



# Parkland Summer (1) Newsletter

Primary School

Learning together

May 2021

www.parklandprimary.co.uk

admin@dsatparkland.org

Tel: 0116 278 2142



@Parklandsch

## Headteacher Message

It is lovely to be able to reflect on the last few weeks when the children have been able to have consistency at school. We have all enjoyed the children being back in their classes, engaging in their learning and spending time socialising again. It has been a difficult year for many different reasons, but we have learnt to adapt and be resilient.



We are still following our risk assessment and the children remain in their year group bubbles. Luckily, we have not had to ask any children to isolate in recent weeks and we hope that we really are on the roadmap to better times.

Our pupils have not stopped amazing me with their ability to follow our rules and expectations linked to COVID-19. You should be proud of how they have coped with so many changes throughout the year. Staff have worked hard to identify their gaps in learning and also those who need additional support with wellbeing.

We will continue to work tirelessly right to the end of term to give every pupil the very best chance to make the most of all of the learning opportunities in school. We continue to develop our use of technology and blended learning, supporting lessons through the use of Apps.

Hopefully we can look forward to welcoming you into school next year. We have missed our open days and community events due to COVID-19. We also hope to have more clubs on offer next year. Sadly, government guidance has not allowed us to have clubs more the majority of time this year.

Thank you for your continued support during this year. It has not been an easy year for anyone and working together as a team has helped a great deal. I hope that moving forward we can work more closely with the community to build stronger relationships.

Kind regards

*J Andrews*

Mrs J Andrews  
Headteacher

## Key Dates

### School Opens

Monday 7th June 2021

### Dance Festival\*

Friday 18th June 2021

### Sports Days\*

w/c Monday 21st June 2021

### Caythorpe Teams Meeting—Year 5

Tuesday 22nd June 2021

### Transition Days

Tues 29th & Wed 30th June 2021

### End of Year Reports

Friday 2nd July 2021

### Year 6—Problem Solving Day

Monday 5th July 2021

### 'Year 6 Leavers' Assembly Video'

Live streaming to the whole school

Friday 9th July 2021

### End of Term

Friday 9th July 2021

**\* Unfortunately due to Covid, parents/cares WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SPECTATE THIS YEAR**

A big thank you to all those parents and carers who took the time to complete the Trust' parent survey, earlier this month.



We will use your responses to improve our school offer.

Some of you have said that communication has been less than you would have liked this year. We realise it has been a challenge for staff to communicate fully with you.

*If you do have any questions, please ask to speak to your child's teacher by arranging a meeting with them or through class Dojo. They will endeavour to speak to you at the end of the day.*



Parkland would like to congratulate Leicester City Football Club, in winning the FA Cup, for the first time in the club's history, and for securing another top-five finish in the Premier League!

**"All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them." – Walt Disney**

## Pre-School



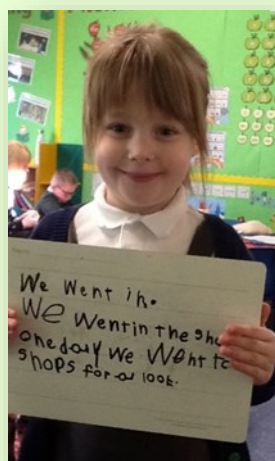
Preschool have enjoyed being in the outdoor learning environment; the children have explored the new sensory garden, used the open-ended resources to build, balance, and create using their imagination and learn about the creatures that they found in the garden.

We found information about creatures using the iPads, made a wormery for the worms that were found on our bug hunts, and read lots of stories including the Very Hungry Caterpillar.



## Foundation

The Foundation Stage have been learning about Mini beasts. In literacy, they have been reading lots of different stories such as What the Ladybird heard, Billy's Beetle and The Bad-Tempered Ladybird.



The children are continuing to write independently every day and the teachers are so proud of the progress they are making. Lots of children are now writing simple sentences with capital letters, full stops, and finger spaces. In maths, they been learning about teen numbers to 20. The children have also been learning about odd and even numbers and finding one more or one less. The children (and teachers) have really enjoyed this mini beast topic, finding out some new facts and hearing some of our favourite stories.

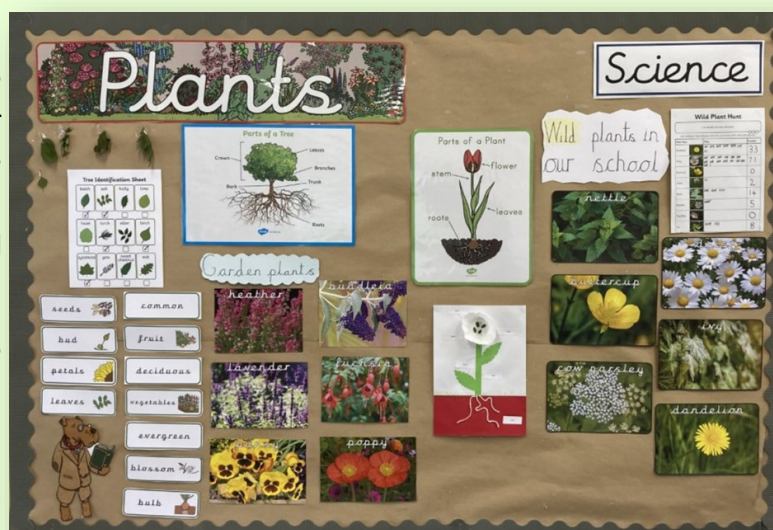
It has been such a fun half term in Foundation Stage!

## Year 1

Year 1 have been learning about plants. We have searched for wild plants and garden plants in our school grounds. We are now able to identify the parts of plants and trees. We have also been on a tree hunt and identified different tree types based on their leaves.

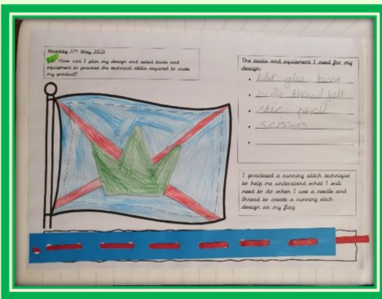
In English, we have been writing narratives on the traditional tales of, Little Red Riding Hood, Hansel & Gretel, and Jack & The Beanstalk.

We are getting better at using 'and', exclamation marks and the -ed suffix in our writing!





## Year 2



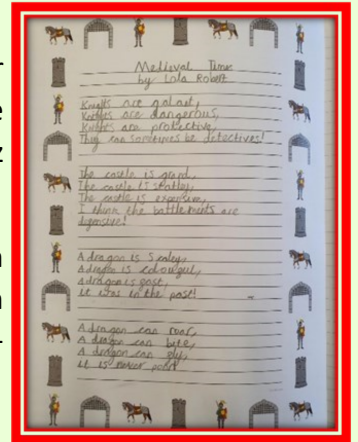
Year 2 have loved learning in their Towers, Tunnels and Turrets topic this half term. They have learnt about the parts of a castle, why castles were built and who worked in them. They are producing a non-chronological report to share their knowledge. In History they have learnt about William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings by looking at the Bayeux Tapestry. The children are currently working on a flag in Design and Technology to show their allegiance to the King.

In Maths we have been re-capping all about multiplication and division, using our knowledge of the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. They have been very excited to use the laptops to access Times Tables Rock Stars to help them further. There is a buzz about the winners each week in Celebration Assembly.

During English lessons, the children have been busy writing all about Zog the Dragon and his adventures. They loved using inverted commas to include conversations on their stories. They wrote some amazing poems all about Knights, Castles and Dragons.

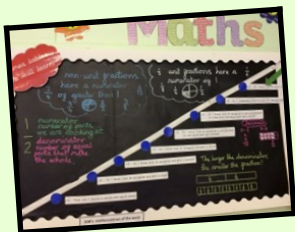
Guided Reading lessons have been great to learn extra facts about Castles from information texts.

They have also looked at Castle poems and the story of Rumpelstiltskin. They all agreed that they are glad that the princess guessed his name! Such a busy half term, with extra activities after school for some children too. Keep up the good work Year 2!



## Reading

In guided reading we have learnt to retrieve, infer and explain the meaning of key words in a range of texts. We are continually practising our reading fluency and reading skills such as, reading at a good pace, and using intonation and expression in our reading.

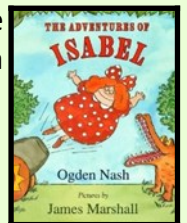


## Maths

In maths, we have learnt about different monetary values, adding and subtracting money. We have been ordering fractions, learnt to count in tenths and now understand what  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  means in relation to shape and amount. We are also pretty amazing with equivalent fractions!

## English

In English, we have written and performed our own version of 'The Adventures of Isabel' by Ogden Nash. Over the past two weeks we have been learning the skills of 'diary writing' and have just finished writing a diary entry as the famous palaeontologist Mary Anning.



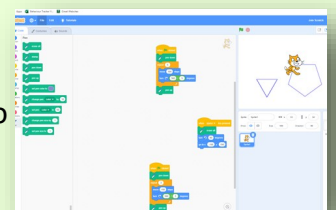
## Science



In science, we have learnt about the process of fossilisation and made our own fossils which was so cool! We have also learnt about the different skeletons animals have, our muscles and the two types of muscles. We have looked at how our muscles work, how they are attached to the bone and why they work in pairs.

## Computing

In computing, we have been using the programme 'Scratch' to write algorithms to create specific shapes and have also learnt to debug our algorithm if there is an error.



We are very proud of how hard the children have worked during this term, particularly with their reading and their times tables.

## Year 4

This term, Year 4 have been learning about the prolific art figure that is Andy Warhol. We have created some art pieces in his style and have enjoyed studying his abstract techniques.

In addition to this, the children created their own biographies on Warhol himself, embedding information on his early life, achievements and the impact that he has had on modern art today. This artist case study linked with our topic of 'Road trip USA' where we studied the different states and the human/physical features within each state. Did you know a state is a division of land which holds its own laws?



## Year 5

In English, the children have used Oral Storytelling to learn an extract of 'The Phoenix Code'. They have worked hard to include dialogue, relative clauses and a variety on sentence types within their narratives. We have also started reading our new class text, the Phoenix Code, and we are excited to hear more about their adventures in the Ancient Egyptian tombs!

In maths, Year 5 have started learning about decimals. The children have been understanding the position of decimals in the number system and using this knowledge to multiply and divide decimals by 10, 100 and 1000.



As part of our Pharaohs topic, the children have learnt all about the ancient Egyptians. In our history lessons, we have explored their daily life, the ritual of mummification and learnt about the different God and Goddesses. In our geography lessons, the children have learnt about the features of Egypt and understood how the regions differ.

Year 5 have been taking part in Live art lessons with Mrs Darlington- an art specialist from one of our Trust schools. The children are working towards creating a rainforest inspired final piece, and so far, we have learnt some sketching, shading and colour mixing techniques.

Keep an eye out for the final pieces soon!





Year 6 have been having lots of fun learning all about algebra and area and perimeter this half term. At first, many thought algebra was quite tricky, but once they realised that is just like a puzzle to find a missing value, they were all really successful.

In English, children have been very imaginative in creating their own version of the Jabberwocky poem by Lewis Carroll. They have enjoyed making their own nonsense adjectives for description. They then performed these to the class.

We have also used our fantastic learning in science to write an explanation text all about the circulatory system. In our science lessons, we dissected a real heart to see how the blood is pumped through atria and ventricles. Lots of children enjoyed poking their fingers through the different chambers.



A massive thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising non-uniform event on Friday 14th May, to help raise money for the charity, Asha. With your generous donations, **we managed to raise over £700**, all of which will go to help the COVID-19 cause in India. At school, the pupils have also been learning about the difficulties people in India are facing, without medical care or oxygen, during these challenging times.

**Hopefully the money we raised will make a difference!**

*The charity has been associated with Discovery Schools Academy Trust since the past 10 years through David Briggs, Director of Primary Education at DSAT. The trust work with the charity in India, who support children living in the Delhi slums.*

We are also pleased to announce that Parkland have appointed two new Asha Ambassadors, who will represent Parkland at Asha meetings over the coming weeks; Hallie (6HW) and Ollie (6LG). They will share the Asha news and help us to learn more about the way we can help. Last week Hallie and Ollie met with Mr Briggs and the other Asha Ambassadors via Teams to discuss the role.

*"I like being an Asha Ambassador because it's nice to learn about India, help their community and help raise money for children all over India with illness and problems with where they are living in the slums" - Hallie*

*"I became an Asha Ambassador to help children who do not have as much as others. After seeing pictures of the slums I felt sorry for the children living there and I want to help people have a great education. I don't find it right that some people are treated better than others. People should be treated fairly not differently. And I want to do the best I can to help and support people" - Ollie*

Next month they will speak to some of the students live from India.

**What an exciting experience!**



### Leicestershire County Cricket

This half term some children have been lucky enough to have had some cricket sessions lead by a specialist coach from Leicestershire County Cricket Club. During these sessions, pupils have been improving many different skills, including fielding, bowling and batting.



The children have enjoyed the wide variety of game-based practices and the opportunity to learn a new sport. Hopefully some children have discovered a new found love for the game of cricket and it's something they'll look forward to playing again in the future.

### Football Development Schools



We've also had some football coaches in over the last few weeks from a football development school linked to West Bromwich Albion FC. Nearly all classes have had access to the coaching during their PE slots, those that haven't can look forward to the coaching after the half term.



During the sessions, pupils had the opportunity to showcase their skills, playing a variety of games involving skills such as dribbling and passing.

Pupils have really enjoyed these football sessions, even those who didn't particularly enjoy football before! Hopefully some children have developed a new found love for the game!

### Energise Club

We have finally enjoyed having pupils back at after schools clubs this term! Alongside the sports boosters ran by Mr. H and Mrs. Ellis, some year 3 children have also been invited along to an Energise club. These sessions are led by a coach from the local sports partnership, and aims to develop the confidence and social skills of pupils. As well as playing lots of fun active games, pupils also learnt all about healthy lifestyles and the importance of things like balanced diets, drinking lots of water and sleep. We hope that the children have enjoyed these sessions and have been able to share all of their knowledge with their friends and families.

### LADS Martial Arts

Some boys from Year 6 have also been part of a martial arts club this term, run by Steve, a specialist martial arts coach and a brilliant role model for young people. As well as developing physical skills like strength and fitness, his sessions also aim to develop self-esteem and respect. The boys who have been part of his club have loved working with Steve, and he has been really positive and encouraged by the progress that all of the boys have made over the last few weeks. Well done to the all of those who've been part of the group, we hope that you've all benefited from it.



## ATTENDANCE



After the half term break , we will be entering the final half term before the end of this academic year. Children are engaging in vital work, to help them catch up for lost learning time, due to Lockdown this academic year.

Sadly, attendance and punctuality has slipped recently, 95.37%. **At Parkland our attendance target is 96%.** We would like to continue to work with you, to ensure all children reach their target level of attendance, by the end of the academic year.

Please help your child to reach their full potential, by ensuring they arrive on time and are in school every day.

## Be an Attendance **HERO**

**Here**

**Everyday**

**Ready**

**On time**



## Well done Rachel !



Congratulations to Rachel in Class 6LP, who is the first Year 6 child to reach 1 million words on Accelerated Reader this year!

A fantastic achievement which shows great perseverance and enthusiasm!

**Well done and keep reading!**

We are very pleased to announce that Parkland has been awarded the prestigious title of a Renaissance Partner School.



The Renaissance Learning: Accelerated Reader

programme (AR) is a widely used literacy programme, which aims to give schools the information needed to monitor children's reading practice and make informed decisions to guide their future learning.

We are very proud to have received the award, as it recognises the huge success Parkland has had with its Accelerated Reading programme and we will continue to use the programmes products in exceptional ways, to make sure our pupils develop a love of reading.



Leicestershire Libraries are open for browsing, borrowing and returning items .

You can also borrow eBooks and eAudiobooks using our free digital library.

**[www.leicestershire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/libraries)**

## Food Bank

Please note that the South Wigston Foodbank will be open on Spring Bank Holiday Monday

South Wigston Congregational Church, Blaby Road (opposite Co Op), South Wigston, LE18 4SD

**When:** 10am –11.30am—Spring Bank Holiday (31st May 2021). Alternative Mondays after these dates.

**Contact Number:** [07818603699](tel:07818603699)



If your child requires medication during the school day, please see the school office to complete a medical consent form. Please be advised that we can only administer prescribed medicine if the label states that it is to be taken **4 times per day.**

If you feel your child is well enough to come in to school but may require Calpol during the day, please ensure that you give them this medicine **before** school.

Can we also remind you that if your child suffers with a sickness bug **please allow 48 hours** after their last bout of sickness before returning to school.

Leicestershire County Council  
**South Wigston Playgroup**  
A new friendly playgroup for under 5s and their parents and carers.  
★ Totally free  
★ Toys and activities  
★ New friends  
★ Refreshments available  
Come and join us from **9th June 2021**  
Every Wednesday **10 – 11.30am** in term time  
**Menphys Hub**  
Bassett Street, South Wigston  
Whilst Covid restrictions are in place numbers are limited, please call **01455 323 020** to book a place.  
Logos: Cultural communities network, The Menphys Hub, Parkland Local Area Co-ordination, Library

Places available for 3 & 4 year olds for September 2021

£10 Morning & Afternoon Session  
£22 - All Day  
£2 - Lunch Club (bring a packed lunch)  
**Parkland Pre-School**  
Learning together  
Images of children playing and a child on a tricycle.

## Please continue to stay safe and positive

School will be closed to all pupils during the May half term break, however we will still be on call for contact tracing purposes.

In order for us to continue to identify close contacts and advise self-isolation, please book a test as soon as possible if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus and inform the school.

Please email the school with information relating to positive cases to [covid@dsatparkland.org](mailto:covid@dsatparkland.org), as it will have implications for pupil absence when we return to school on **Monday 7th June 2021.**

As restriction begin to ease, please make sure you follow the government COVID rules in order to keep our community safe.

Thank you for all your support.

