



Park House Primary School
Rupert Street, Lower Pilsley,
Chesterfield, Derbyshire,
S45 8DB



Tel/Fax: 01246 851185
Headteacher: Mrs S Kavanagh



@parkhouse1889

December Newsletter 2023

• Hello •
December

@ARGENTORAWRZ

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all been able to enjoy the snowy weather this weekend, it certainly helped to make the start of December feel Christmassy!

We have lots of lovely events coming up in the next few weeks leading up to the Christmas holidays. We have our Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 6th December followed by our Festive Jumper Day and Panto on Friday 8th December. We also have Nativity for the younger pupils and Carol Concert for our older pupils, they have worked so hard on these. Thank you for your support with pupils learning their lines and songs.

Year 6 have recently braved the weather for their residential trip. They went for three days to Dukes Barn and had a blast. They took part in canoeing, abseiling, caving and climbing alongside the evening activities of quizzes and hide and seek. The instructors have praised our pupils for their behaviour, team work and positive approach to the adventurous activities.

Thank you and farewell

We said good bye and good luck to Mrs Parker from the office on the 1st December. We wish her all the best in her new job.

Congratulations and welcome.

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Wagstaff will be our new School Business office. Mrs Wagstaff will be full time in the office from January but you may have met her as she has worked in the office part time for the last two years. We are also pleased and excited to introduce Miss Mawbey, who will be joining us in the school office. Miss Mawbey will be working Wednesday, Thursday and Friday's as our new School Business Administrator. I am sure you will join us in congratulating and welcoming them.

Reminder - Reception places for September 2024:

If your child was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 they will be eligible to start school in September 2024. You should apply for their infant or primary school place by 15 January 2024. You will be able to make your application from 9am on 6 November 2023. We are running tours for prospective families.

You can find additional information on how to apply here:

[Apply for a school place - Derbyshire County Council](#)

We hope you enjoy the forthcoming performances.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Kavanagh

Adverse Weather



This weekend has brought with it snow and icy weather. Just a reminder that any school closures will be announced via Dojo, on our school website and also via the local radio stations. Please do not ring school, we will let you know as soon as possible.

When considering the safety of pupils, families and staff travelling in adverse weather will impact the decision on whether school can remain open in adverse weather. Any decisions will be made as early on as possible.

Late Arrivals & Attendance



Please can you **ensure your child is in school by 8.55am**, gates open from 8.40am.

Registration starts promptly and pupils go straight into their first lesson after. Arriving late causes disruption to your child's learning but also causes disruption to the rest of the class.

Thank you to all who arrive on time.

Communication Channels



Communication Channels

With the hand over of the roles in the office, we are streamlining our communication channels. We thought this would be a good opportunity to remind our families of the communication channels available to you.

Face to face conversations

Mrs Ellis and myself will still be on the gate as much as possible to answer any quick queries you may have or to pass on messages to teachers. At the end of the day either a teacher or teaching assistant will be about to dismiss the classes. For office based queries you are also welcome to pop in and speak to Mrs Wagstaff or Miss Mawbey in the office.

Telephone

The quickest way to speak to staff or pass on a message is to ring the office on 01246 851185. Any urgent messages such as changes to who is collecting your child are best placed over the phone. You can report absences by leaving a message on the answerphone.

ClassDojo

We discussed at Governors that we feel we can not respond in a timely manner on comments made to calendar posts, School Story and Class Story posts. We also feel that the tone of some of the comments can be misconstrued by both staff and other families. Therefore, from the 1st December 2023 we are removing the comments function on posts on the School and Class Story pages.

Families can still send messages to the office or staff, however we do ask that you consider the tone and how the message may be received. Misuse of the messaging function may result in it's removal. Messages have a set out of hours do have out of hours and staff are encouraged not to respond outside their working hours. Dojo is checked by the office daily (Mon-Fri) and other school staff twice a week.

Please do not send time sensitive messages via Dojo, please call us as we would hate to miss something important. Responses will not be sent over the weekend or after 5.30pm on a week day.

Absences and changes to lunch requirements can be sent via Dojo to the office.

Email

You can contact the office on admin@parkhouse.derbyshire.sch.uk. The office will aim to get back to you within three days. Should you wish to contact the Governors, then you can use PHPSgov@parkhouse.derbyshire.sch.uk.

Complaints

Should you have a question or concern please arrange to speak to your child's class teacher initially, often these are easily resolved face to face. If they are unable to help or you remain dissatisfied then please speak with me. Should we have been unable to resolve your concerns then you can follow the school complaints procedure which can be found here on our school website:

[DERBYSHIRE LEA \(primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com\)](https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com)

Friends of Park House



Thank you to all those who helped with the recent disco, there were lots of happy and excited pupils!

They are running their next fundraising event to coincide with our Festive Jumper Day (wear own clothes with a festive/special jumper) for a donation of a coloured item for the colour raffle.

Just a reminder of the survey for the Friends of Park House, this closes on the 14th December.

<https://forms.office.com/e/g827fPqVv8>

If you can help at any events or help behind the scenes, please get in touch.



Key Dates For Your Diary



2023/2024 Academic year Inset days will be:

- Monday 4th September - Completed
 - Tuesday 5th September - Completed
 - Friday 22nd December
 - Friday 24th May

- Wednesday 26th June

Term Dates 2023/2024

Autumn Term

27.10.23 last day of half term

6.11.23 School starts back

9.11.23 Y2 & Y6 Fire Safety Workshops

9.11.23 Y4 Viking Trip to Perlethorpe

9.11.23 Full Governing Body Meeting (FGB)

10.11.23 **Disco** - Friends of Park House (Reception pupils need an adult with them please)

10.11.23 Netball Team Tournament

17.11.23 Mad Hair for Children in Need £1 donation

20.11.23-22.11.23 Y6 Residential to Dukes Barn

23.11.23 Poetry Day

27.11.23 Y4 Swimming starts (every Monday afternoon for 4 weeks)

6.12.23 Christmas Dinner

8.12.23 Panto (in school)

12.12.23 KS1 Nativity (evening performance)

12.12.23 KS2 Carol Concert (10am)

13.12.23 KS1 Nativity (afternoon performance)

13.12.23 KS2 Carol Concert (6pm)

21.12.23 Christmas Party Lunch (if your child does not normally have school dinners but would like to take part, please let the office know)

21.12.23 Christmas Party Days

21.12.23 Last day of term

22.12.23 Inset Day - Christmas Holidays

Spring Term

8.1.24 School Back

8.1.24 Yr 4 Swimming

18.1.24 The Animal Man visiting Reception, Year 1 and Year 3

24.1.24 Yr 5 Trip to the National Space Centre

W/C 12.2.24 Parents Evening and book fair

12.2.24 Last Yr 4 Swimming Session

16.02.24 last day of half term

26.02.24 School starts back

1.3.24 Disco TBC

8.3.24 Non-uniform day for chocolate donations for Friends of Park House chocolate raffle.

26.2.24 Yr 3 Swimming starts

14.3.24 Qualitas Dance Festival Yr 2 and Yr 3

25.3.24 Reception Trip to Matlock Farm Park

27.3.24-28.3.24 Yr 5 Residential Trip to Lea Green

28.03.24 Last day of term

Summer Term

15.4.24 School starts back

16.4.24 Yr 1 Trip to Sudbury Children's Museum

25.4.24 Yr 4 Tag Rugby Event TBC

6.5.24 Bank Holiday - School Closed

W/C 13.5.24 End of KS2 Assessments (SATs)

23.5.24 last day of half term

24.5.24 Inset day

27.5.24 Bank Holiday - School Closed

3.6.24 School starts back

3.6.24 Yr 1 Gymnastics Event TBC

During June will be the Phonics Screening Check in Yr 1 and the Multiplication Check in Yr 4.

20.6.24 Yr 6 Tupton Transition Day

26.6.24 Inset day

4.7.24 Yr 6 Tupton Transition Day

11.7.24 Yr 6 Tupton Transition Day

23.7.24 Last day of term

School calendar 2023/24



August 2023							September 2023							October 2023									
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31		1	2	3	4	5	6	35					1	2	3	39							1
32	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	36	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	40	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
33	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	37	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	41	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
34	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	38	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	42	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
35	28	29	30	31				39	25	26	27	28	29	30		43	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
																44	30	31					

November 2023							December 2023							January 2024									
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44			1	2	3	4	5	48					1	2	3	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
45	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	49	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
46	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	50	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	3	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
47	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	51	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
48	27	28	29	30				52	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	5	29	30	31				

February 2024							March 2024							April 2024									
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5				1	2	3	4	9					1	2	3	14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	15	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	12	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9	26	27	28	29				13	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	18	29	30					

May 2024							June 2024							July 2024										
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
18				1	2	3	4	5	22					1	2		27	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
19	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	23	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	28	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	24	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	29	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
22	27	28	29	30	31			26	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					

Denotes Bank holidays
 Denotes School holiday dates
 195 days – including up to 5 days to be taken