



A message from Mrs Barton

It has been a wonderful first week back at Parkgate. Our staff were delighted to welcome the children and families back to school and it has been lovely to see everyone again. All of the children have been taught the Parkgate Behaviour Curriculum and have shown a strong understanding of our school rules of Be Safe, Be Kind and Try Your Best. All children have a 'toolbox' with emotional strategies they can use for regulation and also a 'protective hand' that lists adults in school they can talk to if they have a problem. The atmosphere around the school has been safe, calm and purposeful with lots of smiling faces. The children have responded brilliantly to our routines and expectations and we are very proud of the positive start they have made.

Our new Year 3 children have settled beautifully as we welcome them and their families to Parkgate Juniors. It has been lovely to see them growing in confidence and beginning to find their way around their new school.

We have introduced new break and lunchtime arrangements this term. These allow us to increase the number of adults available on the playgrounds to support children in having safe and enjoyable playtimes.

Every Friday our 'Stars of the Week' will join me for 'Hot Chocolate Friday.' I enjoyed spending time with my first group of children today and hearing about the fantastic things they have achieved this week.

As the weather can be unpredictable please ensure that your child has a named rain jacket in school every day. We aim to go outside in all weathers whenever it is safe to do so.

Thank you as always for your continued support. It has been a very positive start to the new school year and I look forward to building on this over the coming weeks.

I wish you all a restful weekend and look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday.

Dates for your diary

- Monday 7th September Family library drop in – after school
- Monday 14th September Year 6 Open morning (9am)
- Tuesday 15th September Year 4 Open morning (9am)
- Wednesday 16th September Year 3 Open morning (9am)
- Thursday 17th September Year 5 Open morning (9am)
- Tuesday 22nd September Infant sibling & individual photo's
- Thursday 8th October Year 4 Tri Golf Tournament
- Thursday 15th October Flu Vaccinations
- Friday 16th October Year 4 Knutsford playing fields trip
- 26th – 28th October Half Term
- 2nd – 6th November Year 5 Bikability
- Monday 9th November Year 6 School nurse visit
- Thursday 17th December Carol concert, Nativity & Christmas dinner
- Friday 18th December End of Term (1.30pm)
- Tuesday 5th January Start of Spring Term

P.E. Timetable

Children must come to school in the P.E. kit on their timetabled day. All jewellery must removed.

3 Owl Tues/Fri	3 Owl Tues/Fri
3 Robin Tues/Fri	3 Robin Tues/Fri
4 Heron Mon/Weds	4 Heron Mon/Weds
4 Puffin Mon/Tues	4 Puffin Mon/Tues

Stars of the week

- 3 Owl – Lio
- 3 Robin – Finnley
- 4 Heron – Lillie
- 4 Puffin – Dominic
- 5 Parrot – Maya.A.
- 5 Toucan – Willow
- 6 Eagle – Tamika
- 6 Falcon – Lara

Raffle winners

- Aiden Wingfield
- Grace Sima
- Felix Halls
- Sierra Luk
- Afiyah Hassan
- Pritesh Thulasithasan

Attendance

Regular school attendance is important because it helps students keep up with their learning, build good habits, and achieve their best results.

Gates open 8.40am
School starts 8.50pm

Children will be marked late after 8.50am and an unauthorised mark will be recorded if they arrive after 9am. After 8.50am you must bring your child to the main gate on Southwold Road.

If you know your child will absent before the day, please complete a leave of absence form. (this is not for reporting sickness)

If your child is ill please call or email the school before **9am**. Leave a short message with your **child's name, class and symptoms of the illness**.

Lunch

Thank you all for being so patient as we switch to our new ordering system.

Please remember to top up your child's account and order any meals before **8.30am**, or send them with a packed lunch. From Monday, we will no longer be calling parents to remind them to place or check out their child's meal order. If no meal has been ordered, your child will be offered a jacket potato, and the cost will be added to your child's Arbor account.

Please remember to check out your child's meal order. The cost of the meal will be deducted from your account balance after lunch on the day the meal is eaten.

Music Lessons

Music lessons can be booked through Hertfordshire Music Services. They are currently offering Piano, Guitar, Violin and Electric drums at Parkgate Junior School.

Outdoor Play

The children play outside every day break and lunchtime. As we head into Autumn and the weather is becoming unpredictable please ensure your child has a rainproof coat in school every day.