

Parkview Primary School



Summer Term 1 2025

Welcome back. I hope you all had a great Easter break and managed to relax and have some family time.

The half term ahead is a busy one, with many more exciting learning opportunities planned. Most key dates and times are shared on Class Dojo via the story, so keep your eyes peeled for the latest information. Inevitably, sometimes last minute changes may occur but we will try our very best to give you as much notice as possible.



PARKING

Please park legally and away from school where you can, when you are dropping and collecting children at Parkview.

The parking situation around school is deteriorating again. Cars are stopping on the zig-zag lines outside our main gate which is illegal. This makes the entrance to school very dangerous. We are also witnessing, families using the main entrance as a turning area.

Please park legally for the safety of our school community.

Key Dates for Summer Term 1

Tuesday 20th May	Y3 Class Assembly @2:30pm
Friday 23rd May	PFA non-uniform day

Parent Events

Thank you to all parents who came along to our Mastering Number parent event on 7th March and the Science morning on 13th March. We hope you found it useful and enjoyed spending time with your children in class. Remember that if you have any other queries about our curriculum, you can find our more on our website [Parkview Primary School - Curriculum](#)

Friday 4th July (after awards assembly) — Parent Forum

An opportunity to come along and discuss parental enquiries relating to school and the wider community.

Nursery spaces available for September 2025

Come and join our wonderful, Teacher-led Nursery setting using free government funding. Please take a look on the back page of this newsletter for further details.

On here is a form for you to express your interest in getting your child started in our Nursery. Your details will be added to our Nursery Waiting List and we will contact you the term before your child's 3rd birthday with a view to them starting the term after their third birthday, should we have space available. If you would like to register more than one child, please complete a separate form for each child.

LOST PROPERTY

Please name all belongings—it is much easier to return items when we know who they belong to!



Walking

Walk to School Week is an annual five-day walking challenge and takes place 19-23 May 2025. This week, we encourage all of our families to start the day positively and walk or cycle to school.

- Walking or wheeling is a great way to clear our heads and lift our spirits, arriving to school happy, refreshed and ready to learn.
- Walking to school is great for our bodies and the incredible impact movement can have on our physical health.
- Walking to school can have a positive impact on the planet and improve our school environment and reduce pollution levels.



Book Week

We hope that you enjoyed celebrating Book Week with us!
 Thank you for your support with our dress up day where the children got to attend school dressed as their favourite book character. The children enjoyed being read to by another member of staff and reading with a buddy.
 Take a look at the Book Trust's 100 best children's book list [100 best books for children | BookTrust](#) for inspiration about what to read next!



Reading

Following on from our fantastic Book Week celebrations, I thought I would provide the 10 top tips for parents on how technology can support reading. Miss Blount, our Computing leader sent this to all parents via Dojo.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT

Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they need help on occasion, digital reading pens can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in exams if they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

2 READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in Settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.

6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

7 USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press Play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to have their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.

10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13–16 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lawri is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She recently launched her own site, Neuroteachers, which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.



The National College



PARKVIEW PRIMARY NURSERY SCHOOL

SPACES AVAILABLE!

Are you looking for a nursery place for your child, prior to starting school?

- 15 & 30 hour places available
- Teacher-led Provision
- Large outdoor play area
- Well equipped indoor classroom

Click the link below to register your child's details with us!



REGISTER NOW!



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

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MORE INFORMATION**

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www.parkview-sch.co.uk