

# PARKEND NEWSLETTER



Issue 55: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Parent Involvement:

Thank you to our new parents who have supported us to ensure the transition to our school has gone smoothly. Also, thank you to parents/carers who logged in to the online Cyber Crime Parents talk run by Simon Williams; a Police Constable specialising in cyber intelligence. He shared expert advice on how to keep your child safe online from scams and social media risks to gaming and digital footprints.

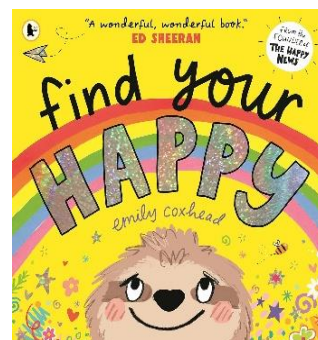
## National Mental Health Day 10<sup>th</sup> October:



Today we were proud to wear yellow raising awareness for Young Minds Matter and within our PSHE lesson, children were read the book 'Find your Happy' by Emily Coxhead and completed activities that linked.

This year's theme is 'access to services.' If your child is struggling and wants further support, click the link

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/>



## Personal Development - Diversity and Inclusion. October is Black History Month



This month we are focusing on diversity and inclusion.

Discussions in assemblies and PSHE will be linked to Black History Month, Resilience, Our Community and Values:



### What is Black History Month?

Black History Month is celebrated in the UK every October. It began in the 1980s, to recognise the history, achievements, and contributions of Black people in Britain. Each year has a theme, and the 2025 focus is 'Standing Firm in Power and Pride', which celebrates strength, resilience and progress. The month aims to help everyone learn more about Black history, challenge racism, and celebrate diversity in our communities.

**Standing Firm in Power and Pride**

## PACE:

Pride in ourselves, Achieve the best we can, Curious thinkers, Everyone together.

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

Week ending: 26<sup>th</sup> September



Hattie, George, Ezra and Abigail

### Lunchtime Star

Congratulations to Noah

Week ending: 3<sup>rd</sup> October



Kenan, Sophie and Cosmos

### Lunchtime Star:

Congratulations to William

## Attendance Matters:

Current Whole School Attendance = **94.93%**

Class name	Attendance week ending: 26/09/25	Attendance week ending: 03/10/25
Hedgehogs	92.41%	94.30%
Foxes	92.14%	90.71%
Wild Boar	86.36%	96.36%

## House Points:

Week ending 26<sup>th</sup> September Red = 91, Green 84 & Yellow 82

Week ending 3<sup>rd</sup> October Red = 91, Yellow = 70 & Green = 61

**Wild Boar Class** has been continuing their science unit on the properties of materials, this time investigating how different materials burn. The children had a fantastic time observing the various flame colours and smells produced when materials were lit, and identifying whether the changes were reversible or irreversible.







This term, Year 1/2 have been exploring the four seasons and learning about the changes that take place throughout the year. As part of this work, They have enjoyed going on woodland walks where the children have looked closely at the world around them, spotting signs of Autumn such as colourful leaves, bare branches, acorns, and conkers. These outdoor experiences have really helped to bring our classroom learning to life.



Our Reception children have been introduced to PE through our topic of 'fantasy and adventure'.

They have spent time learning the basic principles of PE such as finding space, freezing on command, using and sharing equipment and working individually, with a partner and a group. They have participated in activities that have developed their fundamental skills such as running, jumping and skipping. Well done to our Reception children using different travelling actions whilst following a path.



Last Tuesday, Year 5 went to The Dean Academy for an art

lesson. They created portraits inspired by the artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo - an artist best known for using fruit and vegetables to create his masterpieces! The children really enjoyed the lesson and their portraits were wonderful!





## School to School Competitions:

Linked to National Fitness Day, Yorkley and Parkend went head-to-head for a mini sports competition.

Scores are now in, checked and verified:

Yorkley total = 3200 (divided by number of pupils = 18.5

Parkend - 1043 (divided by number of pupils = 15.8

Congratulations to Yorkley for the overall win this time, Parkend are determined to win next time!



As one of our enhancements at Parkend School, every Friday **Foxes** Class thoroughly look forward to their biking sessions with Ian and Charlotte from 'Follow my Lead'. This week they have been building their own courses and quickly discovered that they didn't need lots of cones to build a challenging course. They enjoyed trailing each other's also!



## Clubs:

Mrs Wood's Book Club is very popular with pupils attending from Year 3-6. This term we are exploring 'The Secret Lake' by Karen Inglis. A big thank you to all the children who take part with such enthusiasm.

**Competitions:** A mixed team of Year 3/4 children took part in a Prostars football tournament on the new 5G pitch at Cinderford Rugby Club. There were several teams from around the forest taking part. The team played well together for the first time taking it in turns to switch positions. They ended the competition with 5 points. A special mention to Leonardo, who played so well that he was approached by Prostars to play for one of their District teams! (Thank you to the parents and carers who supported and sourced the correct footwear!) Mrs Millin was proud of their team spirit and resilience!





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

Kind regards,  
*K. Burke*

Mrs K Burke

Executive Headteacher  
 Forest of Dean Community Schools Federation

Out of School Celebrations:

Congratulations to Otto as he has recently achieved swimming awards:

- Passed Learn to Swim Stage 2
- Gained his Rainbow Distance 5m certificate
- Gained his Rainbow Distance 10m certificate

He's really proud of these achievements as are we! Well done Otto!



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

Autumn Term 1	
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Service at Parkend Church 2.30pm. Parents/Carers invited.
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Friends Disco at Whitemead 5.30-7.30pm
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Reception Parents Phonic Meeting 3.15-4.00pm
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 1 Parents Phonic Meeting 3.15-4.00pm
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Nasal Flu Immunisation - Whole School.
Weds 22 <sup>nd</sup> & Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Parents' Evening & Scholastic Book Fair
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Last day Term 1
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET - School closed to pupils
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half term week
Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Secondary School Application Deadline
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Start of Term 2
Weds 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Open Morning for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Yorkley - 9.15-10.45am Open Afternoon for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Parkend - 1.15-2.45pm
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Open Morning for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Parkend - 9.15-10.45am Open Afternoon for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Yorkley - 1.15-2.45pm
Weds 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Foxes & Wild Boar Violin Concert to Parents 9.30am *Letter to follow*
Weds 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Open Morning for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Yorkley - 9.15-10.45am Open Afternoon for prospective parents Reception 2026 at Parkend - 1.15-2.45pm
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Current afterschool clubs finish this week
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day Term 2
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	Christmas Holidays
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Start of Term 3

### Community Links

#### Fundraising for Parkend School:

Congratulations to Rob and Owen completing the Forest of Dean Half Marathon on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> September. So far, they have raised nearly £600 which will go towards Parkend School. There is still time to sponsor them links are available below:

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/robert-rawlings-3?utm\\_medium=FA&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/robert-rawlings-3?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL)

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/owen-g-parkend?utm\\_medium=CR&utm\\_source=WA](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/owen-g-parkend?utm_medium=CR&utm_source=WA)

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

# FOREST MUSIC CENTRE

STARTING 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025  
TUESDAYS 6:30 - 8:30PM  
ST WHITES PRIMARY SCHOOL, CINDERFORD  
ENSEMBLE PROVISION FOR WIND, BRASS, STRING &  
PERCUSSION PLAYERS  
ALL AGES WELCOME (ADULTS AND CHILDREN)

**NEW - STARTING JANUARY 2026** ✨

STRING STARTERS  
FOR BEGINNER STRING PLAYERS

WWW.GLOUCESTERSHIREMUSIC.CO.UK  
GLOSMUSIC@GLOUCESTERSHIRE.GOV.UK  
01452 427242

GSW  
Music Hub

GSW  
Music Hub

Gloucestershire  
COUNCIL

supported using public funding by  
ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND

gloucestershire  
MUSIC

Wellbeing Wednesdays for everyone

from Oct 15th  
Parkend Memorial Hall

## Wiggly Wednesday Club for primary school Kids

Explore movement, creative dance and  
Theatre Games - we play with Rhythm,  
Sound, flow, shapes & end with a short  
relaxation.

Laugh, let your hair down, shake  
off worries & express yourself  
with confidence!

4.30 - 5.30pm - £5 only



## Nidra Relaxation Adults Empowerment Hour

A 40 minute Yoga Nidra where you will be  
guided into a deeply RELAXED state - either  
seated or lying, eyes closed.

In this meditative state any residual tension in  
your Physical body, mind and emotions can  
dissolve away, leaving your nerves restored  
and your mind calm.

In each session I will give you new hand Mudras  
& simple practices to rebuild your life energy.  
We'll end with a brief sharing circle

6pm-7pm - £10 workers. £5 (OAP's, unemployed and G.P Referral)

Led by Yoga Teacher & Human Movement Specialist Suleela Barclay ( B.Ed.)

Join us weekly - no booking required! FFI call Suleela on 07834 669297



with

Bream  
Community  
Library



Free Workshops



for Young Gardeners

Activities at Bream Community Library

- for primary children and above

Wednesday  
29<sup>th</sup> October  
2.00 - 4.00pm

Making and planting a miniature  
terrarium

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

To join in - email [breamgardeningsociety@gmail.com](mailto:breamgardeningsociety@gmail.com)

Remember to tell us your name and age



Artsmark  
Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



MUSIC MARK  
SCHOOL  
2024 - 2025





EPS

Gloucestershire

COUNTY COUNCIL

# Libraries Week

26th October - 2nd November 2025

Libraries Week is a celebration of the enriching offer of libraries in the UK. The theme of Libraries Week this year is "Go Green"- a focus on climate change and sustainability.

Libraries Week is a great opportunity to discover library services supporting young people. These include access to study spaces, help with homework, 'rhyme time', story sessions, internet access and support with digital literacy.

Many libraries celebrate Libraries Week by running activities, such as reading challenges and children's story time, that link to the yearly theme.

You can celebrate Libraries Week in October by visiting your local library.

For more resources and ideas to share in schools to get young people involved please visit:  
<https://www.cilip.org.uk/page/GreenLibrariesWeek>

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

## PARKEND PRIMARY SCHOOL

### OPEN DAYS

FOR CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2026

12<sup>th</sup> November 1.15pm - 2.45pm (Wednesday)  
18<sup>th</sup> November 9.15am - 10.45am (Tuesday)  
3<sup>rd</sup> December 1.15pm - 2.45pm (Wednesday)





"Pupils at Parkend Primary thoroughly enjoy their 'small school with big ideas'. There is a tangible sense of community and of working together in partnership. Pupils are incredibly proud to be part of the school, and this shines through in all they do."

Good overall effectiveness – February 2024  
Outstanding in Behaviour and Attitudes and Leadership & Management

Parkend Primary School / Forest Of Dean Community Schools Partnership / Yorkley School

Creativity

Building Me

Belonging

Communication

Active Adventure

Valuing Learning, Learning to Value

## YORKLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

### OPEN DAYS

FOR CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2026

12<sup>th</sup> November 9.15am - 10.45am (Wednesday)  
18<sup>th</sup> November 1.15pm - 2.45pm (Tuesday)  
3<sup>rd</sup> December 9.15am - 10.45am (Wednesday)







"Pupils are very proud of their school. It is easy to see why. It is a caring, cohesive community where everyone has pupils' best interests at heart. Everyone strives to make every day the best it can be for each pupil."

Outstanding in Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development and Leadership & Management. Good for overall effectiveness

Yorkley Primary School / Forest Of Dean Community Schools Partnership / Parkend Primary School