



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



Tel/Fax: 01246 851185
Headteacher: Mrs S Kavanagh



@parkhouse1889

September 2026 Newsletter

September 2026 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have had an enjoyable summer and we look forward to hearing about the exciting things you all managed to fit in.

It was lovely to see and hear the fun being had at the sports holiday camp in the holidays. The glow in the dark dodgeball and lacrosse looked great fun, there was also lots of singing and dancing. There a few photos below.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a Parent Governor vacancy, information will come home with your child by Wednesday 16th September with details about how to be nominated if you are interested in helping the strategic direction of the school. There is a short time frame to submit nominations and then if

there is more than one nomination we will hold a ballot. Governors meet each half term on a Thursday night from 6pm. If you are interested in finding out more please come and see me or speak to Miss Gee our Clerk to Governors.

Uniform

We end up with lots of lost property and most of it doesn't have names in. Please can you name items of clothing such as jumpers, trousers, skirts, PE kits and shoes. This will help us to reunite your child with their clothes. ***Please note that leggings do not form our daily uniform and are for PE only please.***

PE kits

Please ensure your child **brings their named PE kit into school on the first day back**, this can be left on their peg until half term. If any PE kits become soiled we will let you know. PE kits being in school all the time gives your child a change of clothes if needed and allows us to adapt to the weather and move PE lessons if needed. Please note that PE tops should be house team colour t-shirts (no crop tops or football kits allowed) and pupils should have unbranded trainers for outside. PE in the hall will be in bare feet unless plimsols/pumps are provided. Earrings must be removed or taped over for PE and only studs should be worn.

Jewellery

A reminder that jewellery in school is limited to stud earrings and watches. Please do not allow your child to bring bracelets, necklaces or rings to school, as they will be asked to remove these and the jewellery will be sent home. Smart watches that connect to phones are not allowed in school, however pedometer style watches if small are allowed, but they must not be connected to phones or receive messages.

Walking to and from school

Only Year 5 and Year 6 pupils are allowed to walk to and from school without someone over the age of 16 years. We will require written consent for this, letters were sent home at the end of last academic year. Without written consent, we will contact you to collect your child. If you need to send a sibling or family member to collect your child, please ensure they are over 16 years of age.

Mobile phones

The Government have brought out new rules about mobile phones and schools, this mainly will impact pupils at secondary school. In line with the guidance, pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 can bring a mobile phone to school only if they are walking home from school without an adult. Phones must be turned off before entering school site and handed in to their teachers each morning. They can only be turned on once pupils have left the school drive.

Homework

Optional homework grids will be included with your curriculum flyer that will come home in the next few weeks. This will give you some information about what your child will be learning this half term. Optional homework gives pupils the opportunity to earn extra dojo points and learning characteristic awards by undertaking tasks outside of the curriculum such as baking, star gazing and riding bikes.

Reading - we ask that as a minimum pupils read three times a week, this can be recorded in the reading diaries which will come home. Please do make sure that water bottles are not put with reading books and they get spoilt and we will charge for replacements where this happens repeatedly.

TTRockstars/Numbots - your child will have a login for Numbots or TTRockstars, please support them to complete these at least three times a week. We have found that the regular revisiting of multiplication and number bonds really does help pupils with their maths skills in school.

Dojo points are given for each time your child reads or completes TTRockstars/Numbots. Some classes may send some phonics or additional maths to support topics they are teaching.

Football Team Tryouts

Mr Howell and Mrs Watkinson will be sharing about the forthcoming coming football tryouts soon. To be eligible for the team, attendance at the tryouts is required, as is regular attendance at the football club on a Monday after school.

We will be running some meet the teacher sessions in a few weeks time, keep an eye on ClassDojo for further details

We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 8th September.

Kindest regards

Mrs Kavanagh



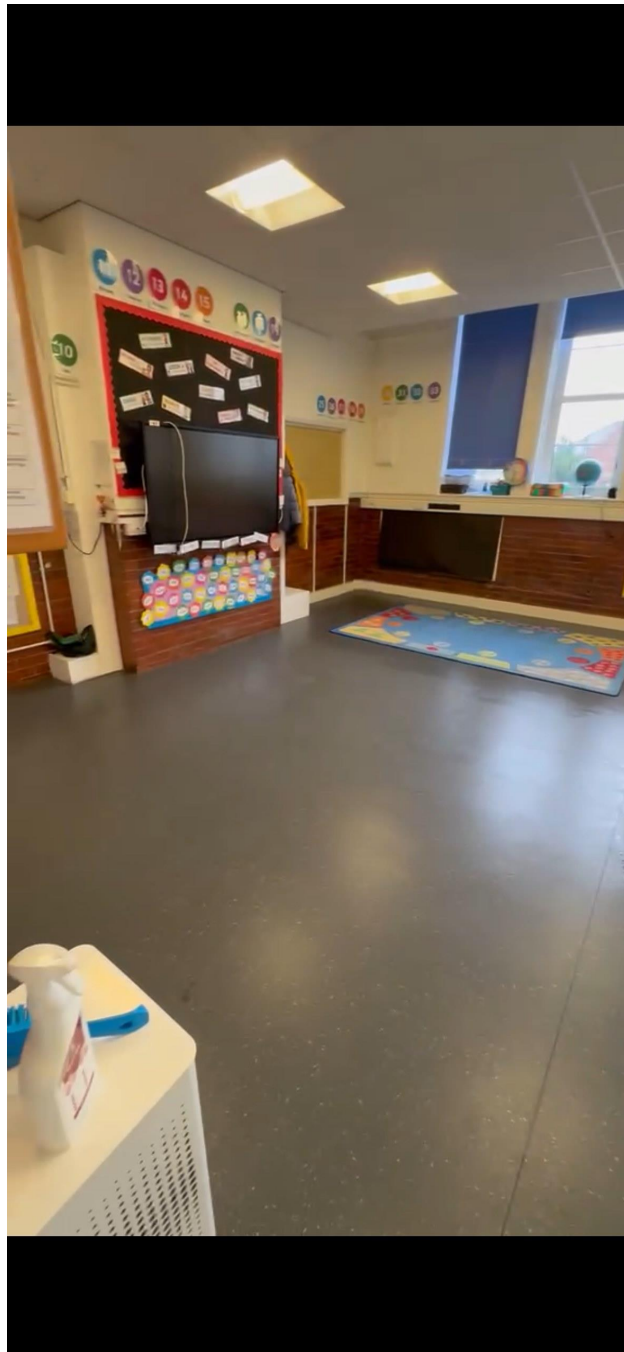




Building Work



Thank you for your patience and understanding on our delayed opening. Alongside some of the investigatory works which were very dusty, we have repaired and resealed the hall floor, repainted the Reception classroom, repaired the Reception scooter shelter, Year 2 has had a new floor and we have had some drain repairs on the playground.



1 - Year 2 new flooring



2 - Hall floor after



3 - Hall floor before

New Behaviour Policy



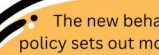
You said, We did....

We did:

- We have removed 'needs work' dojo's. Families will only see positive points on dojo, but will get a phonecall or will be invited in to discuss when behaviour incidents are deemed medium or high level.
- A concern is shared verbally or through dojo. A complaint will need to follow the complaints procedure and use the written format. The complaints procedure is available on the school website
- We have re-written the behaviour policy having sought views from pupils, families and staff. There are now three levels, low, medium and high. With clear sanctions linked. Behaviours will still be monitored and recorded.

You said:

- We don't find the 'needs work' dojo's helpful
- We are confused between a concern and a complaint.
- We don't like the red card and letter system.

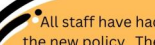


The new behaviour policy sets out more clearly what bullying is.

Repeated, targeted behaviours where there is an imbalance of power.

experien
s

• All staff have had input into the new policy. The process has been supported by the DCC Inclusion Support Advisory Teacher, whose background is with behaviour management. The new policy has clearer



All staff have had input into the new policy. The process has been supported by the DCC Inclusion Support Advisory Teacher, whose background is with behaviour management. The new policy has clearer steps staff will follow.

We only have three rules.

Be Ready
Be Safe
Be Respectful.

I know the s

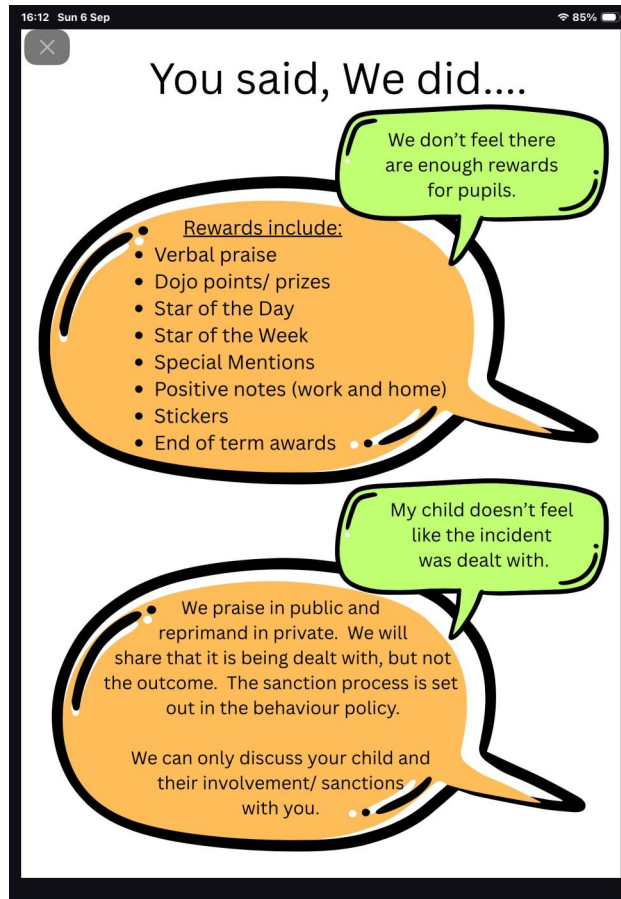
Se respecta:



We feel our child has experienced bullying in school.

We feel the policy is not applied consistently by all.

We don't know the school rules



Last term we surveyed staff, pupils and families about the behaviour policy and have included some 'you said, we did' actions based on the feedback we received.

We have only three rules, which underpin the behavioural expectations at Park House. These are:

Be Ready

Be Respectful

Be Safe

The biggest change you will notice is that we have removed 'needs work' dojos and you will only receive dojo notifications about points your child has been awarded.

We have removed yellow and red cards as sanctions. There are now low, medium and high level sanctions which follow a sequence of reminders and warnings, giving pupils plenty of opportunity to turn their behaviour around.

Where medium and high level behaviours result in 'time out' at lunch time or 'time out' with Mr Howell or Mrs Kavanagh, parents will be contacted and invited in to discuss the behaviour and the support to address the behaviour. Suspensions and permanent exclusions may still be issued should behaviours meet the criteria set out by the Department for Education.

Fortunately, sanctions are not given out on a regular basis for most pupils and we love rewarding them for hard work, good manners and great behaviour. Prizes are still up for grabs each term, but there is a selection of experiences rather than just physical items to choose from.

We are introducing positive pads, where standout behaviour or work is rewarded with a message home, lunchtime awards and also stickers.

We will still have star of the week, special mentions, star of the day and also termly team point champions.

We will be introducing the policy with pupils in assembly this week and you will find the policy on the school website under policies. The policy is due for ratification by Governors in September. <https://www.parkhouse.derbyshire.sch.uk/behaviour>

An area we identified confusion over, is the term bullying. We will be doing a series of assemblies and sessions in class to help pupils to understand what bullying is and we will also be sharing bite size updates for parents and families. There will be a parent's drop in session in October for parents and families to find out more about the behaviour policy.



3/03/2022
4/08/2022
4/08/2025
27/02/2026
4/1/202

**Has been
good at**

Signed:

Date:

School Uniform



Red 70/30 Cardigan

From: £11.50



PHP Red 70/30 Sweatshirt

From: £10.50



PHP Red Polo Shirt

From: £7.50



PHP White Heavyweight Polo Shirt

From: £7.00



Red Showerproof Jacket

From: £18.50



Year 6 Red 70/30 Cardigan

From: £13.65



Red Cap

From: £5.95



Red Junior Backpack

From: £13.00



Year 6 Red 70/30 Sweatshirt

From: £12.65



Green P.E T-shirt - with logo

From: £5.75



PHP Blue P.E T-shirt - with logo

From: £5.50



Red Infant Backpack

From: £11.30

As we return to school, we thought it would be timely to remind you of the school uniform expectations for September. **Please do ensure all uniform is named so we can return it if it gets misplaced.**

Our uniform is the **bright red** jumpers/cardigans, with grey or black trousers/skirts/shorts/dresses (**please keep sports shorts and leggings for their PE kit**), red or white polo shirt and in warm weather the red gingham dresses.

Please note that leggings do not form our daily uniform and are for PE only please.

Shoes **must be black** but can be trainer style (not converse style) provided they do not have branded logos on them and pupils should be able to do them up independently.

No jewellery except stud earrings and a small watch should be worn. Earrings should be removed or taped up for PE lessons.

School bags are not to be larger than A4. Water bottles do not need to be large (such as Stanley style bottles) as there is ample opportunity to refill water bottles during the day.

Uniform can be bought from most supermarkets/high street shops, however if you wish to have the logo on, then uniform can be bought from Loopwear: [Park House Primary School | Loop Wear](#) Purchases from Loopwear do generate a commission for school.

PE kits should be in school every day and consist of shorts/leggings or joggers, their house team colour t-shirt and a sports jumper, trainers for outside and pumps/plimsols for inside PE.

Hair that touches the shoulders must be tied up.

School Day



Just a reminder for our new families joining us about the timings of the school day.

Drop off for pupils is between 8.40am and 8.50am with registration being at 8.55am. If you arrive after 8.55am, your child may receive a late mark. Please come through the main silver gates.

Morning playtime

- 10.30am-10.45am

Lunch time

- 12noon -1.00pm followed by registration at 1.05pm

Afternoon playtime

- 2.20pm-2.30pm

End of the day

- Reception classes (after their transition days) will finish at 3.25pm and pupils should be collected from the Reception garden ramp.
- The rest of the school will finish at 3.30pm and can be collected from the main playground.

Reception playtimes will be a little different as they access continuous provision (free play) inside and outside throughout the day.

Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Breakfast club runs from 7.30am to 8.40am

Afterschool club runs from 3.30pm to 5.30pm (or a partial session until 4.30pm)

Snack

Pupils in Reception to Year 2 are offered a fruit snack in the mornings. The rest of school are welcome to also bring a fruit snack in the morning.

Afternoon break, we again allow pupil's to bring a **healthy snack such as fruit**, malt loaf bars, fruit winder type snacks. Please do not send chocolate, sweets or crisps. These will be sent home with your child.

*We also have pupils in school with medical conditions and **severe nut allergies**, so we do ask that you avoid nut based products, to help keep them safe both at snack and lunch times. Please talk to your child about not sharing their snacks or lunches with other pupils.*

Communication Channels



The majority of families like ClassDojo as a means of sharing information between school and home. However to ensure that key communications are not missed, we wanted to remind everyone of the most appropriate channels of communication.

- ***Urgent/time sensitive messages*** must be *via the telephone* to the office please.
- ***Recording absences and medical appointments*** - message the Office ClassDojo or you can contact the School Office via phone [01246 851185](tel:01246851185).
- ***Concerns*** - concerns should be addressed by the class teachers or the pastoral team in the first instance and then if concerns still persist the senior leadership team are happy to help. Please either ring the office to get the teacher to ring you back outside of teaching time, catch them on the playground or speak to a staff member on the gate in the morning/after school.
- ***Complaints*** - if we have been unable to resolve your concerns, then you can follow the school complaints policy which can be found in the policy section of the school website (<https://www.parkhouse.derbyshire.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=200&type=pdf>).
- ***ClassDojo messages to staff will not*** be checked during teaching times or on a daily basis. We do urge messages to go via the school office as we would hate to miss a message on Dojo. The exception to this is the school office who check the messages in the morning and in the afternoon.

- Staff may not respond to ClassDojo messages immediately as they are teaching in class, they will not be responding outside of office working hours such as after 5.30pm or at weekends. We will respond at our earliest opportunity.

We have been made aware that on occasion sending information out via technology may come with glitches or key information may get missed. We will ensure that a paper copy of important information such as trips, relationship and sex education letters and the half termly curriculum overview is sent home as well as going out on dojo.

ClassDojo Etiquette:

ClassDojo does have a social media feel to it, however it is still a formal communication channel between home and school. It has been lovely to hear when something special has happened outside of school. When sending messages via Dojo, please consider the intention of the message to the recipient. By agreeing to use ClassDojo you are agreeing to our published protocols and etiquette set out here [covid-19-teams-classdojo-protocol-expectations-and-etiquette-2020.pdf \(primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com\)](#)

If you are wishing to submit a complaint, this should not be through ClassDojo and should follow the school complaints procedure.

A message from the Friends of Park House



The poster is for the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Park House. It features a dark purple background with yellow geometric shapes in the corners. The text is primarily in white and yellow. A large yellow diamond icon is next to the text 'Join Us for Our Annual General Meeting'. The title 'ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING' is in large, bold, white and yellow letters. A yellow banner says 'EVERYONE'S INVITED!'. A clock icon indicates the time '14:00 PM - 15:30 PM', and a calendar icon indicates the date '17 SEPTEMBER, 2026'. The location is 'Park House Primary School'. A circular logo on the right shows a hand-drawn scene of a school and children, with the text 'Park House Home & School Society', 'Friends of Park House', and 'Registered Charity 1030442'.

Join Us for Our Annual General Meeting

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

EVERYONE'S INVITED!

● ● ●

 **TIME**
14:00 PM - 15:30 PM

 **DATE**
17 SEPTEMBER, 2026

Meeting to be held @ **Park House Primary School**
Rupert Street, Lower Pilsley, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S45 8DB

Please remember that during our **AGM**, we will be voting for three committee positions: **Chair**, **Treasurer**, and **Secretary**.
If you are interested in any of these roles and wish to nominate yourself, please reach out as soon as possible.

Some of the current committee members will not be seeking re-election for this new year, presenting an excellent opportunity for new individuals to join the committee. Full support will be given to anyone that may be interested in one of the committee roles.

Park House Home & School Society
Friends of Park House
Registered Charity 1030442

Welcome back!

A brand new school year is here, and we can't wait to get started on another fantastic year of fundraising, fun events, and supporting our amazing school community! 🍷🌟

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is just around the corner, and everyone is invited to come along.

We are currently looking for a new Chair, and we also welcome nominations for Treasurer, Secretary, or simply joining as a general committee member. Full handover and friendly support will be provided every step of the way—no prior experience needed!

 Date: Thursday, 17th September 2026

 Time: 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

 Location: Park House Primary School

Whether you want to step into a role, share ideas, or simply see what we do with a cuppa in hand, we would love to see you there.

Interested or have questions before the meeting? Drop us a message via our social media.

Key Dates For Your Diary



2026/27 Inset Days:

- Friday 4th September
- Monday 7th September (Additional inset day due to overrunning building works)

- Friday 18th December
- Monday 7th June
- Wednesday 23rd June
- Monday 26th July

2026/27 Term Dates:

Autumn Term

- **4 September 2026 to 23 October 2026 (36 days)**
- 4.9.26 Inset day
- 7.9.26 Inset day
- 8.9.26 school opens to pupils
- 16.9.26 Meet the teacher drop in 3.45pm to 4.45pm
- 16.9.26 Reception and Yr 1 phonics meeting 3.45pm
- **17.9.26 Friends of Park House (PTA) AGM 2pm**
- W/C 19.10.26 parents evening and book fair
- **23.10.26 half term holiday**
- **2 November 2026 to 18 December 2026 (35 days)**
- 6.11.26 Disco 4-6pm
- W/C 15.11.26 Antibullying Week
- 19.11.27 Children in Need mad hair day
- 4.12.26 Panto in school (pm)
- W/C 7.12.26 Rec/KS1 Nativity tbc
- **17.12.26 last day of term for pupils**
- 18.12.26 Inset day

Spring Term

- **4 January 2027 to 12 February 2027(30 days)**
- 5.2.27 NSPCC Number Day

- W/C 8.2.27 Parents evening and book fair
- **12.2.27 last day of half term**
- **22 February 2027 to 25 March 2027 (24 days)**
- 26.2.27 Disco
- 4.3.27 World Book Day
- W/C 8.3.27 Science Week
- **25.3.27 last day of term**

Summer Term

- **12 April 2027 to 28 May 2027 (3 May 2027 is a bank holiday) (34 days)**
- W/C 10.5.27 end of KS2 assessments
- 14.5.27 Disco
- **28.5.27 last day of half term.**
- **7 June 2027 to 26 July 2027 (36 days)**
- 7.6.27 Inset Day
- 8.6.27 pupils start back.
- **23.6.27 Inset day**
- 30.6.27 Move up day
- W/C 7-14.6.27 Yr 4 multiplication check
- W/C 14.6.27 Yr 1 phonics screening check
- 21.6.27 possible sports day tbc
- 3.7.27 Community Summer Fair
- W/C 5.7.27 end of year reports due out tbc.
- W/C 12.7.27 Yr5 & Yr6 end of year performance tbc
- **23.7.27 Leavers Assembly**
- **23.7.27 last day of term**
- 26.7.27 Inset day