

It has been a very busy January for Old Park, February and March will be full of activity too, please see the calendar dates and link to the live calendar on pg 2.

Events before and after half term include:: Exploration days, Values Day, Gratitude Week, World Book Day T-shirt design and Author visit, Parent Teacher Consultations and Dance-a-thon to name but a few.

Responsibility and Expectations

We are very proud of our children, the positive values that they demonstrate and their understanding of these values. We are working on teaching the children about responsibility both in school and out.

We have held an assembly to remind children about their responsibilities. Particularly in relation to following the schools expectations of uniform, presentation and safety. We also discussed this in the context of the workplace and clubs that the children may attend outside of school..

Please can you ensure that children are following school expectations in school. If the children are not then they will be asked about it. If there are specific circumstances relating to children being unable to meet our expectations then please contact the school office via email

school.office@oldparkprimary.com

OLD PARK
Values

Just ask the children



If anyone is keen to support the school in arranging fundraising events then please contact the school office.

Uniform and Presentation Reminders:

- Black sensible school **shoes**. should be worn, not trainers.
- If you have hair below shoulder length then it must be tied back.
- Make up, nail varnish, fake tattoos should **not** be worn in school.
- School PE kits should be worn on PE days, tracksuit (not leggings) & house coloured t-shirt.
- Uniform expectations should be followed.
- No jewellery should be worn with the exception of one small stud in each ear that must be removed for PE days.
- Hair should not be dyed.

Details of how to obtain further PE uniform can be found on page 6

Website link to uniform info::

<http://www.oldparkprimary.com/parents/uniform/>

Calendar Days

February 2023	
Wednesday 8th	Exploration Day for years 4,5 & 6
Thursday 9th	Exploration Day for years 1,2 & 3
Friday 10th	Swimming - 3P
Monday 13th	Gratitude Week
Tuesday 14th	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 15th	Year 3 History Experience Day
Thursday 16th	House Attendance Winner - Non-Uniform Day (for the winning house only).
Friday 17th	Non-uniform wear Monty Blue - School Values Day 50p to school fund Swimming - 3P School closes for Half Term
Monday 20th	HALF TERM
Monday 27th	Training Day
Tuesday 28th	School re-opens Children will be creating their t-shirts for World Book Day, Children to bring in their design ideas today.

March 2023	
Wednesday 1st	Parent consultations - Nursery & Reception
Thursday 2nd	World Book Day (wear the t-shirt you have designed in school). Parent consultations - Y5 & 6
Friday 3rd	Swimming - 3P Author Visit - Steve Skidmore
Tuesday 7th	Parent consultations - Y3 & 4
Wednesday 8th	Parent consultations - Y1 & 2
Friday 10th	Swimming - 3P
Thursday 16th	Danceathon Y3 - 6 non-uniform
Friday 17th	Danceathon Nur - Y2 non-uniform Swimming - 3P
Wednesday 22nd	Y6 - Safety Awareness Workshops in school (visiting agencies).
Friday 24th	Lots of Socks 50p non-uniform Swimming - 3P
Tuesday 28th	Y3 Easter Egg Hunt (parents invited) 9am Y4 Easter Egg Hunt (parents invited) 1.50pm
Wednesday 29th	Y5 Easter Egg Hunt (parents invited) 9am Y6 Easter Egg Hunt (parents invited) 1.50pm
Friday 31st	House Attendance Winner - Non-Uniform Day (for the winning house only). School closes after today

Live Annual Calendar

Please find attached the link to access the live annual calendar for 22/23, this link is also available on the school website. This is a live document so please check it regularly. Within this document you will find the term dates for this year.
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xaPPPmojUjeI07jGEBw4M67DMXXGzCA1eWyN0CGZB8/edit#>

IF ANY PARENT WISHES TO BUY A WATER BOTTLE THEY ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE £1.65 (CASH ONLY)



How safe are your children online?

Do you need support? Sadly we are seeing an increase in the number of issues relating to online safety with our children. WhatsApp, TikTok online gaming, voice chat and messaging. Do you know what your child is saying and doing?

Follow these link to safety guides on the NSPCC website:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/#guides>

This includes support for online games, social media and internet connected devices.

BIRTHDAYS

Please do not send your child into school with sweets or chocolates for birthdays. Natasha's law is in place to protect children and ensures any food provided by or via the school has to be agreed in advance by parents.

If you wish to send in something to mark a birthday celebration you can send in non-food items or wrap a book for the class reading area.



This is to certify that
by reading for fun the pupils of

Old Park Primary School

have raised an amazing

£313.00

By completing your sponsored read
you've helped us bring the magic of books
and stories to children in hospital.

We'll done and THANK YOU!

Sir Tony Robinson, patron

Justine Daniels, CEO

readforgood.org  

SCHOOL LUNCHES - SCHOOLGRID

The Dolce Direct Debit facility will be reviewed this year as they have experienced a high volume of uncollected direct debit income. More details to follow.

From 1/4/2023, due to the unpaid debts, Dolce are reducing the number of meals taken by pupils without payment from 5 meals to 3 meals. So please ensure you stay up to date with payments or you will be asked to bring your child a packed lunch.





OLD PARK'S DANCE-A-THON 2023

THIS YEAR'S THEME - ALL AROUND THE WORLD!

THURSDAY 16TH MARCH 2023 - YEAR 3 - 6

FRIDAY 17TH MARCH 2023 - NURSERY - YEAR 2

- WEAR CLOTHING FROM AROUND THE WORLD/FLAGS OR

DRESS IN YOUR HOUSE COLOUR

WE WILL CONFIRM AT A LATER DATE

WHERE SPONSOR MONEY IS TO BE PAID



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES ONCE AGAIN
FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL AND DONATING PRIZES TO OUR
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



**Environmental & Cleansing
Services Ltd**

**The Sandwich
House**
Freshly Made Sandwiches & Baguettes

Schoolclothing4U
com

dolce
schools catering

NetworkIT
ICT Services for Schools

National School Funding - For your information

As you may be aware, lack of school funding is causing difficulties in schools across the country, it is impacting the provision that that schools are able to deliver. This is impacting and will continue to impact on staffing and resources in schools nationally unless there is change.

Below are links to various website that share the challenges facing schools. If you google school funding you will find many more articles that share information about the situation.

<https://www.naht.org.uk/Our-Priorities/Funding>

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2022/aug/02/schools-in-england-face-funding-crisis-as-costs-soar-study-warns>

<https://schoolcuts.org.uk/story/funding-crisis-explained/>

If you feel strongly about these issues you can contact your local MP.

After School Provision

We will be offering After School Provision at Old Park Primary school after the Easter holidays.

The After School Provision will run from the end of the school day until 5.00pm or 5.30pm (limited places). Children will be provided with a light snack and take part in a range of activities.

Membership options are below:

Cost: £9.00 each day until 5.00pm

Cost: £10.50 each day until 5.30pm

If you think you will require a place for After School Provision, please contact afterschool@oldparkprimary.com

Please read the After School Provision Policy for our terms and conditions of membership on our website.

PE KITS & House Colour T-Shirts

CLIVE MARK
ESTABLISHED 1965

You can now order PE t-shirts via Clive Mark at the store in Walsall, they are not currently available on the website but you can order them in store and wait for confirmation of delivery from Clive Mark.

Contact Details & Address: 01922 622 556, Units 40-44 Saddlers Centre,
1 Park St, Walsall, WS1 1YS

DECATHLON

PE Tracksuits

Below is the link for you to order replacement tracksuits online::

https://www.decathlon.co.uk/p/kids-warm-zip-up-tracksuit-warmy/_/R-p-334795?mc=8652081&c=GREY_BLUE

January Star Pupils



Class		Reason
Nursery AM	Isra	For always working hard and being a good example to others
Nursery PM	Evie	For for making good progress and settling well.
Nursery 30	Jaxx	For trying hard and being a good friend.
RB	Charlotte	For great effort in reading and writing.
RR	Sehjal	For continuing to be an excellent and responsible role model.
1G	Keira	For always trying hard and setting a good example to her peers.
1JT	Halima	For working hard and trying her best in Maths and English
2H	Angel	for always being kind to others
2T	Maria	For always listening and working hard in lessons.
3P	Malachi	For always showing a love of learning.
3W	Sophie L	For always demonstrating perseverance and aiming high in all her lessons.
4W	Aaniya	For a consistently positive attitude showing a real "love of learning".
4S	Zoya	For demonstrating her love of learning across all lessons
5C	Ryan	For really trying his best in all lessons. Well done Ryan. Keep up the hard work!
5W	Hope	For always trying hard in lessons, having a positive attitude towards her learning, being a great partner to her peers and embodying the Old Park values.
6M	Zaina	For being organised and helpful to everyone in class
6W	Amelia H	For always wanting to help out and showing responsibility



Optimism

Love of learning

Diversity

Perseverance

Ambition

Responsibility

Kindness



Arbor

The school is using Arbor for all School visits, Parent Consultations, and some Payments (School Fund, Milk, Snack & Trips).

You will also have access to your child's pastoral information via the portal.

We have created a Parent Portal account for you. To finish creating your Parent Portal account you need to set a password. Your username is the email address we've sent this email to.

Please go to <https://login.arbor.sc> and click **Forgot your password?** to finish setting up your account.

How to access the Portal/Application

The Parent Portal is accessible to Parents on a laptop or computer.

The Arbor App is the mobile version of our Parent Portal for use on mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets.

The Arbor App can be downloaded from either the Playstore on android phones or the Apple Store on iPhones.

If you have any queries, please contact school.office@oldparkprimary.com. The Arbor app also has the facility to message the school and you can use this method once you have set up your Arbor login.

Our preferred way of communicating with parents is via email, we ask that you check your emails regularly. If your child is on a trip we may email to confirm late returns etc.

Breakfast Care Provision

The School provides Breakfast Provision. If you are interested in applying for annual membership please contact: breakfast@oldparkprimary.com

Please be aware that there may be a waiting list.

Regular annual membership is from 7.45am/day

Early bird annual membership is from 7.30am/day

Parents are reminded that if children are absent either for sickness or holiday, payment for days missed will still need to be paid. If your child is poorly and unable to attend Breakfast Provision please email the above email address.

Payments are made through a Standing Order payable on 28th of each month for 11 months (not July 28th).

Please read our policy and terms and conditions before applying for annual membership. The policy can be found on the school website.

The School Office

The school office staff are available from 8.15am-4.30pm (Monday-Thursday) and 8.15am-4.00pm (Fridays). 0121 526 2669.

Any queries please call or email school.office@oldparkprimary.com or call 0121 526 2669. You can also message via Arbor.

If you telephone the school *before* 8.15am and after 4.30pm, you will hear the following message and options:-

Please leave a message or call back during our open hours or alternatively email school.office@oldparkprimary.com

Press 1 for the Patch Day Nursery and After School Club

Press 2 to report your child's absence (voicemail)

Press 3 to leave a message after the beep (voicemail)

YOU CAN ALSO SEND AN IN-APP MESSAGE VIA ARBOR TO REPORT AN ABSENCE

School Places

We have spaces available in years: 3, 4 & 6 in school, if your child has a sibling or you have relatives interested in attending our school please email: school.office@oldparkprimary.com

Attendance

Our whole school attendance is currently 93% which is well below the national average and well below Old Park's pre-covid attendance figures.

We fully understand that children can become unwell but we do ask that you please send your child in if you think they are able to cope with the school day, if you inform the school then we can arrange for them to stay indoors during breaks. Also please avoid taking holidays during term time.

We have 55 children who are yet to miss any time from school this year. We have 70 children who fall into the persistently absent category as set by the government.

Children who are referred to as persistently absent are children with attendance which falls below 90%. Across a year that would mean a child misses 4 weeks of school. If absence is persistent or holidays are taken you could be fined under section 444 of the 1996 education act.

Check your Arbor App to see your child's current attendance.