



PARKWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Issue 62

20th March 2026

From The Headteacher

I can hardly believe we're approaching the end of the Spring term – where has the time gone? Next week will be our final week, and it's a short one for the children with just four days of learning before they break up (our staff have a training day on Friday).

Even as we head towards the holidays, the fantastic learning continues both inside and outside our school. This week, Ash 1 had a wonderful visit to Lesnes Abbey gardens and woodlands on Tuesday – I'm sure the children came home full of stories about their adventure! We've also been delighted to welcome several visitors to Parkway. Teachers from other schools came to observe some great maths teaching in Ash 5, where Miss Milburn and her class showcased the brilliant learning happening here every day. It's always lovely when other schools want to learn from our excellent practice.

This week we also, were pleased to welcome Mrs Higham, our Chair of Governors, who toured the main building to review this year's building improvements. As you'd expect, she experienced the calm, purposeful atmosphere that makes Parkway special – children engaged and were enthusiastic about their learning. During Mrs Higham's visit, she also joined the interview panel for our new Assistant Headteacher position, which focuses on staff development. I'm absolutely thrilled to share that Mrs Reynolds – who many of you will know from her years at Parkway – has been successfully appointed to this role! She'll be joining our leadership team after Easter, and we're all excited about this well-deserved promotion.

At Parkway, we're always looking at ways to improve how we support you and your children. This week, our leadership team reviewed how we handle communications from parents about classroom matters, and I wanted to share our approach with you:

- Your first point of contact should always be your child's class teacher. They know your child best and can usually resolve day-to-day concerns quickly and effectively.
- If you feel your concern hasn't been fully resolved after speaking with the class teacher, please contact the relevant phase or provision leader:
 - Nursery, Reception, Ash 1, Ash 2 – Miss Parsons
 - Ash 3-6 – Mrs Birchmore
 - Oak or Elm classes – Ms Macaulay
- Our office team is always happy to arrange an appointment for you.
- If you still feel your concern is unresolved, you're very welcome to contact our Senior Leadership Team via the school office, and we'll arrange a meeting.

Our aim is always to resolve any concerns as quickly as possible, ensuring every child gets the best possible experience at Parkway.

Our hearts go out to the families and friends of the two young people who tragically lost their lives in the meningitis outbreak in Kent. While this outbreak is localised and the disease doesn't spread easily, the Department for Education and UK Health Security Agency have asked us to share some information with you, which you'll find included in this newsletter.

With some beautiful sunny days brightening up our school this week, and Saturday looking equally promising, I hope you all have a wonderful weekend with your family. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone for our final four-day week before the Easter holidays!

Mr Celino-Stock



Dates To Remember

26th March - Last day of term
13th April - First day of term



OAK 5



We have been studying the Ancient Egyptians. We located where Egypt is on the map, and we looked at symbols and artefacts of this ancient civilisation. They built pyramids for the Pharaohs, and were great farmers



We learnt that the Pharaoh was the King in Ancient Egyptian times.



Tutankhamun, also known as King Tut, was the youngest pharaoh. Do you know how old he was when he became king? What Class in Parkway would he have been in?

In Maths, we have been naming and finding positions to 10th. First, we had a go at lining up and naming our position in the line. Then we washed our hands, and ordered the steps by position.

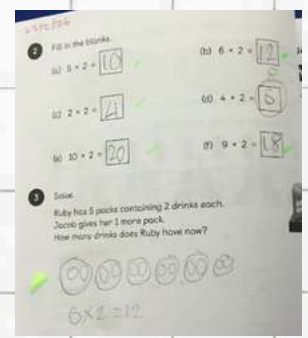
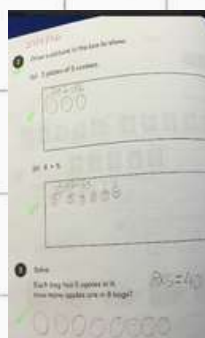
1 2 3
0 5 4
9 8 6
7 10



times multiplied by
multiply array
lots of X groups of
repeated addition multiple of



We have also been multiplying by 2, 5 and 10



In Science, we have been learning about different types of forces.



We have also been learning about different types of forces: gravity, air resistance, friction and magnetism



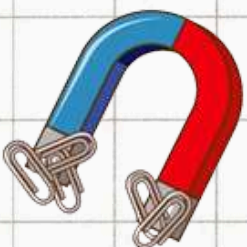
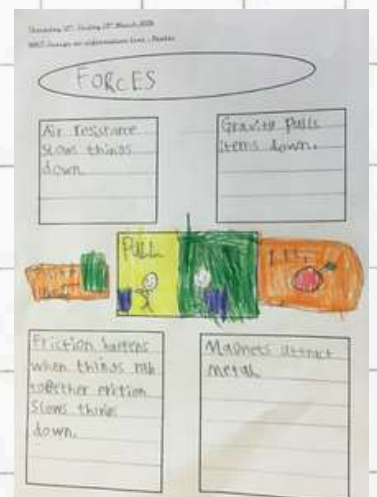
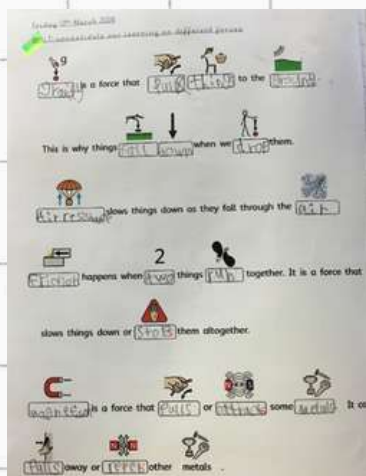
What force pulls objects down?



What force slows things down?

We learned that gravity pulls objects down, and air resistance slows down gravity. We tested out friction by riding our bikes on two surfaces: tarmac and grass. It was harder to ride on the grass because there was more friction.

What force slows down gravity?



What force attracts metal objects?

Bexley Music Festival

What an incredible day at Fairfield Halls for the Bexley Music Festival!

The children spent the day rehearsing before taking to the stage in the evening, performing in front of proud parents and families as part of a fantastic mass choir. They joined voices with pupils from schools across the Bexley borough, accompanied by a brilliant orchestra.

They thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and it was such a rewarding and memorable experience for everyone involved.



Our "Around the World" school lunch journey has taken us to Brazil this week! It's been a fantastic way for the children to try new foods, and they thoroughly enjoyed exploring the recent Brazilian-inspired menu. A great opportunity to experience different cultures through food!



Other News

& EVENTS

Reminder!

Monday and Tuesday are your final day to purchase tickets for our Easter raffle!

The draw will take place on Wednesday, and winners' parents will be contacted to arrange collection of prizes from the school reception. We wish everyone the very best of luck!



NHS

How to Avoid Meningitis?

NHS Advice

How meningitis is spreading

Meningitis is usually caused by a bacterial or viral infection. Bacterial meningitis is rarer but more serious than viral meningitis.

Infections that cause meningitis can be spread through:

- sneezing
- coughing
- kissing
- sharing utensils, cutlery and toothbrushes

Meningitis is usually caught from people who carry these viruses or bacteria in their nose or throat but aren't ill themselves. It can also be caught from someone with meningitis, but this is less common.

Prevention

Vaccinations against meningitis:

There are vaccinations offer some protection against certain causes of meningitis.

These include the:

- [meningococcal B vaccine](#) – offered to babies at 8 weeks, 12 weeks and between 12 and 13 months
- [6-in-1 vaccine](#) – offered to babies at 8, 12 and 16 weeks of age and at 18 months
- [pneumococcal vaccine for babies](#) – offered to babies at 16 weeks and between 12 and 13 months old
- [MMRV vaccine](#) – offered to babies aged between 12 and 13 months, and 18 months
- [meningococcal ACWY vaccine](#) – offered to young people at around 14 years of age

Hygiene:

- Washing your hands with hot water and soap regularly
- Putting your hand to your mouth when sneezing and coughing or use a tissue
- Avoid sharing cutlery or drinking cups, or other utensils.

When to get medical help?

- You should get medical advice as soon as possible if you're concerned that you or your child could have meningitis.
- Trust your instincts and don't wait until a rash develops.
- Phone 999 for an ambulance or go to your nearest accident and emergency (A&E) department immediately if you think you or your child might be seriously ill.
- Phone 111 or your GP practice for advice if you're not sure if it's anything serious or you think you may have been exposed to someone with meningitis.