

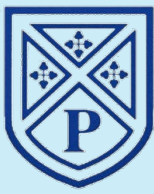
Parkside Middle School

PARKSIDE 'DAY OF LOVE'

This Valentine's Day, we are thrilled to recognise students who have been nominated by their peers for "spreading the love" through acts of kindness and friendship. These wonderful individuals have gone above and beyond to support others, showing compassion, care, and a positive spirit. As a token of appreciation, each nominee has won a special prize from the valentine themed vending machine. Congratulations to all the students who make our school a kinder and more welcoming place!

Elyssa N	Tyler H	Zac L	Eve U	Toby S
Leyla N	Mia M	Lucas D	Keyara P	Eleanor H
Harley S	Seren L	Freddie R	Daisy W	Francesca H
Sonny B	Aivah B	James C	Thomas B	Honey C





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PRIDE OF PARKSIDE

Congratulations to the pupils who have earned a Pride of Parkside certificate this half term. These pupils are:



Dillan M	Rezwan A	Melody D	Myles M	Rory D	Bobby C	Ethan W-D
Aubree C	William S	Logan H	Rosie K	Seren L	Seth P	Cameron D
Harvey D	Joey R	Elodie H	Riley P	Poppy R	Zach R	Charlie-Mai Y
Oliver F	Paige H	Oscar E	Ewan M	Phoebe B	Finnley J	Benjamin R
Harvey R	Finley O	Nieva R	Piper S	Holly W	Mila W	Harrison H
Ella P	Immy G	Eli D				

POLICE CADETS

A fantastic event took place on Wednesday 5th February, as we celebrated the achievements of our pupils who recently completed a five-week Police Cadet course. This programme was packed with hands-on tasks that really brought the role of a police officer to life. The cadets learned essential skills, such as taking fingerprints and understanding their call handle, which gave them a taste of what it's like to work in the police force. We were thrilled to invite parents along to the Passing Out Parade, where they could proudly see their young cadets receive their certificate from Sargent Jenks and PC Hatton.



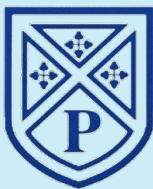
STEM

A selection of 16 Key Stage 2 pupils recently took part in an exciting STEM event where they had the chance to apply their design and technology skills to create an automatic braking train. It was fantastic to see them getting hands-on and using their creativity to tackle the challenge. The atmosphere was buzzing as they collaborated and shared ideas, really demonstrating the 'Parkside Value of Teamwork' throughout the event.

To make things even better, three Year 8 pupils joined in to support the younger ones, offering encouragement and guidance as they worked in pairs. Their enthusiasm and willingness to help made a real difference.



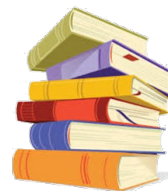
Overall, it was a brilliant morning filled with learning, problem-solving and, most importantly, lots of fun!



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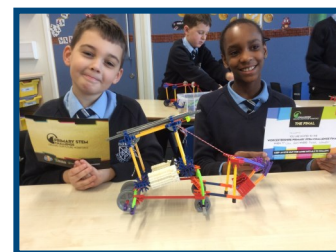
CRYPTO LIBRARY CODEBREAKER!

Our Crypto Library competition taken place over the last two weeks. Pupils had to complete an Accelerated Reader quiz for a chance to crack the code. A well-deserved congratulations goes to Noah R in 5JB who cracked the code. He was delighted with all of his prizes!



STEM KNEX WORKSHOP

On Thursday 13th February, 30 pupils from Year 5 took part in the STEM Works KNEX challenge. They were given an Engineering task to design and make a machine to transport a small load (like soil), using only KNEX pieces. Naomi and Ewan won this year's challenge and will represent the school at the upcoming final in June.



All pupils worked brilliantly, demonstrating fantastic teamwork, problem solving and communication skills. Sarah (who delivered the workshop) was extremely impressed with all of the vehicles built. We will keep you updated on how Parkside do in the final!

SPACEMAN Q&A

We recently held an exciting Virtual Q & A session with our special guest, Chris Rolland, who shared his passion for space with our Year 5 pupils.

Chris answered a variety of space-themed questions, revealing fascinating insights about the thousands of satellites orbiting our planet. He explained how his journey in astronomy has taught him the importance of being open-minded, as the field is always evolving with new discoveries.



The pupils were particularly thrilled when Chris showed them an actual meteorite and a piece of Mars, making the experience all the more tangible.

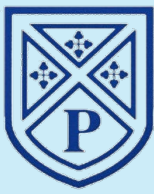
One pupil exclaimed how much they loved having their questions answered by Chris, and they really enjoyed the experience. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to learn and engage with someone who shares their enthusiasm for space, sparking curiosity and wonder about the universe.

WHO LET THE GODS OUT

To launch our new reading text "Who Let the Gods Out", Year 5 pupils experienced an author visit on Wednesday 8th January. Maz Evans did a brilliant virtual visit to our school and answered many of the pupils questions. She explained what inspired her to write the book, told the pupils about the characters and also explained her journey to becoming an author.



All the pupils thoroughly enjoyed the visit and many are already planning to look for her books in the school library. Eden f(5JP) said "I think she is amazing!". Eve (5JP) added "She inspired me for when I write more of my own stories."



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CIVIL ENGINEERING CAREERS ASSEMBLY

We had a fantastic assembly on 20th January as our Year 8 pupils had the opportunity to hear from the inspiring Kate, a Civil Engineer from Griffiths. Kate brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the talk, sharing her journey into the world of civil engineering and the many pathways available to young people exploring this career.



With engaging stories and real-life examples, she highlighted what a career in civil engineering entails, from designing bridges and roads to managing large construction projects. The students were eager to learn about the various specialisations within the field and the importance of teamwork and problem-solving skills.

Kate's visit sparked lively discussions, and it was evident that many of our pupils left with new aspirations and ideas about their futures. A huge thank you to Kate for taking the time to inspire the next generation of Engineers!

This was followed up in Maths lessons for the half-termly 'Carers linked to Math's' starter with pupils completing further research for homework.

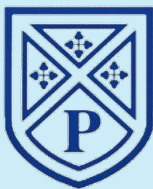
COVENTRY RFC TRIP

In January we took some of our pupils to watch a Coventry City rugby match. Pupils not only got to watch a very exciting game of rugby against Doncaster but also took part in a training session with some of the players. Pupils also got to stand and welcome players onto the pitch with 6 pupils being chosen to be mascots. It was a great day and a fantastic experience.



YOUNG VOICES

On 14th January we had the absolute pleasure of taking 44 children from all year groups to the BP Pulse Arena to perform as part of the 6,600 strong Young Voices Choir. The day was a huge success and all the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves, they really sang their hearts out! We would like to give them all a huge well done, as they represented Parkside brilliantly and made us so proud!



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YEAR 7 DISTRICT NETBALL

Parkside Year 7 Girls' netball team were impressive at the District Netball tournament held at St. Johns Middle School, finishing second in their group after securing victories against Aston Fields (3-0) and Catshill (4-1). They faced a tough challenge against Westacre, resulting in a 1-4 loss. The team then secured a well-deserved bronze medal in the tournament following a convincing 6-2 victory in the third-place play-off against Alvechurch, an incredible achievement for a talented and hardworking squad!



RUGBY TOURNAMENT

On Tuesday 4th February, the Year 8 Rugby team took part in a rugby tournament hosted at Bromsgrove School. Despite some terrible weather conditions, there were some incredible performances by the boys who were led well by captain Caileb. The boys played against Woodrush and Aston Fields but unfortunately lost both games. Well done to everyone who participated!



PRIMARY PANATHLON

Pupils from Parkside participated in a Key Stage 2 sports competition, known as the Panathlon, an event that showcases a diverse range of disciplines that test the students' skills and teamwork. From the precision of Boccia to the target throw, the strategic table cricket, the precise tenpin skittles, and the intensity of the basketball shoot, the pupils faced a challenging array of activities. Parkside pupils emerged victorious, earning well-deserved gold medals.

The victory means that our Key Stage 2 pupils will represent North Worcestershire in the Primary Panathlon finals in March.

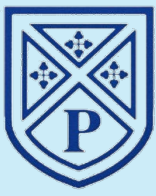


SECONDARY PANATHLON

Our Year 7 and 8 pupils showcased their athletic prowess at the Secondary Panathlon held at the Ryland Centre in Bromsgrove. Engaging in a diverse range of sports such as basketball shoot out, skittles, tennis, boccia and curling, the students demonstrated exceptional skills and sportsmanship. Their collective efforts resulted in accumulating enough points to secure a commendable third position, earning them well-deserved bronze medals.

We take great pride in the dedication and enthusiasm they exhibited throughout the competition, highlighting not only their individual talents but also their ability to work seamlessly as a team in pursuit of success on the Panathlon stage.





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YEAR 8 DISTRICT NETBALL

Our Year 8 netball team recently competed in a district tournament where they showcased incredible skill and determination, not losing a single game. Although they drew with Alvechurch and St. Johns in two very tough games, their performance remained strong throughout. Ultimately, they secured silver medals, a well-deserved achievement for their hard work and teamwork. Adele was named 'Player of the Tournament' for her outstanding defensive play, repeatedly winning back possession and keeping the pressure on the opposition. The team's remarkable effort and resilience in each match earned them a fantastic result, and they can be incredibly proud of their achievement.

YEAR 5, 6 & 7 CROSS COUNTRY

On Thursday 6th February, we had 5 pupils participate in the Worcestershire School Games Cross Country finals yesterday. There were some incredible performances from our pupils who did amazingly well to get to this stage. They were representing North Worcestershire and were a real credit to the school. Well done to all that took part!



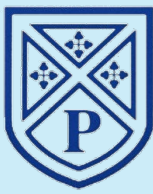
YEAR 8 CROSS COUNTRY

On Tuesday 21st January, Jack C from Year 8 took part in the next round of the Hereford and Worcestershire District Cross Country Championships. Jack was racing against pupils his age but also pupils from the year above him. Well done to Jack on finishing 39th out of 90 on the day, an amazing effort!

YEAR 5/6 SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS

This half term we had lots of pupils from KS2 and KS3 participate in the Sportshall Athletics hosted at South Bromsgrove High School. This competition includes running, jumping and throwing events against other local schools. Parkside competed with Aston Fields, Catshill, St John's and Alvechurch in a series of events and performed incredibly well. Well done to all the pupils who took part.





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YEAR 8 BOYS FOOTBALL

The Year 8 boys have also been busy with cup football fixtures this half term. We have played against Nunnery Wood Secondary and Churchill Middle. There were some excellent performances from the boys who played some quality football in both games. We are waiting to find out if we have made it through to the next round of the EFSA cup.



YEAR 7 & 8 INTER-SCHOOL RUGBY

In the last week of half term, Mr Spalding hosted some inter-school rugby matches at lunchtime.

All KS3 pupils were able to sign up to participate and gave up their lunchtime to do so. These games are always really competitive and played in great spirit. Well done to all those who participated.

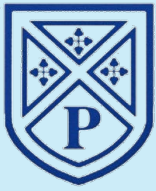
KS2 & KS3 DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

On Tuesday 12th February, 6 pupils from KS2 and 10 KS3 pupils participated in the District Dodgeball Competition held at the Ryland Centre. We have not been involved in a Dodgeball tournament before so it was great to participate in a different activity. There were some astounding performances. Our pupils showed tenacity and strived to improve with every game, with the KS3 girls team coming away with 2nd place silver medal. Well done to all that took part and gave it their all.

YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL

This half term we have had 3 Year 7 football fixtures against Churchill, St Bedes and Bredon Hill. With so many of the boys in Year 7 being interested in football, Mr Spalding has tried to give as many pupils an opportunity to represent the school in competitive fixtures, well done to all the boys that have represented the school with enthusiasm and passion.





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**MOMENTS
MATTER.
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

ATTENDANCE

As we approach the end of this half term I would like to remind parents and carers of the attendance legislation that came in to force in August 2024. This applies to absence in term time (holidays) and any other unauthorised absence.

[Legal-Information-for-Parents-and-Carers-LEAFLET-NEW-for-Sept-2024.pdf](#)

[Attendance-changes-from-August-2024.pdf](#)

As a school we are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers to ensure that children are supported to attend school and reach their full potential. If there are any reasons that prevent your child from attending school or if you would like to discuss your child's attendance please contact our Attendance Officer, Miss Harper.

Please ensure that absences are reported by 09:00am and we ask that you contact us **EVERY** day your child is unwell. Any unreported absences are marked as unauthorised on your child's attendance report. Please be aware that home visits are undertaken when a child has been absent for three days with no contact from parents. Should your child be absent for 10 days with no contact, a referral will be made to the Children Missing in Education Team (CME) at Worcestershire County Council.



PARKSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Portals

Contact Us

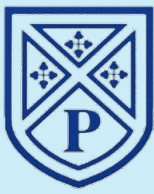
WhatsApp

Contact Form

Absence Form

01527 873660

Home Our School Year Groups Our Curriculum Parents/Carers New Pupils



Illness-related absence

We continue to have a high level of absence due to illness. Our attendance team monitor attendance on a regular basis and if we become concerned about the level of illness related absence your child has had we may contact you and request medical evidence to support this. Without this evidence the absence will be unauthorised.

We understand that for parents and carers it can be difficult to know when to send your child in to school if they are feeling unwell. It is usually safe for children to attend school with mild illnesses, like a cough, runny nose or sore throat. However children should stay at home if they have a high temperature of 38° or above.

The NHS has published guidance to help parents and carers decide whether their child is well enough to attend school. This includes information on a range of common childhood illnesses and conditions such as coughs, colds, chicken pox and headlice. See the below link to access this information.

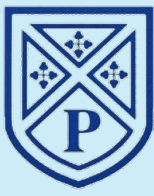
[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

Handi App

The HANDi App is designed to help parents and carers know what to do when their child is unwell - whether that's looking after them at home, taking them to see a GP, using the NHS 111 service, or visiting an urgent care service. It has been developed and approved by local NHS paediatricians and other healthcare professionals.

If your child is unwell, HANDi will ask you questions about your child's condition to help you decide the best course of action - and with all the advice on HANDi developed and approved by NHS paediatricians and other healthcare professionals, you can rest assured that you're getting the best possible advice.

You can find out more here and download [HANDi App :: Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care System](#) for free on iOS or Android devices



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PARKING/ROAD SAFETY

Our main car park gates close between 8:40am and 9:15am and 3:00pm and 3:30pm each day. Please can we also remind parents and carers to be mindful that the car park is for staff, visitor use and drop off only. Please may we remind pupils of road safety and sensible conduct on the way to and from school, remembering to use the zebra/pelican crossings when arriving/leaving school. Local residents have raised concerns wanting our pupils to stay safe.

BICYCLES

If your child wishes to cycle to school, please ensure they follow the highway code. When arriving at school pupils can lock the bicycle away safely in the bike shed. When leaving school, please can all pupils push their bike until off the school site before cycling away safely to protect Parkside and Meadows pupils and parents. Scooters are not permitted as mode of transport to and from school.

MEDICATION

Should pupils require medication in school, a medical consent form should be completed and signed by parents and carers. Please note we are unable to give medication unless it is in the original packaging with instructions. We keep a small amount of Calpol in school for emergencies. If you know your child may require Calpol in school, please bring in a supply for us to use. If your child has pierced ears, please can we ask that you supply tape for them to use in PE for health and safety reasons.



LUNCHTIME

Lunchtime meals are now £2.64, pupils can also buy a drink to go with their meal at an additional cost. If pupils are bringing their own sandwiches, please remember to bring in a drink. If you are entitled to FSM, please apply even if your child does not want the meals, as additional funding is made available for the school for other purposes, which will benefit your child. Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school each day.



STAFF NEWS

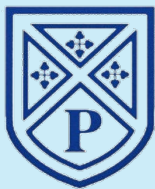
As this half term comes to an end we would like to congratulate Mr Fletcher who will be getting married!

END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Can we remind parents/carers that school finishes at 3:15pm. For safeguarding reasons, if you are unable to collect your children at the end of the school day, please make alternative arrangements for them to be picked up at this time or use Castle Kids Care Club. Our staff are not in a position to be able to supervise your children after school, and it is not appropriate for them to be sat waiting in reception.

POLITE REMINDER

Please remember smoking or vaping is not permitted on school premises.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

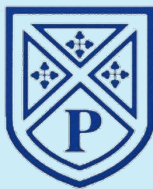
SPRING TERM 2024

Monday 24 th February	School reopens
Tuesday 4 th March	Parents Evening (F2F)
Thursday 6 th March	Parents Evening (Virtual)
Tuesday 11 th March	Parents Evening (Virtual)
Friday 11 th April	School closes for Easter holidays

EQUIPMENT LIST

During the half-term please ensure your child has all of the essential equipment listed below,

Blue handwriting pen	Whiteboard pen (Dry wipe)
Pencil	Pencil crayons
Ruler (cm/mm)	Glue stick
Rubber	Pencil case (small)
Pencil sharpener	Highlighter
Green pen	Wired headphones for Computing
Scientific calculator (KS3 only) – these can be purchased from the school via ParentPay.	



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Young Creators Online Competition 2025 - Theme Identity - Creative Arts



Event Details

Date

Opens 1st February - 30th April 2025

Time:

Online - with Free Workshops

Event Location:

Free Workshops at:- Bromsgrove Methodist Centre, 23rd February 11.30 - 15.30 p.m Catshill Village Hall, 16th March 12.30 - 15.30 p.m. The Pod, Humphrey Ave, Charford, 11.00 - 15.30 p.m. Rubery Community & Leisure Centre - TBC