

# PARKGATE JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2026**



## LIGHTS, TALENT, ACTION! WHAT A WEEK!

As we come to the end of a wonderful last week of term, we would like to say how proud we are of all our pupils. It has been a fantastic few days, filled with memorable moments, including the brilliant Year 5 play and our very own Parkgate's Got Talent show, which truly showcased the confidence, creativity and enthusiasm of our children.

We also take this opportunity to say a fond farewell and thank you to Mr Smithard and Mrs Couch, who have taken such great care of the school since January. We are very grateful for all their hard work and dedication. At the same time, we look forward to welcoming Mrs Barton, who will be joining us after the Easter break.

We wish all our families a happy and restful break. We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday 13th April.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 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> - 10<sup>th</sup> June** Year 6 PGL
- 19<sup>th</sup> June** Sports Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> July** Year 6 Play
- 21<sup>st</sup> July** End of Term - school closes **1.30pm**



## REPORTING ABSENCE

We wanted to clarify the procedure of reporting absence from school.

If you are planning a trip or your child has a medical appointment please complete [this form](#) as soon as you know your child will be absent.

If your child will be absent due to sickness please call or email the school office before 9.30am on the day of your child's absence. Illness can also be reported on Arbor via the attendance tab.

## OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS

Please can you make sure any outstanding payments on your Arbor or Caterlink accounts are up to date by the end of today, **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**.

## DSPL9 - FOR OUR 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 link if you are interested in reading [newsletter 12](#).

Newsletters and other support for parents can also be found on the [DSPL9 website](#).

**NEW!**

## CATERLINK MENU - WEEK 1

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Macaroni Cheese	Phat Pasty Pork Sausage Roll	Roast Chicken or Chicken Sausage (halal option), with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Spaghetti Bolognese	Fish Fingers with Chips
Chicpea Curry with Rice	Mild Mexican Chilli with Rice	Roasted Quorn, with Roast Potatoes	Smokey Bean Burger with Wedges	Cheese and 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**

## PARKGATE'S GOT TALENT



What a fantastic and talent-filled morning we have had! The hall has been buzzing with excitement as we enjoyed a wonderful variety of performances, including singing, dancing, music, and even some amazing gymnastics. It has been such a joy to see so many children sharing their talents with confidence and enthusiasm.

We are incredibly proud of every single child who took the brave step to audition, as well as those who made it through to today's final. It takes courage to stand up in front of others and perform, and all of the children should feel very proud of themselves.

We are so lucky to have such a wonderfully talented group of children here at Parkgate Junior School. Well done to everyone who took part—you made it a truly special and memorable event!

## VEOLIA ORCHARD AND OUR ECO COUNCIL



Velio Orchard is a UK-based campaign that provides free fruit trees and strawberry plants to schools and community groups to promote biodiversity, healthy eating, and outdoor learning. Launched in 2022, the project has distributed over 1,900 strawberry plants and 1,500 trees. The initiative encourages sustainable practices and helps children experience nature.

We were lucky enough to be donated on 10 strawberry plants and this week the eco council had a fun morning planting them around the school.



**An inspiring learning community**

## YEAR 6 SATs REVISION SESSIONS

### Morning Sessions (Drop-in):

Morning drop-in sessions will begin on **Tuesday 14th April** and will run every **Monday to Thursday from 8:25am to 8:40am** in the **6 Falcon classroom**. These sessions provide a quiet space for revision or an opportunity for children to ask teachers any questions.

### After School Sessions (Booking Required):

We will also be holding focused after-school revision sessions on the following dates:

**Monday 13th April**

**Monday 20th April**

**Monday 27th April**

These sessions will run from **3:30pm to 4:15pm** in the **Year 6 classrooms** and will focus on key target areas. Please note that these are **not** drop-in sessions. Children will need to be booked in advance using [this Form](#) before **Monday 13th April**.

## PTA NEWS

### SPRING DISCO

Thursday 23 April: Spring Disco!

This event is only for children who attend Parkgate Juniors.

Following the success of the Christmas Discos, the PTA has organised a Spring Disco for Parkgate Junior Children.

Years 3 & 4: 4:45-6pm

Years 4 & 5: 6:15-7:30pm

Tickets: £4.50 each in advance / Sibling Discount - 2 for £8 / £5 each on the door.

Tickets are available to purchase [here](#) (online payments only)

Alternatively tickets will be available to buy from the Tuck Shop on Friday 17 April.

Tickets will also be available to buy on the night from the entrance for £5 each.

Ticket includes: Live DJ, free drinks, tattoos and song requests. The Tuck and Stationery Shop will be open for purchases including party accessories (max spend on tuck shop is £5 per child)



## Volunteer helpers

As always we cannot hold events without your help, so if you're able to support with both or either Disco sessions please get in touch at [PTA@parkgatejm.herts.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@parkgatejm.herts.sch.uk).

If you have any questions please contact us at [PTA@parkgatejm.herts.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@parkgatejm.herts.sch.uk).

## EASTER CRAFTERNOON

The children had a wonderful time on Thursday afternoon creating some Easter Crafts.



## MATH CHALLENGE

This month's maths challenge involves a scavenger hunt at home.

Create a poster with all the things you find from the sheet.

Have fun!



## READING CHALLENGE CHAMPIONS

### PARKGATE READING CHAMPIONS

Weekly celebration board - most recent lagged week: 23 Mar 2026 to 29 Mar 2026

Top 12 Readers		
Rank	Reader	XP
1	Ruhani - 6F	135
2	Ioli - 6F	126
3	Sophie - 6F	75
4	Etana - 6F	67
5	Santhosh - 6F	65
6	Abeeha - 5P	45
7	Delia - 6F	45
8	Keira - 6F	40
9	Edward - 6F	39
10	Dua - 5T	37
11	Jamal - 6F	36
12	Asher - 6F	34

Top 3 Classes		
1st	6F	835
2nd	30	199
3rd	4P	127
4th	5T	126

Overall class leaderboard is based on total XP. Up-levellers below are based on XP added this week.

Up-levellers of the Week	
<b>3R</b> Saoirse - Story Scout	<b>30</b> Hadiya - Chapter Challenger Jaheim - Chapter Challenger Modesire - Story Scout Taranom - Story Scout
<b>4H</b> Lorena - Chapter Challenger	<b>4P</b> Nina - Story Scout Seyara - Chapter Challenger
<b>5T</b> Dua - Chapter Challenger Madison - Chapter Challenger	<b>5P</b> Abeeha - Plot Pathfinder Fianna - Chapter Challenger
<b>6E</b> Anaya - Story Scout	<b>6F</b> Delia - Plot Pathfinder Ioli - Literary Adventurer Keira - Chapter Challenger Ruhani - Lexical Explorer Sophie - Word Warrior

Tip: enter dates in XP\_Log to make weekly level-ups track automatically. This board shows the most recent week with dated XP entries.

## OPAL BINGO!

We are collecting all sorts of dressing up items for the playground. If you are doing a bit of a clear out of your wardrobes or kitchens, here are a few bits we are collecting in the first two weeks back after the holiday. There will be a red collection bin at the front of the school.

### Get ready to play... OPAL BINGO

Jackets	Baking pans	Cake moulds	Measuring spoons	Strainers
Dresses	wigs	Plastic or metal jugs	Containers	wings
Dressing up items	Handbags	Funnels	Wooden spoons	Hats
Chalk	Wellies	Laundry Baskets	Dress-up Animal tails	scarves/ fabric
Trowels	Plastic or metal Tea set	Colanders	Aprons	Watering cans

Thank you, Mrs Croxford!

20 YEARS OF FUN

**FLIN FRIDAY DISCOUNT FROM £15 PER DAY**

**Childcare Vouchers Accepted**

## EASTER HOLIDAY CAMPS

Monday 30th to Friday 10th  
8am to 6pm Multi Activities  
9am to 4pm Multi Sports

**Facilities:**

- Large green playing fields
- Spacious Indoor/Outdoor Playing Areas
- Easy parking for quick pick ups and drop offs

**About Us:**

Coaches FA, UEFA qualified, First Aid trained and have completed a child protection workshop.

**Interactive, Engaging Activities & Games:**

- Girls Only Football, Multi Sports, Competitions
- Arts & Crafts, Mini Games, Adventure Walks
- Badminton, Tennis, Dance, Archery, Cricket
- Gymnastics, Dodgeball and so much more!

**We deliver Holiday Camps all year round**  
Boys and Girls are invited from the age of 4 to 12

**Various Locations**

Venue 1: Fulleriens Rugby Club, Cassiobury, WD17 3BD  
Venue 2: Harvey Road School, Croxley Green, WD3 3BN

[www.xtratime.co.uk](http://www.xtratime.co.uk)

## STARS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the stars of the week:

🌟 3 Owl	Iqra	Yahya
🌟 3 Robin	Jimmy	Grace
🌟 4 Heron	Aaron	Penelope
🌟 4 Puffin	Umar	Lorenz
🌟 5 Parrot	Alesha	Inaaya
🌟 5 Toucan	Dua	George
🌟 6 Eagle	Jake	Taha
🌟 6 Falcon	Sam	Charlie

## ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to 4 Heron for 96.43% attendance last week.

3 Owl	90.3%
3 Robin	90.42%
4 Heron	96.43%
4 Puffin	90.34%
5 Parrot	90.67%
5 Toucan	93%
6 Eagle	89.67%
6 Falcon	91.67%

## RAFFLE WINNERS

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

3 Owl	We were
3 Robin	busy enjoying
4 Heron	Parkgate's
4 Puffin	Got Talent
5 Parrot	and will
5 Toucan	announce
6 Eagle	winners next
6 Falcon	term.

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