



PARK LANE PRESS

Today's Learners | Tomorrow's Leaders

Autumn 2



Dear Park Lane Family,

We hope that this newsletter finds you well and you are in good spirits as we approach the Christmas break.. What a time it has been to be a part of our Park Lane Primary Family.

First and foremost, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all families who joined us for our Family Festive Lunch. It was a heartwarming sight to see over 170 families come together to dine with their children. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, love, and the spirit of togetherness, which truly embodies the essence of this special time of year. Christmas Bingo proved to be a roaring success as families gathered to play this classic game. Christmas Carols were a true testament to musical talents: from Year 1 to Year 6 we came together to spread joy and cheer throughout the community. Last but not least, our EYFS children performing in their 'Wiggly Nativity,' showcased the boundless energy and enthusiasm, wriggling their way into our hearts and leaving us in complete awe of their talent and confidence.

The New Year will bring a few changes to the staffing structure: Miss Ryan and Miss Callow will be supporting the Year 1 Team whilst Miss McMaster enjoys this cherished time with her Christmas arrival. Furthermore, we will be thrilled to welcome Miss Hancox back as Mrs Newey following her wedding celebrations. Finally, we would like to take the opportunity to express our gratitude for your continued support. It is your unwavering commitment that ensures Park Lane Family is a thriving and nurturing community. Wishing you all a joyful and peaceful festive season and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 8th January '24.

Warmest Wishes,
Laura Baker-Hill



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SCAN ME

Your feedback matters! Please complete our survey regarding our Festive Events.



Mini Griffins & Pre-School

The Mini Griffins' learning throughout their first term has been focused on all things celebratory, as we delve into festivals that link to our topic of, 'Starry Nights and Winter Wonderlands.' At the very beginning of our new topic, Mini Griffins enjoyed learning about different festivals and traditions around the world, including exploring the story of 'Rhama & Seeta.' This involved making our very own sweet treats to celebrate the festival of Diwali, which meant applying our mathematical language through counting the various ingredients needed. We have been continuing to develop our listening and attention skills through story time and group time sessions: this has encouraged the children to share books with their adults and their peers. Mini Griffins have enjoyed acting out characters from stories and bringing those stories to life with props and carefully remembering to order the story.

We were in awe of our Nursery children's courage and enthusiasm as they performed their very first 'Wiggly Nativity': they should be so proud, as we are sure their families are too!



This term our Pre-School have been exploring the topic 'Sparkle and Shine/Winter Wonderland.' Within this topic, we have explored lots of different cultures and the festivals that they celebrate within. We have enjoyed dressing up in different styles of clothing to celebrate Diwali and used lots of wonderful props to act out the story of 'Rama and Sita'. As we are heading into the celebration of Christmas, Pre-School have been writing their letters to Father Christmas: applying their fine motor and creative skills. We have been exploring different catalogues and choosing from a wide range of toys that we would like to mention in our Christmas letters. We carefully cut out our chosen pictures, stuck these onto our lists and then wrote our names and posted these into the special post box to send to the North Pole.

We were in awe of our Pre-School children's courage and enthusiasm as they performed their very first Wiggly Nativity: they should be very proud, as we are sure their families are too!



Two of our Pre-School Griffins celebrating the festival of Diwali!

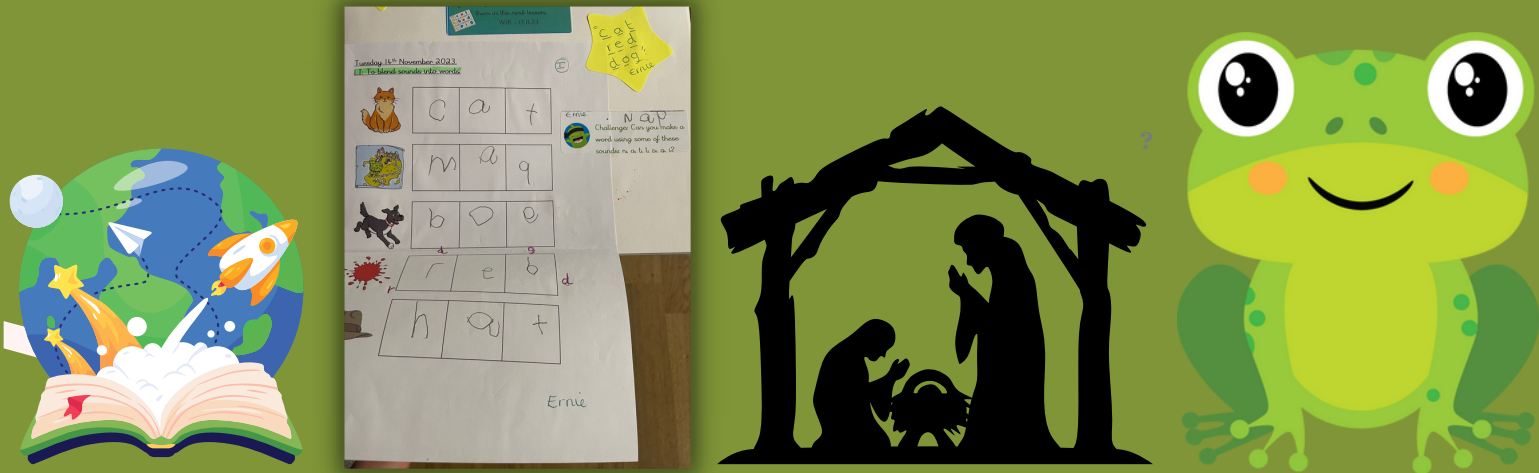


Reception & Year 1

We have had the most wonderful Autumn term with our Reception children. We are very impressed with the way that they have settled into Reception and learnt from our topic of 'Sparkle and Shine and Winter Wonderland.'

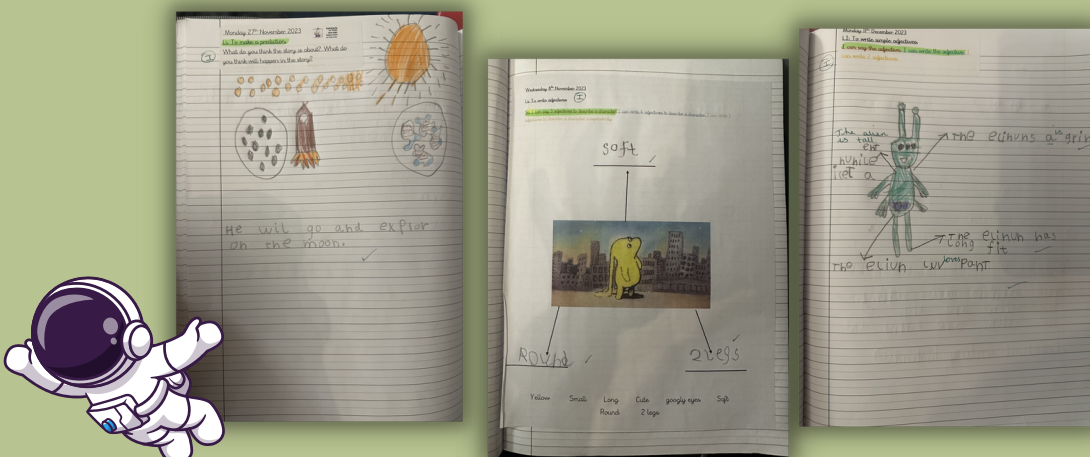
In English this half term, we began by recapping the single sounds we had learnt in Autumn 1 and used this knowledge to begin blending CVC words - with the help of our special friend, Fred the Frog. Reception have been looking at letter formation closely, and touching on the subject of capital letters too. We also looked at sentences; what they are and what they need to include such as, capital letters, full stops and ensuring we use our finger spaces. We celebrated Hanukkah and Christmas during our half term, incorporating the two festivities within our English lessons by creating cards for our loved ones.

Our Reception children blew us away with their Nativity performance as they got wriggly on stage and sang their hearts away. We are so proud of them, as they should be of themselves for a stunning end of their first full term at Park Lane.



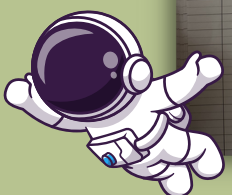
Year 1 have been busy exploring their topic of 'Moon Zoom,' and the children have been learning all about space. Our key texts that we have delved into have been: Beegu, On the Moon and Alien's Love Underpants. The children have had lots of opportunities to describe the characters from the stories and we have been trying really hard to apply adjectives into our sentences. Our main focus whilst writing our sentences was to apply our knowledge of capital letters and full stops. We then embedded our writing skills further, through writing letters and posters. The children have become very confident and especially loved creating a lost poster for Beegu. Throughout our topic, we have thoroughly enjoyed learning all about Neil Armstrong, the Moon and the Earth: we are now able to articulate lots of facts about Space and have created amazing fact files to apply this new knowledge.

Well done Year 1 for a phenomenal term of learning: your transition from Reception to Year 1 has displayed your learning behaviours of self-motivation, independence and collaboration in a remarkable way.



"Neil Armstrong was the first man on the moon. I liked making a factfile about him. It was cool to see the astronaut costumes at the Space Centre too!"

Marley (1EH)



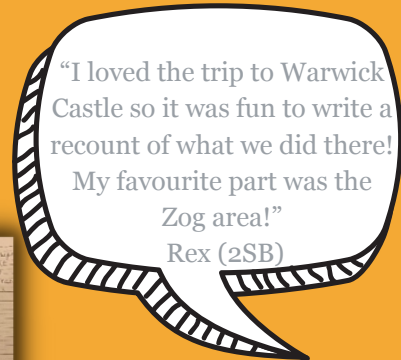
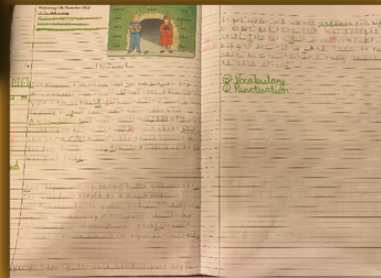
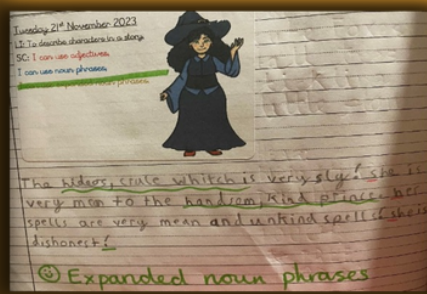
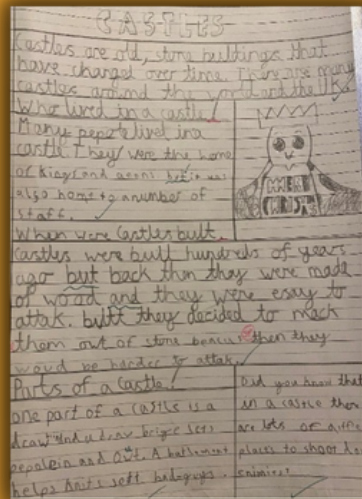
Year 2 & Year 3

In Year 2, our topic for the second half of the autumn term has been 'Towers, Tunnels and Turrets.' To extend our learning, we read the story 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Browne. We thought carefully about the sequence of the story and then we retold it: we were really proud of the writing that the children produced.

We also enjoyed reading a version of Rapunzel and used this as the focus to think about the witch and her character, using adjectives to write noun phrases to describe her. We also described the forest that her tower was in and used our senses to help us think of what we'd be able to hear, see, smell and touch if we were lost in there.

For non-fiction November, we wrote a report about castles. We discovered that reports need to have a heading, sub-headings, facts and images with captions. We found out lots of facts about castles and used them to write our fantastic reports.

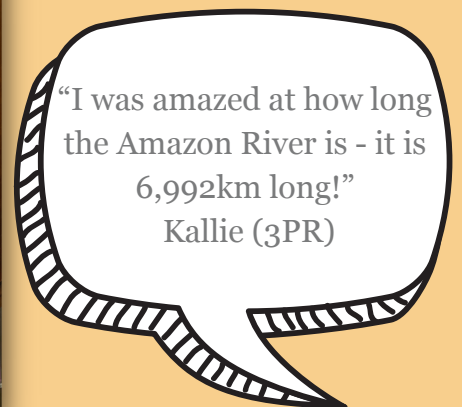
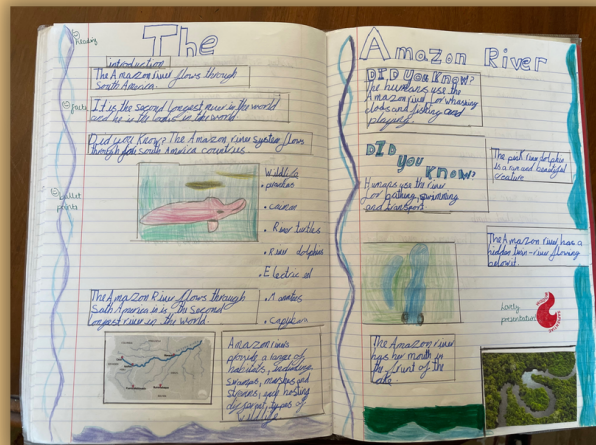
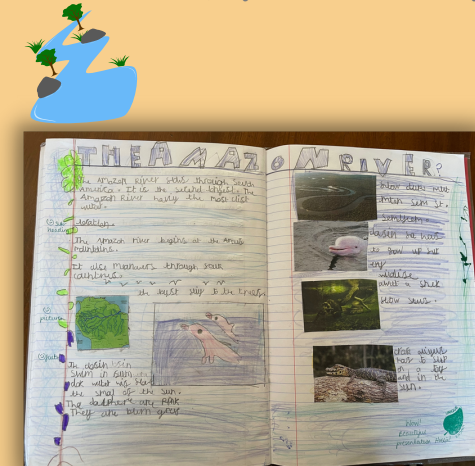
Very well done Year 2 for a great start throughout Autumn Term: we are excited to see what is next.



Year 3 have been learning about rivers and the water cycle this half term through our topic 'Flow.' They have been thoroughly interested in this topic and have produced some wonderful work both in school, and through their home learning. In English we have celebrated Non-Fiction November by focusing on non-chronological reports. The children used a model text about the River Nile to understand the features of this type of text and then proceeded to compile their own research about the Amazon River for their own reports. We are so proud of the children for their hard work and effort and the children are very proud of their final pieces of writing. The children are now producing some wonderful poetry inspired by rivers and how they flow through the countries.

Through our curriculum lessons the children extended their learning of the water cycle to produce an explanation text. Throughout this half term, they have focused on grouping material into paragraphs and how to make their writing more interesting using a variety of sentence starters specifically for non-fiction. We are very proud of the way the children engaged in their lessons and look forward to next half term!

Well done Year 3 - you amaze us daily with your self-motivation and resilience shown towards your learning!

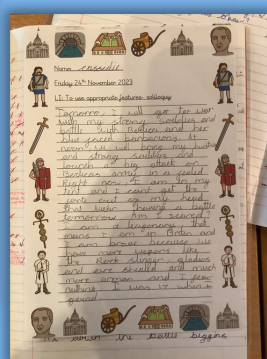
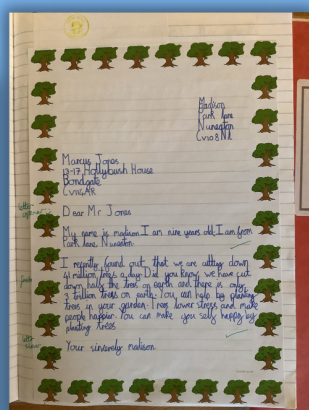
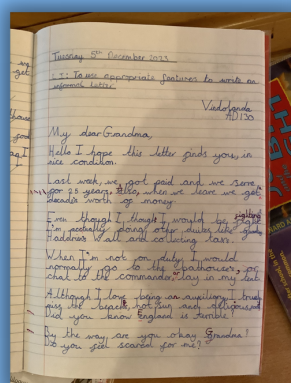


Year 4 & Year 5



This half term, Year 4 have fully immersed themselves in their topic 'I am Warrior.' They have looked at Roman life in their curriculum lessons and this knowledge has fed through into their English lessons. After discovering the differences between formal and informal letters, they practised their learnt skills by sending and receiving letters to family from their Roman barracks. As well as this, as part of our School Social Impact Award, they have also written formal letters to our local MP about changes they would like to see in their own locality applying their formal letter writing skills. In addition to their letters, they have also explored their Roman alter egos; they applied expanded noun phrases and prepositions to write, edit and recite soliloquies in preparation to battle the Celts. The children really enjoyed using their imagination and created fantastically gruesome imagery, drawing upon their five senses.

Well done Year 4 - your curiosity to learn is proving to be an invaluable behaviour as you progress through Key Stage 2.



"We learned about getting ready for the fight. I liked pretending I was a roman imagining what I would feel like before the battle."

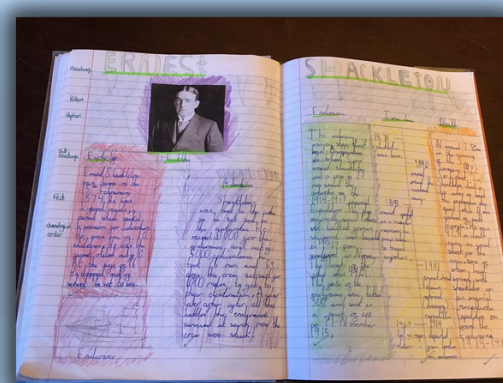
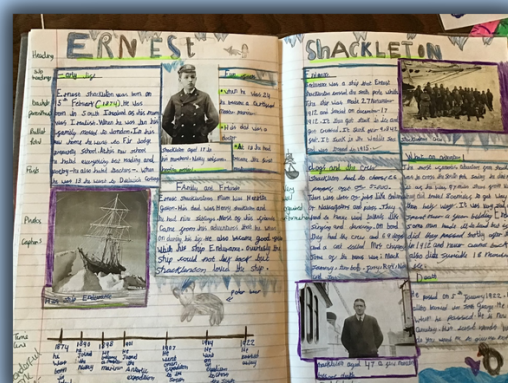
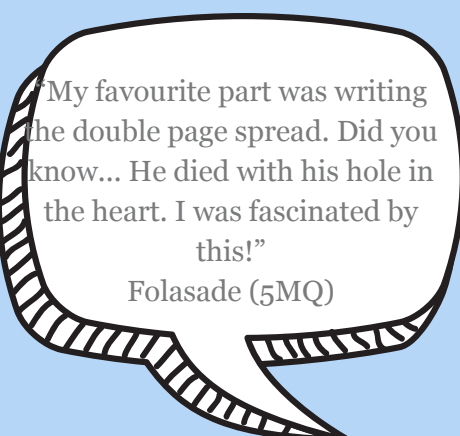
Sofia (4JE)



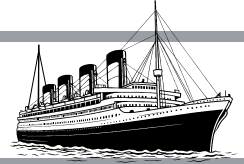
In English, Year 5 have had a very busy half term. Armistice (Remembrance) Day fell in November and to commemorate this, the children created remembrance poems using only expanded noun phrases (two adjectives and a noun). Then they wrote it on to tracing paper and mounted on a background that represented Remembrance Day. The poems were very effective and the children were very proud of them!

We then went on to create a double page spread all about the explorer Ernest Shackleton: this tied in nicely with our topic for this half term, 'Frozen Kingdom.' The writing consisted of lots of facts about Ernest Shackleton and included parenthesis and organisational skills including headings, subheadings, text boxes and layout skills such as using pictures and captions, diagrams and used different colours to highlight information boxes. The children not only learned about Ernest Shackleton, but they enjoyed their learning too!

Well done Year 5, you have embraced this term with respect, kindness and curiosity - keep up the hard work!



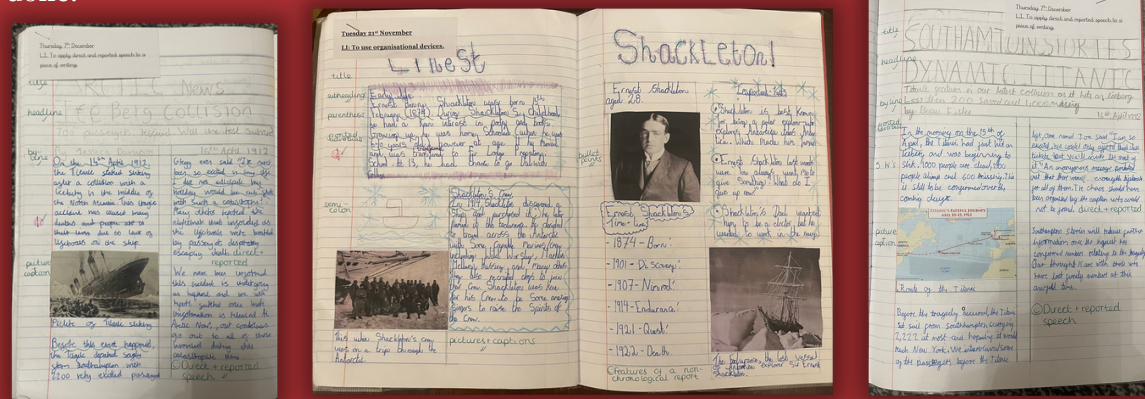
Year 6 & Thrive



This half-term, the children in Year 6 have been honing their writing skills and developing intellectual curiosity for the world around them in Non-Fiction November. In connection to our topic of Frozen Kingdom, Year 6 have delved into the life of the well-known explorer - Ernest Shackleton - and his gripping expeditions to Antarctica. Through research and exploration, the children have captured their findings in creative non-chronological reports. Shackleton's tales were brought to life through the children's creative writing and inquisitiveness and it was great to see so many of them applying their writing skills to their pieces!

Following this, the children set sail on a new literary voyage - this time through the exploration of the ill-fated Titanic. After identifying the features of a newspaper report and drafting research from the events of the Titanic, the children became journalists and created compelling reports that captured the tragedy of the Titanic.

Another phenomenal term for our Year 6 children as they edge closer to their transition to secondary school - very well done.



"I really enjoyed doing the report about Shackleton. I liked letting my imagination and creativity go free across the page, with our research too of course!"
Ava (6GR)

This half term in Thrive we have had multiple focuses each week. We have been exploring different emotions, what they look like and also how do they make our bodies feel. We have created happy and sad book with entries from children of things which make them happy and sad - they really enjoyed reflecting on memories within their lives and it was insightful as we continue learning about our children.



We have also been working in small groups completing a practical, den-building activity: this activity allowed children to communicate and problem-solve as part of a team and applying our learning behaviour of collaboration. The children thoroughly enjoyed playing in their dens after completing their challenge.

Finally, we have also been getting crafty with the countdown to Christmas: this included designing and creating baubles, various other Christmas tree decorations and paper chains, which now proudly hang in our Nurture Room for all to see.

We wish all of our Griffins a very Merry Christmas and look forward to January '24.
Miss Edwards & Miss Knights

thrive

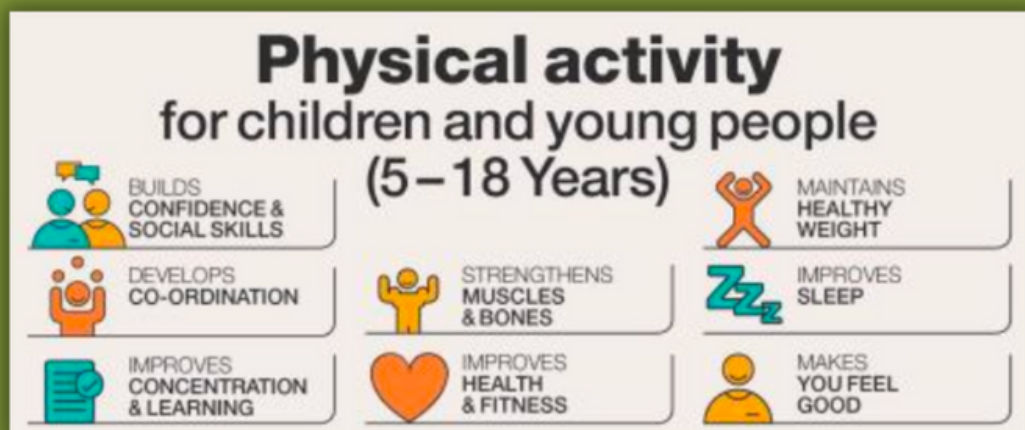


Safe & Active Schools

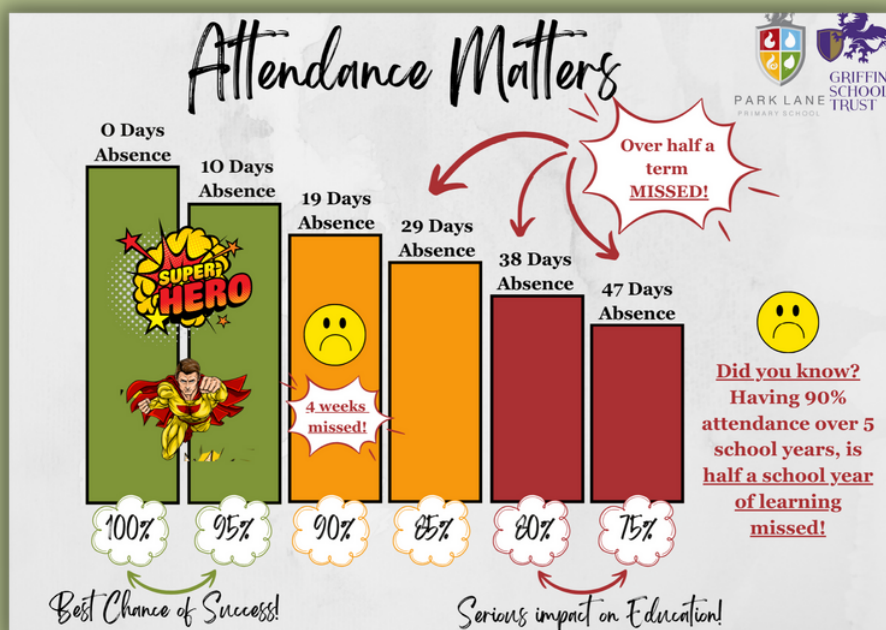
Park Lane is taking part in Warwickshire County Council's 'Safe and Active Travel Programme' this year. The programme has been developed to promote and support road safety and active travel activities and is designed to help schools encourage safe and active journeys. Active travel is proven to have many benefits for our children. With only fifteen minutes of exercise done through active travel, a child's mood can be improved, and concentration increased by up to 4 hours. This is a great way to meet the NHS' recommendation for children to have sixty minutes of exercise per day.

Have you thought about changing #JustOneJourney per week?

Why not consider to Scoot/Bike/Walk on Wednesdays, or if you cannot do the full journey actively, consider parking ten minutes away from the school and walking in?



You might have noticed the posters by the school gates about the importance of your child attending school regularly. We would like children to design their own posters about attendance so that we can use their artwork to motivate others. The 3 top entries will be used around and outside school and will also receive a prize. The poster should be capable of printing off A3 or A4 and can be either portrait or landscape orientation. It should be colourful, inspirational and eye-catching. Children can either hand in a hard copy to their teacher or send it digitally to the office by Wednesday 7th November.



Wide Horizons

Year 1 have had a blast on their out of this world experience today at the National Space Centre. Whilst exploring the Space Centre, the children had lots of opportunities to see real space suits, rockets and we even got to see a piece of the moon! They watched an astronaut show in the planetarium and the children felt like they were really exploring space - it was so much fun.

They concluded their experience by travelling to the top of a rocket in a lift - it felt like they were blasting off into Space, like Neil Armstrong!

What a wonderful experience, Year 1!



As part of their topic, Towers, Tunnels and Turrets, Year 2 visited Warwick Castle. During the trip, they had the opportunity to explore the castle grounds, experiencing some of the things they'd learnt about like the portcullis, the arrow slits, the battlements and the trebuchet that was used to defend the castle.



Our KS2 Griffins enjoyed a walk to church this afternoon and we were thrilled to be hosted by Rev. Kate Massey and Donna for a wonderful Christmas service.

We sang some Christmas songs together and enjoyed hearing some prayers and religious stories from 3 of our Year 6 Griffins: Ava, Miruna and Olivia.



As a Christmas treat and one of our many Proud Traditions, our Griffins were treated to a visit from the pantomime to conclude the Autumn term. The Aladdin pantomime (with a fun twist) was full of laughs and giggles for all ages!

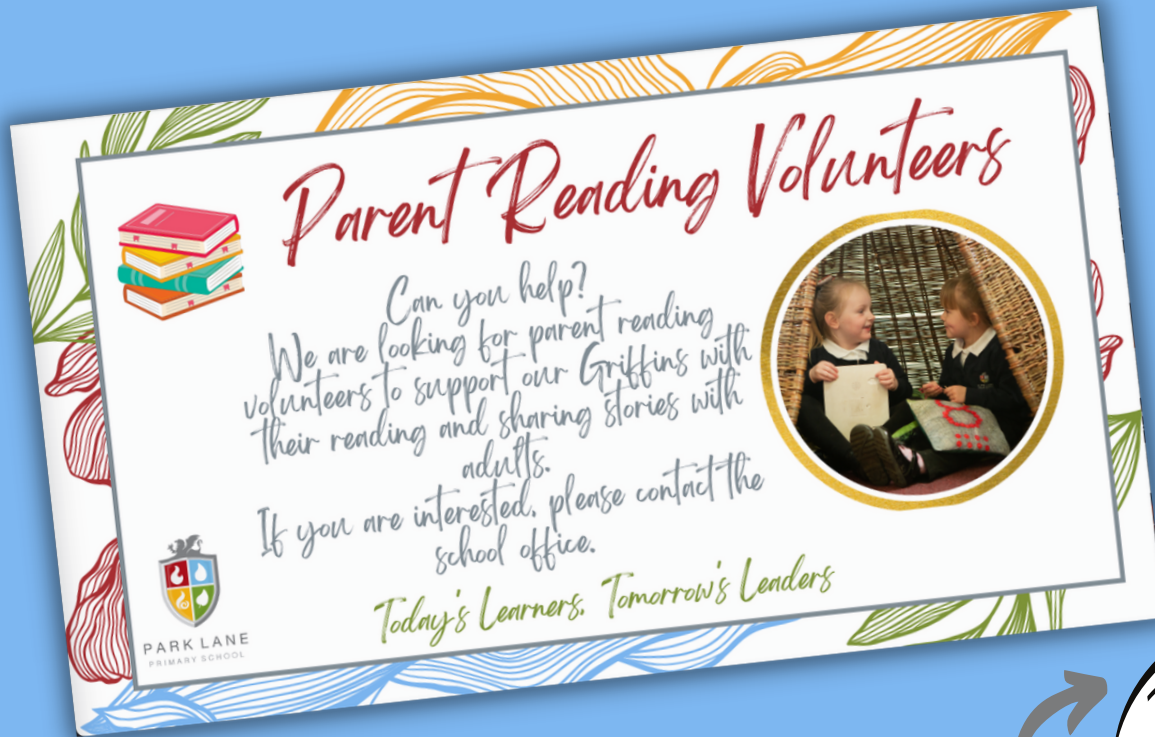


We were thrilled to invite so many of our families to our sporting celebration assemblies earlier this half term. Many of our Griffins were recognised for their improvement, progress and hard work in their PE lessons with Miss Davies and Mr Such. A special mention was given to Year 3, who collectively have shown the most positive attitude to learning in PE across the school.

As well as this, we have had various sporting success to celebrate throughout the Autumn Term including speed stacking and our Rowing Team success.



What's New?!



Scan the QR code to be guided to our Google Form sign up sheet for our Co-Curricular Offer for Spring Term!

