

# P.H.I.N.N

Park Hill Infants News & Notes Issue 38

All different, All equal, All achieving

Autumn 1 2024—Friday 18th October

## A message from Ms Charman, Headteacher

Dear Dads, Mums and Carers,

It's been a very busy and fun-packed half-term! Reception children are settling in to their new environment. It has been a pleasure to hear such positive comments from our new Reception parents about the school and how much their children are enjoying their learning.

I have really enjoyed seeing all of our children enjoying the African drumming workshop and watching Year 2's Space VR virtual reality workshop. Reception have made some fantastic self-portraits and Year 1 have been brilliant Superheroes!

Our Wonderful Wednesdays (Year One) and Thrilling Thursdays (Year Two) have been very successful.

I wish you a peaceful and relaxing half term and I look forward to seeing you after the break, refreshed and raring to go!

My love and best wishes to you all, as always, Ms Charman.

Thank you, with your support we raised £143 for Young Minds' #HelloYellow campaign.



### A very warm Park Hill Infants Welcome

We are very pleased to welcome Mr Blackburn as our Teacher for Class 9, Mrs Taylor-Robinson as our Teacher for Class 2, Miss A. Ahmed as our Learning Support Assistant for Class 1, Mrs Truddy and Mrs Bindu as SEND Learning Support Assistants and Mr Alexi as our Learning Support Assistant for Class 8.

Miss E. Smith and Miss Rebecca have left Park Hill Infant School this term. We wish them all the best for the future. We are incredibly grateful for their contribution to our fantastic team.

## Who's Who?

Every issue, we focus on a member of the team so that you can get to know them!



Hello, I'm Mrs Taylor-Robinson and I am Class 2's Teacher. I started teaching at Park Hill Infant School in September 2024, coming from Old Palace Prep School and I am really enjoying my time here so far.

I have a passion for Early Years, having spent the last 13 years working in the 0-5 age group and being a Pre School Teacher for the last 3 years. I have 2 children and enjoy exploring new places with them at weekends, such as different woodland trails and swimming (I am also a qualified swimming teacher). I am enthusiastic and can't wait to get involved with life at Park Hill Infants'.

## OUR 5 SCHOOL VALUES

**Honesty, Kindness, Positivity, Respect and Courage**

### HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS



Every half term, we celebrate children who have consistently displayed one or more of our **10 Learning Super Skills** or **one of our School's 5 Values for Life** — or both!

Congratulations to the following Key Stage One children for earning a Headteachers' Award for this half term:



Elia — Class 4	Kinza — Class 6	Riona — Class 8
Aanay — Class 4	Arad — Class 6	Samiksha — Class 8
Tegh Amrit — Class 5	Szabina — Class 7	Anisha — Cl 9
Victor — Class 5	Chris — Class 7	Senul — Cl 9

These children's achievements were recognised in a special award assembly led by Ms Charman on Thursday 17th October 2024

*Congratulations and well done!*



## Parent/Carer Reminders

- For the purpose of settling the children, please leave the school site as soon as you have dropped them at their classrooms each morning.
- Please check your child's book bag every day to keep up to date with their progress.
- Please make sure that if you change your home address, phone number or email address you update the school as soon as possible.
- Please leave the school site as soon as you have collected your child. Please supervise your children at the start and end of the day—children should not be climbing any of the outdoor play equipment.

## Thanks to the PHSA...

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Park Hill School's Association, as with PHSA funds we have been able to purchase some books on neurodiversity to provide the children with a better understanding of the potential unseen needs of their peers.



## Safety Reminders

- ⇒ Please park considerately around the neighbouring properties to the school. According to the Highway Code it is an offence to park across driveways and it is illegal to park over dropped kerbs.
- ⇒ Remind your children to concentrate near roads—if they're distracted or in a hurry they can easily forget the rules.
- ⇒ **Please be reminded that children can only be collected by someone over the age 16.**
- ⇒ **We are a nut free school**—please do not send in any nuts or products containing nuts in your child's lunchbox such as spreads that may contain nuts.



## Curriculum Enrichment—Autumn One

We have had the following after school activities this half-term: Musical Theatre, Art Club, Multi-Sports, Fizzpop Science, Football and Street Dance. Details of how to request places are circulated by email to parents/ carers prior to the end of each half-term for the next half-term.



The whole school took part in African Drumming workshops with Primary Workshop, linked to their learning in Music.

This year, for the first time, Mrs Smith is endeavouring to teach all of Year 2 to play the descant recorder. Class 7 have already had their first lesson this week which went well. Class 8 will have their turn after Christmas and Class 9 after Easter. The school has a class set of recorders to use in school.

As part of their topic 'Out of this World', Year 2 blasted off to Space during a Space Virtual Reality Workshop, using their own VR headset to 'pilot' their research vessels around planets and moons and explore the Solar System.



Harvest is a time of great giving and supporting those most in need. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of the generous donations made for our Harvest. Esther Community Enterprise, a non-profit organisation who support homeless and vulnerable people in London and the UK, have collected the donations Years One and Two learnt Harvest songs which they performed to parents/ carers during the Headteacher's Awards assembly.



As part of their topic 'All About Me', children in Reception have created self-portraits and made handprints where they also learnt about mixing different colours of paint to make new colours for Expressive Art and Design.



# All About Me







# Super-Skills for Learning Day

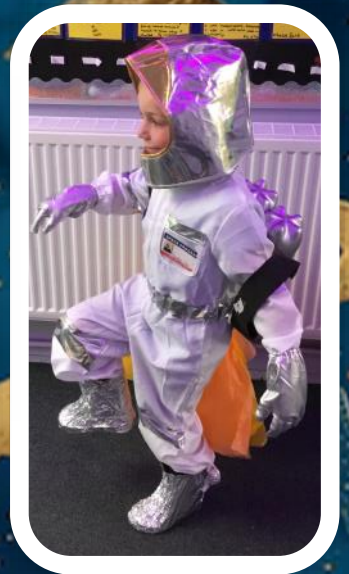
As part of their topic 'We could be Heroes', Year One had a 'Super-Skills for Learning' dress-up day. This topic included learning about important people in the community; our everyday heroes (firefighters, doctors, police officers, teachers etc.), as well as looking at the ways in which we can become better learners by using 'Super Skills' in our everyday learning. Children were invited to come to school dressed in costume as a character with 'Super Learning powers'. We encourage as many home-made costumes as possible and the costumes were brilliant! Throughout the week children read the story 'Supertato' before using their creativity skills to make their very own supertatoes! They had lots of fun cutting out and sticking to give their supertatoes a mask, cape and facial features. Great job, superheroes!

## OUR 10 LEARNING SUPER SKILLS

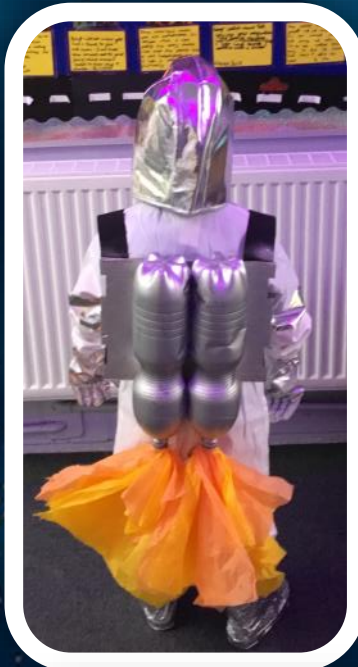
An effective learner:

**makes connections, collaborates, communicates, perseveres, is reflective, is confident, is creative, is a risk taker, is resourceful, is curious.**



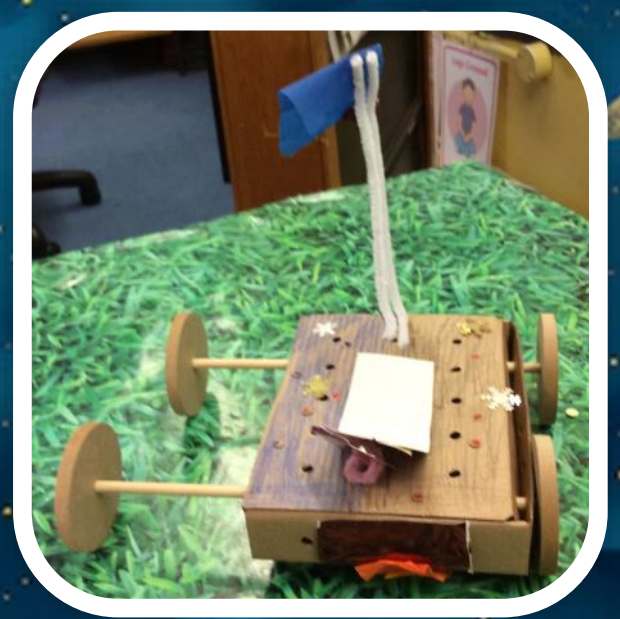


# Intergalactic Day



As part of their topic 'Out of this World', Year Two had an 'Intergalactic Day' where children were encouraged to come to school in a Space themed costume. We loved seeing the space characters, space creatures, stars and planet-themed costumes they came up with. We encourage the children to be creative and resourceful in order to design their costume themselves and their ideas were fantastic!

Year Two made Moon buggies in Design and Technology. To make the moon buggies, Year Two learnt about mechanisms (e.g. wheels and axels) to make the buggies move forwards and backwards.



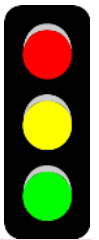
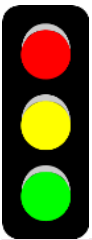


# The Green Cross Code for Children

1. Find a safe place to cross
2. Stop just before you get to the kerb
3. Look all around for traffic and listen
4. If traffic is coming, let it pass
5. When it is safe, go straight across the road — do not run, keep looking and listening while you cross



For more information and advice for all road users, please visit <https://www.think.gov.uk/>



Please be aware that the roads around our school are not a pedestrian zone. Please make sure you follow the green cross code with your children when crossing the roads around our school and always be aware of any passing vehicles.

## Bikes & Scooters

Please ensure that if your child rides their bike/ scooter to school, they dismount their bike/ scooter before entering the school gates and park their bike/ scooter in the scooter bay by the main school office. Park Hill Infant School cannot accept responsibility for the loss or damage to any personal belongings left on the school premises including bikes/ scooters.

## Dog Safety Tips for Parents and Carers

- Don't allow your child to approach a dog they don't know, such as when you're out in the park or outside the school .
- Supervise your child when they're with your dog - if your dog looks unhappy, let them go somewhere they feel safe and happy.
- Teach your child to be kind and polite to dogs. Don't let your child climb on dogs, pull their ears or do anything you wouldn't allow them to do to another child.

Teach your child not to approach dogs when they're:

- Eating or having a treat
- Have a toy or something else they really like
- Sleeping
- Unwell, injured or tired
- Blind or deaf



Illustrations ©CattleDog Publishing

For more information on keeping children safe around dogs visit [Keeping Children Safe and Dogs Happy | RSPCA - RSPCA - rspca.org.uk](https://www.rspca.org.uk/keeping-children-safe-and-dogs-happy)





**Ollie White**  
**Police Community Support**  
**Officer**

**Park Hill & Whitgift Safer**  
**Neighbourhood Team**

The police are always here to help. If you would like to get in touch, just call us on our non-emergency number **101** or visit [www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk)

In an emergency always call **999**.

## PCSO Ollie says...

Hello and welcome to all new parents and children, I am the local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). Mums and Dads may see me on morning or afternoon patrol around the school area; and the children may see me in school, giving talks, or for meetings.

Please remember for the half-term holiday:

- The nights are getting darker earlier so make sure when you go out with your adult, you know where they are, and they know where you are;
- If any of you are going out Trick or Treating, go with your adult, to homes that have pumpkins in the window or outside.

Enjoy your holidays, have fun, be safe, and listen to your adult.

If you are worried about any child, call the [NSPCC helpline](https://www.nspcc.org.uk) by calling 0808 800 5000. In an emergency, always call 999.

To find out about setting up parental controls, visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) For more information and advice about keeping your child safe online, visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Visit [reporting.lgfl.net](http://reporting.lgfl.net) to find out how to remove content from social media and where to report bullying, racial hatred, terrorism, sexual abuse and more.

### PCSO Ollie's Top Tips for Adults

- Talk to your child about strangers—and how they should act around them;
- Make sure your child knows not to give out their real name, address or password online or arrange to meet people;
- Make sure your child knows what to do if they get lost or separated from you;
- Check that your child knows your phone number. Keep it written down in their bag or pocket at all times;
- Explain to your child when to call **999**—and when not to. If it's not an emergency tell them what else they can do;
- If you or your child want to report a crime anonymously but don't want to talk to the police, call Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111** or visit [crimestoppers-uk.org](http://crimestoppers-uk.org) — Crimestoppers is an independent charity.

## Uniform

Children should wear the following items, each clearly named:

- grey pinafore dress, grey trousers or grey shorts
- light blue shirt
- school tie
- royal blue cardigan or V-necked jumper
- a light blue checked dress (for warmer weather)
- sensible school shoes.
- earrings are allowed, however, these must be studs not hoops. This is to avoid possible injury from getting them caught or pulled. (Earrings have to be removed before coming to school on swimming days—pool rules.)

## PE Uniform

For physical education, all children should have the following items, each clearly named:

- a pair of navy blue shorts
- a light blue t-shirt
- Plimsolls
- a pair of jogging bottoms and a blue jumper (for colder weather)

**None of our uniforms require a logo.**

## Buy new

You can buy suitable items from many high street stores such as Sainsburys, Asda, Lidl, Marks & Spencer, as well as Hewitts of Croydon.

## Buy second hand

If you wish to enquire about any donated second-hand uniforms, suitable for sale at a reduced cost of £1 per item, please send an email to [enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk) to let us know what items of uniform you are looking for and what size. We will then let you know if we have these items available and you will be able to make a payment on ParentPay. We will then have your items ready for collection at the school office.



## Reminder about school meals

Our school meals are provided by The Greenshaw Learning Trust. School meals are free for all Infant aged children (Reception to Year 2). The menu is rotated every 2 weeks and the current menu can be downloaded from our school website. Hard copies are available at the school office.

The school meals meet the mandatory requirements of the School Food Standards 2015. The menus are nutritionally analysed to ensure they meet and in most cases exceed The School Food Standards with Halal Suitable and Vegan options available. **Therefore, these meals should not be subsidised with food from home, including condiments such as Tomato Sauce or Mayonnaise.** You are welcome to provide your child with a packed lunch from home every day, or on days where the school dinner is not to their taste.



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Our school gates open at 9am and close at 9.10am. Children need to be in class and ready to learn by 9:10am. Children arriving after 9:10am must be brought to the school office to be signed in.

To report your child's absence from school, please call the School Office before 09:30am on 020 8680 0747 or email [attendance@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk)

**Talk to us** — If there are circumstances we should be aware of in connection with your child's attendance or punctuality, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Headship Team. All information received will be held confidentially and we will endeavour to offer support and advice where possible.



**We can administer medicine in school.** You will need to come to the school office to complete a parental consent form for administration of any medicines, including Asthma pumps. **If your child has Asthma, we will also need a copy of their Asthma Care Plan.**

Please keep us updated of any changes to your child's medical needs so that we can ensure we have appropriate staff training and access to Individual Healthcare Plans (where required.)

Click [here](#) to view our policy on supporting children with medical conditions in school, and for a useful guide on when children can and cannot come to school with an infection.

**It is a parent's legal responsibility to ensure that their child attends school regularly and punctually. As a school we have a legal responsibility to advise parents if their child's attendance is a concern.**

## Leave of Absence Requests

If there are exceptional circumstances which require a leave of absence during term time, please complete the request form and return it to the school office as far in advance of the requested leave period as possible and at least one school week prior to the absence. This will give the school office adequate time to inform the Headteacher of your request. All requests for leave during term time will be considered on an individual basis and you will receive a written response.

## Penalty Notices

**Under section 444 of the Education Act 1996, the Local Authority may issue Penalty Notices to parents of children with unauthorised absences from school.** The fines are issued to each parent, for each child, and are: £80 if paid within 21 days, rising to £160 if paid between 21 and 28 days.

Only 2 penalty notices can be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within a 3 year rolling period. A second penalty notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same child will be charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days. A third penalty notice cannot be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of issue of the first Penalty Notice.

In the case where the threshold for a Penalty Notice has been met for the third time in a rolling 3 year period, a Penalty Notice cannot be issued, and the Education Welfare Officer may need to take alternative action including presenting the case straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2,500 per parent, per child.

## Our Recommended Reads



### The Leaf Thief –by Alice Hemming

Squirrel is so cross. Yesterday there were loads of beautiful leaves on his tree, but today? Today some are missing and Squirrel is convinced that someone has stolen them... there's a leaf thief on the loose! Join Squirrel on a mission to find the culprit, and meet so many fun animals on the way, while you find out how the world takes on different colours as the months pass by.

A laugh-out-loud book about the changing seasons, with extra information in the back for especially curious mind.

### Hello Autumn - Jo Lindley

Meet four magical friends who control the seasons in this irresistible new series from author-illustrator Jo Lindley. Say hello to the Little Seasons!

As Summer passes the weather crown to Autumn, a season of bright colours and fun-filled adventure awaits. But while his friends are getting excited about picking berries, leaf jumping and exploring the shadowy forest, Autumn is filled with worries and 'what if's . . .

What will it take to show him that he's braver than he thinks?



### Sweep - Louise Greig

Ed's bad mood begins as something really small, hardly a thing at all.

But before long it grows, gathers pace, and spreads through the whole town.

Can Ed sweep his troubles away?

A wonderful bedtime story for children, perfect for helping children learn to recognise and deal with big emotions.



### Mathletics

Mathletics is an engaging, supportive, online learning resource that will be used to further enhance your child's maths skills. Once your child's details have been uploaded by the school, they will be able to use the program both in school and at home as much as they like! This online resource compliments the National Curriculum through interactive maths games and quick recall facts.

If your child does not have a login for Mathletics, please contact the school office and we will send you a consent form to be completed and returned. We will then be able to provide you with a login for your child.

### Collins Big Cat E-Books

Pupils have access to E-Books and online comprehension activities through Collins Big Cat E-Books.

If your child does not have a login for Collins Big Cat E-Books please contact the school office and we will then be able to provide you with a login for your child.

### Purple Mash

Purple Mash is an engaging and intuitive computing scheme designed specifically for EYFS and Key Stage 1 learners, offering a vibrant platform where young minds can explore and create.

If your child does not have a login for Purple Mash, please contact the school office and we will then be able to provide you with a login for your child.



# Dates for your Diary

*(The following dates are provisional)*

Wednesday 30th October — Year 1 Phonics Workshop @ 9.20am

Friday 1st November — Year 1 Wild Rumpus Day

Tuesday 5th November — Reception Phonics Workshop @ 9.20am

Wednesday 6th November — Individual Pupil Photos by Vancols Ltd

Friday 8th November — Year 1 Calculation Workshop @ 9.20am

Friday 8th November — Year 2 Calculation Workshop at 14:30pm

Monday 11th — Friday 15th November — Anti-Bullying Week

Tuesday 12th November — Odd Socks Day

Monday 4th — Friday 8th November — SEND Parent/ Teacher Consultation Week

Monday 18th — Friday 22nd November — Parent/ Teacher Consultation Week

Monday 9th December — Year 2 Christmas Performance @ 10am

Monday 9th December — Year 1 Christmas Performance @ 2pm

Tuesday 10th December — Nasal Flu Vaccines Whole School

Wednesday 11th December — Reception Nativity @ 10am

Wednesday 11th December — Year 2 Christmas Performance at 2pm

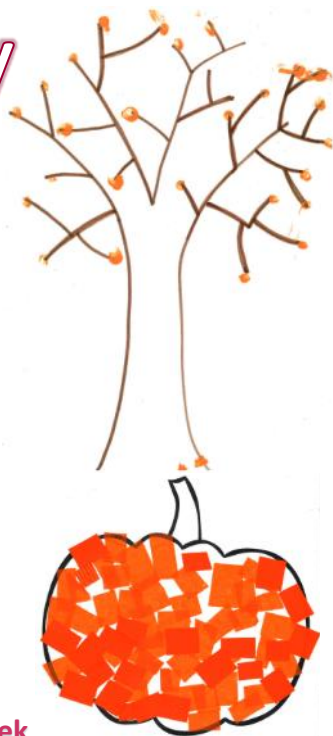
Thursday 12th December — Year 1 Christmas Performance @ 10am

Thursday 12th December — Reception Nativity @ 2pm

Thursday 12th December — Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 18th December — Headteachers Awards (By invitation only)

Thursday 19th December — School closes at 1.30pm for Winter break



We have worked closely with Park Hill Junior School to ensure minimum disruption to families of both schools for our allocation of five INSET days (where the school is closed for staff training.) As an academy, Park Hill Junior School have more flexibility in determining their school holidays and INSET days so please be aware that our term dates are slightly different to Park Hill Junior School. Absences from our school due to the Junior school being closed will not be authorised. Our term dates and school calendar are available on our website.