



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



Tel/Fax: 01246 851185  
Headteacher: Mrs S Kavanagh



@parkhouse1889

# February Newsletter 2025

February 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have lots of exciting things happening this term, we hope that we will start to get nicer weather as the term progresses to help us enjoy them.

## Curriculum Enrichment

This half term will see the Year 5 class visit the National Space Centre and Year 2 visit Cromford Mills. Our Year 3 class have taken part in an invasion game event, some of our SEND pupils have attended and SENSational event hosted by Qualitas and we have the Year 2 mini tennis event coming up. Sadly the recent storm postponed the Year 3/4 football tournament for the second time. We hope that the new date will be shared with school soon. Thank you to the parents who have helped transporting for some of these events.

During March, Premier Education, who run our Easter and Summer sports camps are coming in to run some curriculum sessions across the school. Therefore, please ensure PE kits are in school every day.

### **NSPCC Number Day**

On **Friday 7th February** we are dressing up with clothes with a number on for NSPCC number day. We are asking for a donation of £1 towards dressing up, this will be collected in cash in the classroom. All the donation goes to the NSPCC, this helps them to offer school based workshops on Stay Safe Speak Out programme.

### **Parents Evening**

Links have been sent to parents via email and text for booking appointments. Should you not receive the link or have problems booking, please let the office know on Dojo. We are short staffed in the office currently and they will come back to you as soon as possible. If the dates and appointment times are not suitable, please contact the office and we will get your child's class teacher to get in touch to find a mutually suitable time. We will be giving out the interim reports from Year 1 to Year 6, these give you the assessment data of where your child is at this point in the year and the effort they demonstrating in their learning.

### **Book Fair**

The book fair will be in the school hall on **Tuesday 11th to Thursday 13th February**. It is contact less payments please, no cash. Every pupil will also be able to have £1 deducted from books costing £2.99 or more as part of World Book Day and the book vouchers. School receive a commission to spend on replacing and replenishing books in school with every purchase made at the book fair.

Your child will also come home with a book voucher nearer to World Book Day and these can be redeemed at participating shops like Waterstones, WHSmiths, Tesco etc.

### **World Book Day**

On **Tuesday 4th March** we will be celebrating World Book Day (a few days early). We are asking pupils to dress up as a word and our theme is adventure. We will send out more information nearer the time.

### **Music Tuition**

We are pleased to announce that on the 30th January piano tuition resumed at Park House, lessons take place on a Thursday. We are still waiting for the music partnership to recruit a violin teacher, and still hope to be able to offer violin tuition in the future.

### **Visitors to school**

We have some multicultural faith assemblies coming up. We have an increasingly diverse school community and it is lovely to learn new things about their beliefs. We will be having an assembly on the Sikh religion, some classes have been learning about Hinduism and Buddhism.

### **Science Week**

During the week of the 10th March, we will be holding a science week, promoting STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths). We are hoping to hold some workshops as well undertaking fun science activities in the class. Thank you to those of you who have offered to help with STEM workshops. If anyone else can help, the link to sign up is here: <https://forms.office.com/e/4eh8TPhkMv>

### **Afterschool Sports Clubs**

We have offered Football, Netball and Multisport this half term. We have noticed that some pupils have not got their PE kits in school and so do not have appropriate clothing for the clubs. **Pupils will need to change at afternoon playtime for afterschool sports clubs and need to wear PE kits to take part.**

### **Communication Channels in school**

We are going to send out a separate communication regarding communication channels in school to help make it clearer. However, it has been discussed with Governors how ClassDojo messages are being directed to the incorrect people and also how staff have received threatening or abusive messages. Therefore, anyone breaching the ClassDojo protocols will have their communication on ClassDojo restricted to being only through only the Office and myself.

## **September Term Dates**

We have been asked about return dates in September as families plan their holidays. We have agreed that the 4th and 5th September will be inset days and school will open to pupils on Monday 8th September 2025. The remaining inset days will be confirmed in due course.

## **Polling Station**

Over Christmas we were informed by NEDDC (North East Derbyshire District Council) that they will be considering the use of the Pavilion at the welfare as a possible venue for a polling station. We have not heard formally that this venue will be used, once we do we will let parents know. Local Government elections are due on the 1st May 2025.

## **New Website**

We are updating our school website and production is underway. We hope to launch it after half term.

Kindest regards

Mrs Kavanagh

## [Building Work](#)



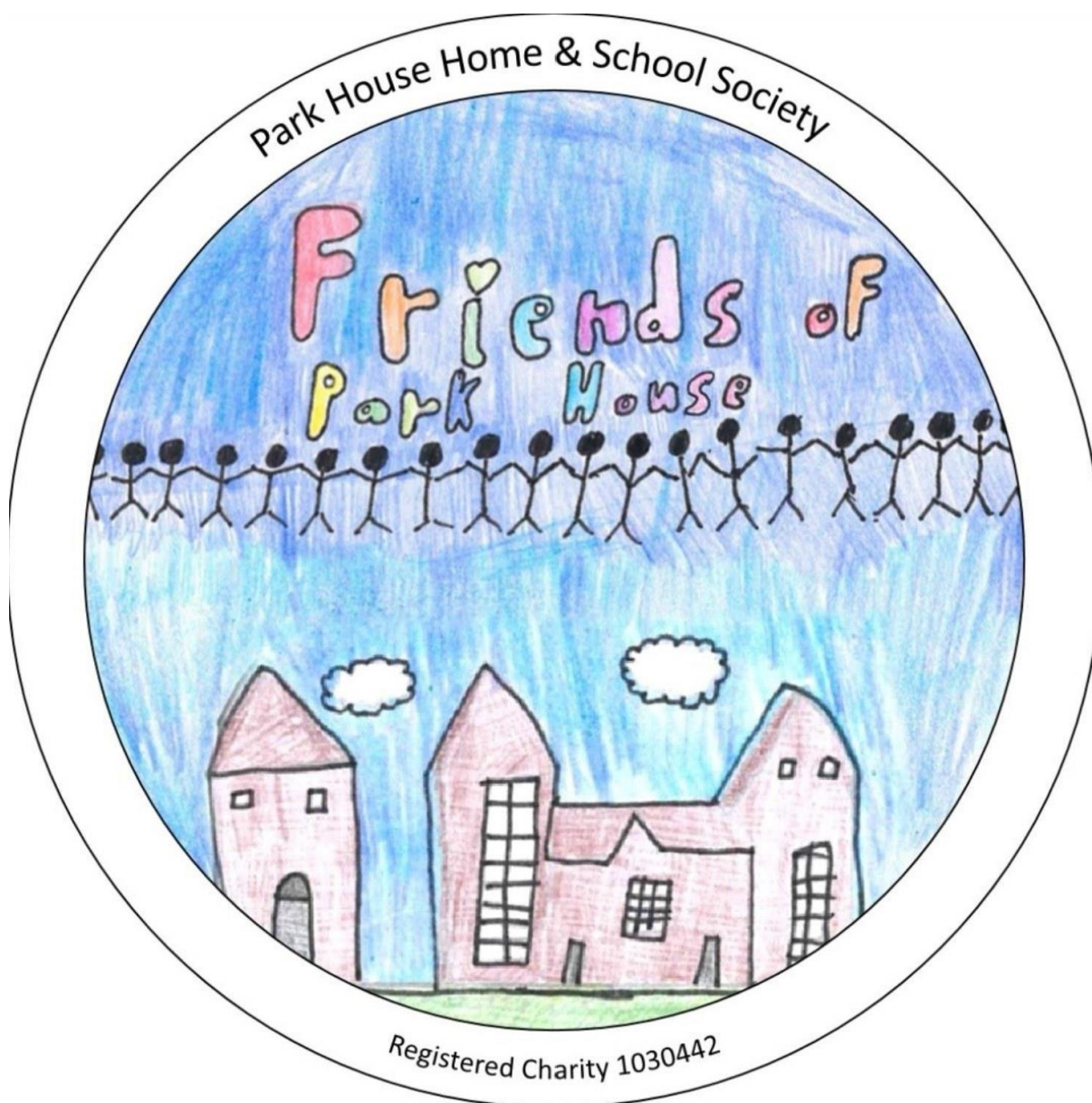
Over the last few years we have been reporting to Derbyshire County Council about some cracks in some of the walls in school, when we returned in September some of these cracks had grown. At February half term we will be having some investigatory work undertaken to determine the cause and also to know what remedial work will be needed going forward. The majority of the investigatory works are centred around the Year 2 classroom and the school kitchen.

We want to give advanced warning that due to the nature of the investigatory work, we will have some disruption to lunches. Julie and our catering team will be making hot lunches at another school and transporting them to us. This is common practice for schools which do not have kitchens on site and will meet food hygiene regulations. We know that Julie will ensure that all allergy and intolerances will still be catered for, but we do anticipate that the menu may be reduced for the week following half term.

During this week, we are also having an infant toilet cubicle adapted to make a larger cubicle to allow for discrete changing for those who need intimate care.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to come and speak to me.

**On a separate note, we are wondering if we have any parents who have joinery skills that might be able to help repair a bench for us?**



---

### **Disco**

Next Disco will be held on Friday 28th February from 4-6pm. Entry is £1 and Reception pupils will need to be escorted by an adult. We are looking for helpers to set up, and also to help with games and activities on the night. There is a sign up sheet in the baking kitchen. Pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 who usually walk home will be able to change and wait in the Year 5/6 classrooms.

### **Community Summer Fair - Saturday 5th July 12-3pm.**

We held a Friends of Park House meeting last week, we discussed how the summer fair attracts the wider community not just our current families. Therefore in the absence of the

Village Fete we have approached the Parish Council to propose holding the summer fair as a community summer fair, something our whole community can enjoy. Our next planning meeting is the 17th March at 2pm at school if anyone can join us. We are looking for helpers before the event and on the day. Before the event, we are looking for people to help collect raffle prize donations, supporting the shopping, prepare stalls, promote the event etc. On the day we need helpers who can set up and /or run stalls and also help clear up at the end.

We are grateful to help the Friends of Park House provide and without their support the PTA can't run. We are grateful to some new members who are shadowing behind the scenes but if anyone is interested and feel you could help us, please do get in touch.

**So far this academic year, the Friends of Park House have reduced trip costs by £200 per class, have funded some of the new games tables and playground activities, funded the panto and the 'Animal Man' and are purchasing the Year 6 leaver's hoodies. Thank you to everyone who has helped or taken part in our events to raise the money to support our pupils, it is truly appreciated.**

## Key Dates For Your Diary



### 2024/25 Term Dates

#### Autumn Term

- 4 September 2024 to 25 October 2024 (38 days)
- 4 November 2024 to 20 December 2024 (35 days)

**25.10.24 Break up for half term.**

#### **4.11.24 School reopens**

**20.12.24 Last day of term - break up for Christmas holidays.**

#### **Spring Term**

- **6 January 2025 to 14 February 2025(30 days)**
- **24 February 2025 to 4 April 2025 (30 days)**

6.1.25 Inset Day - school closed to pupils

#### **7.1.25 School reopens**

15.1.25 Yr 3 Qualitas invasion games event

16.1.25 Yr 6 school health session on sleep

16.1.25 Full Governing Board meeting (FGB) rescheduled to 23.1.25

20.1.25 James McKay the 'Animal Man'

4.2.25 Yr 5 trip to the National Space Centre

4.2.25 Yr 6 trip to Tupton Hall to see High School Musical

5.2.25 Yr 2 trip to Cromford Mill

6.2.25 Yr 5 Ukulele performance to parents 2.45pm

7.2.25 NSPCC number day - wear clothes with a number

W/C 10.2.25 Parents evenings (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)

11.2.25-13.2.25 Book fair in the hall afterschool

12.2.25 Yr 2 Qualitas mini tennis event

#### **14.2.25 last day of half term**

#### **24.2.25 School reopens**

28.2.25 Disco

3.3.25 Last swimming session for Yr 4

4.3.25 World Book Day celebrations - dress up as a word.

4.3.25 3.45pm Yr 5 Lea Green parent's meeting

w/c 10.3.25 Science Week - theme is change and adapt



10.3.25 First swimming session for Yr 3  
10.3.25 Public Health Team visit Yr 5 on managing worries  
w/c 10.3.25 Science Week  
14.3.25 Yr 5/6 Qualitas football tournament (afternoon)  
17.3.25 Friends of Park House Community Summer Fair meeting 2pm  
26.3.25 Yr 5/6 Netball tournament  
1.4.25-2.4.25 Yr 5 Residential to Lea Green  
2.4.25 Yr 1 trip to Sudbury Museum  
3.4.25 Yr 5 Qualitas cross country event  
**4.4.25 last day of term - break up for Easter holidays**

### **Summer Term**

- **22 April 2025 to 23 May 2025 (5 May 2025 is a bank holiday) (23 days)**
- **2 June 2025 to 24 July 2025 (39 days)**

### **22.4.25 School reopens**

1.5.25 Local Government elections - school may be closed due to the possibility of being used as a polling station tbc

6.5.25 Yr 3/4 Concert @ St Mary's Church, Pilsley.

12.5.25 - 15.5.25 End of Key Stage 2 statutory assessments (SATS)

16.5.25 Disco

19.5.25-21.5.25 Yr 6 residential to Dukes Barn

### **23.5.25 last day of half term**

### **2.6.25 Inset Day - school closed to pupils**

3.6.25 - 13.6.25 Yr 4 multiplication check

9.6.25 - 13.6.25 Yr 1 Phonics Screening Check

25.6.25 Inset Day - school closed to pupils

5.7.25 Community Summer Fair @ Park House

11.7.25 Sports day (subject to the weather)

**23.7.25 Last day of term - break up for summer holidays.**

24.7.25 Inset Day - school closed to pupils

**2024/25 Inset days:**

- Wednesday 4th September 2024 - completed
- Monday 6th January 2025 - completed
- Monday 2nd June 2025
- Wednesday 25th June 2025
- Thursday 24th July 2025

**2025/26 Inset days:**

- Thursday 4th September
- Friday 5th September
- The remaining 3 inset days to be confirmed

# School Calendar 2025/26



## Derbyshire County Council School Calendar 2025/26

August 2025							September 2025 (19)							October 2025 (18)									
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	36	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	40		1	2	3	4	5	
32	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	37	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	41	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
33	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	38	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	42	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
34	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	39	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	43	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
35	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	40	29	30						44	27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025 (20)							December 2025 (15)							January 2026 (20)									
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		49	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1			1	2	3	4	
45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	50	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
46	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	51	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
47	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	52	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
48	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	29	30	31					5	26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026 (15)							March 2026 (20)							April 2026 (14)									
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	9						1		14			1	2	3	4	5
6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	12	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9	23	24	25	26	27	28		13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	18	27	28	29	30			
								14	30	31													

May 2026 (15)							June 2026 (22)							July 2026 (17)									
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	23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	27			1	2	3	4	5
19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	29	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	27	29	30						31	27	28	29	30	31		

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

# School Calendar 2026/27



## Derbyshire County Council School Calendar 2026/27

August 2026							September 2026 (19)							October 2026 (17)									
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		36	1	2	3	4	5	6		40			1	2	3	4	
32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	37	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	41	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	38	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	42	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	39	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	43	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	40	28	29	30					44	26	27	28	29	30	31	
36	31																						

November 2026 (21)							December 2026 (14)							January 2027 (20)									
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		49	1	2	3	4	5	6		53			1	2	3		
45	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	50	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
46	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	51	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
47	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	52	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	3	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
48	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	53	28	29	30	31				4	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
49	30																						

February 2027 (15)							March 2027 (19)							April 2027 (15)									
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	5	6	7	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	13			1	2	3	4	
6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	11	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	12	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	16	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
								13	29	30	31					17	26	27	28	29	30		

May 2027 (19)							June 2027 (18)							July 2027 (18)									
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
17						1	2	22	1	2	3	4	5	6		26			1	2	3	4	
18	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	23	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	27	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	24	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	28	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
20	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	29	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
21	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	28	29	30					30	26	27	28	29	30	31	
22	31																						

Denotes Bank holidays Denotes School holiday dates

195 days – including 6 days to be taken as INSET days