



Newsletter: 13th January 2017

SCHOOL EMERGENCY CLOSURE PROCEDURE

We had our first taste of snow this week so I would like to take the opportunity to advise parents of the school's emergency closure procedures. In the event that the school has to close, for any emergency reason i.e. snow, notification will be issued before 07:00a.m. on the morning of the closure (at the latest) if it has not been possible to make a decision the night before. Parents will receive a text alert from the school and an email. We will also post the information on our website and notify Essex Local Authority, which places the information immediately on the Emergency School Closures page on its own website (which is then used by the local radio stations). The same notification steps are taken if the school ever has to close early due to unforeseen circumstances. Parkwood Academy will always endeavour to remain open as long as it is safe to do so.

LIBRARY OPENING

The library opened to parents/carers on Wednesday morning for the first time this week and we were delighted to see so many parents turn up to read with their children! This is a permanent arrangement, every Wednesday morning from now on, opening at 08:15 and we look forward to welcoming even more of you next week. Please remember to contact the office if you are able to come in and offer a few hours of your time each week to become one of our volunteer readers!

Mr Lucas (Headteacher)



Information Workshops



The school will be running some parent/carer information workshops this term, on a variety of key areas which we feel may be useful for parents/carers. These areas will include how we teach phonics and spellings to children in school, the methods used for calculation in maths and how reading is taught across the year groups. Dates will be confirmed next week and added to the newsletter. Workshops of this nature are often poorly attended by parents/carers because they are concerned that they will be expected to participate in activities or somehow need to take part in tests. Any information workshops we run at Parkwood Academy will offer a relaxed and informal opportunity to learn more about how the school curriculum is delivered. This information may, in turn, help parents/carers to better support their children's learning at home. *Tea, coffee and cake will always be provided and we genuinely welcome anyone who wishes to come along!*

SOCIAL MEDIA

Alongside computer games, which have age restrictions related to their content, social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter have a minimum age requirement. This tends to be 13 years of age.

Parkwood Academy runs regular e-safety assemblies and education for children, giving them vital information about how to keep themselves safe online. We would be very grateful if parents/carers can continue to help the school protect children from being exposed to inappropriate content or cyber bullying by adhering to the age restrictions on both computer games and social media sites. Many thanks.

ANY PARENTS/CARERS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING TO HELP CHILDREN CREATE THE NEW WILLOW DOME IN SCHOOL, ON FRIDAY 20TH JANUARY, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.



**Well done to 4C class (Year 4)
for best attendance of the week 96.33%.**



**We are kind and caring, We respect others, We are sensible,
We include everyone, We look after school property, We listen carefully.**



Star of the Week

Scott H, Devanshi S, Stella D, Natasha T, Bradley W, Tyler S

Well Done!!

Stars will attend a special free school lunch on Monday 16th January. The children will also invite an adult to sit with them, who this week is Mrs Mander!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tues 17th Jan

Years 2 & 6 - Forest School
(come to school with change of clothing)

Wed 25th Jan

Phonics Workshop

Fri 10th Feb

Last day of half term

Mon 20th Feb

Non-pupil day

Tues 21st Feb

Children back to school

ATTENDANCE

At Parkwood Academy, we take attendance and time-keeping very seriously. Children need to come to school every day, on time, to make sure they gain the most from the education on offer. Turning up late in the morning, for example, is very unsettling for children and means they miss the starter input of important lessons. Children should only be kept off school if they are ill or have an agreed appointment/reason. Holidays should also not be taken in term-time as this can cause severe disruption to children's learning. We are working very closely with Essex Local Education Authority to monitor and enforce our attendance procedures. If you are experiencing any problems with your child's attendance or time-keeping, however, please speak to us and we will be very happy to support you.

Certificates

Writer of the Week

Katie G, Harry B, Zac G, Alfie M, Bailey H, Elza D

Reader of the Week

Summer H, Moqadas F, Frankie M, Manaal I, Grace B, Sinead C, Kagan T

Maths Award of the Week

Demi M, Telemacos G, Abbie M, Gracie E, Avni L, Thomas S, Katie F

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

There are no after school clubs running at the moment as we look to change providers. Academic booster clubs, run by the teachers, are running as normal and we would encourage any invited children to attend. As soon as the new arrangements are in place, we will notify parents/carers of the clubs, days and times etc. Breakfast Club is also unaffected and is running normally. Thank you.

Monday (Jacket Day)	Homemade Mild Chicken Korma Naan Bread Wholegrain & White Rice Salad Bar	Sweet Potato & Lentil Curry Naan Bread Wholegrain & White Rice Salad Bar	Cornflake Tart & Custard, Fruit or Yoghurt
Tuesday	All Day Breakfast Sausage, Bacon, Scrambled Egg, Baked Beans, Tomato, Mushroom Bread Slice	All Day Vegetarian Breakfast Veggie Sausage, Scrambled Egg, Baked Beans, Tomato, Mushroom Bread Slice	Oat & Fruit Cookie, Fruit or Yoghurt
Wednesday	Roast Chicken Roast Potatoes Yorkshire Pudding Carrots & Broccoli	Quorn Fillet Roast Potatoes Yorkshire Pudding Carrots & Broccoli	Fresh Fruit Pots, Fruit or Yoghurt
Thursday	Homemade Cottage Pie Carrots / Garden Peas	BBQ Baked Bean Cottage Pie Carrots / Garden Peas	St Clements Cake, Fruit or Yoghurt
Friday	Harry Ramsden Fish Chips Baked Beans / Sweetcorn Salad Bar	Cheddar Cheese Whirl Chips Baked Beans / Sweetcorn Salad Bar	Fresh Fruit Platter, Fruit or Yoghurt