

# Park Lane School Newsletter

Autumn 2024



Our new mini-bus – a huge thank you to FOPLSS and the Variety Club!

## Happy holidays and best wishes for 2025!

Dear Parents and Carers, I'm not sure where this term has gone, I have blinked and we are suddenly in December.

Each class has produced a short summary from this term, please enjoy looking over what each class has been doing from the Early Years all the way through to our 6Form. I'm sure you will agree that each and every student has made a fantastic start to this academic year. Well done!

I would like to thank all of our staff for their incredible dedication and hard work, I would also like to thank you for your continued support, Park Lane School is truly an amazing place to be.

Emma

## Special events

- Thank you to the FOPLSS Team for holding a successful quiz night, Bingo evening, and Christmas fair to raise more money for our school.
- Educational visits this term have included, Manchester City stadium, local community areas, our partnership schools, and welcoming visitors into school.
- Thank you to Beech Hall Trust Charity for the amazing donation of £35,000.00!



**“Partnership,  
Learning &  
Success”**



## Early Years – Forest Class

In Autumn term our focus has been 'Superstars'. Our predominant focus this term has been settling into school life, it has been a massive change for the children coming to school each day, meeting new friends and staff that will support them over the upcoming year. We would like to say a huge well done to everyone in Forest for settling down so well and developing new friendships with their peers. We have been using our senses to explore learning, whether this is mark making in sand or shaving foam to morning sensory trays linked to books we are reading or events we are celebrating such as Diwali, Remembrance Day and Bonfire night.



Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way...



'Tis the season to be jolly....

## Key moments...

Some key moments in this term have been everyone in class will together and say good morning to each other, everyone can make decisions around what snack they would like to eat in the morning, transitions around school are getting better every day and look and listen sessions are beginning extend.

We look forward to Spring term where our topic is 'How things work'.

Chelsie



## Early Years – Silk Class

This term we have spent time exploring the topic 'Superstars'.

We have enjoyed lots of lovely stories. These have included 'The Enormous Watermelon', 'Pig in the Pond' and 'Hurry Santa'.

We have done lots of learning around the core word vocabulary and will continue to do so throughout the year.

We have further developed our understanding of mathematical concepts through lots of practical activities, including parachute games.

We have enjoyed lots of celebrations including class birthdays, Diwali, Bonfire Night, and of course Christmas.

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Tis the season to be jolly....

## Key moments...

The pupils loved our celebration of Nursery Rhyme week, especially being squirted with water each time Incy Wincy Spider was washed down the spout!

In addition, we have enjoyed a fun filled trip to Glebe Farm where we fed the animals and had a bumpy ride on a tractor!

The pupils are making fantastic progress with their individual communication skills, using their communication books and our choice and core word boards.

Here are some photos of the children sharing wonderful experiences together

**Have a lovely Christmas break!**



## Granelli Class

This term we have welcomed some new classmates to Granelli class. It has been lovely watching new friendships develop and existing ones go from strength to strength. It has been a very busy but exciting term and we have learnt lots of new things.

Our topic has been 'Superheros' for this term. We have enjoyed some great books including 'Superhero like you', 'Real superheroes' and 'Emergency. Amazing vehicles!'. We learnt lots about people who help us and loved seeing and exploring the fire engine and ambulance when it came into school.

In Maths, we have focused on numbers and have enjoyed number rhymes and number lines to count along with. We have counted objects, used sensory trays to explore groups of objects and more recently focussed on 'more' and 'less'.



Every Tuesday, we have enjoyed PE where we have worked on our fundamental movements and ball skills. On Fridays we have loved Sign, Sign and Symbol and playing with a range of instruments.

We have been extremely physical this term with weekly PE, swimming and softplay sessions which has helped us improve our motor control skills. The pupils have all displayed excellent participation during these activities.

We have put our creative skills to the test this term, baking spotty cakes for Children In Need and creating some beautiful poppy collages to commemorate Remembrance Day.

We have finished the year decorating our room for Christmas. We helped raise money for Cheshire hospice and put in an Oscar Award winning Christmas performance. We have been very busy!

We wish you a restful break and look forward to seeing you 2025!

*Granelli Team*



## Jodrell Class

What a busy term we have had in Jodrell class! The pupils have settled so well into their new class – building relationships with peers and adults, developing new routines and letting their own personalities shine. We have loved starting to get to know them all individually.

Our topic this term has been all about 'Superstars in the Community'. Through stories and a variety of different hands-on activities, the pupils have learnt all about different jobs that could help them in the community such as the fire service, police, postal workers, vets, doctors and nurses. We have been lucky enough to have had visits from the police, the fire service and the ambulance service. They loved looking in the different emergency vehicles!



### Key moments...

Jodrell have also learnt all about themselves and their families. They have completed family trees and looked at pictures of themselves as babies! Music and art have been amazing this term; all pupils have created pieces inspired by Bridgit Riley and Georges Surat and learnt how to play a beat on percussion instruments.

The weekly park trips on a Friday are always the highlight of the week. The pupils are super at getting ready to leave school, walking to the park and returning to school. These will continue next term.

We are very excited to see what the spring term brings for Jodrell class!

Merry Christmas



## Tatton Class

What an amazing first term in our new class all pupils have settled in and are engaging so well in lessons. They have built new friendships and maintained those with peers they have moved up with. This term our theme has been superstars and heroes around us.

Some children have progressed with their engagement during their TACPAC, Sensology, Look and Listen, and Sensory Choir lessons. The children have particularly enjoyed the themed sessions during Halloween and currently our Christmas sessions.

In English we have focused on our core texts such as Super Duck and Mog the Vet. They have shown their understanding by story sequencing and through colourful semantics. In Maths we have looked at number and counting through sensory number songs, using play dough and sensory trays to support understanding.



In English we have focused on our core texts such as Super Duck and Mog the Vet. They have shown their understanding by story sequencing and through colourful semantics. In Math's we have looked at number and counting through sensory number songs, using play dough and sensory trays to support understanding our value subjects we have been following our theme for the term 'superstars'. In community we have been thinking about people who help us in school and the community. In Creativity we have made our own superhero song and paintings using a variety of techniques such as printing and collage. In Challenge we have looked at healthy eating and fitness and why this is important for us and people that help us. In Individuality we have been focusing on our zones of regulation and explain how we are feeling.

The pupils had fun and progressed in their swimming lessons. They also enjoyed the new soft play at school and the pupils have demonstrated that they are kind friends playing together. We have also engaged in school events and celebrations including Children in Need and going to the enterprise markets made by upper school.

We hope everyone has a great Christmas and we can't wait to see you in the new year!





## Hovis Class

We've welcomed in a new academic year and a new term by exploring our Autumn topic 'superstars – heroes around us'.

In English we have explored some new texts related to our topic, such as 'Super Duck', 'Ten Little Superheroes' and 'Mog and the V.E.T.' through Colourful Semantics and vocabulary matching tasks. We worked on our fine motor skills pretending to pull thorns from playdough shaped as Mog's paw and finding story items in sensory trays. We also explored various non-fiction texts, creating Halloween visual poems and creating actions when learning Autumn poems.

In Maths, we have looked at number and counting. Some pupils explored sensory number songs, such as '5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer' and '5 Little Ducks', while others began to explore the difference between more and less and even begin to explore addition and subtraction. Pupils particularly engaged with using number link cubes to aid their understanding.



To explore 'heroes around us', we have been learning all about people who help us both in school and in the community. In Challenge lessons, we have looked at the lifestyle and fitness routines of firefighters, and in Creativity we have explored music and art related to superheroes, including making our own flying superheroes with balloons! In Individuality, we enjoyed pretending to be emergency vehicles responding to traffic lights and the words 'stop/go', as well as exploring our emotions with the Zones of Regulation. In Community, we have explored the school to work on locating important areas, such as the nurse's office or the kitchen.

We have also engaged with many events and celebrations throughout the Autumn term, such as Children in Need, Remembrance Day and a school swap program with St John's School! We hope everyone has a lovely Christmas holiday and we can't wait to see you again next term



## Middlewood Class

This term we have read *The Queens Knickers* and *SuperGran!* The pupils have thoroughly enjoyed getting dressed up as the characters and putting on a cat walk in the class throughout these sessions! In Maths, we have worked on number and place value. We have really improved our addition and subtraction skills from numbers 1-20 this year. We have also begun café skills trips on a Friday morning to practice using money in real life contexts.

In Community we have ventured far and wide in our school bus to explore Macclesfield and its surrounding areas. Some places we have visited is: Redesmere Lake, Macclesfield Forest and surrounding areas, Macclesfield Centre and Poynton to name a few! We have also enjoyed sessions in class to learn about the impacts that WW1&2 had on children and the community. We have also continued with our weekly trips to South Park when the weather has allowed us to. A fire engine and ambulance also came to visit us so we could learn further about our local super heroes!



Creativity sessions have consisted of making super hero art and exploring our favourite types of music as well as making our own! Music continues to run strong throughout our day to day life in Middlewood class. We have practiced gross motor skills in PE and enjoyed weekly table cricket sessions! Additionally we have enjoyed swimming at Macclesfield Leisure Centre – this continues to be a firm favourite! In Challenge we have looked at ICT skills as well as forces such as Gravity and Resistance. We have enjoyed all the practical elements that a typical Challenge sessions presents!

Thank you to all parents/carers who have made our many trips possible this term and supported the pupils with their Christmas Concert costumes. I'm sure you would agree they all looked absolutely fabulous (and adorable!) I hope you have a restful Christmas holiday filled with love and laughter.





## Arighi Class

Arighi Class have settled into this year well and are a mixture of fun filled students who like to have lots of fun! We have been busy with getting to know each other and learning lots of new things. Have a look below to see what we have been up to.

**English** This term we have been taking on the role of superheroes in our story “superheroes don’t get scared .... Or do they?”. We have all had a go at some role play and writing letters about our feelings of being scared. Some of us even gave some good advice on what to do when we feel scared!

**Maths** In maths, we have been working on number. We have worked in small groups consolidating our knowledge of numbers 1-10 and beyond. We have used objects in our everyday lives e.g. plates, cups and toys to embed our number skills and use them throughout our daily routines.

**Creativity** Students have been getting artistic with their music making and artwork this term. We have made ourselves into pop art inspired by the artist Roy Lichtenstein. Students have also started to produce their written music and followed along with instruments!



Tis the season to be jolly....

**Challenge** We have been getting in the heads of computers this term as we have been programming for ICT. Students have programmed each other and the bee bot to move around the classroom to each different end point.

**Individuality** In PE we have been moving our body to music in our dance sessions. We look at fast and slow music and how we can move to different tempos. We finish by linking our moves together and making a dance video!

**Community** In community, we have explored superstars in our local community. We looked at the lives of the brothers behind ‘Arighi Bianchi’ and the building. We then explored the life of ‘Alan Turing’ and his work on code breaking, ending with some work on evacuees.



## **Bollin Class**

We have had a busy term, learning about number and place value in maths and working as a team, using maths and ICT skills in Enterprise. We have learned about Rosa Parks and enjoyed signing and picture news in literacy. Some of us are doing well with ASDAN communication skills and excelled in a visit to the shops. We have had sessions with Sale Sharks for tag rugby, enjoyed swimming at Macclesfield Leisure Centre and developed skills in handball. We have prepared snacks and baked gingerbread in cooking, enjoyed Happy Minds and used our Zones of Regulation. We have learned about forces in Challenge and the Fire of London in Community.



Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way...



Tis the season to be jolly....

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and best wishes for 2025!



## Treacle Class

Happy Christmas from all the students & staff of Treacle Class. We have had an action-packed & fun Christmas term where we have worked really hard and had lots of fun.

Here is some more information on a small selection of the work & activities we have undertaken:

In higher set Maths & Numeracy the students have all worked hard towards their entry-level certificate and have undertaken a range of activities across a wide variety of numeracy topics. In lower set ASDAN maths and numeracy we have focused on basic skills; the students have worked hard and with great enthusiasm. We have undertaken activities both in and out of the classroom and have particularly enjoyed our energetic active maths sessions in the hall.

In Literacy and English, the higher set, entry-level certificate group has worked hard on both English language and English literacy topics; we have learned to use many of the basic rules of grammar, such as simile and metaphor, and apostrophes. We have used these tools to examine a wide variety of prose, including Shakespeare, Dickens and poetry from around the world. I have been particularly impressed with the poetry writing skills of the class and their eagerness to both perform poetry to an audience and to give positive and supportive criticism to their colleagues in class.

We have had a great time swimming this term with our fantastic swimming teacher George.

As well as learning a range of practical swimming skill, including water safety and a range of swimming strokes, the class has impressed all staff with their mature and polite nature when outside the classroom and interacted with members of the public. In PE we our primary focus has been on handball, and we have also had the recent pleasure of taking part in tag-rugby sessions with Sam from Sale Sharks. Working well as a team has been the most visible quality of Treacle this year and it has been great to see all members of the class look-out for each other and care for each other when someone is sad. All the Treacle staff are extremely proud of all the students for their kindness and maturity.





## 6<sup>th</sup> Form 1

Sixth form 1 students have had a busy, productive and enjoyable term. They have been developing their social, communication, vocational and academic skills onsite and in community settings.

Our students have enjoyed trips to Woodford Garden Centre Aquarium. They were able to identify different kinds of fish, and the shop staff talked to our young people about how to look after the different fish. Mini First Aid Cheshire ran a course for our Sixth Form students. They found the course really enjoyable and informative. Students got to learn and practice CPR, bandaging and abdominal thrust techniques.



Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way...

The Sixth Form café has expanded and has been able to invite customers from Bollin, Arighi, Treacle and Middlewood classes. Not only does the Sixth Form Café offer sixth form students the opportunity to develop vocational skills it offers pupil customer the chance to use their communication and maths skills outside of the classroom. After the summer break our students promptly restarted their external work experience projects at the Co-op, Hope Café, Macclesfield Library and Pet Shop. Our students continue to receive excellent feedback from their employers. As part of our functional maths sessions, students have been sequencing numbers, events and tasks and sorting objects that are used in different practical activities. Sixth form 1 students have been leading the Schoolcycled Project, which encourages recycling throughout the school. They presented an assembly to upper school and monitor the bottle top collections points.

We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



## 6<sup>th</sup> Form 2

6th form 2 have had a very busy term. We have enjoyed getting to know our new friends in class and working together as a team. Highlights for our class has been the weekly table cricket sessions, rugby sessions with Sale Sharks and making all the various props needed for our Christmas performance in our Art sessions. Another highlight was taking part in the First Aid workshop. We learnt some very important skills.

We have been on many community visits, Brereton, South Park, Congleton Park and practiced our communication and independence skills ordering our own snacks in local café's and garden centres.

During Shop, Cook and Eat, we have made our own dinners and made great progress in independence skills when preparing meals. Some of us are now independently shopping and paying for items at the local supermarket.



Tis the season to be jolly....

### Key moments...

We have completed many ASDAN units for our portfolios.

Some of us are making excellent progress completing physio targets and others are demonstrating further independence skills in work experience sessions both internally and externally.

We enjoyed preparing for Christmas, performing our Christmas show and watching the pantomime! Great fun!

Merry Christmas everyone and see you in the New Year!



## Barnaby Class

In Barnaby this term, we have been very busy. As always we continue to work on our physical targets, from fine motor picking up items, to gross motor working in our standing frames and in the pool with the physiotherapist team. Cooking continues to be a key point of the week for us, giving us chance to put our switch skills to the test and we get to try lots of different smells and for some of us tastes too! Lots of us have been improving our skills on the eye gaze computer too, making some amazing art work.



Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way...



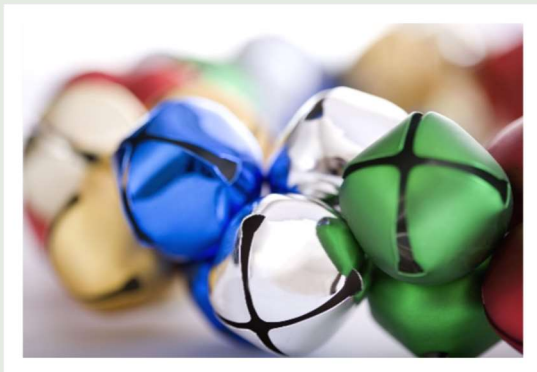
'Tis the season to be jolly....

We have also enjoyed our music sessions in class and we have been part of the new online monthly sessions being run by our local music hub, Love Music Trust. Animal therapy is a big hit for some Barnaby students and they continue to explore the textures of the animals. We've been busy making our own toys in class too, making sensory bottles from all sorts of items that we have chosen and creating Dali inspired pictures using a switch and the hairdryer



## Mulberry Class

This term has been great for Mulberry Class, with lots of wonderful learning going on. In English we have loved stories such as 'The Dot' and 'Handa's Surprise'. In Maths we have learnt lots about numbers, some of us worked on our counting and some of us have been partitioning numbers and working on addition with up to 3-digit numbers. We have loved accessing swimming at Macclesfield Leisure Centre and the school hydro pool, covering all aspects of our swimming curriculum but also learning about water safety too.



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'Tis the season to be jolly....

We enjoyed visits from the fire engine and ambulance and loved meeting the fire fighters and St John's ambulance staff and learning more about their role.

We are super proud of all of Mulberry Class for their Christmas concert performance, they worked so hard making props, practicing lines and dancing and we really hope you enjoy watching it.

Have a lovely Christmas everyone!



## School Development Plan

Feel free to have a look over our school development plan on our school website under 'Key Information' this is a summary of what we are working on together to achieve the very best for our school.

### Exciting news on the way...



We are going to be having a brand new sensory room, custom made to suit all of our needs.

The School Council are busy working in partnership with our new Governor Tony Costello to create a multi sensory outdoor play area for lower school.

Teachers are busy planning some very exciting educational visits for every class next year.

Our amazing FOPLSS Team are continuing their drive to fundraise. Why not join them?!

**“We wish you a Merry Christmas,  
we wish you a Merry Christmas,  
we wish you a Merry Christmas,  
and a Happy New Year”**



Oh I wish it could be Christmas everyday...