



PARK STREET
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Spring Term

Week 7

**28th February
2020**

NEWS

**THE CHURCH
SCHOOLS OF
CAMBRIDGE**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back after half-term. I hope everybody had a good break! It is wonderful to see the daffodils coming out now—even if we did have snow yesterday!

Over half-term, we had a new floor laid in the hall, which is marvelous for PE lessons! At last the children can do dance and gymnastics with bare feet. To protect it, we have also had to invest in some new furniture for lunchtime. These are long tables and benches, which are proving to be a more sociable way of sitting and eating for the children. The hall should also be redecorated during the Easter holidays and possibly some acoustic paneling installed to improve the noise levels.

Several of the Teaching Assistants and I attended some training yesterday about making lunchtimes calmer. We will have a focus for the next few weeks on quieter speaking voices at lunchtime, to improve the atmosphere for everybody. To engage the children further, we are hoping to appoint some dinner hall leaders from the children, from Year 2 upwards. We also discussed activities and games: It was good to be reminded of some of the old playground songs and rhymes! Please have a conversation with your children about any you remember from your childhood. It would also be good to hear of any from around the world!

Best Wishes, Sarah Hawker

School Council and Sport Relief

The School Council, who met just before half-term, would like to organize some activities to raise money for Sport Relief, on 13th March 2020. Please look out for a letter from them soon!

COVID

Please see the attached letter from Jonathan Lewis, regarding schools' precautionary measures to be taken in response to contact with this virus.

Attendance

There will be a reward for classes achieving 100% attendance in any week, this term!

This week's figures:

Class 1 - 97.8%

Class 2 - 96.2%

Class 3 - 98.6%

Class 4 - 97.5%

Mrs Macdonald

Unfortunately, we had to say goodbye to Mrs Macdonald this week, who is leaving to have a baby soon. We are hoping that she will return next year! We were all sad to see her go, but are looking forward to seeing her new child when he or she arrives!

Mrs Ruth Brown, who is a very experienced Early Years teacher, will be teaching Class 1, on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. I will arrange an opportunity for parents to meet her as soon as possible.

World Book Day

We are not requesting children to dress up for World Book Day this year. However, book-themed activities will be taking place all week, including book reviews and quizzes. Please take this opportunity to discuss reading with your children—we know that this is one of the strengths of Park Street, and we look forward to the pupils demonstrating their love of books to the Local Authority team who will be visiting us on Thursday!

Parking for staff

Thank you very much to parents who have spoken to me about this already!

As you know, it is sometimes difficult for staff to get to work at Park Street. It is possible that this problem is impacting on recruitment. If you have any contacts with permits or space to park in the vicinity of the school, which we might be able to arrange to use, please could you let me know. A reasonable payment for this might also be possible.

Punctuality

Please could you make sure that your child is in school by 9am in the morning. The gate closes at this time; any children arriving later need to enter through Reception and sign in as late.

Statutory testing, Summer Term 2020

This is just to inform all parents about the statutory testing and assessment that the children take part in in the summer term.

Reception—All Reception children are assessed against the Early Years curriculum. The proportion of children at the school reaching a Good Level of Development is reported to the Department for Education. Please see Mrs Shankland if you would like to know more about this.

Year 1—All Year 1 children, whether in Class 1 or Class 2, take part in a phonics screening check. The pass mark for this is usually 32 out of 40. Again the proportion of children passing is reported to the Department for Education.

Year 2—Y2 children take some short tests in June, in Reading, Grammar and Maths. These are marked by the class teachers and used to inform their assessment of the children. These assessments are reported to the Department for Education. Children are judged to be either Pre-Key Stage, Working Towards the Expected Standard, Expected Standard or Greater Depth Standard, in Reading, Writing and Maths. Teachers' judgements are often checked by a County moderator.

Year 4—this year for the first time, all year 4 children will have a times tables test. The proportion of children getting 100% right will be reported to the Department for Education. Please practise tables with your children!

Year 6—Y6 children take tests in Reading, Grammar and Spelling, Arithmetic and Reasoning, the week beginning Monday 11th May 2020. These tests are marked externally. Writing is assessed by the Head and Class teacher, with judgements often checked by a County moderator. The results of the tests are published nationally as percentages of children Pre-Key Stage, Working Towards the Expected Standard, Expected Standard or Greater Depth Standard for each subject and overall.

DIARY DATES

Wednesday	4th March	KS2 concert at West Road	During school day
Thursday	5th March	World Book Day	
Monday	9th March	KS2 visiting St John's Evangelist Church	During the school day
Wednesday	11th March	KS 1 trip to Hedingham Castle PTA Pub Quiz at Thirsty—details to follow	During the school day
Thursday	12th March	Last Latin Club	
Thursday	19th March	PTA Crafting session-details to follow	3.30-4.30
Wednesday	25th March	Whole school visiting St Clement's Church	Various times during the day
Tuesday	31st March	Easter Service at Gt St Mary's. All welcome. Please meet us there.	2-3pm
Wednesday	1st April	School closes for the Easter holidays	
Monday	20th April	School re-opens	
Thursday	23rd April	Class photos	
Friday	8th May	Bank Holiday	

Inset Days 2019—2020

Thursday 2nd April

Friday 3rd April

Wednesday 22nd July