

# P.H.I.N.N

All different, All equal, All achieving

Park Hill Infants News & Notes Issue 40

Spring 1—Friday 14th February 2025

## A message from Ms Charman, Headteacher

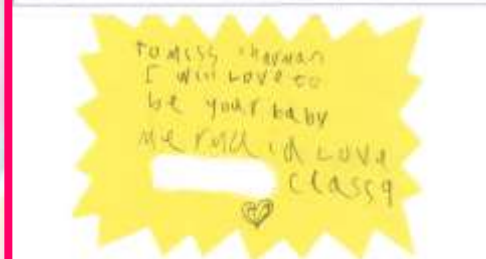
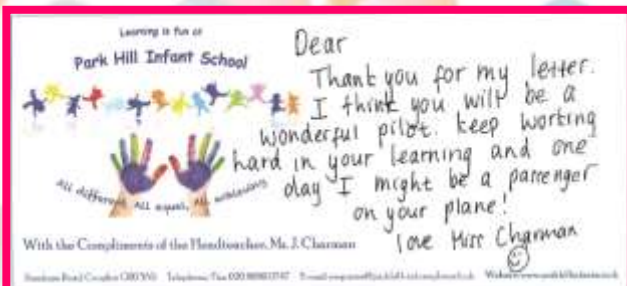
Dear Dads, Mums and Carers,

It has been an exciting half term and I'm sure we are all looking forward to the half-term break to recharge our batteries! It has been lovely to see all of the fantastic outfits that children wore for Dress to Express Day, Number Day and Year Two Medieval Day! We've had some really interesting workshops this half-term, where the whole school have been investigating clues and solving mysteries in a workshop called 'CSI: Storyland' provided by As Creatives. Year One have been learning about what it might have been like to be on board The Titanic! I'm really looking forward to the Fairytale Workshop coming up for Reception in the next half-term by Past Productions!

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to the school fund this half-term, it is so appreciated, particularly in these times of stretched budgets. We have spent some of the contributions on books, visitors into school and resources. If you would like to make a donation, you will find the option to do this on your child's ParentPay account.

As part of a writing initiative, children can write notes and letters to put in my post box. Take a look at some of the lovely messages I've received below...

Have a lovely, relaxing half-term break.



## Who's Who?

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

## Who's Who?



Hi, my name is Mrs Persson,

After graduating from University College London and completing further studies in Music, I worked in the music industry for a number of years before finding my vocation in childhood education. I have experience as a key person in EYFS settings and in 2022, I gained a Level 4 Diploma in Montessori Pedagogy.

I am passionate about the Montessori philosophy and how it promotes deep respect for every child as an individual with unique potential. I am excited to have been welcomed to Park Hill and very much look forward to supporting the children in their learning and development over the coming months.

## 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:

Anaisha—Class 4

Leilani—Class 6

Aryan—Class 7

Sajanika—Class 9

Ayaan—Class 4

Kingson—Class 6

Rachel—Class 8

Jessica—Class 9

Khalid—Class 5

Mithra—Class 7

Prathit—Class 8

Braelyn—Class 5

Mara—Class 7

Abdur Rahman—Class 9

These children's achievements were recognised in a special award assembly led by Ms Charman on Thursday 13th February

*Congratulations and well done!*



## Curriculum Enrichment – Spring One

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

Year Two have been learning about medieval art, architecture, and famous battles and invasions. Year Two were invited to dress up in costume as characters of their choice from the medieval ages for Medieval Day, where they took part in cross-curricular activities including archery, baking bread, weave-making, medallion-creating and enjoying their very own medieval banquet.

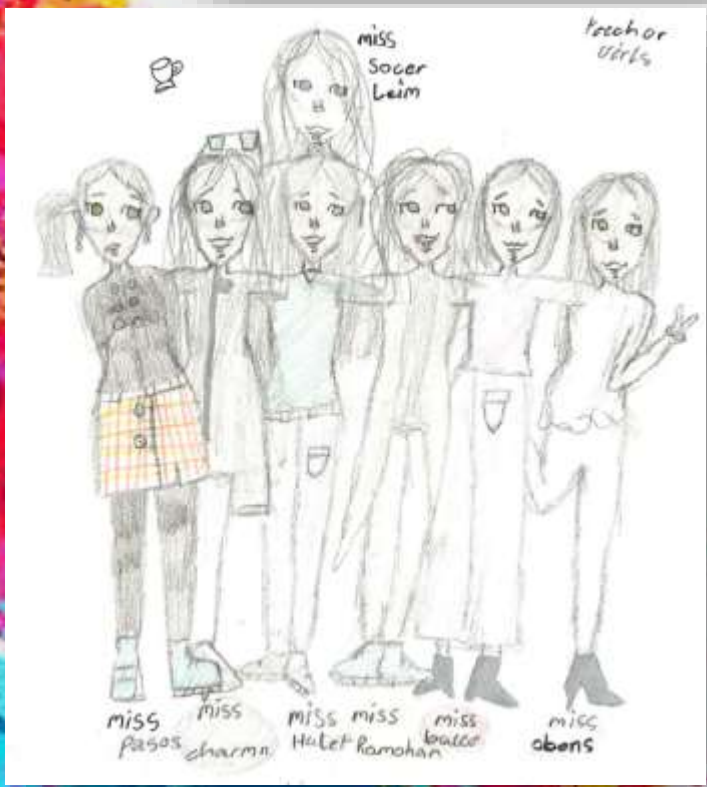
The whole school took part in Dress to Express Day for Children's Mental Health Week, and it was great to see the children expressing their own individuality and style.

For Number Day, each year group took part in a special workshop delivered by As Creatives called CSI: Storyland. Using a range of clues and their literacy and numeracy skills, children helped solve the mystery of the stolen Last (shoemaker's tool.) We loved seeing everyone's number-themed outfits.

As part of their learning for History, Year One took part in a workshop on the Titanic delivered by One Day Creative, where they learnt about the the timeline of the Titanic being built, the different people on board, and the sinking of the ship. They were encouraged to express their ideas and feelings through voice, movement, role play and drama.

The whole school took part in a special Lunar New Year assembly, and also completed class activities. Children learnt that Lunar New Year is celebrated by millions of people around the world, especially in east and south-east Asia, and the 15-day celebration begins with the new moon and lasts until the full moon.





We wanted to share some of the beautiful art work children have made for us with you.

# Reception Curriculum Workshops



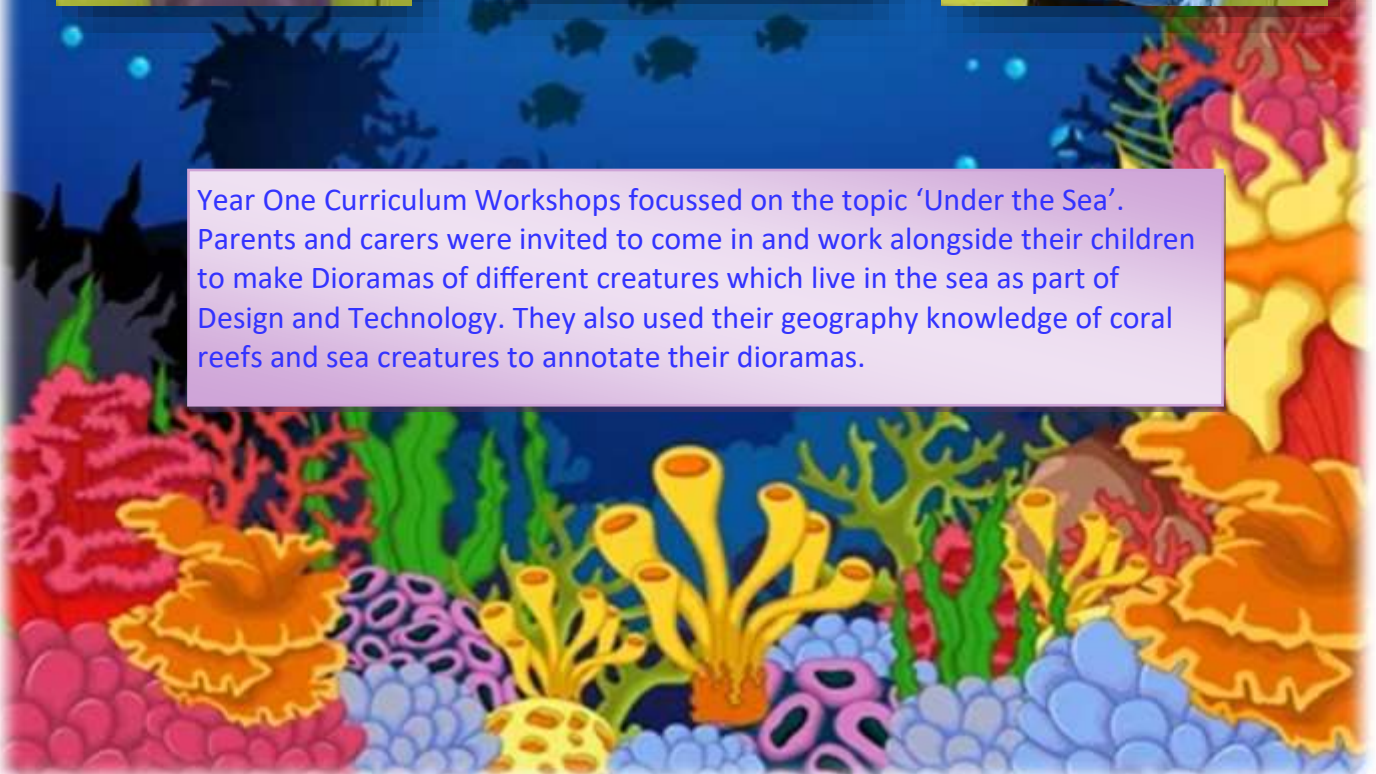
Our Reception Curriculum Workshops focussed on the topic Traditional Tales. Parents and carers were invited to come in and work alongside their children to build houses from different materials, such as straw and Lego bricks, inspired by the tale 'The Three Little Pigs'. They read stories together, listened to stories on headphones on 'Now Press Play' and then talked about what happened in the stories.



# Year One Curriculum Workshops



Year One Curriculum Workshops focused on the topic 'Under the Sea'. Parents and carers were invited to come in and work alongside their children to make Dioramas of different creatures which live in the sea as part of Design and Technology. They also used their geography knowledge of coral reefs and sea creatures to annotate their dioramas.



# Year Two Curriculum Workshops



Year Two Curriculum Workshops focussed on the events of the Great Fire of London. Parents and carers were invited to come in and work alongside their children to recreate the event on a small-scale to understand how the fire spread:

First, they constructed cardboard Tudor-themed houses and buildings and thatched the roofs with straw, discussing the potential issues behind these materials.

Then they set up a town of the houses in the playground and watched as the houses were set on fire! (The fire was extinguished safely by our trained staff.) From this activity, children learned that the Great Fire of London spread because houses were made of wood with thatched roofs and were built too close together. They also learned that windy conditions, on that day back in the past, transported burning embers to more buildings. Year Two then completed work in class linked to the workshop by creating fire safety posters.





Thank you, with your support we raised £61 for the NSPCC for Number Day 2025!



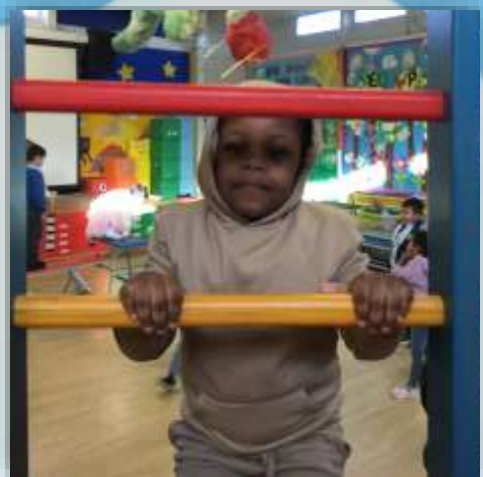
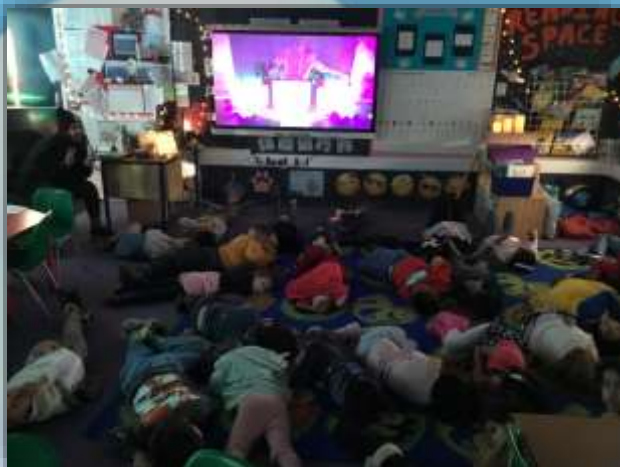




# Children's Mental Health Week



Thank you,  
with your support  
we raised £102 for  
Place2Be.





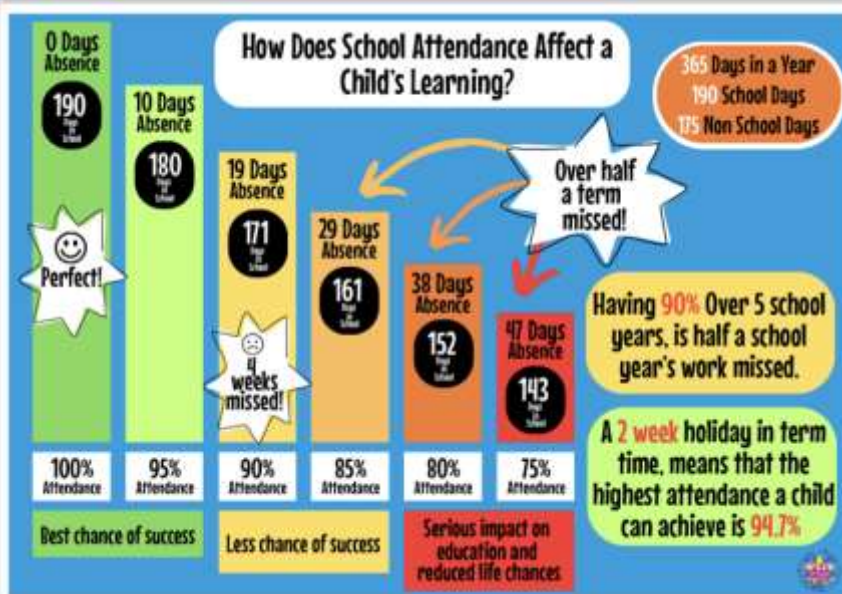
# Attendance Matters

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.

Be an  
Attendance  
Hero!

Here  
Everyday  
Ready  
On time



The class with the highest attendance at the end of each term is rewarded with a class 'Fun Day.'

Spring Fun Day— Tuesday 1st April

Summer Fun Day— Tuesday 15th July

## New process for requesting a Leave of Absence during term time

If you have exceptional circumstances and wish to request a leave of absence during term time, please contact the school office on 0208 680 0747 or email [attendance@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk) to request a meeting with a member of the Headship Team **as far in advance of the requested leave period as possible.**

After the meeting, if you still require term time absence from school you will be asked to complete a Leave of Absence request form and return it to the office prior to the start date of the requested leave period.

We will continue to support you and your families in times of crisis and all requests for leave during term time will be considered on an individual basis. **If permission is not granted, but the leave is still taken, you may be referred to our EWO and/or the local authority for consideration of a Penalty Notice.**

### New attendance framework:

Please be mindful if there are ten sessions of unauthorised absence recorded within a ten-week period a referral could be made to the local authority and a penalty notice may be issued to you. For a first referral the amount being £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days, reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days. There would be no reduction for a second referral within a three-year period.

Unauthorised absence includes absence without justified cause, including medical evidence not been provided when requested / no communication with school regarding absence / term time absence / late arrivals recorded after registration has closed.

# 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.



### Online Safety

If you are worried about any child, call the [NSPCC helpline](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/). In an emergency, call 999.

Make sure that if your child received 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](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.

There are also websites for children and young people to get help directly, such as [Childline](https://www.childline.gov.uk) or [The Mix](https://www.themix.org.uk) (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](mailto: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](http://www.met.police.uk)

### **PCSO Ollie says...**

I hope you all had enjoyable, fun festive and new year celebrations. As we have entered a new calendar year, please remember the following:

- If you park on the yellow zigzag lines between 8am-9.30am and 2pm-4pm, during term time, you are liable to pay a £65 Fixed Penalty Notice (fine);
- There is often a lot of traffic that can cause a bottleneck towards the junction at The Avenue, Stanhope Road—Whilst drivers are vigilant, they may not necessarily see a person dart out in front of them in time to stop. Therefore please take extra caution when crossing these roads and please do not run across any roads;
- Remember to hold hands of younger children when crossing any roads and obey the Green Cross Code;
- When you are dropping off or picking up, please do not stop your vehicle in the middle of the road. You could be liable to pay a £100 Fixed Penalty Notice and receive three points on your driving licence.

I hope to see you all at drop-off/pick-up times, and I'd like to wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous 2025.

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/)

### 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.

## Our Recommended Reads:

### *The Invisible* by Tom Percival

From the author of *Ruby's Worry*, this is a touching and thought-provoking children's book that explores the importance of kindness and empathy. Isabel is a young girl who feels invisible and unnoticed by those around her. Tom Percival's heartfelt narrative and expressive illustrations delicately convey the impact of loneliness and the transformative power of connection. This story reminds readers that *everyone* has a place here. We all belong.



### *A Horse Called Now* by Ruth Doyle and Alexandra Finkeldey

*"When I am afraid, I breathe in and out and let the feelings come ... and then go. Nothing lasts forever."* Horse, Rabbit and Hen work together to overcome their worries and live in the present moment. Beautifully illustrated, this calm and reassuring story shows us that not everything is as frightening as it seems.



### *Sunny Side Up* by Clare Helen Welsh and Ana Sanfelippo

When you change the way you look at the world, the world you look at changes. This warm, beautifully illustrated novelty book uses die-cuts and flaps to transform the world around us. By putting on your sunny-side-up spectacles and looking at things in a different way, you can turn a bad mood into a good mood. The ideal book for exploring difficult emotions.



### **Breakfast/ After School Club**

The Breakfast/ 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](mailto: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.**

If your child attends the **Breakfast or After School Club**: Please be aware that on the dates below you will need to ensure that you have arranged alternative childcare for your children. Unless they are attending an After-School Activity at our school, they will need to be collected promptly at **3:30pm**.

- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – **No Breakfast or After School Club** – PHJS closed for INSET
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April - Breakfast club will be available but there will be **no After School Club on this day**.
- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May - **No Breakfast or After School Club** – PHJS closed for half-term
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June – **No Breakfast or After School Club** – PHJS closed for INSET
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – **No Breakfast or After School Club** – PHJS closed for INSET

### **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)

<u>Monday 17th February—Friday 21st February</u>	—	<u>Half-term (school closed)</u>
<u>Monday 24th February</u>	—	<u>School re-opens to all pupils</u>
<u>Friday 28th February</u>	—	<u>PHSA Book and Costume Sale</u>
<u>Monday 3rd March—Friday 7th March</u>	—	<u>Book Week 2025</u>
<u>Thursday 6th March</u>	—	<u>World Book Day 2025</u>
<u>Monday 17th March—Friday 21st March</u>	—	<u>Science Week</u>
<u>Monday 24th March—Friday 28th March</u>	—	<u>Parent/ Teacher Consultations Week</u>
<u>Thursday 3rd April</u>	—	<u>Headteacher's Awards (by invitation only)</u>
<u>Friday 4th April</u>	—	<u>School closes at 1.30pm for Easter Break</u>
<u>Monday 7th April—Friday 18th April</u>	—	<u>School closed for Easter Break</u>
<u>Monday 21st April</u>	—	<u>Bank Holiday — School closed</u>
<u>Tuesday 22nd April</u>	—	<u>School re-opens to all pupils</u>
<u>Wednesday 23rd April</u>	—	<u>Year One Phonics Workshop</u>
<u>Tuesday 29th April</u>	—	<u>Reception Curriculum Workshop</u>
<u>Wednesday 30th April</u>	—	<u>KS1 Curriculum Workshop</u>
<u>Thursday 1st May</u>	—	<u>Class Photos</u>
<u>Monday 5th May</u>	—	<u>Bank holiday — School closed</u>
<u>Thursday 15th May</u>	—	<u>School Census - we receive additional funding for every child that has a school dinner on this day</u>
<u>Thursday 22nd May</u>	—	<u>Headteacher's Awards (by invitation only)</u>
<u>Friday 23rd May</u>	—	<u>School closes 3.30pm for half-term (School closed)</u>
<u>Monday 26th May—Friday 30th May</u>	—	<u>Half-term (school closed)</u>
<u>Monday 2nd June</u>	—	<u>School re-opens to all pupils</u>
<u>Monday 16th June—Friday 20th June</u>	—	<u>Arts Week</u>
<u>Thursday 26th June</u>	—	<u>Summer-Dance Festival for all year groups</u>
<u>Monday 7th July—Friday 11th July</u>	—	<u>Get ACTIVE Week</u>
<u>Wednesday 9th July</u>	—	<u>Race for Life 2025</u>
<u>Friday 11th July</u>	—	<u>Sports Day</u>
<u>Thursday 17th July</u>	—	<u>Headteacher's Awards (by invitation only)</u>
<u>Friday 18th July</u>	—	<u>School closes at 1.30pm for Summer Break</u>

## Reception Trips to Sutton Ecology Centre

- Class 3—Monday 10th March
- Class 2—Thursday 20th March
- Class 1—Thursday 3rd April

## Year One Trips to the National Gallery

- Class 5—Friday 7th March
- Class 6—Tuesday 11th March
- Class 4—Thursday 13th March

## Year Two Trips to the Natural History Museum

- Class 9—Friday 28th March
- Class 7—Thursday 24th April
- Class 8—Friday 2nd May

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.