PARKDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Learning to Love . Loving to Learn

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Parkdale Weekly Newsletter

Friday 9th October 2026

Dear Families,

Wishing you all a very happy Friday on what has otherwise been quite a dark and rainy day! It certainly feels as though winter is getting closer, but as we know, that brings all manner of exciting opportunities in school.

Alongside our weekly newsletter for adults, I am absolutely thrilled that in future we will have a monthly Children's Newsletter! The children will be learning more on Monday in assembly but following the success of our Wellbeing Newsletter a couple of weeks ago, I will be establishing an editorial team of children from Years 5 and 6 to create a newsletter aimed at the children. We will have our first meeting on Thursday lunchtime with Issue 1 landing on Dojo after the half term break.

This week at Parkdale:

📚 Take 10: We Read Our Way Towards a World Record!

What a fantastic celebration of reading! Children across our school joined the Take 10 to Read campaign as part of the National Year of Reading, taking part in an exciting attempt to set a new Guinness World Records™ title for the most people reading online in 12 hours! 🌍📖

Our children were treated to some very special sessions with renowned authors and influencers, bringing stories, creativity and imagination to life.

✨ Children in Years 1, 2 and 3 enjoyed a wonderful reading of *Super Uma* by author Rashmi Sirdeshpande, followed by a fantastic draw-along activity with Nakul P. The children loved bringing the story to life through their own creativity.

In Year 1, we also read Even Superhero's Have Bad Days and Pirate Mums, which the children voted for!

🎬 Our older children joined acclaimed author Frank Cottrell-Boyce for a reading from *The Blockbusters!* They also explored fascinating themes around cinema, culture and storytelling, giving them plenty to think and talk about.

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It was wonderful to see children across the school pausing, listening, imagining and enjoying the magic of books together. Whether they were discovering a new story, meeting an author or getting creative, our children showed just how much they love reading.

From brilliant books to inspiring authors, it was a fantastic celebration of everything we love about reading. We can't wait to see where our next reading adventure takes us! 📚✨

Reception's Special Visitor!

On Tuesday, Reception had a visit from a duck! It was very exciting and the duck was having a great time exploring our school playground. We looked closely at the duck's feathers and watched how he waddled around. We discussed how it got here and where it came from- developing our knowledge and understanding of the world. 🦆🌍



Year 3 became mummies!

This week, Year 3 have been learning all about the fascinating process of mummification as part of our Ancient Egypt topic. To bring our learning to life, some children even had the chance to become mummies themselves, wrapping each other up in toilet roll! There were plenty of smiles, laughter and some very impressive mummies. Great fun was had by all while learning about this intriguing part of Ancient Egyptian history!

Harvest Festival

A huge thank you to all our wonderful families who contributed to the Harvest festival collection for Hope Nottingham foodbank. They (and us) were completely blown away by the generosity of our Parkdale Community. Mrs Cooper led a lovely assembly whereby she shared how important this collection is to people within the local area.

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Disco season!

As I write this newsletter, it is the Year 5 and 6 Disco just down the hall. Thank you to our PTFA for arranging this and providing our children with a great way to kick start the weekend! If you are interested in supporting the PTFA, please do catch a member of staff for more information.

Important Information:

🍳 Cooking Equipment Donations

We are looking to replenish our cooking equipment so that our children can continue to enjoy lots of exciting and practical cooking experiences in school.

We will be doing some fundraising later in the year to help us purchase a new microwave and measuring scales, but in the meantime, if you have any **spare or unwanted cooking equipment at home**, we would be very grateful for donations.

We are particularly looking for:

- Wooden mixing spoons
- Spatulas
- Mixing bowls
- Kitchen utensils

If you have anything suitable that you no longer need, please send it into school. **Second-hand items are absolutely fine**, as long as they are clean and in good working condition.

Thank you so much for helping us provide our children with opportunities to develop their cooking skills! 💝

Morning drop-off

Just a reminder that if children arrive after the classes have gone inside, you will be asked to go round via the office so that they do not miss the register.

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Dates and Reminders:

- Next week is Parents Evening week for most Year groups. Please do sign up to arrange your slot as soon as possible. We look forward to celebrating your child's progress with you ☺
- Club letters will be starting to land from teachers shortly. This will be aimed at a range of year groups and cover a variety of both sporting and non-sporting activities! If you wish to discuss accessibility arrangements for a club that your child may be interested in, please let me know.
- 4th November- School Photos
- 11th November- Remembrance Day
- 13th November- Children in Need

Have a lovely weekend!

Warm wishes,

Mrs Stafford
Headteacher