



PARK HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

Stanhope Road, Croydon, CR0 5NS Tel: 020 8686 8623

RESPECTFUL - KIND - RESILIENT - RIGOROUS - ASPIRATIONAL



5th January 2020

Head teacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and a warm welcome back!

I hope 2020 is a successful and memorable year for all and in particular our current Year 6 who will be leaving us at the end of this academic year.

Some parents took time out to respond to our survey at the end of last term. We had very positive feedback as well as areas we need to consider moving forwards - thank you. We do value your opinion and value the support you give this school. We will address the areas to consider in a 'you said, we listened' format.

As partners, we can ensure that all pupils enjoy their time at school, make excellent progress and leave us with the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes to lead successful and fulfilling lives.

It is important to us to maintain the current ethos that makes Park Hill Junior School a special place to learn and work. Sometimes this is done through assemblies. This morning I spoke to the children in assembly about relationships and how it underpins everything we do at Park Hill Junior School. If they come home talking about today's assembly, please encourage them to talk about their relationships with people in and out of school. We will be focusing on children's relationships with each other, how they make each other feel and the meaning of 'getting on and falling out.'

This is a short half term of six weeks and we plan on children having fun with their learning. Our vision is...to never put limits on what our children can achieve. You will get to know about the progress your children made last term in Parent Consultation meetings in February. We thank you for the journey you have shared with us thus far and trust that we will continue to work together for the good of all children at Park Hill Junior School.

Please share the contents of this newsletter with your children and thank you for taking time out to read our newsletter.

Ann Pratt
Head teacher

Spring Term 2020 Dates for your Diary



5.2.2020	Parent Consultation Meetings
6.2.2020	Parent Consultation Meetings
19.2.2020	Parent Gym Reunion
17-21.2.20	Half Term Break
24.2.2020	Pupils return to school
2 - 6.3.20	Book Week
5.3.2020	Year 6 SATs Parents' Briefing
16.3.2020	Mothers' Day Reading Event
30.3.2020	Pantomime Visit
2.4.2020	Easter Disco
3.4.2020	Spring Music Concert
6 - 17.4.20	Easter Break
20.4.2020	Pupils return to school

Parent Consultation Meetings

Class teachers are looking forward to meeting you after half term to discuss your child's progress in the autumn term and targets for the spring term.

These meetings will take place on **Wednesday 5th and Thursday 5th February 2020**. Please look out for the e-mail next week inviting you to book an appointment.

Contact Details

From time to time, we need to contact parents/carers in the case of an emergency.

Please ensure our school office have **two** up-to-date emergency contact numbers for your child.

Attendance & Punctuality

In December our whole school percentage for attendance was below the expected standard for schools nationally.

We hope everyone who was ill with chicken pox is feeling better after the break and that everyone else has fully recovered too.

When booking family holidays, please note that we are unable to authorise any absence during term time for this reason.

Congratulations to 6G who had the highest attendance percentage in December!

Congratulations also to 3I, 4DT and 4K with only one late each in December!

Class	%	No of late arrivals
3I	88.96	1
3M	87.59	5
3P	90.32	9
4DT	94.10	1
4G	88.21	17
4K	89.83	1
5A	90.45	9
5F	88.97	7
5H	82.95	20
6E	93.97	2
6G	95.51	4
6M	86.74	5

Thank you parents and carers for supporting your child to be in school, on time, every day.

Adverse Weather

A reminder that you can find information about what we do in the event of adverse weather on our website:

www.phjs.co.uk/adverse-weather

School Fund

Thank you to all parents who have kindly donated into our school fund this academic year via ParentPay! Your donation will help make a difference to your child's learning. Once again, thank you and together we will continue to ensure our children enjoy their learning experience at Park Hill Junior School!

FREE SCHOOL MEALS: Are you missing out?

Every year we have a few children who are eligible for free school meals (FSM) miss out as an application has not been made. Hopefully you have completed a FSM form and are already in the process of finding out if you are eligible. You may not realise that this application needs to be made each academic year your child is in the school. This is particularly important for those children joining the school for the first time. If you qualify for FSM, then the school also qualifies to receive £1,320 additional funding to further enhance the learning experience of your child. For further information and the Croydon online application form visit: [https:// www.croydon.gov.uk/education/schools-new/free-school-meals](https://www.croydon.gov.uk/education/schools-new/free-school-meals)

Alternatively, you are welcome to visit the School Office and complete a form with assistance from the staff.

Chess Success

Congratulations to our lower school chess team who competed in the Champions League Chess Competition (Surrey East and Sussex) on the 29th November 2019.

They secured 4th position out of 18 schools following 5 rounds.

Well done to Adit (4G), Rishabh (3M), Arjun (3M) and Adriti (3M). Special congratulations to Arjun who managed to win all 5 of his games!

PHSA Christmas Fair

Huge thanks to all those who were involved in the organisation of, preparations for and running of last terms' Christmas Fair. This was a lovely family event which helped raise valuable funds for both schools.

Congratulations to Alexandra in Year 5 and Eddie in Year 3 who won this year's Jolly Jingle Jar competition!

Your Child's E-Safety

WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world, with more than 1.5 billion people using it to send and receive text, photos, videos and documents, as well as make voice and video calls. The free app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that messages can only be read by the sender and the recipients(s). Not even WhatsApp can read them.

The age restriction for WhatsApp is 16, but every year our staff support children who have become upset by messages their friends have sent to or about them. Please take a moment to read the Parents' Guide to WhatsApp attached to this newsletter and help us to avoid further cases. Thank you.

Music Lessons In School

If you would like your child to have music lessons at school, then please see the contact details below for the music teachers:

Piano, keyboard, recorder, saxophone: Mrs M.C Gordon middle_c@hotmail.co.uk 07805407234 & Miss O. Gordon semitone92@hotmail.co.uk 07527512189

Guitar: Mr J. Gibbard jimgibbard99@googlemail.com 07766 125638

Brass: Mr R.Pywell - application via Croydon Music and Arts <https://www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk/>

Violin, Flute and clarinet: Application via Croydon Music and Arts <https://www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk/>

Holiday Play Scheme & Play Days

When the school is closed for holidays we operate a holiday play scheme (except Christmas week) between 8am and 6pm.

The day is split into sessions of 'free play,' 'structured activities' such as arts and crafts and sports sessions. Children who attend are required to bring a packed lunch. However, children who remain all day are offered a light snack after 4pm.

Places are limited and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

On staff training days the school operates Play Days where children from the Junior School can come to school from 9-3.30pm to play with their friends and participate in fun activities. Breakfast and After Schools club operate as normal on these days.

For further details, or to book a place, please contact Helen McCarthy on 07960610393

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who supported our Children in Need Fundraiser last term.

We raised £249.02 in total for this worthy cause.



Parent Gym

Parent Gym is a completely free 6 week course which aims to support parents with making family time more enjoyable. We have had great feedback from parents who have taken part already.

If you would like to join the next Parent Gym course please contact Paula via the school office. The course runs over 6 sessions and is held in the Hub from 9.15-11.15am on a Wednesday morning.



parentgym

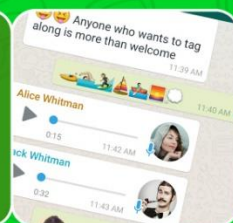
Coming soon to Park Hill Junior School

An opportunity to meet other parents and find out how to:

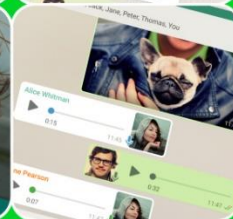
- Have happier and more confident children
- Get your children to open up and talk more
- Feel calmer and have more fun time with your family



WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world, with more than 1.5 billion people in more than 180 countries using it to send and receive text, photos, videos and documents, as well as make voice and video calls through an Internet or Wi-Fi connection. The free app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient in one-to-one chats, or all members if it is a group chat. Not even WhatsApp can read them.



AGE RESTRICTION
16+



What parents need to know about

WhatsApp



AGE LIMIT CHANGE

Since May 2018, the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 16 years old if you live in the European Union, including the UK. Prior to this, the minimum age was 13, which still applies for the rest of the world. WhatsApp has not yet stated whether it will take action against anyone aged between 13 and 16 who already hold accounts under the old terms and conditions, such as closing their account or seeking parental permission.

SCAM MESSAGES

Occasionally on WhatsApp, people receive spam messages from unauthorised third parties or from fraudsters pretending to offer prizes to 'lucky people', encouraging recipients to click on a link to win a prize. A common scam involves messages warning recipients that their WhatsApp subscription has run out with the hope that people are duped into providing their payment details. Other scam messages include instructions to forward the message in return for a reward or gift from WhatsApp or another person.

FAKE NEWS AND HOAXES

WhatsApp has been linked to enabling the spread of dangerous viral rumours. In India, for example, a number of attacks appear to have been sparked by false rumours shared on WhatsApp.

THE 'ONLY ADMIN' FEATURE AND CYBERBULLYING

Cyberbullying is the act of sending threatening or taunting text messages, voice messages, pictures and videos, with the aim to hurt and humiliate the receiver. The group chat and group video call features are great for multiple people to chat simultaneously, but there is the potential for people to hurt others with their comments or jokes. The 'only admin' feature gives the admin of a group chat greater control over who can send messages. Whilst this can be good for one-way announcements, the group admin has the power to block somebody from responding to an offensive message in a chat, which could result in a child being upset and unable to reply.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

To start a chat in WhatsApp, you need to know the mobile number of the contact you want to speak to and they also need to have the app downloaded. WhatsApp can find contacts by accessing the address book of a device and recognising which of those contacts are using WhatsApp. If your child has shared their mobile number with somebody they don't know, they can use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.

LIVE LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp's 'Live Location' feature enables users to share their current location in real time to their contacts in a chat, allowing friends to show their movements. The feature, which can be found by pressing the 'attach' button, is described by WhatsApp as a 'simple and secure way to let people know where you are.' Location-sharing is already a common feature on other social apps, including Snapchat's Snap Map and Facebook Messenger and can be a useful way for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. However, if your child is in a group chat with people they do not know, they will be exposing their location.



National
Online
Safety

Top Tips for Parents



CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though somebody would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra security measure we suggest altering their profile settings to control who can see their profile photo and status. The options to choose from are 'Everyone', 'My Contacts' and 'Nobody'. We suggest selecting 'My Contacts' or 'Nobody' to ensure their profile is protected.

EXPLAIN HOW TO BLOCK PEOPLE

If your child has received spam or offensive messages, calls or attachments from a contact, they should block them. Messages and status updates sent by a blocked contact will not show up on the phone and will stay undelivered. Blocking someone will not remove this contact from the contact list – they will need to be removed from the phone's address book. To block a contact, your child needs to open the person's chat stream and tap on the settings.



REPORT SCAM MESSAGES

Advise your child not to tap, share or forward any message that looks suspicious or sounds too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report the number as spam directly inside the chat. They can also report a contact or a group as spam using the following steps: 1) Open the chat. 2) Tap on the contact or group name to open their profile information. 3) Scroll to the bottom and tap 'Report Spam.'

LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable or has been added to a group they don't want to be part of, use the group's settings to show them how to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once, if they leave again, they cannot be added again.

USING LIVE LOCATION SAFELY

If your child needs to use the 'Live Location' feature to share with you or a friend, advise them to only share it for the amount of time they need to. WhatsApp gives the options of either 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can choose to stop sharing at any time.

DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child has sent a message to the wrong chat or if a message they sent has contained a mistake, they can delete it. To do this, simply tap and hold on the message, choose 'Delete' and then 'Delete for everyone.' The app allows seven minutes to delete the message after it has been sent, but it is important to remember that recipients may have seen and screenshot a message before it was deleted.

SET TIME LIMITS

A 2017 study found that by the age of 14 the average child will have sent more than 35,000 texts, 30,000 WhatsApp messages and racked up more than three solid weeks of video chat. Although it is inevitable that your child will use technology, you can still set boundaries. This is not easy, especially since teens use their devices for both schoolwork and free time, often simultaneously.



SOURCES: <https://www.theguardian.com/comments/free/2018/apr/26/whatsapp-plays-to-be-under-16s-the-mystery-is-how> <https://whatsappbrand.com/> <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/whatsapp-update-latest-india-hoaxes-forward-messages-app-download-a8456011.html>