



Contact Information:

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Parkside Academy

Key dates

Wednesday 7th—Back to school

Thursday 8th—Year 3 geography fieldwork

Monday 12th—Swimming begins

Monday 12th—Year 5 geography fieldwork in Barrow Park

Thursday 15th—Reception Vet visit

Monday 19th—Clubs begin

Monday 19th—Year 3/4 Basketball festival

Thursday 22nd—Reception Fire Fighter visit

Thursday 22nd—Reception/Y1 Object control festival

Thursday 22nd—Star Engineers visit for Year 4 & 5

Tuesday 27th—Year 2 Athletics festival

Thursday 29th—Year 3/4 Basketball competition

Thursday 29th—Reception police visit

Work of the half term

Friday 13th February

Reception to Year 2—9 a.m. start

Year 3—Year 6—2:40 start

| Class | Attendance |
|--------------|------------|
| Nursery | 89% |
| Reception | 94% |
| Year 1 | 95% |
| Year 2 | 93% |
| Year 3 | 95% |
| Year 4 | 95% |
| Year 5 | 91% |
| Year 6 | 96% |
| Whole school | 93% |

Please do contact us by phone if you are reporting any illnesses (01229 828348).

Happy New Year! We hope you've had a wonderful break. We're really excited for the term ahead and can't wait to see all the learning and fun that's in store for the children.

Elf dash and Christmas Fayre

I just wanted to say another huge thank you for the amount raised for the Elf Dash. Close to £4,000 is a truly astonishing amount. We also managed to raise £2,656 at our Christmas Fayre which will go towards school funds. It shows what a wonderful school community we really have.

Attendance

Attendance continues to be a focus for us as a school. I know there are lots of bugs at this time of year so please refer to the following website if unsure if your child is well enough for school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Value of the half term

Our half-termly value is **determination**. The start of a new calendar year always brings its challenges and simply getting your child into school on the dark and cold mornings can be a victory. As a school we are always here to support our families.

Babyroom Ofsted

As shared on Class Dojo, before Christmas our Baby Room was inspected by Ofsted. We look forward to sharing the official report with you once it has been received. We again thank all our parents involved in the experience.

Mobile phones

Following a conversation with our student council we have decided to have a NEW YEAR, NEW START focus on mobile phones. A number of issues regarding older children's use of mobiles and social media were brought into school last term. We will have a strong focus on this within school but we would like our school community to set the tone. Therefore, we ask for all mobile phones to be put away when on school grounds. Thank you for your support with this.

Parents events

It was great to see a number of parent

events take place last half term. We look forward to continuing this this half term. Further details to follow.

Swimming cost and Breakfast club cost

A reminder that our breakfast club cost has risen to £2. Please note that our breakfast club provision is still heavily subsidised. As a school we are very proud to be able to offer our children swimming all year round—this is something unique to our school. With being surrounded by large bodies of water, I feel this is a vital life skill. As a school we heavily subsidise this, however for this to continue we do require a contribution. Please note that our office staff will be chasing these and any historic funds.

Expectations towards staff

I am often very proud of our school community and have nothing but praise during my time here. We have a great school staff, who work incredibly hard, that have the interests of our children and families at heart. Please note, that like one of our school values, our school community and its relationships are built upon respect and it is something that is always expected in interactions between staff and parents, including on Class Dojo. Thank you for your support with this.

Letters of love

Envelopes will be sent out at the end of the month for you to write a message to your children that they can enjoy on Friday 9th February. Please can we have all letters returned for Monday 10th February.

End of half term

Please note that this half term finishes on Friday 13th February. It is a normal finish time. This is also the day of our work of the half term assembly.

Goodbye

It is with a heavy heart that we will soon be saying goodbye to Mrs Smith in Year 3. She has been a really big part of developments within school, in particular the development of ELSA. It is bittersweet to see her leave, but we are delighted that she has taken her love of helping families and children further by joining the Family Hub. We wish her the very best of for the

