



The Parkland Federation

Aim High, Work Hard, Dream Big

Merci - Thank you in French



14th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope that you had a happy and healthy Christmas and enjoyed some quality time with your families.

We are **absolutely delighted** to be back and open to all pupils in every year group. We are aware of several local schools who have had to close year groups due to rising covid cases and teacher shortages and wanted to let you know about the ongoing precautions that we have in place in order to minimise the spread of Covid-19. We:

- ★ Have an enhanced cleaning schedule in place
- ★ Monitor daily the number of Covid cases among pupils and staff. We work closely with Public Health and take advice about next steps regarding close contacts and possible outbreaks.
- ★ Have moved our whole school assemblies online so that pupils are not sitting inside the hall with pupils outside of their year groups for an extended period
- ★ Have asked staff to wear face masks in communal areas when not teaching
- ★ Provided LFTs to staff for regular testing
- ★ Regularly promote good hygiene rules with all pupils
- ★ Ensure all classrooms are well ventilated
- ★ Only arrange outside agency visits to the school if they are essential

Should there be multiple positive cases in your child's class, we would contact you to ask you to be vigilant. We are exceptionally grateful to our wonderful staff who have all demonstrated incredible flexibility by covering multiple roles and working additional hours to ensure that we can cover for staff members who are absent. We will continue to review these procedures regularly and thank you in advance for your ongoing support and patience.





EYFS

Happy new year to all our wonderful Inkpen and Kerr families! We have been very busy for the last two weeks and we have started a new topic of "Once Upon a Time!" So far, our learning has focused on Jack and the Beanstalk, and a huge beanstalk has grown right through the ceilings of our classrooms! We have planted our own magic beans, decided whether Jack was right or wrong to steal the Golden Hen and we have thought about the feelings of the different characters in the story. We have also had a very exciting development in our EYFS garden - one of our chickens has started laying eggs! The children are thoroughly enjoying collecting the eggs from the coop every day.

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week - Loxley and Willow (Kerr) Oliver and Toby (Inkpen) also to our Dojo winners - Louie.J and Mollie (Kerr) Isla and Louie.K (Inkpen)

Year 1

Year 1 have had a fantastic start to Term 3 and are enjoying their new topic. 'Kingdom of Ice'. The children have started learning about Robert Falcon Scott in History and his chilly expedition to the South Pole! The children have also started learning about everyday materials in Science, balancing in PE and have been having lots of fun reading their new book in English, "Lost and Found". The children have been facing a tricky topic in maths learning about tens and ones, but they have done a fantastic job using resources such as tens frames and tens blocks to represent different numbers. A huge well done for all their hard work so far this term!

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week - Fin and Mikey (Donaldson), Mackenzie and Cody (Shireen) and also to our Dojo winners Melody and Rose (Donaldson) Teddy and Alastair (Shireen)

Year 2

Welcome back to Term 3, Year 2! We are so excited to be starting our new topic 'Incredible Inventions'. We have started off the week by creating our own 'Snooze-a-tron' - an invention inspired by Wallace & Gromit. In maths, we are using resources to support our learning about multiplication.

Our science lessons have been bug-tastic as we have explored the life cycle of various creatures. This week, we observed some real wax worms and wrote detailed observations about what we could see. In history, we began to look at The Great Fire of London and spent time asking questions about a range of sources to explore our understanding of the subject.

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week Bailey & Theo (Beaty) and James F and Layla (Santat). Also to our Dojo winners, Mason, Bailey & Victoria (Beaty) and Mollie and Koli (Santat) ,



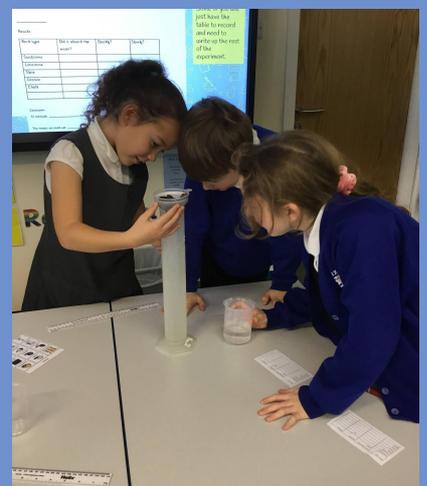
Year 3

Wow, we have started with a bang! The children are very excited to get stuck into our new topic, 'Extreme Earth'. Our topic is Science and Geography based which is great for our curious minds in Year 3 - we do love fact finding!

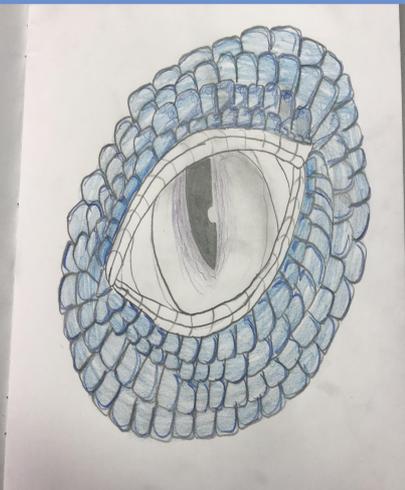
Science rocks! We have looked at how rocks are formed and through hands on experiments we have been investigating properties of rocks. In Geography we have focused on the Earth and looked at its layers.

In English we have been exploring language to describe a volcano as well as creating our own posters using similes, metaphors and personification. A fabulous start to the New Year!

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week Harley & David (Harrison) Eric & Isabella (Woodson) - also to our Dojo winners Mason & Alannah (Harrison) Jayden & Isobel (Woodson)



Year 4



Year 4 embarked upon a trip through history as they journeyed back 2,000 years to Roman times. The children learned about the history of the Roman Empire, the Emperors of Rome and how the Romans have shaped the world as we know it. The children then created their own Roman swords, shields and Roman architecture! Amazing work!

Thank you to all parents and carers for supporting this day so well, and of course, a massive thank you must go to the children for taking part in the day with such energy. A fun time was had by all and the children learned so much about this period of history.

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week, Lincoln and Brooke (Blackman) Alyssa and Amelia (Walliams) and also to our Dojo winners, Ciaran and Jack (Blackman) Oscar and Lily Fe (Walliams)

Year 5

Last week, Year 5 has an Art day to introduce our new topic, 'Traders and Raiders'. We learnt about how the Anglo Saxons got to Britain and we made models of longboats. This was quite intricate - but we did it! The children wrote some amazing Dragon acrostic poems. Both Mrs Carver and Miss Shadwell were so impressed by the children's **amazing** use of vocabulary.

We also studied dragon eyes in Art. We will be making these into clay sculptures in the next few weeks. Watch this space!

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week - River & Jay (Wilson) Luke and Jessica (Zephaniah) and also to our Dojo winners - Mya & Scarlet-Rose (Wilson) Sean and Jesse (Zephaniah)

Year 6



Firstly, a Happy New Year to all of our Year 6 parents and carers and a big thank you for your continued support. The children started the term with their new topic, 'The Amazing Americas'. They have used a variety of resources to find out about the different countries that make up North and South America. They have produced and presented to the class amazing Powerpoint presentations explaining about one country of their choice. The children are now able to explain the human and physical features of their country, its population, currency, food, flag, languages spoken and much, much more. A fantastic start to the term.

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week - Elliott and Riley (6 Rosen) Evie and Harley (6 Mian). Also to our Dojo winners, Stanley and Oliver (6 Rosen) and Ronnie and Bailey (6 Mian)

This Week's Attendance Figures:

Excellent attendance at school allows a child to have the best possible start in life. All pupils should aim for at least **97%** attendance in order to ensure they do not miss out on their education.

Inkpen Class (YR) 95%	Kerr Class (YR) 96%	Shireen Class (Y1) 94%
Donaldson Class (Y1) 93%	Santat Class (Y2) 94%	Beaty Class (Y2) 94%
Harrison Class (Y3) 96 %	Woodson Class (Y3) 94%	Walliams Class (Y4) 92%
Blackman Class (Y4) 91%	Zephaniah Class (Y5) 94%	Wilson Class (Y5) 94%
Mian Class (Y6) 96%	Rosen Class (Y6) 93%	The Highest Attendance Award goes to Kerr, Harrison and Mian class.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council Update



Our School Council has met this week to discuss ideas for the promotion of healthy eating across our school. We only allow fruit as a healthy snack during our break times and hope that the children will be encouraged to do this at home too. We are also promoting a litter-free school as we provide bins for the fruit skins and cores at break, these are then disposed of in our food waste bins and are collected, treated and used as soil conditioner and fertiliser for local farmers. Our 'Citizen of the Fortnight' at the Juniors is... Hollie in 4 Blackman for being a fabulous role model who helps children during Football club as well as in the classroom! Our 'Citizen of the Fortnight' at the Infants is Scarlett in Kerr for always being kind to others. Scarlett is a kind friend and is always checking in on people.



Eco Committee Update



Our **Eco tip** this fortnight is to **Turn off your lights!** Turning off the lights when you're not in the room is such an easy thing to do and **impacts the amount of energy** you are using in your home. We have also made this a huge focus at school as the children have been reminding the adults to also turn off their classroom lights when they are not in there! With soaring energy costs, this will help reduce your bills too!



We need your help! We would love a parent representative to join our Eco committee. It will require meeting with us once a term to discuss the on going work for our Eco Green Award. If you would like to know more details then please contact Mrs Walker via email:

kim.walker@swale.at

Mental Health and Wellbeing Support



Swale
ACADEMIES
TRUST

CLICK
HERE



on Safeguarding For Parents Curriculum Health & Wellbeing Remote Education

As the long and dark winter months continue, we recognise that this can be a difficult time for some people. Please do remember to use the Wellbeing section of our website for information on how you can get support from us in school as well as external agencies. Mrs Das can be found in the car park area every morning if you would like to have a chat with her as our Pastoral Lead. Her email address can also be found below. Mrs Das can also link you up with our Family Liaison Officer who can advise you on a plethora of subjects from sleep, eating habits, behaviour at home and financial benefits you may be entitled to etc.

[Young Minds](#) is a charity for children, young people and parents affected by mental health issues. They provide practical advice and tips on supporting your child - from how to encourage your child to open up about their feelings to dealing with mental health services. [Click here for the link to Young Minds](#)



If you require any support or advice about pastoral support, please contact Mrs Alison Das at alison.das@swale.at

Here to help ☺

Understanding Children's Mental Health

How to identify when your child needs support with their mental health and what you can do

We know that it is sometimes hard to know what to do when your child is experiencing difficulties and to recognise what is normal everyday behaviour for your child as part of growing up or the start of a mental health difficulty.

- Me & My Mind provides a 1-hour workshop on understanding mental health and what mental health difficulties might look like for a child.
- The workshop includes strategies to help Parents and Carers to manage mental health difficulties at home.
- Including resources and activities ideas that you can do at home with your family.

Tuesday 15th February 2022, 4pm to 5pm

[Click here to book](#) or email us

Me & My Mind is a Children's Mental Health service working in your school.

We can be contacted on:

Email: mhst.info@eastsussex.gov.uk

Call: 01273 335585



Understanding Sleep: What is it and how can you support your child?

Sleep plays a central role in our learning, emotional regulation, behaviour, and how we interact with others – all of which might help to explain the vital role that sleep plays in our ability to interact and cope with the world around us.

- Me & My Mind provides an **online** 1-hour workshop on understanding sleep and what may cause sleeping difficulties.
- The workshop includes strategies to help Parents and Carers to promote good sleep habits at home.
- Including resources and activities ideas that you can do at home with your family.

**Monday 28th March 2022, 4pm to
5pm [Click here to book](#) or email us**

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Call: 01273 335585

or scan the QR code for a short film about our team.

Understanding Anxiety: What is it and how can you support your child?

Anxiety is a normal and healthy human reaction. When anxiety is mild to moderate, it can often improve performance but sometimes anxiety can become a problem when it interferes with everyday life.

- Me & My Mind provides an **online** 1.5 hour workshop on understanding anxiety and what it might look like for a child (behaviours and physical signs).
- The workshop includes strategies to help Parents and Carers to manage anxiety at home.
- Including resources and activities ideas that you can do at home with your family.

Tuesday 22nd March 2022, 1:00pm to 2:30pm

[Click here to book](#) or email us

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or scan the QR code for a short film about our team.

Scientist of the Term

Well done to Annabelle in Blackman Class for being nominated by Mrs Walker for Scientist of the term. Mrs Walker said it was for "her understanding of the new scientific concepts taught and what the new vocabulary linked to our learning means".

Well done to Kitty in Shireen Class for having such a positive attitude towards science and always asking fantastic questions in lessons. Well done budding scientists! We wonder who it could be next term?



Science

Sports Person of the Term

Congratulations to Charlie from the Junior school and Skye from the Infant school on winning the Sports Person of the Term award! They are so deserving of this award and continue to shine by demonstrating all of the school values consistently during their PE sessions. They are also both exceptional team members and can follow instructions to the letter! Bravo!



Congratulations!

Animal Club

Mrs Taylor and Mrs Modestou have been busy with the Parkland Animal Groups. They have been walking the llamas, ensuring they have plenty of leaves and branches to munch on and brushing their coats. They have also been taking exceptionally good care of the ducks (who have absolutely loved the recent rainy period!) and our lovely hens who have been treated to a selection of vegetables so that they stay healthy. They are loving working with the children!



ANIMAL CLUB

Dance Club

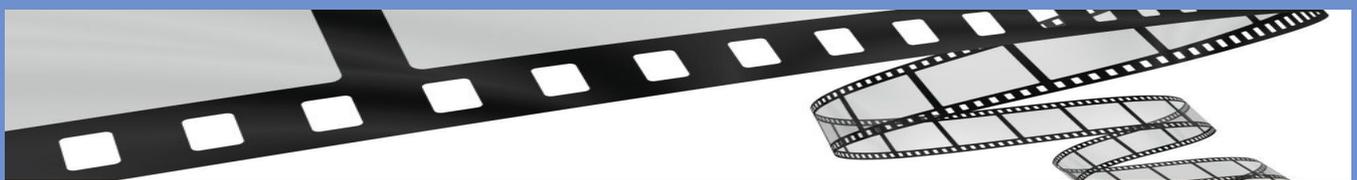
Mr Wildman is thoroughly enjoying taking Dance Club each Thursday. He has a passion for dance and is our resident expert! Children at the club have been working on how to move around the space with warm ups, learning a small routine set to music and looking at how to move the body with improvisation. The children are coming up with some fantastic movements! There have been some daring spins, super jumps and a great sense of energy from all the pupils. They have also been working on developing the routine and changing parts in their own style or adding different movements. What a brilliant start to the term and what amazing dancers we have!



Film Club

Film Club have had the joy of watching a variety of films. They have had a discussion about what they think of the film, any likes and dislikes, and what they think the hidden messages are. We have some budding critics among us!

The focus for this term will be creating a film review, sequencing events into a comic strip and creating their own film using puppets! Stay tuned for some fabulous work being shared soon...



Albion in the Community

A massive thank you must go to our fabulous Albion in the Community coaches who work so well with everyone at Parkland. The children absolutely love taking part in their sessions and commented about how much they enjoy the level of skill and dedication that the coaches provide, as well as supporting them understand about how exercise will contribute to a healthy lifestyle physically and mentally. Thank you Albion for doing such sterling work!

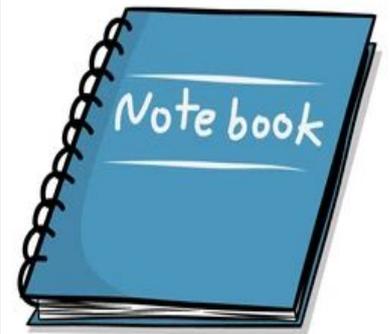


**Albion in the
Community**

Important Dates and INFORMATION

Diary Dates

15th January 2022	Deadline for submitting Applications for EYFS & Y3 for September 2022 start
20th January 2022	Pupil Census Day - Please take a look at the change of menu for this special day. We encourage all children to have a school meal on this day to support school funding.
24th January 2022	Final Orders for Infant pupil photos - Van Cols
26th January 2022	Final Orders for Junior pupil photos - Van Cols
	To benefit from free postage.
11th February 2022	Final day of Term 3 (Half Term Week - 14th - 18th February 2022)
21st February 2022	First day of Term 4



thank you!

Smart Watches



We hope you all received some amazing presents for Christmas! A popular device these days are smart watches. If your child has a smart watch, they are welcome to bring it to school except in two circumstances; Obviously, if they cause a distraction during the school day, they will be asked to put it in their bag. More importantly, if their smartwatch has a camera, due to it raising too many privacy concerns for a school setting, **we would ask that it stays at home.** Thank you in advance for your support.

Free School Meals - **Please Apply Online**

If you feel that your financial circumstances have changed recently, please remember to apply online for Free School Meals. You can apply online quite easily - please use the following link:

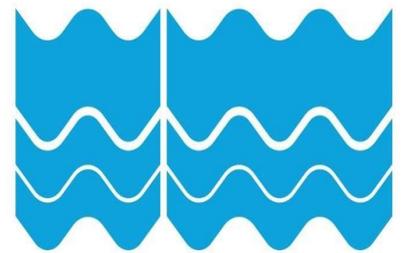
<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/school-life/meals/free/>

You may be entitled if you receive benefits, to include:

- Universal Credit
- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance etc.

Please take a look at the website to find out more. If you become entitled, this will mean extra funding to support your child at school. We can also provide discounted clubs for pupils entitled to Free School Meals as well as many other resources.

**East Sussex
County Council**



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP NEW DEVICES FOR CHILDREN

At Christmas, millions of lucky children will be excitedly ripping the wrapping off new phones, tablets, computers or consoles. However, in the rush to let young ones enjoy their shiny gadgets, many parents neglect to set these devices up safely – increasing the chances of children going online and stumbling across adult content, making expensive downloads or installing unsuitable apps. A little time configuring the device properly can save a lot of anguish later. Here are our top tips to ensure that a dream gift on Christmas morning doesn't turn into a nightmare by New Year.

PASSCODES FOR IPHONE/IPAD

If your child's getting their own iPhone or iPad, you can set parental controls that make it difficult for them to access inappropriate content or download expensive apps. Once the device is set up, go to the Settings app and tap Screen Time, then select Use Screen Time Passcode and enter a passcode. Keep it to yourself so your child can't switch the protection off.

SCREEN TIME SETTINGS ON IPHONE/IPAD

Once you've set a Screen Time Passcode, you can adjust various safety settings. You could, for example, only allow communication with people from the Contacts app, place restrictions on App Store purchases and apply age limits to movies, music and web content. There are many more protective options available within the Screen Time settings section.

FAMILY LINK FOR ANDROID

Parents can manage Android phones and tablets, as well as Google Chromebooks, through Google's Family Link app. This gives your child some independence (and their own Google account) but lets parents monitor which apps are being used, set limits on content and ensure that parental permission is required to install apps. Look for Family Link in the Google Play Store.

ADD A CHILD TO FAMILY LINK

The easiest way to add a child's device to Family Link is to set it up with its own Google account. It's a good idea to create this before they use their new phone, tablet or Chromebook. Once they're logged in, open the Family Link app on your phone, press '+' in the top right and add a new family member using their Google account details. Then follow the on-screen instructions.

FAMILY SHARING ON A MAC

Families using a Mac get similar screen time options to iPhone and iPad users. Again, if you're setting up a Mac for a child, make yourself the main admin and add them as a user. This is handled through Apple's Family Sharing service, which not only allows you to put controls on child accounts but share apps and other purchases with them too. Search 'family sharing' at <https://support.apple.com>.

PLAYSTATION PARENTAL CONTROLS

With parental controls for the PS5, you'll need a PlayStation Network account (as the 'family manager') and the child will need their own account, which they should sign in with on the console. This all needs to be set up in advance, so you might want to do it before the big day. Go to PlayStation.com and search 'family account' for instructions.

DISCUSS IT WITH YOUR CHILD

If you're planning to implement any kind of restriction or protection settings on your child's new device, we'd recommend having a discussion with your young one first about what these controls do, and what they are for. If you try to impose parental controls surreptitiously or with no advance warning, don't be surprised if your child tries to find a way around them.

SET AN ADMIN ON PCS

On Windows PCs and laptops, it's important not to let your child share a general user account or be the main admin on the device. If you're booting up a new family PC or a child's own device, set it up using your own account details and you'll become the admin by default. Then set up children with their own separate account: Settings > Accounts > Family & Other Users > Add Other User.

SET WINDOWS LIMITS

Once your child's account has been created, a parent admin can go back into the Family & Other Users menu and apply limits to it. These include restricting screen time, the type of games and apps that can be installed, web filters and more. Microsoft also includes reporting tools which, for example, can email you with a weekly summary of your child's activity on the device.

TREAT AN XBOX LIKE A PC

The same control settings you use for a PC can be used to apply parental controls on an Xbox. Again, once your child is signed into the Xbox with their own account, you can then monitor and regulate their activity from a PC or web browser. Microsoft's dashboard allows you to manage voice communication through the console; so you can limit who can contact your child, for example.

INSTALL XBOX FAMILY SETTINGS

If you don't have a PC, but your child does have an Xbox, it might be easier to use the Xbox Family Settings app for iPhone or Android. Here, you can restrict console screen time (particularly handy if the console is in a bedroom), restrict communication and monitor the types of game being played. There's also a feature where you can allocate spending money for games or in-game purchases.

STAY VIGILANT

It's important to remember that none of these methods is 100% foolproof. Nobody will ever invent flawless filters or parental controls – not least because what's unacceptable to some parents is perfectly acceptable to others. So although devices' parental controls will help to keep your child safe online, they work best side by side with good old-fashioned parental vigilance.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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