



Newsletter

November 2009

Havana Nights - Salsa Class - Tuesday Evenings

Our new evening letting in the school hall has been a great success and the last class for this year will be on Tuesday 24th November.

We are pleased that they will be starting a new 8 week session on Tuesday 5th January. If you are interested in joining please ring Grant Rowllins on 07736 660786.

School Photographer

The school photographer will be in school on Tuesday 17th November. If you wish to have family photos taken with **children who are not currently at Parkview** could you please come along to the hall from 8.30am.

Children in Need - Friday 20th November



To support this year's Children in Need appeal we would like all children to bring in "A Pound for Pudsey". (£1 coins only please, no small change). Pupils can also wear something spotty if they wish.

Parent/Carer Questionnaires

Thank you! The staff and governors of Parkview would like to thank all parents/carers who completed and returned the questionnaires sent out last half term. It is one of several ways that we seek parental views and your time is greatly appreciated.

Please remember that you can contact us in person, by phone, email, a note in your child's school bag or via the Governors' suggestion box on any issue that concerns you.

Responses: Of the 262 sent out, 54 were returned.

What we are doing well:

100% of parents/carers agreed with the statement 'My child(ren) enjoy being at this school' and we are delighted about that!

80% - respondents ticked 'definitely agree' or 'agree to some extent' for every question (some parents wanted more information on school clubs). We will be looking more closely at those questions ticked 'agree to some extent' to see if we can further improve what we do, and we welcome your suggestions.

Comments included:

"I think the teachers are doing a wonderful job of inspiring the children and providing them with many fantastic learning experiences."

"I feel that parent views/contributions are welcomed by all staff...staff do always try to accommodate individual circumstances"

"Changes to Friday assembly, with the 'Stars' seems to be an improvement."

"Pleased to see number of awards reduced...assembly was too long, especially if you have younger children with you."

Suggestions for improvements:

"I would value more notice, where possible, for events relating to my child's education.." (We will try to arrange events with as much notice as possible; we recognise some events this year, such as the 'Help your child with maths' sessions, were run at short notice to respond to particular parental concerns)

"Riding of scooters, children running...after school have been observed frequently over the last two weeks" (We have issued reminders and monitored behaviour on leaving school, to address this problem)

"What about a 'Mathematician of the Week' or a 'Sports Person of the Week?'"
(Thank you for the ideas - we will consider them for future assemblies. We have our 'Stars of the Week' and for the moment we give special attention to writing as this is the main area we are seeking to improve throughout school).

11 respondents disagreed with 1 or more statements. Of those:

6 disagreed with the statement 'My child receives the right amount of homework for his/her age.'

Whilst some parents have written requesting that homework is reduced, others have written requesting that homework remains as it is. We know this is an issue for a small number of parents, and it is regularly reviewed by staff and in Governors' meetings. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you feel the homework given seems too difficult, or is taking your child longer than specified.

4 disagreed with the statement 'My child(ren) regularly join in with clubs, and when available, other activities taking place in the lunchtime or after school.

We recognise that this question mainly refers to Key Stage 2 (Junior) children. Some clubs are run for younger children (Spanish, Library) but we feel play is particularly valuable for younger children, and as such the many clubs on offer are mainly aimed at pupils in Y3 and above.

NB. 2 respondents ticked the 'disagree' column for the majority of the statements, and we are very concerned about this. We would urge those parents/carers to contact Mrs. Calladine or Stephen Baines, Chair of Governors, immediately so that we can address your concerns.

Consultation on Term Dates Academic Year 2011/12 Derby City Council

Following discussion with Head Teachers in Derby during October 2009, we are consulting on the school term dates for 2011/12. We have also had discussions with Derbyshire County Council and it is likely that they will also adopt a similar model.

The Local Government Association encourages all local authorities to adopt the same pattern of dates to ensure a Standard School Year and to avoid problems for parents and school staff when neighbouring authorities set different dates.

September 2011 - July 2012

Autumn Term

Monday 5 September - Friday 21 October	35 days
Monday 31 October - Wednesday 21 December	38 days
Total Number of School Days	73 days

Spring Term

Wednesday 4 January - Friday 10 February	28 days
Monday 20 February - Friday 30 March	30 days
Total Number of School Days	58 days

Summer Term

Monday 16 April - Friday 25 May	29 days
Monday 4 June - Friday 20 July	35 days
Total Number of School Days	64 days

Total - 195 days

Bank Holidays

26 December 2011 (Boxing Day)
27 December 2011 (Christmas Bank Holiday)
2 January 2011 (New Year Holiday)
6 April 2012 (Good Friday)
9 April 2012 (Easter Monday)
7 May 2012 (May Day)
28 May 2012 (Whitsun)

If you have any comments please return them (by Monday 7th December 2009) to:
Siân Hoyle - Head of Communications and Customer Services
Phone number (01332) 716934 or CYPconsultation@derby.gov.uk

Odeon Free Film

Odeon Cinemas Derby has asked for the help of Parkview families with staff training. Families are asked to attend the cinema at 9 am on 5th December for 30-45 minutes training session and in return, as a 'thank you', this session will be followed by a free showing of the new film *A Christmas Carol*.

At the moment, Odeon Cinemas just needs an idea of how many families would like to attend, so if you wish to, please complete the attached slip and send it with your child. We will confirm arrangements nearer the time.

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Odeon Free Film

Members of my family would like to attend the Odeon training and free film session.

Name of Parkview pupil(s).....

Year Group(s).....

Number of adults to attend Number of children to attend.....

Parkview Primary School helps each of us to be the best that we can.

We learn well, we behave brilliantly, and we are happy!