can get to know them!



Hello, my name is Miss Diana and I am a SEND learning support assistant at Park Hill Infant School.

Before 2020, I worked as a fraud prevention manager for over 32 years, managing a global team of fraud analysts whose job it was to detect and prevent credit card and identity fraud, protecting clients online accounts and identity.

I am also a foster carer in Croydon and mother of two grown up children. My hobbies are gardening, music, history and travelling.

OUR 5 SCHOOL VALUES

Honesty, Kindness, Positivity, Respect and Courage

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:



Neve CI 4

Nicolle CI 6

Ira CI 7

Charlie CI 9

Layan CI 4

Jai CI 6

Anastasia CI 8

Advik CI 9

Gabriel CI 5

Yughan CI 7

Zayn CI 8

Gyanshi CI 9

Anoushka CI 5

McGregor CI 7

Venba CI 8

These children's achievements were recognised in a special award assembly led by Ms Charman on Wednesday 27th March 2024

Congratulations and well done!



Curriculum Enrichment—Spring Two



We have had the following after school activities this half-term: Musical Theatre, Art Club, Multi-Sports, Gymnastics, Football, Street Dance and FizzPop Science Club.

During Book Week, the Scholastic Travelling Book Fair visited our school and all pupils visited the Book Fair with their class, during school time. Parents and carers were then invited to visit and purchase books from the Book fair in the Library at designated times per year group after school.

For Red Nose Day, pupils were encouraged to submit their best jokes for a Joke Contest. Each class chose a representative to take part in the 'Joke Contest Assembly' where they told their jokes to the whole school.

Year One visited St Matthews Church to identify artefacts and features important to the Christian religion, as part of their learning for their current topic in Religious Education. Year Two are due to visit Croydon Mosque and Islamic Centre next term.

Year Two pupils visited Waterstones Bookshop in the Whitgift Centre, Croydon. Each class had the opportunity to look at the current selection of children's books. During their visits, they enjoyed a reading by the author Tracy Gunaratnam from her book 'That's Preposterous, Rhinoceros.'

Year One and Year Two pupils enjoyed a performance from 'Past Productions' and took part in drama activities based on the story.

During Science Week, all year groups enjoyed workshops provided by Mitcham Zoo and Night Owls Limited. Years One and Two took part in a 'Sublime Science' workshop, exploring how kinetic energy influences sounds and how a variety of chemicals can be mixed together to make sherbet!

Year One took part in a Glow in the Dark Dodgeball workshop, provided by Sporting Dreams. It was a truly memorable experience for Year One, and the workshop was linked to PE. Sporting Dreams will return later in the year to deliver workshops for Reception and Year Two.



Pyjamas Day



As part of Book Week 2024, children were invited to wear their favourite pyjamas and bring in their favourite book and soft toy from home. They took part in cosy reading sessions in their classrooms and 'shared reading' sessions with a Reading Buddy.



World Book DAY



During Book Week, instead of our normal Terrific Tuesday, Wonderful Wednesday and Thrilling Thursday, parents and carers were invited into our school hall. Children were invited to bring in their favourite story from home and a teddy bear to read to.



Mitcham Zoo

As part of Science Week, Years One and Two enjoyed an 'Animal Encounters' workshop with Mitcham Zoo where they met Arlo the armadillo, Razzle, Dazzle and Precious the bearded dragons, Teddy and Lucy the ball pythons, Scully to Tortoise, Buttercup the royal python, Freddie the Boa Constrictor and last but not least—Vlad the blood python. Mitcham Zoo are an animal rescue & re-homing centre specialising in exotic animals. You can view their website [here](#).



Reception pupils visited the Sutton Ecology Centre for a 'Very Curious Caterpillar' workshop to support their learning for their topic 'Creepy Crawlies.' Each class followed Curious the caterpillar as he went on an adventure through the Ecology Centre, exploring plants and nature.



help

If you are worried about any child, call the [NSPCC helpline](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/). In an emergency, call 999.

To find out about setting up parental controls, visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com For more information and advice about keeping your child safe online, visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Visit reporting.lgfl.net to find out how to remove content from social media and where to report bullying, racial hatred, terrorism, sexual abuse and more.

There are also websites for children and young people to get help directly, such as [Childline](https://www.childline.org.uk) or [The Mix](https://www.themix.org.uk) (for 13- 25 year olds).

PCSO Ollie says...

During the Easter holiday, be careful when you are out and about.

Top tips for children to remember:

1. Green Cross Code - Stop, look and listen, this isn't just for cars/ vans/bikes, but also electric scooters and bicycles, especially when crossing zebra crossings;
2. For little ones, make sure you're holding your adult's hand, and for older ones who are out and about on your own or with friends, make sure your phone is charged and you've told your parents/ carers where you are and who you are with.
3. Don't eat all your eggs at once.

Stay safe and have fun.



Ollie White
Police Community
Support Officer
Park Hill & Whitgift Safer
Neighbourhood Team

The police are always here to help. If you would like to get in touch, just call us on our non-emergency number

101 or visit
www.met.police.uk

In an emergency always call
999.

CROYDON

PARK HILL INFANT SCHOOL HAS ACHIEVED

BRONZE LEVEL

ACCREDITATION

We have been awarded Bronze in recognition of achievement in the TfL Travel for Life programme, supporting the next generation of Londoners to travel towards a brighter, safer and more sustainable future.

MAYOR OF LONDON

TRANSPORT FOR LONDON
EVERY JOURNEY MATTERS

Volunteering in School

We are looking for a volunteer to help in our school office. See our website for details
www.parkhillinfants.co.uk/parent-info/volunteering-in-school/

Bikes & Scooters

Please ensure that if your child rides their bike/ scooter to school, they dismount their bike/ scooter before entering the school gates and park their bike/ scooter in the scooter bay by the main school office.

Park Hill Infant School cannot accept responsibility for the loss or damage to any personal belongings left on the school premises including bikes/ scooters.

Administering Medications in School



We can administer medicine in school. You will need to come to the school office to complete a parental consent form for administration of **any medicines**, including Asthma pumps. If your child has Asthma, we will also need a copy of their Asthma Care Plan.

Please keep us updated of any changes to your child's medical needs so that we can ensure we have appropriate staff training and access to Individual Healthcare Plans (where required.)

Click [here](#) to view our policy on supporting children with medical conditions in school, and for a useful guide on when children can and cannot come to school with an infection.

Uniform

Children should wear the following items, each clearly named:

- grey pinafore dress, grey trousers or grey shorts
- light blue shirt
- school tie
- royal blue cardigan or V-necked jumper
- for warmer weather: a light blue checked dress
- sensible school shoes.
- earrings are allowed, however, these must be studs not hoops. This is to avoid possible injury from getting them caught or pulled.



PE Uniform

For physical education, all children should have the following items, each clearly named:

- a pair of navy blue shorts
- a light blue t-shirt
- Plimsolls
- for colder weather: a pair of jogging bottoms and a blue jumper.

None of our uniforms require a logo.

Where to buy uniforms

Buy new

You can buy suitable items from many high street stores such as Sainsburys, Asda, Lidl, Marks & Spencer, as well as Hewitts of Croydon.

Buy second hand

A team of parent volunteers hosts regular sales of donated second-hand uniforms, cleaned and suitable for sale at a reduced cost. Sale dates are shared regularly throughout the year.

After School Club

The After School Club is run by **Park Hill Junior School**. All bookings, queries about the club and arrangements must be made with the Junior school:

Email: extendeddayadmin@phjs.foliotrust.uk

Telephone: 0208 686 8623 ext. 437

Staff at Park Hill Infant School are not responsible for organising or processing any applications to the After School Club. We are also unaware of any changes to the patterns that your child may attend the After School Club unless you tell us.

Please ensure that you inform our school office if you have changed the regular days that your child attends the After School Club.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

We were sorry that more of you were not able to join us for our Coffee Afternoon this term. We endeavour to support parents and carers to help their children achieve excellent attendance and good punctuality at school.

Being at school keeps children's education on track, so they can achieve their full potential, whilst also benefitting their mental and physical health and wellbeing.

Talk to us

Mrs Croucher will be holding open sessions from 9:15am —11:00am on Thursday 2nd May for any parents/carers that want to meet on a 1:1 basis to ask any questions they might have about their child's attendance or punctuality.

If you would like to request a meeting on this day, please email attendance@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk All information received is held confidentially and we will endeavour to offer support and advice where possible.

If there are exceptional circumstances which require a leave of absence during term time, please complete the request form and return it to the school office as far in advance of the requested leave period as possible and at least one school week prior to the absence. This will give the school office adequate time to inform the Headteacher of your request. All requests for leave during term time will be considered on an individual basis and you will receive a written response.

% CLASS ATTENDANCE SPRING TERM 2024



It is a parent's legal responsibility to ensure that their child attends school regularly and punctually.

As a school we have a legal responsibility to advise parents if their child's attendance is a concern.

Attendance Fun Day

Well done to Class 4 for having the highest attendance for the whole of the Spring term 2024 with 97.4%! They celebrated by wearing their own clothes to school, watching a film in class with popcorn and squash and making Art and Crafts in class.



Spring 2 Artwork



Our Recommended Reads

The Search for the Giant Arctic Jellyfish by Chloe Savage

A beautiful picture book with a captivating, moving tale of resilience, endurance and self-belief to inspire young explorers and dreamers. Dr Morley is about to embark on a quest to the northern-most tip of the world, to discover a creature that everyone talks about but nobody has ever seen....The Giant Arctic Jellyfish! After years of research and hard work, she gathers together a crew and a boat full of specialist equipment, and sets sail for the vast, icy scapes of the Arctic. Will she find what she is searching for? Or will it find her?



The Kindest Red: A Story of Hijab and Friendship by Ibtihaj Muhammad

The warm and inclusive sequel to 'The Proudest Blue' which explores sisterhood, and kindness, from Olympic medallist Ibtihaj Muhammad. When Faizah's teacher asks her class to imagine what kind of world they want to live in, Faizah imagines a world where everyone is kind to one another, and she tries to create that world in the school playground. But what Faizah wants most is to be like her big sister, Asiya. Will Faizah's classmates repay her kindness and find a way for her to match Asiya in time for school photo day? An important and uplifting story about celebrating each other's differences and similarities.



The Queen Next Door by Marcela Ferreira

A beautifully illustrated modern-day fairy tale, filled with friendship, fun and fairness. In a faraway land, a happy queen rules over the happiest of kingdoms. But when a new queen moves in next door and starts showing off her ginormous, brand-new, super-duper throne, the happy queen can't help feeling a little jealous and decides she MUST have a throne of her own . . . no matter the cost. Can she learn that what makes a true queen is not what she has, but how she treats others? Filled with humour and heart, this beautiful picture book encourages everyone to be grateful for what we have and who we have to share it with.



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.





PHSA NEWS

PARK HILL SCHOOLS' ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity number 288253



Upcoming Events

Apr 19 - A Taste of Eid
May 17 - Spring Market
Jun 13 - Father's & Friends
Jun 23 - Colour Run
Jul 5 - Taylormania

Volunteers Needed

Can you help at our Eid event (19 Apr) or Colour Run (23 Jun)?

Please contact Kate 07400707123 to find out more.



Funds raised so far 23/24

We are thrilled to share that we have raised £8600 since the start of the school year. The money raised at PHSA events go towards enriching our children's time at Park Hill Infants and Junior Schools.

We are grateful for your support as we work towards our goal of raising £10,000.

With thanks,
Becca, Hilary, Jen, Kate & Rikki



Other ways to help

Buying name labels? Try Stikins. We earn 30% commission when you quote 15355.

Are you on social media? Follow us, like, comment @parkhillschoolsphsa (IG/FB) and @park_schools (X).

Ask your employer to match funds
Many companies will match funds raised by a charity. Why not ask yours?



PARK HILL SCHOOLS' ASSOCIATION

Eid Mubarak
A Taste of Eid

19 APRIL 2024



**JOIN US TO CELEBRATE EID WITH
DELICIOUS SAVOURY FOOD,
BAKED GOODS,
GAMES AND CRAFTS**

Chicken biryani, veg biryani, chicken & chips,
empanadas, parathas, samosas,
henna-style transfers, bangles, jar decorating,
10-can bowling and more!

**INFANTS AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS
FROM 3.30PM - 4.30PM**

Dates for your Diary



Thursday 28th March	—	School closes 1.30pm for Easter Break
Friday 29th March	—	Bank holiday
Monday 1st —Friday 12th April	—	School closed for Easter Break
Monday 15th April	—	School re-opens to all pupils
Monday 15th—Friday 19th April	—	Eid Week
Tuesday 16th April	—	Class 8 Croydon Mosque Visit
Tuesday 16th April	—	Class 5 Swimming starts
Wednesday 17th April	—	Year 1 Phonics Workshop @ 9.20am
Thursday 18th April	—	Class 9 Croydon Mosque Visits
Friday 19th April	—	PHSA 'Taste of Eid' event
Tuesday 23rd April	—	Reception Family Curriculum Workshop
Tuesday 23rd April	—	Class 9 Trip to Natural History Museum
Wednesday 24th April	—	Class Photos by Vancols Ltd
Thursday 25th April	—	KS1 Family Curriculum Workshop
Tuesday 30th April	—	Class 7 Croydon Mosque Visits
Wednesday 1st May	—	Class 8 Trip to Natural History Museum
Thursday 2nd May	—	Class 7 Trip to Natural History Museum
Thursday 2nd May	—	Attendance 1:1 meetings
Monday 6th May	—	Bank holiday
Friday 10th May	—	Class 4 visit to Morden Hall Park
Tuesday 14th May	—	Class 6 visit to Morden Hall Park
Thursday 16th May	—	Class 5 visit to Morden Hall Park
Thursday 16th May	—	Summer Census
Friday 17th May	—	PHSA Spring Market
Friday 24th May	—	School closes 3.30pm for half-term
Monday 3rd June	—	School re-opens to all pupils
Thursday 13th June	—	Father's and Friends
Monday 17th —Friday 21st June	—	Arts Week
Sunday 23rd June	—	PHSA Colour Run
Monday 8th —Friday 12th July	—	Get ACTIVE Week
Friday 12th July	—	Sports Day
Tuesday 23rd July	—	School closes 1.30pm for Summer Break

Please be aware that our term dates are different to Park Hill Junior School. Absences from our school due to the Junior school being closed will not be authorised. Our term dates and school calendar are available on our website.

Reminder: Our school gates open at 9am. Both gates will close promptly at 9:10am. Children need to be in class and ready to learn by 9:10am. Children arriving after 9:10am must be brought to the school office to be signed in.



Thank you, with your support we raised £79 for Comic Relief!