

PARKEND NEWSLETTER



Issue 68: 12th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Sports Day Success:

Despite the unsettled weather leading up to the event, our annual Sports Day proved to be a fantastic success. The rain clouds stayed away just long enough for everyone to enjoy a full day of activity, teamwork, and friendly competition.

A huge congratulations goes to Yellow House, who were crowned this year's champions with an impressive total of 141 points. Red and Green Houses also performed brilliantly, finishing in joint second place with 101 points each.





Pupils took part enthusiastically in their house colours, demonstrating both competitive spirit and excellent teamwork. A wide range of events ensured there was something for everyone, including flat races, the bean bag throw, sack races, standing long jump, javelin, shot put, and even a much-anticipated parents' race, which brought plenty of smiles and laughter from the sidelines.

The atmosphere throughout the morning was energetic and supportive, with children cheering on their teammates and celebrating each other's efforts. It was wonderful to see such resilience, determination, and sportsmanship on display.

Thank you to everyone who attended and the staff for running such a well organised event.



Exploring Our Heritage

It was fantastic to see so many of our junior pupils taking part in the local History Competition. In previous years, Parkend has proudly celebrated several winners and with so many outstanding entries this year, we are in a strong position to continue that success.

The Forest of Dean Local History Society History Competition 2026 offers four exciting categories for pupils to enter:

- A written piece (250-300 words)
- A 3D construction model
- A PowerPoint presentation
- A short video presentation (maximum 3 minutes)

All entries are based on an element of Forest of Dean History and explore why it is important. We are incredibly proud of the creativity, effort, and historical understanding shown by all who have taken part.



House Points:

Week ending 22nd May = Red = 56, Yellow= 52, Green = 47

Week ending 5th June = Yellow 105, Green 78, Red 72

Attendance Really Matters - Please support us with improving it as we remain below the National

Current Whole School Attendance = 93.77%

| Class name | Attendance week ending 22.5.26 | Attendance week ending 5.6.26 |
|------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Hedgehogs | 88.29% | 83.54% |
| Foxes | 97.14% | 97.86% |
| Wild Boar | 95.71% | 90% |

Star of the Week and Lunchtime Stars:

Week Ending 22nd May



Congratulations to Toby, Otto, Jasper G, Jasper M, Lyra and Hazel

Lunchtime Star = Sylvie

Week Ending 5th June



Congratulations to Emilio, Toby and Tilly

Lunchtime Star = Maia

Class update: Foxes:

Foxes Class are delighted to share their final 3D models. The finished pieces showcase not only their creativity and imagination but also their growing confidence when story telling through art. Each model is unique, reflecting the individual ideas and interpretations of the poem.



A Lasting Legacy: Poppy's Solar Panel Display

Poppy was so pleased to see her winning design turned into our solar panel energy display. What an incredible accomplishment and something that will remain as a lasting legacy for everyone to enjoy.

Parent Survey

Thank you to all the parents and carers who took the time to complete our school questionnaire. Governors have been looking at all your feedback in detail and will see if there is anything they can do to support improvement in areas you requested.

Key findings showed: Roughly 4.4% = 1 parent. 33% of the parents completed the survey.

| | Strongly agree / | Agree | Neither Agree / nor Disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree |
|--|------------------|-------|------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| My child is happy at this school | 50% | 40% | 4% | 4% | - |
| My child feels safe at this school | 45% | 40% | 9% | 4% | - |
| The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved | 50% | 40% | 4% | 4% | - |
| School communicates well | 54% | 31% | 9% | - | 4% |
| When I raised a concern it was dealt with properly | 45% | 22% | 9% | - | 4% |
| Decisions are made with children's interest at heart | 40% | 22% | 31% | - | - |
| My child learns well at school | 40% | 45% | 13% | - | - |
| School supports my child's personal development | 50% | 40% | 9% | - | - |
| I'd recommend this school to another parent | YES = 96% | | | No = 4% | |

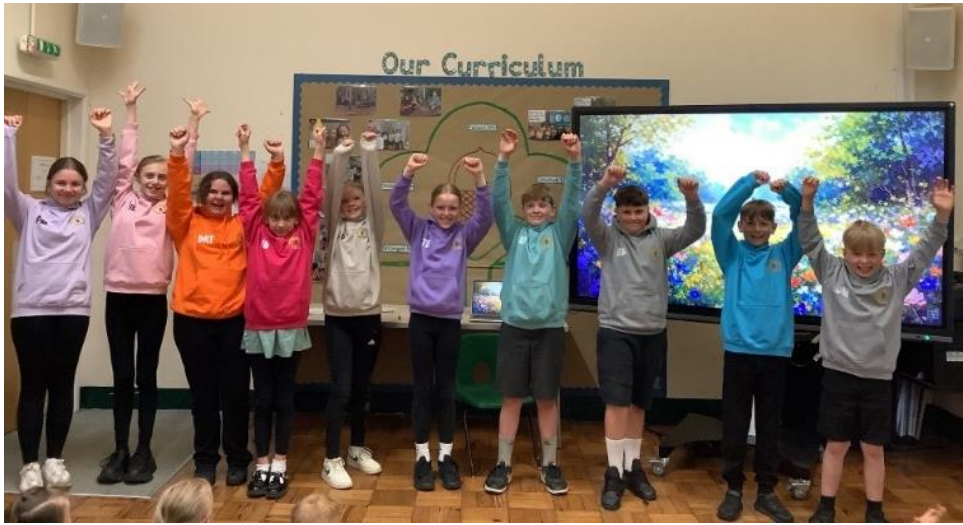
Things the school does particularly well from your written comments:

- Pupils feel safe, happy and well-supported in school
- Staff know each child well and understand their individual needs
- Excellent communication with parents, valued highly by families
- A strong sense of community among pupils, staff and families
- Caring, approachable staff who are always available and supportive
- A wide range of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities
- Strong focus on outdoor learning (e.g. forest school, biking)
- An environment that builds confidence and celebrates success
- Inclusive support, particularly for SEND and emotional wellbeing
- Positive, friendly atmosphere with good relationships across age groups
- Small class sizes enabling personalised learning and support
- Opportunities for children to learn beyond the classroom and try new experiences

Areas you'd like us to continue to improve:

- Continuing to develop the outdoor learning offer, building on the success of forest school
- Looking at opportunities to expand clubs and enrichment activities for all children even if parents have to pay

- Ensuring consistency and clarity in routines and advance notice of events
- Continuing to celebrate and support every child's potential, including providing further challenge where appropriate
- Developing further opportunities for parents to be involved in school life and environment improvements
- Keeping practical aspects under review, such as drop-off, collection and road safety



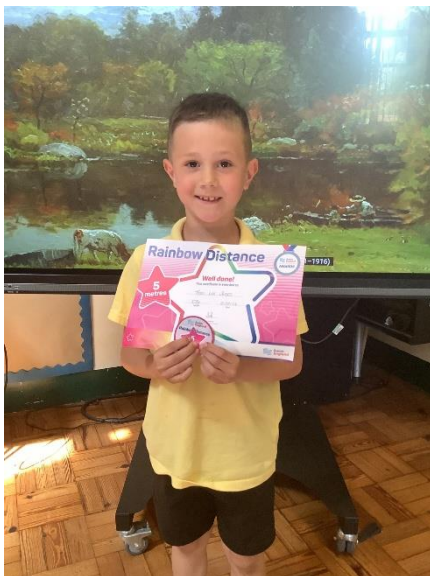
Year 6 have been delighted to receive their leavers' hoodies. As a special perk, they are able to wear them right through to the end of term, which has made them even more excited!

Kind regards,

K. Burke

Mrs K Burke
Executive Headteacher
Forest of Dean Community Schools
Federation

Out of School Celebrations:



Theo - Congratulations on achieving your 5 metre swimming certificate!

Hazel - Fantastic work for winning your age group mountain bike race at Pedal-a-Bike-Away (Little Fodders)

Jessie-Rae - A brilliant achievement being awarded Coach's Player of the Year!

Young Writers Summer Term Competition

We are excited to invite children to take part in the Young Writers "Big Poetry Party" and "Story Lab" competitions! These fantastic writing opportunities encourage creativity and imagination, and entries can be submitted in school until **Monday 13th July**. In the **Big Poetry Party** competition (ages 4-11), Young Writers will pick their favourite **five poets** who will each win a **£50 gift voucher of their choice**. In the **Story Lab** competition (ages 7-11), Young Writers will pick their favourite **five writers** who will each receive **£100 and a trophy!**

We would love as many children as possible to enter and share their wonderful ideas and writing talents. If you are interested, please speak to your teacher over the next few weeks for more information on how to enter. Good luck!



IMPORTANT DATES: We will add new dates each Newsletter in Red

| Summer Term: | |
|---|--|
| Mon 15 th - Weds 17 th June | Year 5 & 6 London Residential. Children to arrive at Parkend School between 8-8.15am on Monday |
| Thurs 18 th June | History Quiz 1.30pm at Pillowell School. Letters sent for selected children. |
| Mon 22 nd June | Father's Day (Hedgehog Class) Share a book with a special person 8.35-9am |
| Mon 22 nd June | Five Acres High Primary Maths Challenge Day *Letters sent to selected Year 5/6 children* |
| Tues 23 rd June | Wyedean Transition Day - Year 6 |
| Wed 24 th June | Wyedean Transition Day - Year 6 |
| Wed 24 th June | Home Visits for September Reception Intake |
| Thurs 25 th June | Team Challenge Day at Parkend Cricket Ground *Letters sent to selected children* |
| Tues 30 th June | Year 5 Taster Day at The Dean Academy |
| Tues 30 th June | Five Acres Transition Day - Year 6 (Day 1) |
| Wed 1 st July | Walk & Ride at Norchard Station *Letter to follow for selected children* |
| Wed 1 st July | Five Acres Transition Day - Year 6 (Day 2) |
| Thurs 2 nd July | Friends Disco at Whitemead 5.30-7.30pm |
| Fri 3 rd July | Wellbeing Champions to Viney Hill |
| Mon 6 th July | The Dean Academy Transition Day - Year 6 (Day 1) |
| Mon 6 th July | Moving up Morning 9am-1pm inc September Reception Intake |
| Tues 7 th July | The Dean Academy Transition Day - Year 6 (Day 2) |
| Tues 7 th July | Moving up Morning 9am-1pm inc September Reception Intake |
| Wed 8 th July | September Reception Intake Parent Information Evening 5pm |
| Wed 8 th , Thurs 9 th & Tues 14 th July | Foxes & Wild Boar at Whitemead for Performance Rehearsals *Letter to follow* |
| Mon 13 th July | Written Reports out to Parents |
| Tues 14 th July | Foxes & Wild Boar Performance at Whitemead 5pm *Letter to follow* |
| Fri 17 th July | End of Term 6 - School finishes 1.15 |