

# PARK NEWSLETTER



*Ensuring every individual achieves their best through high expectations for all;  
with a focus on confidence, creativity, care and aspiration.*

15th October 2021

## Need to Know

### Mrs Ttofalli's Weekly Update

Dear all,

I hope you are keeping well and managing to 'keep on keeping on'. At Park this week, it has been hard as we have managed increasing staff sickness absence and general near-the end-of-term fatigue. I have spoken at length with all the children in Year 5 and Year 6 to explain the concept of 'keeping the lid on' through self control and management of our own emotions. As parents, please be mindful at this time of lower immune systems and lower 'everything'. In school we find that tolerance levels are lower at this time and peer relationships are harder to navigate. Please discuss with your child what their strategies might be for staying calm at times in the term when it is harder to do so.



May I also ask that you have a discussion with your children about litter and toilets? There is an increase in general litter in the playground and, in a school that prides itself on its capacity to care, it makes us very sad. We will look into getting more bins in the playground but it really does need to start with the children's intentions. We are having conversations in school obviously but it would really help if we could rely on you to be having the same conversations at home. With regards the toilets, there are a couple of things:

1. We are obviously, more than ever before, asking the children to use an appropriate amount of liquid soap to wash their hands but some children are wasting huge amounts of soap meaning that we really cannot fill the dispensers quickly enough. Please can you talk to your child about this.
2. Some children are using too much paper and then failing to flush the toilet, then the next child comes in and, after a few children, the

system is blocked. This is quite common. Please may I ask you to talk to your child with regards to their toileting habits to ensure that all are using the toilets correctly and efficiently.

May I thank you in advance for your support with this. It is always much easier to improve upon a challenge if we all work together with the same aim to make things better.

I attended a Healthy School Streets' feedback session this week and fed back our findings from the school perspective. We have seen a marked increase in calm (traffic and people's stress has decreased) since the scheme's implementation and from a health perspective the data is positive. We are aware that the challenge to yourselves will be greater as the weather changes but we ask you to persevere and try to stay positive. Our biggest challenge with Healthy School Streets is the presence of the ice cream van which is obviously an incredibly 'unhealthy' vehicle (both in terms of what it produces and provides). Because of the demand, the van will not move on but I do appreciate the presence of the van makes it very challenging for you to be able to say no.

It is an aim at Park this year to give even greater weight to Pupil Voice; that means us really listening to the children's ideas relating to School Improvement. I had my first meeting with the House Captains this week and we will meet officially next week to discuss our strategy for working together. We also held our School Council elections this week and I look forward to hearing how the School Council representatives will feed back their class's ideas so that we can have a genuinely pupil-informed-approach to increasing Park's greatness.

I will finish on a Covid 19 related note. My son has contracted the virus; he is currently isolating. There are so many cases in secondary schools in particular

and the spread will continue. Whilst there seems less anxiety relating to people becoming really sick now, there is of course a huge impact in terms of isolation, if anyone catches it. I am desperate for as many of us to get to half term without infection. This is so that all may enjoy the much-needed break. I, for one, will be wearing a face covering at all times as immune systems are low and case rates are high. Please do allow your child to wear a face covering if you wish and please do speak to them about the fact that the virus is still 'a thing'.

As always, my very best wishes for a safe and enjoyable weekend, Natasha Ttoffali

### Wrap Around Care

We are pleased to say that our wrap around care is open to all families. If you would like to book a place for your child then please do so via Scopay. Please remember to book your child's place 24 hours in advance so that we are able to staff the childcare appropriately.



### Dates for the Diary

[2021-2022 Term dates](#)

**Monday 18th October** - Individual pupil photos

**Tuesday 19th October** - Aldrin and Attenborough visit to the Discover Centre

**Thursday 21st October** - Parent/Carer consultation meetings. Children to be collected at 1pm

**Friday 22nd October** - Catch up individual pupil photos



### Sharing Assemblies

Please see the dates and classes for Sharing assemblies this half term. If you can make it, please do join us (KS1, you will need to drop off your child and then enter through the main office so we have a record of who is coming in.).

We would like to say a big thank you to all of the parents and carers that have attended sharing assemblies so far this year. We had a fantastic turn out this morning for Marie Curie's assembly. It really helps the children's confidence to grow when they have to present to an audience.

Date	KS1 - 9.05am	KS2 - 2.20pm
<b>Friday 22nd October</b>	Marco Polo	Malala
<b>Half Term</b>		
<b>Friday 5th November</b>	Einstein	
<b>Friday 12th November</b>	Aldrin	Gandhi
<b>Friday 3rd December</b>		Hawking

### Park's Food Bank

We are delighted to inform you that we have now established a food bank for our families at Park. It has been a challenging year for many.

If you would like to access our food bank, please come to the school entrance on a Friday between 1.45 to 2.45pm. Please bring your own bag.

### Curriculum Area

#### Year 4 at the Royal Albert Hall



This week Hawking and Berners Lee classes went to the Royal Albert hall to take part in a music and maths workshop. They had a fantastic time learning how music and maths are linked. We hope that Brunel have just as much fun when they go next week.

## Miss Laine's Cooking/Food Exploration Club



This week at Miss Laine's cooking/food exploration club the children tried celery, apple and cucumber. They then used these ingredients to make carrot juice, carrot and celery juice, carrot and apple juice and carrot and cucumber juice. Their challenge was to try and match the taste of the juices with the taste of the fruit and vegetables. Miss Laine is proud to say everyone tried everything and some even asked to take some home!

## House Points

At Park we use a House Points system in which every child belongs to one of the four houses: Birch, Maple, Oak and Sycamore. House Points are awarded for children who demonstrate the school values. 5 HPs are awarded where significant examples of confidence, creativity, care and aspiration are exemplified. Below is the total of the House Points collected this week. Well done to **Maple!** You have the highest totals this week!

<b>Birch</b> 210		<b>Sycamore</b> 90	
<b>Maple</b> 235		<b>Oak</b> 185	

## This week...

Thanks to get you Thinking!



## KS1 Think

Think about this... Week 7

Would a giraffe make a good pet?

Agree



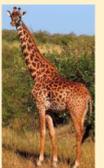
Build



Challenge



Sentence starters:  
I think...  
I believe...  
I feel that...  
I would rather...



## KS2 Think

Think about this... Week 6

Would you rather cheat and finish first or stick to the rules and finish last?

Agree



Build



Challenge



Sentence starters:  
In my opinion...because  
I believe that...because  
On the other hand...  
However...



## Music of the Week

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

# MUSIC THEME OF THE WEEK:

This week in celebration of Black History Month, we have been listening to black male artists. These have ranged from ballads by John Legend to classics by Stevie Wonder.




## Thought for the Week



**“DON'T SIT  
DOWN AND  
WAIT FOR THE  
OPPORTUNITIES  
TO COME.  
GET UP AND  
MAKE THEM.”**

MADAM C.J. WALKER

## Current Affairs



*Is it important for all our achievements and good deeds to be recognised?*

This year's Nobel Prize winners have been announced and include two American scientists, who discovered how we feel physical pain and pleasure, winning the 2021 Nobel Prize for medicine. The annual awards take place in Sweden and there are six subject areas: Physics, Chemistry, Medicine, Literature, Peace and Economics. Each Nobel award comes with a gold medal and a prize of 10 million Swedish krona (about £840,000).

## Things to talk about at home...

- How many different types of prizes and awards can you think of? These can be at home, at school or somewhere else.

- Have you ever won a prize for something? How did it feel? Have you ever wanted to win a prize but not won, how did that feel?

## British Values Link

**British Values**  
18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021

**Individual Liberty**  
People who win Nobel Prizes have made choices to produce work that benefits humankind. We can make choices that can benefit others too.

Picture News



18<sup>th</sup> October 2021

## UN Rights of a Child

We all have the right to an education. Our education can provide us with opportunities and options for our future: the job we want to do and the benefit it will have for others and perhaps humankind!

