

park life

Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School Newsletter

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Happy New Year!

Welcome back to a new term and academic year at Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School. I would particularly like to welcome all those new families who are joining us for the first time this September. We welcome you to our school family and we trust that you will feel part of the community very quickly indeed.



'Park Life' is the name of our school newsletter. 'Park Life' is the place where we will try to place all the important news and dates. Please take time to read each one carefully. A copy will also be placed on our school website. As the name suggests, we aim to keep you up to date with all the news from our school community.

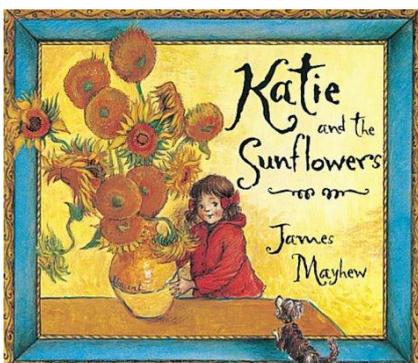


Community is really important to us. Our school logo, with three parts joining together as one, reminds us that our school is a learning community, a Christian community, and a local community. Our school aims are structured around these three areas and support us in fulfilling our mission to 'provide the highest standard of all round education, for each and every child, in partnership with parents, and in the context of a Christian community'.

We will be discussing our vision and values with the children over the next week or so, and asking them to consider wisdom, well-being, faith and friendship in the life of the school.

We are all looking forward to another enjoyable, hardworking and successful year at the school and would like to thank you for your continued support.

Introducing Katie...



This week and next, each class's learning will be focussed on one of the 'Katie' books by the writer and illustrator James Mayhew. James created his first Katie book 'Katie's Picture Show' twenty five years ago as a way to share his enthusiasm for art with children. His series of Katie books are much-loved and respected as an early introduction to art.

You'll be able to see some of our work if you take a look down the main school corridors and in the classrooms after next week where each class will display some work on this theme.

School Uniform

We expect the very highest standards of presentation from our pupils. Please help us to ensure that children are always neatly dressed in full school uniform. We will be asking children to be dressed smartly at school and on their journey to and from school. This sends a very positive message to all about Buckingham Park School. If your child is unable to wear the correct uniform for any reason, please write a note to his or her class teacher.

School Uniform

Please note that we do not allow any form of jewellery, except a simple wristwatch, to be worn in school. This includes any type of earring. No exception can be made for recently pierced ears.

Finally, please also remember that PE kit should be available at school for use every day. We sometimes have to rearrange lessons without notice due to our ever changing weather! During the colder weather, children may wear a tracksuit and/or sweatshirt for outdoor PE.

Free School Meals for Infant Children – It's really easy!



Every pupil in reception, year 1 and 2 is now eligible for free school meals. We are making this really easy at Buckingham Park. You do not need to pre-order, register, or complete any forms. Every child will automatically be catered for. Just come along and enjoy your meal!

We encourage as many children as possible to take up this entitlement but parents may still opt to send in a packed lunch instead. If your child does not have a packed lunch, they will automatically be offered a school meal – it's as easy as that!

The logo for 'Quiz Night' is a vertical stack of four colored squares. From top to bottom: a red square with a white letter 'Q', a yellow square with a black letter 'U', a blue square with a white letter 'I', and an orange square with a white letter 'Z'.

Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School

Quiz Night

Friday 26th September 2014
Arrive from 7.30pm, first round at 8pm

Tickets: £10 per person
(includes fish and chip supper and first drink)
Max team size: 8 people

The Quiz is an adult only event.
There will be a bar serving alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks.
There is a sign-up sheet in the main school corridor.

Meet the Values Heroes...



Our Christian values are really important to us and we will take time at the beginning of this term to share them with all our children:

We are kind, helpful and polite
We do our best
We are honest

We share
We are peacemakers
We forgive others

We take care of everything,
and everyone

Whilst these are Christian values, we recognize these as being universal human values that all our families, whether Christian, from another faith background, or from no faith background, will want to support us in growing in our school, in our staff, and in each of the young people we have the privilege to teach and care for.

This term we are launching our new Values Heroes, pictured above, who will help our children to understand our values.

Term Dates



Our term and holiday dates can be found on our school website. We will soon be sending home a more detailed list of dates for the school year which will include all the key events. In addition, our school website has a calendar page which will be updated with this year's dates when we send them home.

The Morning and Afternoon Routine

We want to make our process for handing over children at the beginning and end of each day as smooth as possible. Please use the quick glance guide below to see the process for your child.

Year Group	Door	Parents
Reception	Main double door	Parents come in to classroom
Year 1	Far End door	Parents may come in to school or drop off at door
Year 2	Main double door	Parents drop off at the door and children come into school alone
Years 3 and 4	Far End door	Parents drop off at the door and children come into school alone

All teachers will still bring children out to the playground at the end of the day. We have some cones temporarily placed to indicate where parents should wait. Please do not be tempted to come right up to the door as this prevents us from ensuring that each child is safely handed over to a parent and will slow down the process at the end of the day.

Labels, labels, labels...



Please remember that everything that comes into school should be clearly labelled with your child's name - including all clothing, bags, PE Kit and lunchboxes. We recommend 'Stikins' and 'Trons' from label planet.

Stikins and Trons can be ordered from <http://www.name-labels.com> If you add our school number to your order we'll receive some commission and you won't pay anything extra! **Our school number is: 35421**

Attendance – The 96 Challenge!

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a child's academic success starting in Nursery and continuing through secondary school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and in a job.

Make school attendance a priority

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school, on time, every day, and make that the expectation
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as getting up and dressed on time, and getting a good night's sleep
- Don't schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day
- Don't book holidays in term time
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick - complaints of headaches or stomach aches may be signs of anxiety rather than an illness – speak to us if you are at all worried



We really want to inspire our children and families to have an excellent attendance pattern so we are laying down a challenge. Each term, any child who has an attendance rate of 96% or better will be awarded a '96 Challenge' certificate.

School Library – Help Needed Please!



We need some volunteers to help in our school library.

In the next couple of weeks we will be working hard to get all our new books (and those retrieved from classrooms at the end of the school year) onto our library computer system. Your help will be gratefully received if you can spare a few hours. Please let us know (through the school office) if you can help out. All training will be given!

Children will be able to start borrowing from the library again once we have all the new books on the system.

School Photographs

Our school photographer is coming in next Monday, 15th September. She will be taking individual portrait photos. Please note that if your child is absent on Monday, there will not be the opportunity for your child's photograph to be taken at any other time.

