

PARKLANDS PRESS

Summer 2023



Welcome to our summer newsletter. We hope you are all enjoying the sunshine (even though they are usually followed by showers) and looking forward to getting away and having a break over the next few weeks if you have not done so already.

Thank you to all the dads and grandads who joined us to celebrate Father's Day last month. It was a lovely afternoon with lots of fun activities and a very special atmosphere. We will be celebrating Grandparent's Day in late September, so look out for an invite to this very special celebration as well.

Pre-School held their Sports Day last week followed by our school leaver's picnic (check out Facebook for the photos) and finally their leaver's party. We hope all our not-so-little ones are proud of their medals, bespoke bags, named key rings and graduation photos to mark their years at Parklands. We wish them all the very best as they begin the adventures of primary school. It would be lovely if we could share some photos of them in their school uniform with the rest of Pre-School in September, so please remember to email us after a uniform trying on session or even on their first day.

A huge thank you to everyone who took part in our Wear Red for Ruby Day last week. Ruby's Fund is a local charity who do the vital work of providing support for families of children with special educational needs and disabilities. Your donations raised £118 which will go directly to helping to keep their centre and services open. The older children were all aware of the reasons why we collectively wore red and donated money and were involved in activities centred around Ruby's Fund throughout the day.

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The children have recently been enjoying our new cookery sessions with Ruth. They began with a food tasting activity where they smelt, felt and then tasted some summer fruits and discussed how they help to keep us healthy. The sessions will be fully interactive and fun, where the children become little chefs in their chef hats and aprons. These special sessions with Ruth are intended to inspire the children to have curiosity and love of food, which develops their palates and supports them to make healthy choices in the future.

Along with this newsletter you will find a poster which outlines our curriculum. It includes views from all of us, including the children, but please let us know if there is anything else you would like us to include or have any feedback. Our curriculum is tailored to meet the needs of our current group of children and is reviewed regularly.

Staff News:

A warm welcome to Jodie and Katey who joined the Inters and Pre-School Teams over the past couple of months. Jodie joins us following working in a reception class and Katey has a background in childminding and is currently beginning her NVQ in Childcare, along with Ally in Inters and Lauren in Pre-School.



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While your child is at Parklands Day Nursery they will have an electronic learning journey called Learning Book which uses a secure hand held tablet to collect Wow Moments - a photograph or video which may include a little text but will not be linked to any learning outcomes. The photo/video may be a moment when your child is particularly engaged with an activity, learning something specific or simply showing them happy and content. There will be no limit on these but as a guide you should receive one each week. We believe this will give you an insight into your child's day and allow the practitioners to spend quality time interacting with the children and shaping their experiences. We urge you to upload photos of your child's Wow Moments from home as this will help the key worker to see your child's individual interests and consider what additional experiences they may like. It is worth mentioning that every photo/video needs to be uploaded from the main nursery office and checked for suitability before uploading onto Learning Book. Although we (management) do this on a weekly basis, when we are working within the base rooms there may be a delay in you receiving the photos/videos.

Look out for the information boards at the room entrances which will give you details on the week's menu, book of the week and planned group activities. Planned activities will continue to originate from the children's interests, next developmental steps, your input and whatever is going on around them in the world at the time. You will also see a "Next Week" sheet which will outline specific events or activities and ways in which you can be engaged, along with your child. Practitioners will be encouraging you to be involved in activity planning as much as possible to give you a connection with your child's experiences at nursery.

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Reminders:

- Please drive very slowly within the nursery car park, particularly on entering the grounds. There have been a couple of near accidents recently.
- We are coming to the end of a very busy period at nursery and ask you to be patient with us if we are unable to respond to your emails as quickly as usual. Please ring to speak to us if your query is urgent.
- Please make sure that we have sun hats for the children on warmer days and apply sun cream prior to coming to nursery.
- The government's tax free childcare scheme - you can get up to £500 every 3 months (up to £2,000 a year) for each of your children to help with the costs of childcare. Set up an online account for your child and for every £8 you pay into this account, the government will pay in £2 to use to pay your provider. Parklands are registered with this scheme and we encourage you to sign up if you have not done so already.

Please note that Parklands will be closed on the bank holiday of Monday 28th August.

We hope you all have a wonderful summer.

Jane, Gail, Vicky and all of the Parklands Team.