

PARKEND NEWSLETTER



Issue 61: 30th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,



Dance Champions: On Monday 26th January, Year 5 had the opportunity to attend a Dance Workshop at The Dean Academy. Pupils learned a short dance routine alongside children from several other local primary schools, helping them to develop teamwork, coordination and dance skills. They were a real credit to the school, demonstrating excellent behaviour and supporting one another throughout the day.

After learning the routine, all schools took part in a competition and performed their dances. We are delighted to announce that Parkend School were the winners! For some of the children, this was the first time they had received a medal, and they were absolutely beaming - you have made us incredibly proud!



Children in Hedgehog Class have enjoyed learning about 'how toys have changed' as part of their topic work. To bring this learning to life, they were delighted to welcome Mrs Roberts back into the classroom, who kindly shared a selection of toys from her own childhood, as well as some that had been passed down through her family.

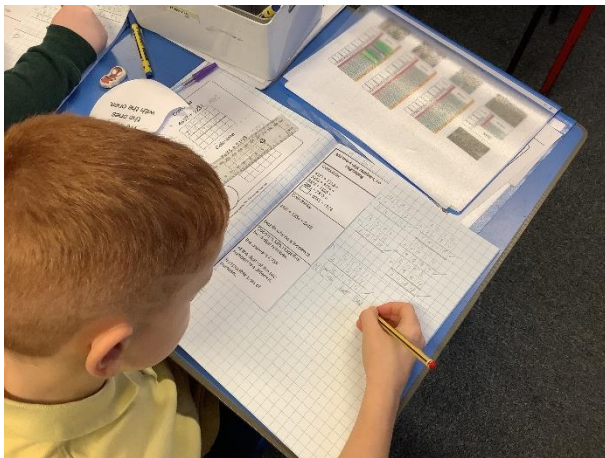
The children were fascinated to see how toys have changed over time and had the opportunity to closely observe and discuss a variety of traditional toys, including a 70-year-old doll, a 50-year-old metal ride-on car, and a push-along drummer man. These hands-on experiences sparked lots of curiosity and thoughtful questions, helping the children to develop their understanding of the past and compare it with the toys they play with today.





Foxes Class updates:

In Year 3, pupils have been developing their understanding of fractions. They have been learning to recognise and represent fractions, find fractions of amounts, and explain their thinking using correct mathematical language. This work is helping to build strong foundations for more advanced number concepts in the future.



In Year 4, children have been focusing on column addition, learning how to add numbers efficiently and accurately using formal written methods. A strong emphasis has been placed on clear presentation, ensuring numbers are neatly aligned and calculations are easy to follow. This helps pupils to check their work carefully and develop confidence in their maths.

Year 4 pupils are also preparing for their Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). To support this, they are completing a daily

multiplication challenge to build speed, accuracy and confidence with their times tables. Regular practice at home will greatly support this work as it is a National Test.

Wild Boar Class have been fantastic *Curious Thinkers* this week in Science. The children have thoroughly enjoyed asking thoughtful questions and confidently sharing their ideas, from "How far away are the planets from each other?" and "Why is gravity weaker on the Moon?" to bigger wonderings such as, "What is the universe expanding into if it is still expanding?"

They have carefully written their questions down and are eager to explore the answers together, showing great enthusiasm for learning as the topic continues. It has been wonderful to see their curiosity, creativity, and excitement for discovery grow throughout the week.

House Points:

Week ending 16th January - Yellow 80, Green 78 and Red 71

Week ending 23rd January - Green 95, Yellow 67 and Red 57.

Attendance Matters:

Current Whole School Attendance = 93.62% (Below National Currently)

Good attendance is one of the most important factors in a pupils' success at school. This includes arriving on time as lessons are built on previous knowledge. Gaps formed are harder to back fill and friendships and confidence are affected when children are regularly off or late. The parents of any child listed as persistently absent, or at risk of falling into the persistent absence category, was written to this week in line with Local Authority expectations and Department for Education (DfE) requirements. We appreciate your support in this area.

Class name	Attendance week ending: 16 th January	Attendance week ending: 23 rd January
Hedgehogs	95.87%	90.79% - LOW
Foxes	90% - LOW	91.43%
Wild Boar	95%	92.73%

Star of the Week: Congratulations to all our children named below:

Week ending: 16th January 2026



Otilie, Otto and Gia
Lunchtime Star - Ezra

Week ending: 23rd January 2026



Lilah-Mae, Leonardo and Shelby.
Lunchtime star - Roman

Kind regards,
K. Burke

Mrs K Burke

Executive Headteacher
Forest of Dean Community Schools Federation



Out of School Celebrations:

Congratulations to Pippa on attending Stagecoach for three years! Your talent and confidence truly shines through.

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

Autumn Term 1	
Tues 3 rd February	KS1 Cricket at Dene Magna for selected children
Fri 6 th February	Federation Future Me Day at Yorkley School *Packed lunches required
W/C Mon 9 th February	Last Week for Current After-school Clubs (Coding Club finishes 5.2)
Tues 10 th February	Internet Safety Day - 'smart tech, safe choices'
Weds 11 th February	End of Term 3
Thurs 12 th February	INSET Day
Fri 13 th February	INSET Day
Mon 16 th - Fri 20 th Feb	Half term - 1 Week
Mon 23 rd Feb	Start of Term 4 - Children in
Thurs 26 th February	Reception, Year 1 & 2 Early Maths Parent Workshop 3.20pm
Fri 27 th February	Culture Day
Mon 2 nd March	Secondary School Allocation Day
Thurs 5 th March	World Book Day
Fri 6 th March	Reception Parent Engagement Morning. *Letter to follow*
Fri 6 th March	Wellbeing Champions to Viney Hill
Fri 13 th March	Red Nose Day
Thurs 19 th March	Year 4's In the Net at Yorkley School *Details to follow*
Fri 27 th March	End of Term 4
30 th Mar-Fri 10 th Apr	Easter Holidays
Mon 13 th April	Start of Term 5 - Children in
Thurs 16 th April	September Reception Allocation Day
Fri 24 th April	Wellbeing Champions to Viney Hill
Mon 4 th May	Bank Holiday
Mon 11 th May - Thurs 14 th May	KS2 SATs
Fri 22 nd May	End of Term 5
Mon 1 st June	Start of Term 6 - Children in
Mon 15 th - Weds 17 th June	Year 5 & 6 London Residential
Fri 3 rd July	Wellbeing Champions to Viney Hill
Fri 17 th July	End of Term 6

Knowing Me

Creative Me

Articulate Me

Future Me

Stronger Me

Pride in ourselves, Achieve the best we can, Curious thinkers, Everyone together
The small school with BIG ideas

Community Links:



Bream
Community
Library

with

FREE Workshops for Young Gardeners



2026



Activities at West Dean Centre and Bream Community Library –
for primary children and above

Thursday 19th February

2.00 – 4.00pm

* West Dean Centre,
Bream GL15 6JW

Tomatoes – sowing,
growing, tasting, all
things tomato

Places are limited so..... Booking is **essential**

To join in - email breamgardeningociety@gmail.com Remember
to tell us your name and age

FOREST PULSE
Supporting children and young people with disabilities and their families

AN ALTERNATIVE YOUTH CLUB

AN INCLUSIVE CLUB IN MITCHELDEAN FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
AGES 10-17 - £6 PER SESSION
CONTACT - 01594 826357
CHLOE.TUBMAN@FORESTPULSE.CO.UK

THURSDAYS TERM TIME VANTAGE POINT BUSINESS VILLAGE,
6.30PM - 8.30PM MITCHELDEAN
GL17 0DD

Facebook, X, Instagram icons



HALF PRICE ENTRY THIS WEEKEND

Enjoy half price entry all weekend at
Perrygrove Railway. Open from 10am –
4pm. Online booking recommended.

WWW.PERRYGROVE.CO.UK



WildCATS
GIRLS' FOOTBALL

Join the **Wildcats Girls'**
Sessions delivered by **Prostars**

LYDNEY
Wednesdays

TUTSHILL
Thursdays

* Non-competitive
football for girls who
want to **give it a go**
with friends!

Gloucestershire FA
December Provider
of the Month!

To book:
Prostars.ipalbookings.com
Contact Mark:
07444436637 / Mark@Prostars-FSE.com



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL
2024 - 2025



The Virtual School
Best practice award 2025

JOIN OUR UNDER 9s RUGBY TEAM!

NEW PLAYERS WANTED!



BREAM RFC UNDER 9s RUGBY

BOYS & GIRLS WELCOME • NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

COME & GIVE RUGBY A TRY

Free to play, no membership required!

TRAINING:

TUESDAY EVENINGS 17:30-18:30

GAMES:

SUNDAY MORNINGS 10AM

Bream RFC, GL15 6ES



CONTACT US:

📞 Aaron: 07403 431253

📞 Jason: 07880 698842