



18th December 2020

plf-office @swale.at

# The Parkland Press!

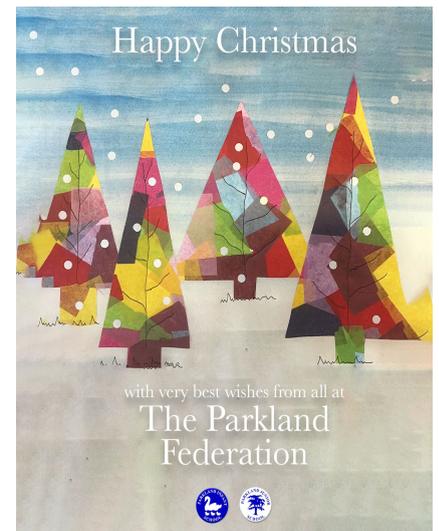


The Parkland Federation Newsletter  
Also available on our websites  
Swale Academies Trust



Dear Parents and Carers,

As this rather unusual year draws to a close, we wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone for their support since the outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are exceptionally proud of the children for showing such incredible resilience and determination to keep on learning. We really appreciate everything you have done in support of home learning as well as adhering to our new safety protocols. Since our return in September, we have had a real focus on well-being as well as making sure any educational gaps are identified swiftly and filled so that we can continue with our exciting curriculum. Year 2 have recently taken part in the National Phonics Screening that was missed in June 2020 and we have been beyond thrilled with their results. This is a real credit to the children, staff and all of our Year 2 parents. Year 6 has also been working hard in preparation for secondary school. Again, we have been more than impressed with their recent assessments and attitude to learning.



We very much look forward to seeing you all again in 2021 and [wish you and your families a very happy and restful Christmas.](#)

## BEING SOCIAL ONLINE THIS DECEMBER: A PARENT'S GUIDE

Access to new tech over the winter period can provide new opportunities for children and young people but also present risks.

[This Think U Know guide](#) for parents looks at how they can support their child to be safer online this season by focusing on 3 key areas: viewing, sharing, chatting and friending.



## WELCOME TO THE MAKATON SIGN OF THE WEEK

Each week, we will be bringing you a 'Makaton Sign of the Week'. Makaton uses signs and symbols to help people communicate. It supports the development of essential communication skills such as attention and listening, comprehension, memory, recall and organisation of language and expression. In school, we use a lot of Makaton when we sing and when we talk to one another. In order to keep promoting and using Makaton, we will include a Makaton Sign of the Week for the children (and adults!) to learn and use. The lovely Mrs Deaves will model it for you.



This week's sign is 'Merry Christmas'.

Merry: Make a 'c' shape with your dominant hand and put your hand up near your chin. Move your hand up and down a few times.

Christmas: Slide your right hand over the back of your left hand towards the body. Then close your right hand and place it on the back of your left hand.



## STEM CHALLENGE

STEM refers to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Here is a Christmas challenge.

Three objects, all shiny in their own way. Can you examine each to decide which one they think is the odd one out? This activity is great for promoting observation and discussion skills.



### ODD ONE OUT

## Shiny things



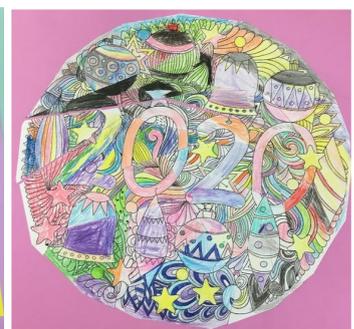
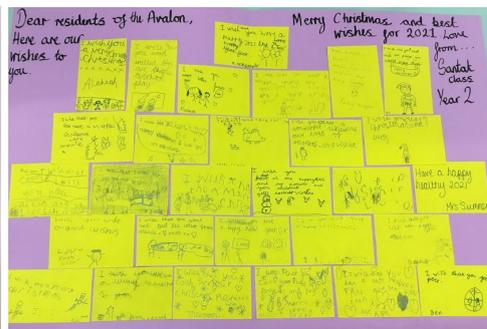
Last newsletter's answer: **It was a dog's nose!**

The answer will be in the next newsletter.



### HEARTS FOR HOMES CAMPAIGN

Our lovely School Council has been sending out Christmas wishes to our local residents at the Avalon nursing home. This is part of the hearts for homes campaign. Due to the current pandemic, the nursing homes get fewer visitors so we wanted to join the residents in spreading some Christmas cheer and exchanged Christmas wishes.



To all the wonderful residents and staff at Avalon Nursing Home,

Thank you for being such wonderful neighbours to us.

We would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Love from,  
All of Year 4  
at Portland Junior School

**CHRISTMAS CHEER**  
BY LILIA EDWARDS  
*(Hope it makes you smile)*

This poem is short and sweet  
Glistening snow and chilly feet

Figgie pudding,  
What a treat!

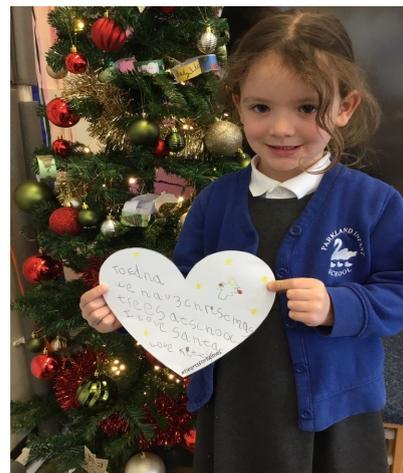
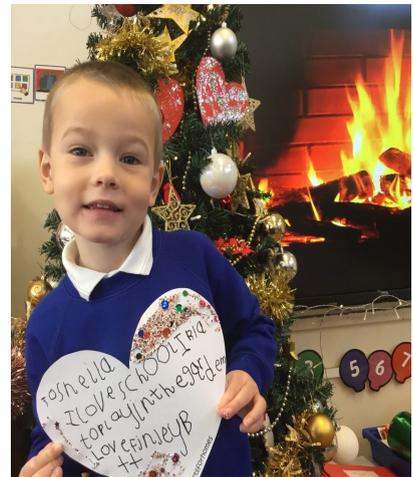
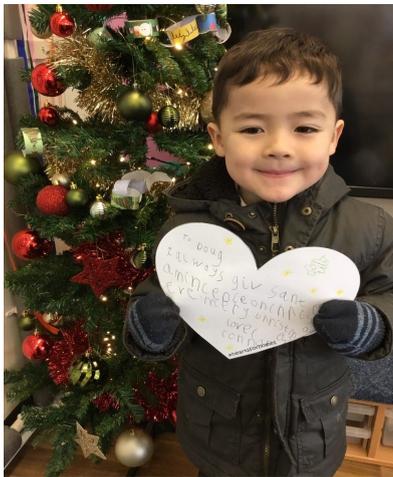
Christmas turkey,  
Mmm let's eat!

Merry Christmas everyone  
Ho ho, hope you all have fun!

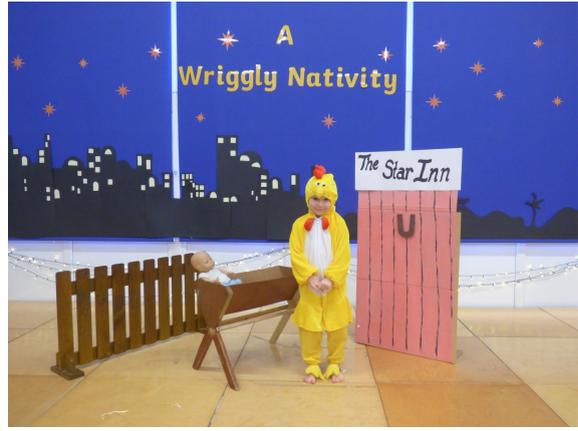
Christmas is full of shiny things  
That sparkle, gleam and glow,  
These holiday pleasures dazzle us,  
And yet, deep down we know....

That Christmas has its special gifts,  
But our year-round joy depends  
On the cherished people in our lives,  
Our family and our friends.

Reception received some wonderful hearts from Roclyns Rest Home. The children thoroughly enjoyed listening to stories from the residents about their jobs, tales from their adventures and things they've been up to to get in the festive spirit! EYFS made some beautiful hearts to send back. Thank you to **Courtney** for helping organise such a special treat for our children.. **We loved it!**







## YEAR 1 LEARNING

To end our Special Delivery Topic, the children walked to the postbox to post their letters to the Queen. Each child wrote the Queen a letter to explain what we have been learning about this term and to ask her a question. We are really hoping to get a letter back!



For the past month, Year 1 have been practising lines, learning songs and rehearsing actions for our Christmas show. On Monday, the children performed their final performance of **Everyone Loves a Baby!** Well done to all the children. You were wonderful and we are so proud of you! We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of Year 1 and their families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year. Thank you for your continued support!



### YEAR 2 LEARNING

A huge well done to all of Year 2 who have rehearsed their school Nativity and managed to perform their play on Monday! We missed seeing all of the parents, carers and grandparents in the audience but we were so excited to be filmed by a professional videographer. The children took this all in their stride, and performed wonderfully. Alongside this, we have been writing instructions in English and have continued to develop our understanding of money in Maths. As part of our religious education, we have been learning about the nativity story and sharing our wishes for the children of the world. All of the Year 2 staff would like to wish you all a very restful Christmas and a safe New Year. Thank you all for your support at home!



### YEAR 3 LEARNING

This week, Year 3 has been taking part in an exciting Design and Technology topic! We have been learning how to make a tropical fruit salad! This links into our current topic - Dangerous and Deadly! First, we had to taste test all different tropical fruits and decide where we liked them or not. Then, we came up with a plan for how we were going to make our tropical fruit salad and wrote some instructions to help us! Then came the fun part where we followed our plan and made our fruit salad. We had a lovely time trying new fruits and eating what we had made!





We were very lucky to be gifted with lots of snacks to enjoy whilst we watched a panto! We missed seeing one in person, but it was just as fun watching it on a screen! Thank you very much to the FOPS team for the drinks and snacks, Year 3 are very grateful!



We have been very busy since being back in school with maths and we have been learning our 3, 4 and 8 times tables! We have been listening to some fun songs to help us which can be found here:

3 times tables - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uneATAeac7Q>

4 times tables - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8QU\\_E0u-tP4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8QU_E0u-tP4)

8 times tables - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z\\_BJjR9rdwA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_BJjR9rdwA)

We have also been using lots of resources to help us work out multiplication and division problems! We made sure to help each other and enjoyed being able to learn in a practical way!



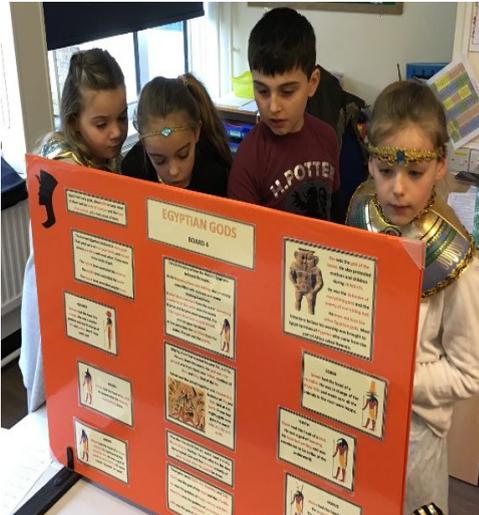
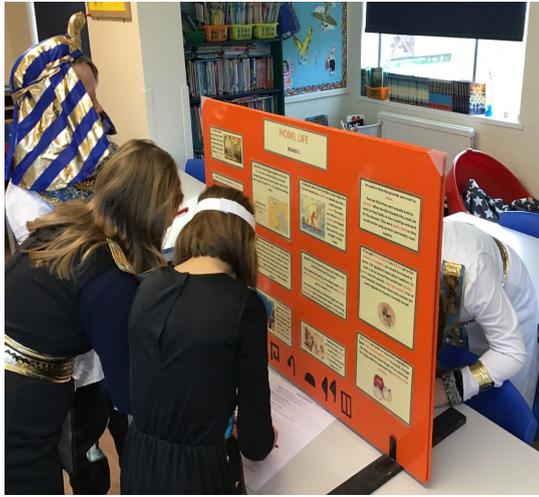
## YEAR 4 LEARNING

### Egyptian Day



Year 4 had a whole day dedicated to their topic about ancient Egypt. It is fair to say that all of the children had a wonderful time throughout Egyptian day, learning all about the treasures of the ancient world!

The day began with some artefact handling and a fact-finding mission about some of the pharaohs of ancient Egypt. There was then time for some treasured ancient Egyptian games, which were a lot of fun!



The children then learned all about mummification, and even took part in their very own mummification ritual! Thank you all so much for supporting such a wonderful day. All of the children (and the adults!) had the best time and learned so much from it. Over now to our next topic all about the Romans!

Year 4 have also been hard at work making their canopic jars. Canopic jars were the jars that the Ancient Egyptians used to store the organs during mummification. Year 4 have created some incredible canopic jars which pay fantastic homage to the ones from Ancient Egypt! All of the pupils showed excellent creativity in creating them and I am sure they all thoroughly enjoyed it!



## Merry Christmas!

The Year 4 team extends a heartfelt thank you to all parents and carers for all of their support throughout this term. We are so appreciative of all the wonderful things you do for your children and the support that you give us all. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas. Best wishes for a prosperous 2021!



## YEAR 5

This week, we were completely blown away by how fantastic your children performed in our Christmas Performance "Superstar". They had learnt their words, learnt 10 songs and remembered all of the stage directions. It is even more noteworthy that this was all done and dusted in 10 days! Mr Jackson did an admirable job as director! The Year 5 team would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support with the children's learning. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you in January!



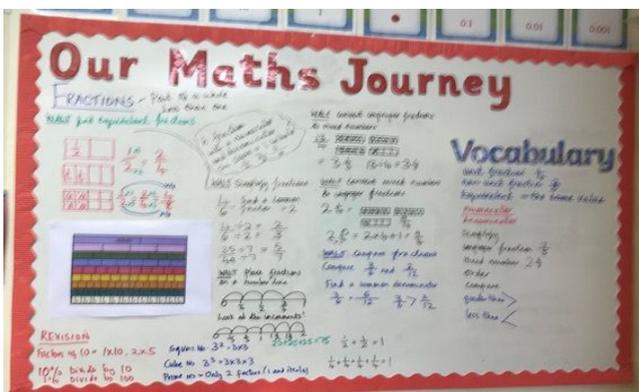
## YEAR 6 LEARNING



Over the past two weeks Year 6 have continued with their 'We'll Meet Again' topic. They were lucky enough to have a 'real life' evacuee talk to them about her experiences during WWII. It really made history come alive and the children have written their own recounts to explain this.

In maths, the children have learned to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions and are now becoming far more confident when dealing with fractions.

**Year 6 staff would also like to wish you a wonderful Christmas and hope that the new year brings peace and happiness to all. Thank you for your continued support.**



## RAINBOW ROOM ACTIVITIES



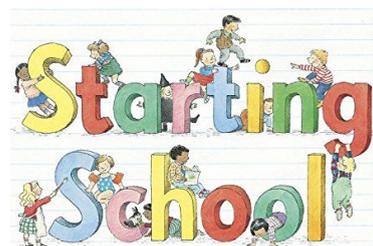
This term in the Rainbow Room the children have been learning about Europe and have taken a European coach trip. The children travelled to Germany to make pretzels, Sweden to make Swedish meatballs, Italy to make their own versions of the leaning tower of Pisa and also produced their own art design of the northern lights. All of the children have joined in and thoroughly enjoyed all of the activities along with learning facts about every country they visited.

**From everyone in the Rainbow room and the entire Inclusion team we would like to wish you a very merry Christmas and a wonderful new year.**

## NEW TO RECEPTION AND YEAR 3 2021

Although we are unable to offer our usual tours of Parkland Infant and Parkland Junior School this year due to current COVID-19 Safety measures, we have prepared Virtual Tours that are posted on our website.

Please do follow the link below and have a look at the schools and the exceptional learning that takes place each day. If you have any questions about securing a place with us, please do get in touch. Applications will need to be in very shortly, so please do make sure your application is in on time.



<https://parklandjunior.theparklandfederation.org/welcome-to-the-parkland-federation/>

## SPORTS PERSON OF THE TERM



Congratulations to Phoenix on winning Sports Person of the term in the Junior School and to Pallavi for winning Sports Person of the Term at the Infant School. Your sportsmanship, ability to lead and commitment to support others during PE sessions is a real inspiration and you truly embody what this school is all about. Congratulations on this wonderful accolade - you are very deserving recipients of this award!

**Keep up the good work!**



## GOVERNMENT CATCH UP FUNDING 2021

You may be aware that the Government is providing schools with additional funding to support children catch up after a disrupted year to learning. In January, we will be having some additional adults to work in bubbles and support learning for the duration of Term 3. Do look out for them in January!



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL STAR ATTENDERS:

**Infants: Donaldson - 98%**

**Juniors: Rosen - 98%**



Please be aware the target for attendance is **ABOVE 97%** for all pupils. Our Attendance Officer will be in touch if we have any concerns over your child's attendance. Attendance information for all pupils is sent to East Sussex County Council regularly. For more information or to view our attendance policy, please visit the school website.

### Congratulations to the following pupils

#### AWARDS OF THE WEEK AT PARKLAND INFANT SCHOOL

Class	Star of the Week and reason	Dojo Winner
Inkpen	Kody - for always working super hard and for being such a kind, caring friend.	Ruby
	Kitty - for being such a superstar in our Nativity and for always working her socks off	Emilia
Kerr	Bethany - for working so hard on her name writing! I'm so proud of you.	Darcy
	Honey - for being a real pleasure to have in the classroom. You always make my days brighter!	Olivia
Shireen	Melody - for always trying hard in her learning, being polite and having a big smile! Superstar!	Nathan
	Ethan - for becoming much more independent with everyday tasks and coping well with new challenges. Amazing!	Lacie
Donaldson	Tinni - for always working so hard and for being SO kind!	Remy
	Joshua - for working so hard to improve his handwriting. We are so proud of you!	Theo
Santat	Isabella- for always being such a kind and thoughtful friend	Florence
	Millie M - For being a team player and her amazing acting in the school play	Logan
Dahl	Reggie - For having a positive attitude to school and achieving an important target this week!	Lilly

## AWARDS OF THE WEEK AT PARKLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL

Class	Star of the Week and reason	Dojo Winner
Angelou	Ayra - for being honest when she needs help and having a good go at her english work.	Sienna
	Lily Fe - for being sensible in the classroom and outside the class.	Tommy
Jeffers	Annabelle - for always following the rainbow rules.	Oscar
	Mollie - for trying hard in everything she does!	Bella
Walliams	Charlie - for his excellent progress in Writing!	Brooke
	Sean - for his outstanding attitude towards learning!	Jesse
Blackman	River - For his amazing work and effort in Maths!	Liam
	Sam - For his fantastic effort in his writing during our Narrative unit!	Poppy
Lewis	Harry - for his enthusiasm and focus during nativity rehearsals	Lily
	Harlow - For beautiful, confident singing during the nativity	Freya
Zephaniah	Lewis - for being such a hardworking star	Mason
	Lexxi- for being the best props manager ever!	Alfie A
Mian	Ellis for working hard all week and putting his best effort into everything.	Georgia
	Finlay for always following the Rainbow rules.	Joshua
Rosen	Sophie for your fantastic effort in maths.	Albert
	Lucas G for your hard work throughout the term.	Jessica

### WELLBEING FOCUS OF THE FORTNIGHT

Family life plays such an important role in the wellbeing of both children and parents. Parents spending good quality time with their children can be very effective in boosting wellbeing. Children's wellbeing centres on time with a happy, stable family, having good friends and plenty of things to do, especially outdoors. Developing a strong sense of wellbeing can help teenagers manage the challenges of the developmental years and be a protective factor against mental health issues. Wellbeing is important for the whole family to develop and is something you can work on together. This is essential now more than ever. Our next recommendation is:



**PAY ATTENTION TO THE PRESENT MOMENT:** Research suggests that this can improve your mental wellbeing. This includes your thoughts and feelings, your body and the world around you. This awareness is also called 'mindfulness'. It can help you enjoy life more and understand

yourself better. It can positively change the way you feel about life and how you approach challenges. Read more about [mindfulness](#), including steps you can take to be more mindful in your everyday life.

## PARENT SUPPORT

Holding Space is a local organisation that provides support to parents, families and children who are experiencing mental health issues. Parents can contact Holding Space directly for more information about their sessions which include walk and talk and weekly parent support group meetings.



**PARENT SUPPORT GROUP**

Are you caring for a child who is struggling with their mental health? You are not alone.

Join us for our friendly parent support group where we offer a safe, non-judgmental, confidential space for you to come together, be supported, share and chat with like-minded people. Everybody is welcome!

Every **Wednesday**  
9.30AM - 12.30PM

Langney Community Library,  
Langney Shopping Centre,  
Eastbourne BN23 7RT

Please get in touch for more info:

✉ [contact@holdingspace.org.uk](mailto:contact@holdingspace.org.uk) ☎ 07922 851207

🌐 [www.holdingspace.org.uk](http://www.holdingspace.org.uk) 📱 @EastbourneHoldingSpace



Community Development  
Willington Trees Community Volunteers

**Coronavirus Help Point**

Are you self-isolating and need help?

ARRANGING DELIVERIES    PICKING UP SHOPPING & MEDICATION    A FRIENDLY PHONE CALL    POSTING MAIL    URGENT SUPPLIES    HELP TOPPING UP ELECTRIC OR GAS KEY

Our team of volunteers are here to support you!

Telephone: 01323 504438  
Text: 07796869347 or 07920526216  
E-mail: [eastbourne@sussexcommunity.org.uk](mailto:eastbourne@sussexcommunity.org.uk)

Willington Trees Community Centre, 101 Holly Place, Eastbourne, BN22 0UT

In partnership with  
HM Government | THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND

3VA    EASTBOURNE    SUSSEX COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
TESCO Bags of Help



## TOM'S RHINOS RUGBY SCHOOL



**TOM'S RHINOS RUGBY SCHOOL**

START YOUR CHILD'S JOURNEY OF SELF DISCOVERY AND BELIEF OF IT BY JOINING TOM'S RHINOS RUGBY SCHOOL.

PLAY - NOURISH - FLOURISH

Saturday  
10am Age 7-9.5  
11:30am Age 10-14  
14:00pm Age 15+

7+ Club Available

WWW.TOMSRHINOS.COM

Sports and active hobbies are a great way to get moving, which is really important for everyone's physical health, and can help improve confidence and self-esteem.

Rugby is a fantastic way to get moving and build skills like throwing, catching, kicking, jumping and dodging.

Why not start your child's rugby journey at Tom's Rhinos Rugby School, where children can start to play from as young as 2?

Contact Coach Tom at: [www.tomsrhinos.com](http://www.tomsrhinos.com)  
<https://www.instagram.com/tomsrhinosrugbyschool/>

[wwwfacebook.com/tomsrhinos](http://www.facebook.com/tomsrhinos) 07572010771