

PARKGATE JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 13TH MARCH 2026

LOOKING AHEAD TO AN EXCITING FORTNIGHT

2026							MARCH						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7							
8	9	10	11	12	13	14							
15	16	17	18	19	20	21							
22	23	24	25	26	27	28							
29	30	31											

It has been a lovely, relatively calm week at school, giving everyone a chance to settle into learning and enjoy time together. However, this quiet moment is very much the calm before an exciting couple of weeks ahead! We have lots to look forward to, including school trips, the Year 5 play, and the much-anticipated Parkgate's Got Talent. We can't wait to see our pupils getting involved, showing their creativity, and making wonderful memories together.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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



DON'T FORGET

NEXT WEEK

16th - 20th March

Mon 16th March - Library family drop in

Dragons and Dinosaurs

Come to family drop in on Monday for crafts or just a relaxed read and browse of your choice.

Mon 16th March - Netball Tournament at Future Academies

Please collect your child from school at 3.20pm and take them straight to Future Academies.

Wed 18th March - Voice in a Million at Wembley

Children need to be at school at normal time, and due to arrive back at school at 10.45pm.

Years 4,5,6 children attending may arrive at school at 10am on Thursday morning.

Please provide your child with a packed dinner and a refillable water bottle - no chocolate, glass or fizzy drinks please.

Year 3 children attending will need to be at school for 8:20am on Thursday as they have a school trip.

Thur 19th March - Year 3 STEM Trip

Children need to be at school at 8:20am, as the coach will be leaving at 8:30am sharp.

Please provide your child with a packed lunch - no chocolate, glass or fizzy drinks please.

Fri 20th March - Red Nose Day - Break the Rules

Children are invited to come to school and 'Break the Rules', however there will be 'fine' to pay for each rule broken. Full details of rules allowed to be broken have been emailed home.

ADMIN@PARKGATEJM.HERTS.SCH.UK

REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

From now on, we will no longer be sending home paper copies of the leave of absence application form. Instead, the form will be available online and can be completed using the link provided below.

Using the online form will help make the process quicker and easier for families, as well as helping us reduce paper use.

If you need to request a leave of absence, please complete [this form](#).

CATERLINK MENU - WEEK 2

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Cheese & Broccoli Pasta Bake	Spaghetti Bolognese	Roast Chicken or Chicken Sausage (halal option), with Roast Potatoes, Stuffing & Gravy	Beef Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice	Breaded Fish with Chips
Vegetarian Mild Mexican Chilli with Rice	Vegan Spaghetti Bolognese	Roast Quorn with Roast Potatoes	Creamy Chickpea and Coconut Curry with Rice	Cheese Whirl 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

YEAR 5 SLEEPOVER

Year 5 Sleepover on Thursday 30th April
Complete [this form](#) for **all** children, whether attending or not.
Make payment of £5 via Arbor if your child is attending.



RED NOSE DAY

We have decided that on Comic Relief day, we will hold a 'Break the Rules' day!



There are **5** school rules that we have decided can be broken on Comic Relief day only, and to break them, you will need to pay a 'fine' of 50p per broken rule. You are allowed to break as many of these rules as you like on this day, so you could be paying a 'fine' of up to £2.50!

All money will be sent to 'Comic Relief', an organisation which supports many national and international charities.

The rules that will be allowed to be broken are:

- Wear school uniform (No football kits please)
- Write in your handwriting pen or pencil
- Healthy snacks and drink water
- No football allowed to be played at break or lunch on Fridays.
- No trading cards allowed

KEEPIN OUR COMMUNITY TIDY

3 Owl went litter picking today and collected one sack of rubbish from half of Southwold road.



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.

EID CELEBRATIONS

We would like to wish all of our families celebrating Eid next week Eid Murbarak and hope you enjoy your celebrations.



If your child will be absent from school on Thursday 19th March **OR** Friday 20th March please can you let the school office know by completing the leave of absence [form](#).

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.

Year 6 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.

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

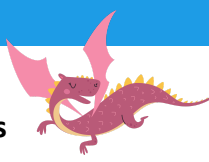
LIBRARY NEWS

Family Drop In: Dragons and Dinosaurs

Is it sometimes a struggle to find library books you want to read when you come to the library during the school day?

Would it be good to have a chance to choose at your own pace? Maybe a time to chill and read on a beanbag?

Come to family drop in on Monday for crafts or just a relaxed read and browse of your choice.



PTA SPRING RAFFLE

There is still time to buy your tickets for the Spring Raffle. The Draw will take place on Friday 20th March.

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!).



PARKGATE READING XP CHAMPIONS

Welcome to the Parkgate Reading XP game, where children level up their reading!



The rules:

- You must read for at least 8 minutes per session for it to count - not dawdling, proper focussed reading!
- At least some of your reads must be signed off by an adult for the week's XP to count.
- Each session of reading for more than 8 minutes will earn you XP. You can earn a maximum of 15 XP per week.
- When you level up, you get a prize!

Minimum XP	Badge / Level
0	0 - Page Novice
15	1 - Story Scout
30	2 - Chapter Challenger
45	3 - Plot Pathfinder
60	4 - Narrative Navigator
75	5 - Word Warrior
90	6 - Comprehension Crusader
105	7 - Genre Guardian
120	8 - Literary Adventurer
135	9 - Lexical Explorer
150	10 - Mythic Reader
165	11 - Epic Biblionaut
180	12 - Tome Tactician
195	13 - Saga Scholar
210	14 - Ink Master
225	15 - Lorekeeper
240	16 - Grand Archivist
255	17 - Codex Champion
270	18 - Literary Virtuoso
285	19 - Pagebound Prodigy
300	20 - Ascended Reader



This week the Y6s are dominating because they trialled the game for me for a few weeks, but they'd better watch out - Y3 and 4 are hot on their heels!

Miss Osborne



PARKGATE READING CHAMPIONS		
Weekly celebration board - most recent logged week: 9 Mar 2026 to 15 Mar 2026		
Top 12 Readers		
Rank	Reader	XP
1	Ruhani - 6F	105
2	Ioli - 6F	96
3	Santhosh - 6F	65
4	Sophie - 6F	60
5	Etana - 6F	52
6	Edward - 6F	39
7	Jamal - 6F	36
8	Asher - 6F	34
9	Mariam - 6F	30
10	Vihaan Singh - 6F	30
11	Keira - 6F	25
12	Jack - 6F	22
Top 3 Classes		
1st	6F	700
2nd	30	106
3rd	4P	94
Overall class leaderboard is based on total XP. Up-levellers below are based on XP added this week.		

Up-levellers of the Week			
3R		30	
Jimmy - Story Scout	If every child does it level up in a class, the name stands in the mailbox.	Eliza - Story Scout Hadiya - Story Scout Jaheim - Story Scout Theo - Story Scout	
4H			4P
Zainab - Story Scout		Alice - Story Scout Idris - Story Scout Maaz - Story Scout Seyara - Story Scout	
5T			5P
Umar - Story Scout		Abeeha - Story Scout	
6E			6F
		Etana - Plot Pathfinder Ruhani - Genre Guardian	
Tip: enter dates in XP Log to make weekly level-ups track automatically. This board shows the most recent week with dated XP entries.			

STARS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the stars of the week:

🌟	3 Owl	Zach	Ashal
🌟	3 Robin	Caitlin	Chloe
🌟	4 Heron	Halima	Rumayso
🌟	4 Puffin	Sierra	Amla
🌟	5 Parrot	Savannah	Qasim
🌟	5 Toucan	Bryan	Eden
🌟	6 Eagle	Adam	Georgina
🌟	6 Falcon	Jack	Samarth

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to 6 Eagle for 98% attendance last week.

3 Owl	91.67%
3 Robin	95.17%
4 Heron	96.79%
4 Puffin	96.9%
5 Parrot	92.92%
5 Toucan	97.78%
6 Eagle	98%
6 Falcon	93.67%

RAFFLE WINNERS

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

3 Owl	Sara, Theo
3 Robin	Abigail, Isla
4 Heron	Raaed, Uliyyah
4 Puffin	Zarah, Christiana
5 Parrot	Aiza, Hanzalah
5 Toucan	Cecilia, Eesa
6 Eagle	Samuela, Saadiq
6 Falcon	Ruby, Shanayah

