

# PARKGATE JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH 2026



## A wonderful week of activities

It has been a wonderful week celebrating books and reading across the school. Our book sale proved very popular, with many books finding new homes and helping us raise £20 for the school. Today, the children came to school wearing something related to their favourite book characters, and it has been lovely to see so many creative ideas.

Meanwhile, 30 of our Year 5 pupils are performing at the Guildhall today. We look forward to welcoming them back this afternoon and hearing all about their experience.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 12<sup>th</sup> Mar Book look
- 16<sup>th</sup> Mar Netball Tournament at Future Academies
- 18<sup>th</sup> Mar Voice in a Million at Wembley
- 19<sup>th</sup> Mar Year 3 STEM trip **\*coach leaving at 8:30am**
- 21<sup>st</sup> Mar Watford Harriers Junior Challenge 2026
- 24<sup>th</sup> Mar Year 5 Play
- 26<sup>th</sup> Mar PTA - Spring Arts & Crafts
- 27<sup>th</sup> Mar Parkgate's Got Talent and last day of term (1:30pm)
- 13<sup>th</sup> Apr First Day of Summer Term **(DATE CHANGE)**
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Apr PTA - Spring Disco
- 29<sup>th</sup> Apr Class and Yr 6 Individual Photographs
- 30<sup>th</sup> Apr Year 5 Sleepover
- 20<sup>th</sup> May Music Concert
- 21<sup>st</sup> May Book Look
- 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> May Half term
- 7<sup>th</sup> July Year 6 Play
- 21<sup>st</sup> July End of Term - school closes **1.30pm**



**DON'T FORGET**

## NEXT WEEK

9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> March

### Mon 9<sup>th</sup> March - Library family drop in

Everyone welcome at family drop in after school on Monday for 'All Things Animal'

### Thur 12<sup>th</sup> March - Book Look

Classrooms will be from 3.20pm to 3.45pm for you to come and see what your child has been working on this term

ADMIN@PARKGATEJM.HERTS.SCH.UK



## LETTER FROM OUR GOVERNOR'S

We are sure that you are as delighted as we are that the governor's have announced the appointment of our new head teacher, Mrs Kellie Barton, who will joining us from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

An email was sent this morning from our governer's with more information and an introduction from Mrs Barton.

## DSPL 9 - FOR SEN FAMILIES

DSPL9 Parent Newsletters are published fortnightly and include a round-up of courses, workshops, training and events available to parents and families within DSPL9. Please follow the attached link if you are interested in reading [newsletter 11](#):

This can also be found on the [DSPL9 website](#).

## CATERLINK MENU - WEEK 1

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Plant Balls in Tomato Sauce with Rice	Beef Lasagne with Garlic Bread	Roast Chicken or Chicken Sausage (halal option), with Roast Potatoes, Stuffing & Gravy	Chicken Biryani	Fish Fingers with Chips
Veggie Sausage with Mashed Potato	Autumn Vegetable Lasagne with Garlic Bread	Vegetarian Wellington with Roast Potatoes	Vegan BBQ Sausage Pasta with Garlic Bread	Cheese & Bean Pasty with Chips
Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato
Cheese or Tuna Baguette	Cheese or Tuna Baguette	Cheese or Tuna Baguette	Cheese or Tuna Baguette	Cheese or Tuna Baguette



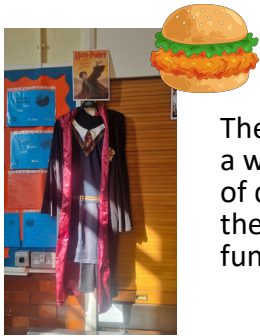
An inspiring learning community

## WORLD BOOK WEEK

We have had a lot of fun this week celebrating World Book Day.



Congratulations to the winners of the potato character competition. All of the entries fabulous and it was very hard to judge. Well done Nina, Aidan, Taha, Upi and Chinwem.



The kitchen did a wonderful job of decorating the hall for our fun lunch.



The bell has been ringing at intervals throughout the week and everybody has dropped what they were doing to read their books.



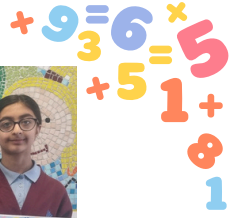
The week may over but we hope to have inspired some of the children to continue reading for pleasure.

## THE ORCHESTRA ROCKS



Thirty of our year 5 children are off to the Guildhall Concert Hall in London today to perform music they have been learning on the recorder to other schools. We hope they have a wonderful day and look forward to hearing about it next week.

## MATH CHALLENGE



These are our well deserved winners of February's math challenge.

This month's math's challenge involves a scavenger hunt at home. Create a poster with all the things you find from the sheet.



## VERLAMUIM MUSEUM TRIP

Last week Yr 4 visited the Verulamium Museum in St. Albans where they explored the life and times of the Roman's.



## LIBRARY NEWS



Monday Family Drop In  
All Things Animal  
All the usual comics and colouring



## NORTH WATFORD LIBRARY NEWS



## FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY

From August 31<sup>st</sup> 2026 the eligibility for free school meals will be changing. Some of you may no longer be eligible. You can find more information on the government [website](#).

## SCHOOL DINNER'S

During April we will be changing how the children order their school meals. Currently they order them at morning registration. When the new system starts the meals will need to be ordered, and paid for, via Arbor by 8.30am on the day. Meals can be ordered in advance or on an ad-hoc basis. Full information on how the new system will work will be sent out nearer the time.

Please can you check your Caterlink accounts and make sure that all payments are up to date.

## MEDICINE



This is a reminder that if your child needs medicine in school, parents must complete a medication form and hand the medicine in its original packaging to the office.

The same applies for travel sickness medication on school trips.

## Y3 TRIP TO THE STEM CENTRE

- Trip Date: Thursday 19th March
- Children need to be at school at 8:20am, as the coach will be leaving at 8:30am sharp.
- Payment of £20.48 on Arbor
- Complete [this photo consent form](#) before the visit

## YEAR 5 PLAY BOOKING



Booking is now open and the last day for applying is **18th March**. Please book on Arbor (under trips) and choose **ONE of the two performances**.

The booking will be cancelled if you try to book both performances. Places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

## PARKGATE'S GOT TALENT



Parkgate's Got Talent is Back!

We are delighted to announce that Parkgate's Got Talent will take place on Friday 27th March — and we can't wait to see the amazing talents our pupils have to share!

If your child would like to audition, please complete [this entry form](#) by 20th March.

A £1 entry donation should be sent into school in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name, class, and 'Parkgate's Got Talent'. All proceeds will be donated to Pumpkin's Wildlife Hospital, our chosen charity selected by the School Council.

Class auditions will take place during the final week of term. Successful finalists will then perform in the grand final on Friday morning, and the winners will be announced later that same day.

## PGL - PAYMENT REMINDER

This is a gentle reminder that the final PGL instalment is due **before** 1st April 2026. Please ensure payment is made by then to secure your child's place. Please note that all outstanding payments must be cleared by this date, as the school is required to make the final payment to PGL.



**WATFORD JUNIOR CHALLENGE**  
Sat 21<sup>st</sup>  
March 2026



Watford Harriers Athletics Club  
[watfordharriers.org.uk](http://watfordharriers.org.uk)

The Junior Challenge is an exciting, fun run road race held annually in Cassiobury Park!  
10:00 - 13:00 Cassiobury Park, Gade Ave, Watford WD18 7LG, UK

This is open to all children in Primary School and Secondary School Years 7-9, regardless of ability. It is a great opportunity for athletes to represent their schools in a competitive event. We have two races in the following age categories: **Under 8s (from age 5 upwards)** & **Under 10s-Under 14s**.

Races will start and finish on the path between the Stratford Way entrance to Cassiobury Park and the bandstand.

See Map: <https://www.google.com/maps/@51.6604607,-0.4136463,16z?entry=ttu>



**DUE TO EXPECTED NUMBERS, THERE WILL BE TWO SEPARATE RACES:**  
The first, for **UNDER 8s** of approx. 1.2 km, will start at **11.45 am**.

The second, for **UNDER 10s, UNDER 12s and UNDER 14s** of approx. 2.5 km, will start at **12:15 pm**

**Please arrive by 11.30 am for a warm up!**  
**A runner's medal will be given to all finishers.**

The first three boys and girls in each category will be presented a prize as soon as possible after the races

Find us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram

Register at: <https://www.abovevents.co.uk/e/watford-junior-challenge-9306>

If you have any queries, please contact our Watford Harriers Club Race Organiser at [whojem@watfordharriers.org.uk](mailto:whojem@watfordharriers.org.uk)

**Mrs. Tearle will be here to cheer on anyone that takes part**

## PTA SPRING RAFFLE

Thanks to your generous donations, this is our biggest raffle of the year so far! We've got 9 hampers and 10 individual prizes up for grabs. Hampers this time have a Spring-time mix of everything - Easter eggs, crafts, toys, toiletries and seeds!

Buy your tickets [here](#)

All proceeds will go towards supporting the children via providing the school with funds and running events such as the free Crafternoons (the next one is happening at the end of March - details to follow!).

## PTA FAMILY SURVEY

Our survey is still open so if you have any thoughts on what you would like to see from the PTA and/or are interested in helping we would love to hear from you. [Survey](#)

Act2Act Youth Theatre proudly presents

**Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**  
THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice  
Book by Linda Woolverton  
Music by Alan Menken

Originally Directed by Rob Roth  
Originally Produced by Disney Theatrical Group

**Auditions now open ages 8 - 18**

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, Croxley Green Scout Hut

Bring the legend to life on stage  
Big roles, bigger songs. The full theatre experience!

Secure your audition at [www.act2actyt.co.uk](http://www.act2actyt.co.uk)  
All abilities welcome

PARKGATE JUNIOR SCHOOL PTA

**Spring Raffle!**

Amazing Prizes!  
Enter to Win!  
Tickets On Sale Now!

Scan to Buy Tickets!  
[galabid.com/ptaparkgate/juniorsch/items/5e67d47...](https://galabid.com/ptaparkgate/juniorsch/items/5e67d47...)

Don't Miss Out!  
DRAWING ON: FRIDAY 20TH MARCH AT 3:20PM!

## STARS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the stars of the week:

🌟	<b>3 Owl</b>	Harry	Lillie
🌟	<b>3 Robin</b>	Grace	Imaan
🌟	<b>4 Heron</b>	Austin	Lorena
🌟	<b>4 Puffin</b>	Florence	Zarah
🌟	<b>5 Parrot</b>	Zayna	Aiza
🌟	<b>5 Toucan</b>	Oscar	Upi
🌟	<b>6 Eagle</b>	Khadija	Theviru
🌟	<b>6 Falcon</b>	Ruhani	Ayaan

## ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to 4 Heron for 100% attendance last week.

<b>3 Owl</b>	96%	
<b>3 Robin</b>	94.48%	✓
<b>4 Heron</b>	100%	
<b>4 Puffin</b>	69.55%	
<b>5 Parrot</b>	96.67%	
<b>5 Toucan</b>	97.67%	
<b>6 Eagle</b>	99.67%	
<b>6 Falcon</b>	93.67%	

## RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to this week's raffle winners for positive behaviour:

<b>3 Owl</b>	Taranom, Hakeem
<b>3 Robin</b>	Harry, Caitlin
<b>4 Heron</b>	Pearl, Uliyyah
<b>4 Puffin</b>	Olive, Amla
<b>5 Parrot</b>	Nuriyah, Fianna
<b>5 Toucan</b>	Amina, Kavitan
<b>6 Eagle</b>	Khadijah, Safa
<b>6 Falcon</b>	Jessica, Halle