



NEWSLETTER



Wishing all our pupils, parents and staff a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming pupils back in school on **Thursday 2nd September 2010.**

22nd July 2010

Parkside Middle School

Dear Parents/Carers

Let me begin by sharing the fantastic news that our SATs results have improved for the second year running. Performance in Maths went up but it was our exceptional results in English that were particularly satisfying and actually saw us ranked as the fourth highest achieving school in Worcestershire. There will be no resting on our laurels as we remain committed to continually improving the school but I would like to congratulate our Year 6 pupils on doing so well and also say a big 'thank you' to the staff who are working so hard.

Of course at Parkside, whilst we acknowledge the importance of academic attainment, we also recognise the value in providing opportunities for our pupils to excel in other areas. To this effect, it gave me great pleasure to receive a letter from Worcestershire's Dance Teacher Advisor praising our pupils for their efforts in the Dance Showcase 'Voices and Visions' at the end of last month. In addition, our sports teams and individuals continue to do well (see 'Sports News' overleaf) and our Performing Arts Department continues to go from strength to strength after putting together a wonderful summer production recently.

Last but not least, I would also like to say how pleased I have been with the children's behaviour on our end of year day visits. All our Year groups have been for a day out and we have received numerous positive comments from members of the public who have said how polite, smart and well mannered our pupils are. I wish you all an enjoyable summer break and look forward to seeing the children return safely in September.

Mr Mills

FOND FAREWELL

We say goodbye and a fond farewell this week to two members of staff who will be leaving us to enjoy retirement. Mrs Butler and Mrs Partridge have worked at Parkside for 20 years as teachers, Head of French and SENCo respectively. We thank them for their valuable contribution to school over this time and wish them a wonderful and enjoyable retirement.



YEAR 8 LEAVERS

Year 8 pupils had an excellent time at their Prom on Wednesday and all looked absolutely wonderful. They were extremely well behaved and we are proud of them all! We wish them well for the future as they leave us and move on with their education to High School.

WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS

We welcome four new members of staff in September. Three teachers will join the Year 5 team, Miss Luckett, Miss Papadopolis, Miss Seaward and Miss Preece will join Year 8. We also welcome Mrs. Julie Dukes as a member of our administration team. We send them a warm Parkside welcome.

We are also pleased to announce the promotion of the following current staff: Miss McGowan will be Head of Performing Arts, Miss O'Monaigh will become Leader of SEN, Inclusion and Gifted and Talented, Miss Rigby will be Head of Modern Foreign Languages and Mr Price will become Head of PE along with his role as Welfare Mentor. We wish them well in their new positions.

BABY NEWS

We are delighted to announce that Mrs. Mancini and her husband are the proud parents of a beautiful baby boy, Maximo. Our congratulations and best wishes from everyone at Parkside.



PERFORMING ARTS AT PARKSIDE

June and July have been very busy, but very successful months for Parkside's Performing Arts Department. First, a huge thank you to everyone who took part in The Rocky Monster Show. After months of hard work the cast put on four outstanding performances for lovely audiences and for future Parkside pupils. All were impressed by the professionalism of our pupils and we have made a few recruits from the First Schools too!

Year 6 dancers have also been very busy with a stunning performance of our Superheroes Dance at Malvern Theatre. It was lovely to have parents come and watch the fantastic performance and a huge thank you and well done to all of those who took part! Miss McGowan.



WEDDING BELLS!



Our best wishes go to Miss McQuillan and her husband-to-be Craig who along with Mr. Price and his Fiancée Anna will be getting married during the Summer holiday. Miss McQuillan will be changing her name to Mrs Jones. We wish them all a special day and wonderful honeymoon from everyone here at Parkside.

SPORTS NEWS

Sports day took place on Friday 9th July 2010.

KS3 - 1st place - Hereford, 2nd place - Worcester, 3rd place - Malvern and 4th place - Gloucester.

KS2 - 1st place - Worcester, 2nd place - Gloucester, 3rd place - Hereford.

The overall winner was Worcester. Well done to all pupils who took part and thank you to parents for your support.

Rounders Years 7 and 8 girls played Alvechurch and lost. Years 7 and 8 girls played Catshill and St. Johns and won. Also played Alvechurch and Aston Fields and lost.

Aquathon We went to a Swimming Festival with pupils from Years 5/6 and Years 7/8. We had a wide selection of medal winners and Cian Lowe recorded the fastest time in the competition. Well done to all the pupils who took part.

Basketball Years 5/6 won the District Basketball League beating Reaside Primary in the final game to claim victory.

Bromsgrove and Redditch Youth Sport Games Congratulations to all 66 pupils who competed at this event. Year 6 boys won the athletics section and pupils from Years 5,6,7 and 8 were the winning Boccia Team.

Congratulations go to Jason Newton 8MJ and Sean Newton 6CIS who after working hard with their martial art for several years have achieved their black belt in Tae-Kwon-Do. Congratulations also go to Khaellem Bailey, 7KD who is currently under contract with Birmingham City F.C. and has just received the news that he will be training with the U18s and U16s. A recent highlight for Khaellem was scoring 4 goals against Aston Villa in an away game. (Sorry Mr. Price!)

BAM KITCHEN

Pin numbers for tuck and hot dinners will be issued on 2nd September. Hot dinners will be £2 which includes a main course, pudding and fresh juice.

On Thursday 2nd September the menu will be:

Roast pork with gravy, roast potatoes, cauliflower and broccoli or chicken in a pitta bread served with salad or cheese and tomato pizza with salad and coleslaw.
Iced sponge and custard, jelly, yoghurt or fruit.

On Friday 3rd September the menu will be:

Homemade beef burger in a bun with chips and baked beans or vegetable samosa with chips and baked beans or tuna pasta bake with salad.
jam sponge and custard, jelly yoghurt or fruit.



SECONDHAND PE KITS

The PE Department would be very grateful to receive any PE kits you may no longer require. Please forward to Mr. Price. Thank you.

SAFEGUARDING

When visiting school please read our Safeguarding Advice which can be found on display in the School Main Reception.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please note an additional Teachers' Education Day has been added to the calendar for 2010/2011. School will now close on Thursday 21st October 2010 for half term and a TE Day will take place on Friday 22nd October 2010.



CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for donations of board games/dvds in complete and good condition for our wet playtimes. If you can help please send them into school after the summer holiday. Thank you.



PTA NEWS

Visitors to the Family Fun Night had an enjoyable evening and a fantastic £300 profit was raised. Thank you to all parents/carers and pupils who supported the event.

The PTA are looking for school jumpers/ties in good condition that you no longer require to sell in order to raise funds for the PTA. Please send into school for Mrs. Aston. Forthcoming events ...

AGM - 15th September details to follow
Halloween Disco - 21st October details to follow

REMINDERS...

PLANNED ABSENCE BY PUPILS DURING TERM TIME

If it is unavoidable that your child needs to take time off during term time, an application form **must be completed for each child**. Forms are available from the office and should be completed not less than six weeks before the planned absence. Pupils are not normally granted more than 10 school days leave of absence in any school year and parents have no right for their children to be absent from school. It is at the school's discretion and previous attendance percentage is a major consideration.

PUPIL ABSENCE

If your child is absent from school please phone in on the first day of absence to confirm the reason and then either phone on subsequent days and/or send in a written note on the child's return to school.

PHONING HOME

May we remind you that pupils are not allowed to phone home for forgotten items such as lunches and PE kits. We encourage them to be organised and take responsibility for their own possessions.

LABELLING CLOTHING

Please ensure all your child's school clothes, PE kit, lunchboxes, bags etc are named to avoid items becoming part of our lost property department. Thank you.

INHALERS

If your child uses an inhaler please ensure a spare is given to the office. Please label with your child's name.

WELL DONE!

Miss O'Monaigh has asked for a special mention to be made to the Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputies, Prefects and Peer Mentors in Year 8 who have done a fantastic job this year. As a treat for their hard work they enjoyed an outing to Hollywood Bowl on Monday.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

A special thank you to everyone who has donated boxes and wonderful items or money for our soldiers over the past few weeks. The boxes will be sent to the soldiers on the "front line" and the money will be sent to the new ward at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham to purchase phone and television cards for our injured troops. Thank you for your generosity and also to our pupils for their help and commitment in raising funds, gifts and awareness.



THE CASTLE KIDS CLUB

If your child attends the after school care club there has now been a bell placed in the entrance foyer (on the lefthand side as you walk in) to advise staff you have arrived.

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