

P.H.I.N.N

All different, All equal, All achieving

Park Hill Infants News & Notes Issue 39

Autumn 2—Thursday 19th December 2024

A message from Ms Charman, Headteacher

Dear Dads, Mums and Carers,

As we approach the holiday season, I want to say a big thank you to you all for your ongoing support. It has been lovely to read all of the positive comments we received from our Parent/ Carer Questionnaire this term.

We have had a fantastic Autumn term with Diwali celebrations, a festive lunch, an Aladdin Panto, Christmas Jumper Day, a special Santa visit and, of course, the Christmas and Nativity performances which were an absolute joy to watch. I was so impressed with the confidence and enthusiasm that all children demonstrated and it was lovely to see that so many parents and carers were able to attend. It has been some much needed fun for us all.

Thank you for your generous donations to our School Fund from the collection boxes for the Nativity and Christmas Performances. We received an amazing **£200.51** to go towards the cost of additional resources for the school such as educational workshops and books for our library.

I wish you all a lovely, peaceful holiday period. I am sure we will all take time to rest, recuperate and enjoy spending time with our families. I look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Thank you, with your support we raised £74 for 'Save the Children' on Christmas Jumper Day 2024 and £61.50 for 'Anti-Bullying Alliance' on Odd Socks Day 2024.



Who's Who?

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



Hello, I am Mr Blackburn

I am Class 9's Teacher. I started teaching at Park Hill Infant school in September 2024, and am really enjoying my time here. I am a new teacher and gained my experience teaching Year 5 at Park Hill Junior School. I love the community around both of the schools. Although I have not been teaching long, Park Hill Infant School has welcomed me with open arms, and I feel part of this wonderful school environment.

I have experience with teaching KS1 and KS2 within local settings to Croydon and I really enjoy working in KS1 and hopefully see myself working at Park Hill Infant School for many years to come.

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:



Hamza Cl 4

Michael Cl 6

Vihaan Cl 7

Kavin Cl 9

Roselyn-Grace Cl 4

Nilani Cl 6

Zahra Cl 8

Nanmaya Cl 9

Olivia Cl 5

Asher Cl 7

Anaisha Cl 8

Shaurya Cl 9

Vivin Cl 5

Beth Cl 7

Samyak Cl 8

These children's achievements were recognised in a special award assembly led by Ms Charman on Wednesday 18th December 2024.

Congratulations and well done!



Parent Questionnaire

Thank you to all parents and carers who took the time to complete our Autumn 2024 questionnaire. Please find below some of the lovely feedback we received.

"What do Park Hill Infant School do well?"

"They make the children feel seen."

"Think of the child as a whole, not a target or statistic."

"Communicate effectively."

"Keeps parents informed, makes my child feel secure."

"We are well informed about activities at school with emails at the beginning of each week with the topics they that are covered and the workshops that help us to know how to support our children."

"SEND support, staff attitude, nurturing environment."

"For me, they do everything they can to see their students doing well, both in terms of learning and education and mental health... in addition to providing support for what the students need, I feel that it is a safe school for my daughter, and the teachers and other staff are all friendly."

"Communication about what is going on at the school. Meetings summary emails."

"They work on overall development of the child."

"They tell parents about topics they teach in school, it gets easier for parents to teach child at home."

"They creative a very safe and healthy environment for learning for my child."

"Extremely talented team working hard and positive environment for all the pupils."

Parent Questionnaire

Please find below some more of the lovely feedback we received.

"What is it like to be a parent at Park Hill Infant School?"

"Its a really good experience as they make sure parents are involved in everything."

"It's amazing as my daughter truly enjoys schooling and I am kept well informed."

"As a parent I feel school is doing great job about having communication about everything happening in school & how can we work on our child at home."

"I feel supported by the school."

"My child enjoys being at school and feels very proud to be part of this school. As a parent I feel my kid is in safe hands and stepping nicely on a ladder of primary education."

"It feels like our voice matters and staff is here to listen and help."

"Very happy my child is a pupil at your school and am proud to tell other people where she attends."

"Communication is great and we know how our child is getting on and areas for development."

"We are so blessed and proud to be a parent at Park Hill school. Our kids feel safe as we do."

"Everyday my child does something better or new which is good, also reminds us about the responsibilities at home too."

"I feel happy and fulfilled, because my daughter likes school, my daughter has evolved a lot, Park Hill School is a sensational and safe school!"

Honesty

Respect

Courage

Kindness

Positivity

"All Different, All Equal, All Achieving"

Curriculum Enrichment – Autumn Two

We have had the following after school activities this half-term: Musical Theatre, Art Club, Multi-Sports, Football, FizzPop Science 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.

'Wild Rumpus Day' took place for Year One pupils to dress up in costumes related to "Where the Wild Things Are!"

Reception performed their Nativity to their parents and carers, children from Tunstall nursery , Reverend Ruth from St. Matthews Church and visitors from Red Court Care Home.

Year One and Year Two performed their Christmas performances to their parents and carers.

Rubison delivered a skateboarding workshop to children in all years linked to Physical Education.

Croydon School Sports Partnership have been working with our Year Two sports leaders to plan and deliver sporting activities. Our Year Two Sports Leaders then helped to deliver a Multi-Skills PE lesson to Reception children.

Stage Ed performed an Aladdin pantomime to the whole school.

To support their learning in Music, a small group of pupils in Key Stage One attended a festive concert performed by Croydon Music and Arts Orchestra at Fairfield Halls. The performance included music celebrating Christmas, Diwali, Eid and Hanukkah.

In Maths, Year One children have been recognising and naming common 2D shapes to make their own shape monsters. In Design and Technology, the children designed and made their own spaghetti and marshmallow structures. Their aim was to make the structure as tall and as strong as they could.

As part of our positive outreach work in the community , a small group of children in Key Stage One visited Red Court Care Home and Cedar View Care Centre to sing festive songs to the residents.

Sports coaches from Totstars UK have been coming in twice a week at lunchtimes to support children in the playground with co-operative play. We are really pleased with how much the children are enjoying playing sports games at lunchtimes.

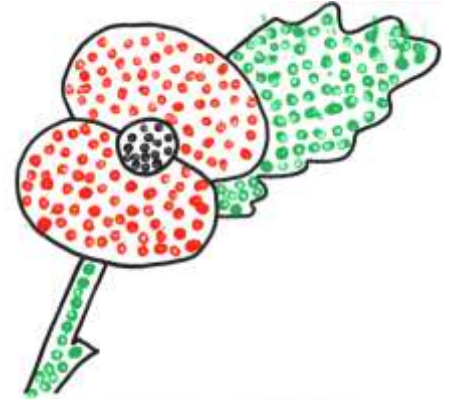
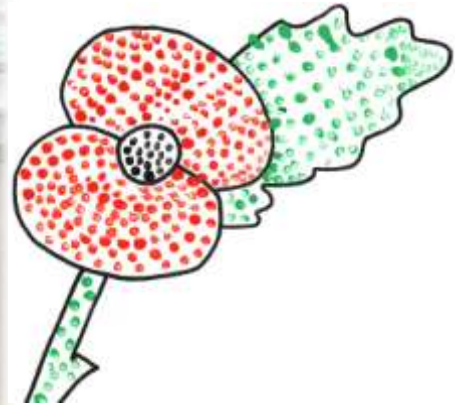


Remembrance Day



As part of their learning for History this term, each year group learnt about the importance of Remembrance Day. We held a two minute silence in a special Remembrance Assembly for the whole school.

A small group of Year Two children, who have shown a particular interest and curiosity in History and real-life events, were able to visit the War Memorial in Croydon and lay a poppy wreath.



In Art Club, children in Year Two painted Poppies inspired by Pointillism.



Diwali Celebrations



The whole school took part in celebrations following Diwali — the Festival of Lights. Reception made clay Diya's—a type of lamp representing the triumph of light over dark, good over evil — and painted them. Year One made paper lanterns on Wonderful Wednesday and Year Two made Diwali decorations (Toran) in class. Children were invited to wear traditional or party clothes to school as part of the celebrations.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents and carers that took time to present a special assembly on Diwali to our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils. They placed Diwali decorations (Toran) in the front of the school and made Rangoli patterns that were on display for the assembly.



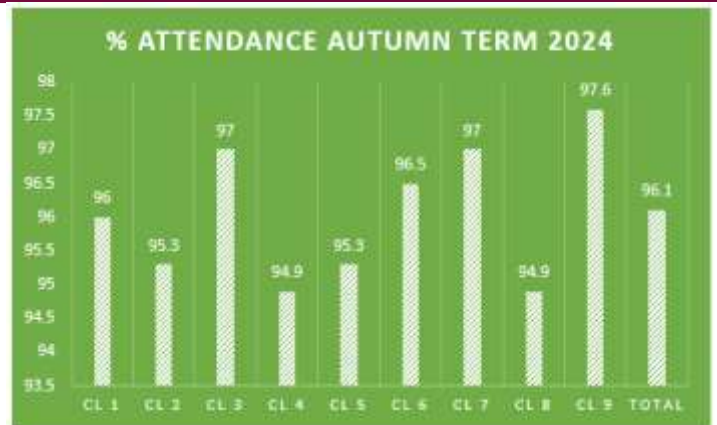
You Spoke... We Listened

Several parents and carers have requested Maths homework in our recent Parent Questionnaire. We have provided every child in our school with a Mathletics login.

Mathletics is an engaging, supportive, online learning resource that will be used to further enhance your child's maths skills. Your child will be able to use this 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.

Fun Day—Autumn 2024

Well done to Class 9 for having the highest attendance for the whole of the Autumn term 2024 with 97.4%! They celebrated by wearing their own clothes to school, decorating biscuits, eating popcorn and having fun in class. We would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Koonath Vasanthakumar, who kindly volunteered to come in and help with face painting in Class 9.



THANK YOU

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 a variety of books on self regulation to provide the children with a better understanding of their feelings.

We have also been able to purchase additional books for Book Club and home reading.



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

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.

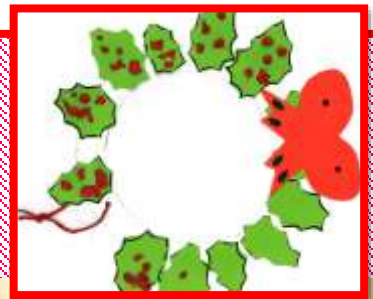
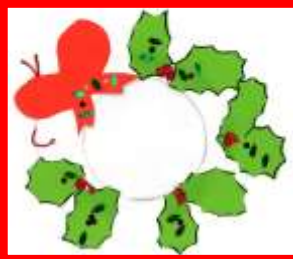
Leave of Absence Requests

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.



Each class decorated a hoop to be hung in the school hall for the Nativity and Christmas performances.

We hope you enjoyed watching your child's year group performance.

As promised, your child's individual photo in their costume will be sent to you by email.





**Santa
Stopped
Here!**



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 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.



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.

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.



Online Safety

If you are worried about any child, call the [NSPCC helpline](#). In an emergency, call 999.

Make sure that if your child receives any new devices for Christmas, you set up parental controls on the devices. We regularly circulate online safety information by email and publish it on our website. To find out about setting up parental controls, visit 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 to find out how to remove content from social media and where to report bullying, racial hatred, terrorism, sexual abuse and more.

There are also websites for children and young people to get help directly, such as [Childline](#) or [The Mix](#) (for 13- 25 year olds).



Ollie White

Police Community Support Officer
Park Hill & Whitgift Safer Neighbourhood
Team, Addington Police Station

Team Email: [SNMailbox-
ParkHillandWhitgiftSNT@met.police.uk](mailto:SNMailbox-ParkHillandWhitgiftSNT@met.police.uk)

Phone: 07341680553

Email: Oliver.White@met.police.uk

Twitter: @MPSShirley #ParkHillWhitgift

We are on NextDoor.

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

PCSO Ollie says...

Ho Ho Ho, Merry Christmas:

DO's & DON'Ts over the festive period:

- o DO lock everything up, and put the alarm on;
- o DO have a good time and celebrate with family and friends;
- o DON'T leave presents or valuables in view of a window, which can be seen from outside.

When dropping off and/or picking-up children from school, if you are driving, please remember to park considerately. Please be aware that you should not stop your vehicle in the middle of the road to let out passengers.

Section 22 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 — Leaving vehicles in dangerous positions: *“If a person in charge of a vehicle causes or permits the vehicle or a trailer drawn by it to remain at rest on a road in such a position or in such condition or in such circumstances as to [involve a danger of injury] to other persons using the road, he is guilty of an offence.”* The penalty for this is 3 penalty points on your license, and £100 Fixed Penalty Notice issued by a Police Officer.

If a vehicle is parked on yellow zig zag lines, even to drop-off/ pick-up passengers, this can result in a PCN (Penalty Charge Notice) being issued. **Rule 244 of the Highway Code – Parking on Pavement (Partially or fully):** *“Do not park partially or wholly on the footway or footpath unless signs permit it. Parking on the footway or footpath can obstruct and seriously inconvenience pedestrians, people in wheelchairs or with visual impairments and people with prams or pushchairs.”* The penalty for this is a £65 FPN (Fixed Penalty Notice), issued by Croydon Council.

For more information on this please see [https://
www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-
safety/parking-outside-schools/](https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/parking-outside-schools/)

Our Recommended Reads:

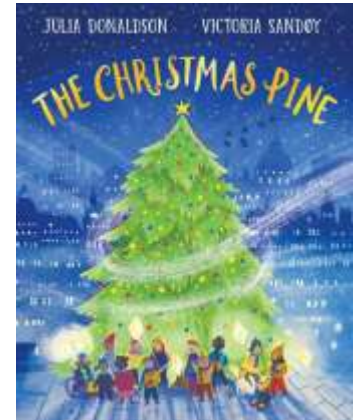


The Night Before Christmas in Wonderland by Carys Bexington

The Queen of Hearts hates Christmas – she's banned tinsel, mince pies and even good cheer – because when she was a little princess, the White Rabbit was late delivering her letter to Father Christmas and she didn't receive a present. But one snowy Christmas Eve, Santa finally receives her letter and races to deliver her gift! Will Santa and his reindeer be able to put the Merry back into Christmas in Wonderland?

The Christmas Pine by Julia Donaldson

Deep in a snowy wood stands a little pine tree with a special destiny: when it grows up, it's going to be the **famous Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square!** *The Christmas Pine is based on a true story. It celebrates a special tradition that stretches back over seventy years. Every year, the Mayor of Oslo in Norway presents the British people with a spectacular Christmas tree. The tree is a symbol of peace and friendship, and a thank you for the UK's support during World War II.*



The Snow Thief by Alice Hemming

Squirrel and Bird are back, and this time **it's winter!** But Squirrel has never seen **snow** before. Will he like it? **You bet he will!** Except, just as Squirrel starts to get used to the snow, **it disappears!** **Is there a snow thief on the loose?**

After School Club

The After School Club is run by Park Hill Junior School. All bookings, queries about the club and arrangements must be made with the Junior school:

Email: extendeddayadmin@phjs.foliotrust.uk

Telephone: 07776491528 (7:30am-8:30am weekdays.)

Staff at Park Hill Infant School are not responsible for organising or processing any applications to the After School Club. We are also unaware of any changes to the patterns that your child may attend the After School Club unless you tell us.

Please ensure that you inform our school office if you have changed the regular days that your child attends the After School Club.

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.

Dates for your Diary

The following dates are provisional)

Friday 20th December	—	School closed for staff training
Monday 23rd December—Friday 3rd January	—	School closed for Winter Break
Monday 6th January	—	School re-opens to all pupils
Tuesday 14th January	—	Family Curriculum Workshop—Reception
Wednesday 15th January	—	Family Curriculum Workshop—KS1
Thursday 16th January	—	School Census - we receive additional funding for every child that has a school dinner on this day
Wednesday 22nd January	—	Medieval Day Year 2
Monday 3rd February to Friday 7th February	—	Children's Mental Health Week
Wednesday 5th February	—	Dress to Express Day
Friday 7th February	—	Number Day
Thursday 13th February	—	Headteacher's Awards (by invitation only)
Friday 14th February	—	School closes 3.30pm for half-term
Monday 17th February—Friday 21st February	—	Half-term
Monday 24th February	—	School re-opens to all pupils
Monday 3rd March—Friday 7th March	—	Book Week 2025
Thursday 6th March	—	World Book Day 2025
Monday 17th March—Friday 21st March	—	Science Week
Monday 24th March—Friday 28th March	—	Parent/ Teacher Consultations Week
Thursday 3rd April	—	Headteacher's Awards (by invitation only)
Friday 4th April	—	School closes 1.30pm for Easter Break
Monday 7th April—Friday 18th April	—	School closed for Easter Break
Monday 21st April	—	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 22nd April	—	School re-opens to all pupils
Monday 5th May	—	Bank holiday
Thursday 15th May	—	School Census - we receive additional funding for every child that has a school dinner on this day
Friday 23rd May	—	School closes 3.30pm for half-term
Monday 2nd June	—	School re-opens to all pupils
Monday 16th June—Friday 20th June	—	Arts Week
Monday 7th July—Friday 11th July	—	Get ACTIVE Week
Wednesday 9th July	—	Race for Life 2025
Friday 11th July	—	Sports Day
Friday 18th July	—	School closes 1.30pm for Summer Break

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.