

The Park Schools Federation

Junior, Infant & Nursery

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Mr. Nadeem Shah
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Monday June 23, 2025

Summer Term Newsletter 8

Dear Mums/Dads/Carers,

Class Teaching Teams for September

We have sorted out which staff members will be working with which year groups in September. The teachers are arranged and outlined in the table below. Please be aware that unforeseen circumstances can lead to staffing changes having to be made. If we do need to make a change, we will let you know.

Parents/carers will receive a letter at the end of this week to tell them which of the two classes in the year group their child will be in and who their specific teacher will be. This year's class teachers will be allocating the class groups for next year. If you have any information you would like to add into their discussions on this matter, please let your child's class teacher know before this Wednesday afternoon.

We have a new teacher joining our team, Miss Melvin. She will both be working with her new class in school for the two transition days in July. We also have a new 'interim' deputy headteacher, Mr Butler, who will also be in school on the two transition days and on Sports Day.

Class	Class Teachers	Teaching Assistants
Nursery	Miss Head	Mrs Henley-Powell
Reception	Miss Thornewill and Mrs Watson	Mrs Morphus and Mrs Tucker
Year 1	Miss Wheeldon and Miss Melvin (new teacher)	Mrs Nussey and Miss Bradbury
Year 2	Mrs Mills and Miss Grayson	Mrs Thompson and Miss Senior
Year 3	Miss Thompson and Miss Johnston	Mrs Smith
Year 4	Miss Chapman and Miss Beckett	Mrs Edmunds
Year 5	Mr Rodgers and Mr Watson	Miss Marsh
Year 6	Mr Powers and Mrs Marriott	Miss Dennis
Nurture	Miss Jones	Mrs Kirby and Mr Manifold
Additional Support	Miss Philbin (PPA cover), Miss Barnett (PPA cover), Miss Collier (PPA cover), Miss Wilson (PPA cover), Mrs Nicholson (Speech and Language), and Mrs Yates (Pastoral & Safeguarding Lead)	

You may have noticed that there are a few names missing from the table above. Miss Loades, Mrs Bell, Mr Teather, Miss Fell, Miss Holden and Mr Scotney will be leaving our teaching team at the end of this term. We will also be losing Miss Read and Mr Hindley from our support team at the end of this term. I'm sure you'd like to join us in thanking them for all their efforts and support, in some cases over many years, here and to wish them every happiness for the future.

School Funding Update

Many of you will recall that I wrote to you in January regarding the difficult financial circumstances for our school. If you have been following school funding articles in the media, you will know that this isn't just a Park Schools Federation thing, it is a national issue.

No one at our school or from previous leadership teams here is 'to blame' for our school being in this situation. It is simply the result of years and years of gradual cuts to proportional income and higher levels of imposed costs for schools across the country. As was pointed out in the January letter, we have had to address a budget deficit of over £1,200,000 in funding by 2028.

When an organisation has a large staff team, like we do, there will inevitably be lots of comings and goings within the staff team. This has been the case this for us this year too. We have been able to replace several roles for our staff leavers throughout this academic year. However, due to our schools' financial circumstances, we have been unable to replace a number of staff members' roles as they have left our setting throughout the year. With this in mind, our staffing profile will look very different in September 2025, compared to September 2024. We will have 12 fewer members of staff across our setting, including 8 fewer teaching assistants.

As you can see, it is a desperately difficult situation for all involved and there will undoubtedly be a 'knock on' effect to the provision here. If you wish to contribute to reversing these unavoidable measures, I urge you to reach out to your local MP. It is only a general increase in funding for schools, at government level, that will change the current situation in education.

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions about school funding, please feel free to discuss them with me. However, can I respectfully ask that you allow our staff team to deal with these matters privately and in their own way please? This kind of conversation is not the easiest to have with parents/carers. An occasional kind word about how they conduct themselves in their roles will go much further.

Parent Forum

Thank you for your time and contributions to our Parent Forum last week. It was good to meet some new faces as well. It was a really positive discussion with lots of items being explored – Colour Run and other Fundraising, Parent Volunteer Group, Scarborough Residential, Christmas Pantomime, Sports Day, School Finance, SEN Parents' Meetings, Family Picnic, School Uniform, Staff and Class Allocations for September, Playground Developments, Wrap-Around Childcare, Publishing a Full Year of Dates and Children bringing items into school.

It is always good to get feedback from parents/carers. A parent made a good point about our plans for advanced bookings for Breakfast Club, so I will be reviewing that in the coming weeks. Our next Parent Forum will be scheduled in the autumn term.

Parent Volunteer Meeting

We have a parent volunteer meeting on Thursday morning at 9am, where discussions will be about supporting fundraising and enrichment events in school. We have the Colour Run, and School Disco coming up soon and we're looking to put on a Family Picnic in September. Your support would be greatly appreciated with these events.



Wrap-Around Childcare

We are a week away from our June 30th deadline to book wrap-around childcare places for September. With our current responses so far, it looks like we won't have the numbers to offer any childcare sessions for the later after-school slots (from 4.30pm until 5.15pm). There is still a week to go, so this may change.

As outlined in the School Funding Update above, if our funding reality means that we have had to significantly reduce our staffing profile, then you will understand that we cannot allocate vital staffing hours to a childcare provision that does not pay for itself.

School Uniform Parent Vote

And the results are in. We had a total of 262 votes from parents/carers. 184 votes for the sports uniform and 78 votes for the traditional uniform. That is almost exactly a 70% to 30% split in favour of sports uniform.

I am very aware that there has been some backlash to this. However, the numbers don't lie. Even if double the numbers of parents voted for traditional uniform, that option would still have lost the vote (by a solid margin).

This proposal was just about making life a little easier for families and the vote shows the vast majority of parents/carers support it. I'm really not one for letting a minority of voices decide on our direction. Nevertheless, with everything we're busy doing in school at the moment, it really is not a massive priority for me or for our school and it's definitely not important enough to get into a big 'fight' over. We'll take our time to get it right and consult with families over the next academic year. So, for now, there won't be any changes.

On the flipside, it has been really positive to see/hear parent contributions and input on this, on both sides. It would be amazing if we had this level of feedback on other items in school too. With all the questions/comments that have come from this, I'll do an update video on Class Dojo in the coming days.

Sports Days

The weather can be very changeable, so please be aware that if we have lots of rain on the day, we may need to reschedule or cancel the event. If this happens, we will endeavour to let you know as early as possible. We are obviously hoping for a warm and sunny day, and if that is the case, please ensure that your child is wearing sun cream and has a sun hat (with their name in it) and they bring a water bottle to school, as they will be sat outside for quite a period of time.

On the day of their Sports Day, if possible, children should wear a t-shirt in the colour of their school 'house' team please. These are blue for Welbeck, green for Bolsover, Yellow for Hardwick and red for Chatsworth. 'House' information will be coming home soon.

Seating Arrangements: There will be trolleys of chairs out at the top of the playground for all three sports days – please feel free to take one of the chairs to sit on. We'd be incredibly grateful if you could return the chairs to the trolleys after the event has finished.

When sitting at the side of the track, we thank you for staying behind the barrier at the side and end of the track – this is to ensure the children can safely run their races and that you do not get trampled on! There will be tape and barriers up to indicate this on the day.

Staying on the parent/carer side of the track is also a safeguarding requirement. We absolutely trust you but, if we let one adult spectator over onto the children's side, then we have to let every adult spectator over to that side. If every adult spectator was allowed over with the children, then there may be unfamiliar adults amongst the children and therefore potential safeguarding concerns. If any parents/carers refuse to leave the children's area, then we will unfortunately be forced to end the sports day with immediate effect.

You are very welcome to take photos and video during the performance. These are purely for your personal use and not to be shared on any public platform, such as Facebook / Instagram / You've been Framed.

If you manage to get a photo or video of your child on their own, with no other children in the shot, then you are free to share that as you choose. If we find out that photos or videos of other children have been shared publicly, then we will have to ban all camera use at future performances/events and that would be a real shame.

Due to statutory safeguarding requirements, we cannot allow spectators into the school building unaccompanied. If you need to use the school toilets, please head over to our school office and they will let you through.

There is no entrance charge for our parents/carers to come in to watch our sports days.

Let's keep our fingers crossed for lovely, sunny days!

Wednesday July 9 – EYFS Sports Day

For our FS1 (nursery) class, we only run one FS1 sports day, so all FS1 children (morning and afternoon) will need to attend the morning session that day please. We will have extra staff in our nursery that morning.

Once our FS1 (nursery) and FS2 (reception) children have been dropped off at the normal time, parents and carers can make their way up to the field and get settled ready for the races to begin. The children will be brought out to the field to run their races at approx. 9.15am. All children in both FS1 and FS2 will take part in all races.

After the children have run their races, the class teachers will take them back down to the nursery and reception block. FS1 (nursery) pupils can go home with their families straight after their sports day morning or stay until the end of the session at 11.40am. If you are taking your child from nursery straight after the event, please queue at the nursery double doors to ensure safe dismissal.

Thursday July 10 (am) – Year 1 and Year 2 Sports Day

Once our Year 1 and Year 2 children have been dropped off at the normal time, parents and carers can make their way up to the field and get settled ready for the races to begin. The children will be brought out to the field to run their races at approx. 9.15am.

The children in both year groups will run all of the races and we should be finished for about 11.00am. Please make your way off school premises at 11.00am through the Park Road entrance. The Alderway entrance will not be in use.



Thursday July 10 (pm) – Year 3/4/5/6 Sports Day

We will begin to let families into the school grounds at approximately 12.40pm, (from the Park Road entrance only). Please make your way to the school field and get settled ready for the races to begin after you've entered the school grounds.

The children will be brought out onto the school field to run their races at approximately 1.00pm. Some events will have heats which will be run by all children, with the winners going through to a final. Other events will have a selection of children taking part.

After all the children have run their races, they will be taken back to class. If we finish before the end of the school day, you will be able to take your child home early. Please collect from the usual classroom doors. Please be aware that we are not permitted to allow children to walk home on their own until the end of the normal school day.

Many thanks for your continued help and support,



Nadeem Shah

Executive Headteacher

Summer Term Diary Dates 2025

Monday June 23	Whole School Assessment Week
Tuesday June 24	Year 3 Tanukis Class trip to the National Stone Centre
	Year 6 Goats Class Library Visit
Wednesday June 25	Year 3 Spiders Class trip to the National Stone Centre
Thursday June 26	Parent Volunteer Meeting at 9am *new date
Friday June 27	EYFS Pirate Day
Monday June 30	Year 5 leave for the residential trip to Scarborough
Tuesday July 1	Year 3 Spiders Class Assembly for families at 9am
Wednesday July 2	Year 6 leave for the residential trip to Scarborough
	Year 3 Tanukis Class Assembly for families at 9am
	Year 5 return from the residential trip to Scarborough
Friday July 4	Year 6 return from the residential trip to Scarborough
Monday July 7	Year 4 Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
	Year 1 Trip to Willow Tree Farm
	Year 5 Elephants Class Assembly for families at 9am
Tuesday July 8	Year 5 Owls Class Assembly for families at 9am
Wednesday July 9	EYFS Sports Day at 9am
	Year 5 Transition to Shirebrook Academy
	Summer Disco FS2/Y1/Y2 2pm to 3pm and Years 3/4/5 3.15pm to 4.15pm
	SEND Parents Evening – learning plans discussion *new date
	Year 6 Prom 4.30pm to 5.30pm
Thursday July 10	Year 1/2 Sports Day at 9.30am
	Year 3/4/5/6 Sports Day at 1.30pm
Monday July 14	Transition to new classes and Year 6 to Shirebrook Academy
Tuesday July 15	Transition to new classes and Year 6 to Shirebrook Academy
Thursday July 17	Colour Run – Sponsored run where the children will get very messy!
Friday July 18	EYFS Water Day

Tuesday July 22	Music Band Showcase at 2.30pm
	End-of-year reports go home
Wednesday July 23	Year 2 Graduation in school at 9.30am
Thursday July 24	Last day of summer half-term 2
	FS1 (Nursery) Farewell Picnic
	Year 6 Graduation at Sports Direct Auditorium at 10am
	Year 6 Rounders Match versus the staff and parents at 1.15pm
	Year 6 Family Barbecue at 2.30pm

Autumn Term Diary Dates 2025

Thursday September 4	Inset Day
Friday September 5	Inset Day
Monday September 8	Children return to school
Friday September 26	Family Picnic at 2pm *new date
Thursday October 2	Year 3 Residential trip to Sherwood Forest (2 days and 1 night)
Friday October 3	Year 3 return from Sherwood Forest
Friday October 24	Last day of autumn half-term 1
Monday November 3	Children return to school
Tuesday December 2	Whole School Trip to the Pantomime (dependent on fundraising)
Friday December 5	Inset Day
Friday December 19	Last day of autumn half-term 2

Spring Term Diary Dates 2026

Monday January 5, 2026	Inset Day
Tuesday January 6, 2026	Children return to school
Friday February 13, 2026	Last day of spring half-term 1
Monday February 23, 2026	Children return to school
Friday March 27, 2026	Last day of autumn half-term 2

Summer Term Diary Dates 2026

Monday April 13, 2026	Children return to school
Thursday May 21, 2026	Last day of summer half-term 1 for the children
Friday May 22, 2026	Inset Day
Monday June 1, 2026	Children return to school
	Enrichment Week (children off curriculum all week)
	Year 4 Residential trip to Walesby Forest (3 days and 2 nights)
Tuesday June 2, 2026	Year 5 Residential trip to Scarborough (3 days and 2 nights)
Wednesday June 3, 2026	Year 6 Residential trip to London (3 days and 2 nights)
	Year 4 return from Walesby Forest
Thursday June 4, 2026	Year 5 return from Scarborough
	Year 2 overnight sleepover at school
Friday June 5, 2026	Year 6 return from London
Thursday July 23, 2026	Last day of summer half-term 2