

# The Park Schools Federation

Junior, Infant & Nursery

Orchard Close  
Shirebrook  
Mansfield  
Notts  
NG20 8JX

Tel: 01623 742663  
Email: [enquiries@parkfed.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@parkfed.co.uk)  
Website [www.parkfed.co.uk](http://www.parkfed.co.uk)

Executive Headteacher:  
Interim Deputy Headteacher:

Mr. Nadeem Shah  
Mr. Ian Butler



Friday September 5, 2025

## Autumn Term Newsletter 1

Dear Mums/Dads/Carers,

### Welcome Back to School!

I hope you have all had a good summer break and are looking forward to coming back on Monday? I would also like to offer a warm welcome to all our new pupils and families in our Early Years' classes too! All of our staff team are very excited about this upcoming year and we're looking forward to an exciting year here at The Park Schools Federation.

This is a lengthy newsletter, with lots of important updates. Please take the time to take in the information outlined, so there aren't any unnecessary confusions.

### Meet the Team Sessions



In order for you to meet your child's new teaching team and for this year's information to be shared with you, we have arranged for parents/carers to 'Meet the Team' after-school in the first week. Please see the dates list at the end of this letter for the schedule. We have also sent out a Staffing Overview with this newsletter, so you can put names to faces.

### Digital Newsletters and Communications

New families, please be aware that we only send out our weekly newsletters (apart from this one which has a paper version coming home on Monday) and the vast majority of our forms electronically, on an App called Schoolzine. These include letters which require your permission, like class trips or after-school clubs.

In order to receive these, you must sign up to the App and make sure we have your up-to-date email address. You will also need to access the 'Manage' section and make sure your child is assigned to the correct class. If you have trouble accessing Schoolzine, we also post our weekly newsletters on our school website and on Class Dojo.

We will also be sending home a class newsletter from your child's teacher via Schoolzine this coming Friday (Sept 12).

Class Dojo is used to send home information about our school, or your child's class, or to showcase some of the work our children have been doing. We use it as a one-way communication tool, from school to home. We do not use Class Dojo to communicate back and forth with individual parents/carers. If you want to send a message to a member of staff, this must be done through email to our school office. You can also meet staff in person or give the office a call and the staff member will call back when they can.

We will be moving to a new messaging app by January 2026, called Arbor. More info on this will be sent out soon.

## School Uniform

We have shared that we will be moving to an 'active uniform' in September 2026. Therefore, for this academic year, it will be a transition year, where traditional school uniform and active uniform will both be acceptable options for your children to wear in school.

Children can come to school in either traditional uniform or active uniform. If you choose to send your child to school in traditional uniform, they will need to keep their active uniform (PE kit) in a bag in their class. Then, on the days they have a PE or active session (e.g. Forest School), they will need to get changed into their active uniform at lunchtime or break time (so they don't miss any important learning time).

If you choose to send your child in active uniform, they will not need to get changed at school, as they will be ready for all activities.

## Pantomime Trip

We have some great news regarding our planned trip to the pantomime at the Mansfield Palace Theatre! With all our fundraising events so far, we have managed to raise a total of £7,234 from the Colour Run, the Santa Run and other donations.

This means we are less than £2000 away from the total required. We think that there is a strong chance that we can make up the remaining funds from this term's events. Fingers crossed that we're going to get over the line on this one!









## After-School Clubs

Our new after-school clubs list is being sent home on Friday September 12. There are lots of clubs to choose from, with clubs designed for every age group. Please sign up to the clubs you would like your child to attend as soon as possible, as these places will be allocated quickly and it would be a shame for your child to miss out. After-School clubs start in the week beginning Monday September 29.

The list of dates for this term's clubs is outlined below:

Week Beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
08/09/25	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌
15/09/25	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌
22/09/25	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌
29/09/25	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅	No Clubs ❌	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅
06/10/25	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅	No Clubs ❌	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅
13/10/25	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅	No Clubs ❌	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅
20/10/25	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌	No Clubs ❌
27/10/25	<b>Half Term</b>				
03/11/25	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅	No Clubs ❌	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅
10/11/25	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅	No Clubs ❌	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅
17/11/25	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅	No Clubs ❌	Clubs on ✅	Clubs on ✅
24/11/25	<b>No more after-school clubs for the rest of this term</b>				

### Traditional Uniform

			
Blue Jumper	Blue Cardigan	White Shirt or Polo Shirt	Black or Grey Trousers or Shorts
			
Plain Skirt Black or Grey	Pinafore Dress Black or Grey	Blue Gingham Dress	Black school shoes (no heels/wedges or flip flops)

### Active Uniform

			
Plain Jumper or Hoodie Black or Blue	Plain Tracksuit Bottoms Black or Blue	Plain Full-Length Leggings Black or Blue	Plain T-Shirt or Polo Shirt White or Blue
			A reminder that we do not allow branded items of clothing in school please. Thank you for your support in this matter.
Plain Shorts (warm weather) Black or Blue	Plain Skort (warm weather) Black or Blue	Plain Trainers or Trainer-Style Shoe	



## Drop Off and Collection Arrangements

Our school gates open between 8.30am and 8.45am. These gates are monitored by a member of staff and are not accessible into school from 8.45am, as the classroom doors will have already closed and lessons/registration will already have begun.

An additional reminder that parents/carers should not come into the cloakrooms with their children please.

If you arrive from 8.45am onwards, you must accompany your child and sign them in through our school office. Unfortunately, we are not able to let parents/carers come into school with them through the office, as classes will have already started.

You are most welcome to have a quick conversation with your child's teaching team when you drop your child off or, if you want a longer conversation in the morning, you can come into school (through the office) **before 8.30am** and meet the teaching team in their class.



## Year 4/5/6 Walking to and from School + Mobile Phones

Families will be aware that we allow children in our Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 classes to walk to and from school on their own, as long as parents/carers give official permission for their child to do so.

We only allow children in Year 4/5/6 to bring a mobile phone into school if they are travelling to school and/or home on their own. All phones brought in to school by your children are done so at your own risk and we accept no responsibility for them.

If your child does not walk to and from school on their own, they should not be bringing a phone in.

If a child in Year 4/5/6 arrives later than 8.45am, they will need to be signed in through our office entrance by a parent/carer, we are not able to admit them into school late if they are unaccompanied.

Please ensure your child understands safety expectations regarding walking to school with a mobile phone; e.g. not looking at the phone as they are crossing a road and also how to communicate kindly with their peers.



## Free School Meal Vouchers

Our 'voucher' scheme for all our pupils who are in receipt of income-based free school meals continues this year. Each of these pupils will be issued with a £100 voucher in September, to be used over the course of the academic year (2025/2026). This voucher can be spent on any items bought in school, childcare, school trips, residential etc. This voucher can only be spent in our school and can be spent in one go or in pieces throughout the year. At the end of the academic year, all vouchers are 'wiped', and we start again with a new voucher in September 2026.

If your child does not receive income-based free school meals in September 2025, but starts to receive free school meals before Christmas 2025, we will issue each of these pupils with a £100 voucher for the remainder of the academic year as well. If a child begins to receive free school meals from January 2026, their voucher will not be available until the beginning of the following academic year, in September 2026.

Universal infant free school meals for all children in FS2, Year 1 and Year 2 are not the same as income-based free school meals and are not included in this voucher scheme. Families of children in FS2, Year 1 and Year 2 can (and should) still apply for the government's income-based Free School Meals benefit to receive the £100 voucher from school and you will then receive free school meals for your children throughout their entire time in school.

It will also make you eligible for the holiday-time free school meal supermarket vouchers, if these are reintroduced by the government.

These applications have no negative financial effect on school. In fact, they actually help the school's finances. You can apply for free school meals on the following link:

<https://caya-apps.derbyshire.gov.uk/Synergy/SynergyWeb/Enquiries/Citizen/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx>

If you would like some help to complete an application, we will be happy to support you.



## Access onto Park Road

I'm sure you will have seen the considerable amount of roadworks on Park Road in the past few weeks. Access is variable throughout the day. So, if you are driving, please be prepared to park a little further away and walk. The Recreation Road side of Park Road does seem to have less disruption than the Leisure Centre side. Alder Way has not been affected by any road works so far.



## Snack Shack and Break Time Snacks

As shared in last term's newsletters, we are moving to healthy school status this academic year. This means that we are no longer having unhealthy snacks at break times.

Our Snack Shack will be open at morning breaktimes every day from the Year 4 classroom window. All items cost 50p each and the options for children to buy are:

Soreen slices	Dunkers
Fridge raiders	Babybel
Cheese strings	Yoghurts tubes
Fruit pots	Laughing cow cheese dips
	Ice pops



## Class Names

The names for our classes this year are as follows:

Nursery (FS1)	Mr Gardner – <b>Ladybirds</b>	
Reception (FS2)	Miss Thornewill – <b>Monkeys</b>	Mrs Watson – <b>Elephants</b>
Year 1	Miss Melvin – <b>Rabbits</b>	Miss Wheeldon – <b>Butterflies</b>
Year 2	Miss Grayson – <b>Dragonflies</b>	Mrs Mills – <b>Owls</b>
Year 3	Miss Johnston – <b>3J</b>	Miss Thompson – <b>3T</b>
Year 4	Miss Beckett – <b>4B</b>	Miss Chapman – <b>4C</b>
Year 5	Mr Rodgers – <b>5R</b>	Mr Watson – <b>5W</b>
Year 6	Mr Powers – <b>5P</b>	Mrs Marriott – <b>6M</b>

## Congratulations to Mrs Gardner (Miss Head)

Huge congratulations to (formerly) Miss Head and her husband Danny on their wonderful wedding day over the summer holidays! I'm sure you'll join us in celebrating with our lovely couple. Miss Head will now be Mrs Gardner.

## Dates

And finally, we have lots of dates planned on the pages below. Please be aware that lots more dates and events will be planned in the coming weeks. When new dates are added to our list, they are highlighted as **\*new dates**.

A small number of dates will be slightly different to the ones shared last term

One date to watch out for is our class photographs day scheduled for this Tuesday, September 9.



**Thank you for taking the time to read this very long newsletter and we're looking forward to a really positive new school year!**

Many thanks for your continued help and support,

Nadeem Shah

Executive Headteacher

## Autumn Term Diary Dates 2025

Monday September 8	Children return to school
	Optional early collection for FS2 children at 1.30pm
Tuesday September 9	Class Photographs
	Meet the Teacher at 3.30pm – FS1, FS2, Year 3, Year 4
Wednesday September 10	Meet the Teacher at 3.30pm – Year 1, Year 2, Year 5, Year 6
Friday September 12	Class Newsletters sent home
Wednesday September 17	Sherwood Forest Residential Parents' Meeting at 5pm
Friday September 26	Family Picnic at 2.15pm
Monday September 29	After-School Enrichment Clubs begin
Thursday October 2	Year 3 Residential trip to Sherwood Forest (2 days and 1 night)
Friday October 3	Year 5 at the National Space Centre – Mr Watson
	Year 3 return from Sherwood Forest
Monday October 6	Year 5 at the National Space Centre – Mr Rodgers
Tuesday October 7	Year 6 Class Assembly at 9am – Mr Powers
Wednesday October 8	Year 6 Class Assembly at 9am – Mrs Marriott
Thursday October 9	Harvest Service
Friday October 10	FS2 Harvest Crafts with parents at 1.15pm
Tuesday October 14	Year 5 Class Assembly at 9am – Mr Rodgers
Wednesday October 15	Year 5 Class Assembly at 9am – Mr Watson
Friday October 17	Family Event 'Race Night' at 5pm (TBC)
Monday October 20	No After-School Enrichment Clubs this week
Tuesday October 21	Parents' Evening
Wednesday October 22	Parents' Evening
Thursday October 23	Parents' Evening
Friday October 24	Last day of autumn half-term 1
Monday November 3	Children return to school
Tuesday November 4	Year 4 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Chapman
Wednesday November 5	Year 4 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Beckett
Friday November 7	Individual and Sibling Photographs
	Class Newsletters sent home
Tuesday November 11	Year 3 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Thompson
Wednesday November 12	Year 3 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Johnston
Friday November 21	Last day for After-School Enrichment Clubs
Monday November 24	Assessment Week
Tuesday December 2	Whole School Trip to the Pantomime (dependent on fundraising)
Thursday December 4	Christmas Clear Out Toy Sale
Friday December 5	Inset Day
Wednesday December 10	SEND Learning Plans Review – Parents' Meeting
Thursday December 11	EYFS Nativity at 10am and 2pm
Monday December 15	Christmas Crafts (pm) with Year 1, Year 2, Year 5, Year 6
Tuesday December 16	Christmas Crafts (pm) with FS1, FS2, Year 3, Year 4
Wednesday December 17	Christmas Dinner
Thursday December 18	Year 1/2 Christmas Production at 10am and 2pm
Friday December 19	Wear Something Christmassy Day
	Last day of autumn half-term 2

## Spring Term Diary Dates 2026

Monday January 5	Inset Day
Tuesday January 6	Children return to school
Friday January 9	Class Newsletters sent home
Tuesday January 13	Talent Show Heats
Wednesday January 14	Talent Show Heats
Monday January 19	After-School Enrichment Clubs begin
Tuesday January 20	Talent Show Finals
Monday February 2	Swimming Pool on site for 3 weeks
Wednesday February 11	SEND Learning Plans Review – Parents’ Meeting
	Valentine Disco
Friday February 13	Last day of spring half-term 1
Monday February 23	Children return to school
Wednesday February 25	Year 2 Class Assembly at 9am – Mrs Mills
Thursday February 26	Year 2 Class Assembly at 9am – Mrs Grayson
Friday February 27	Class Newsletters sent home
	Residential Trip Final Payment Deadline
Monday March 2	Year 4 Trip to the Jorvik Viking Centre
Tuesday March 3	Year 1 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Wheeldon
Wednesday March 4	Year 1 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Melvin
Thursday March 5	World Book Day
Friday March 6	Final day for Swimming Pool on site
	Final day for After-School Enrichment Clubs
Monday March 9	Assessment Week
Tuesday March 10	FS2 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Thornewill
Wednesday March 11	FS2 Class Assembly at 9am – Mrs Watson
Friday March 13	Non-Uniform Day with Easter Egg Donation
Tuesday March 17	FS1 Class Assembly at 9am and 2.30pm – Mis Head
	Parents’ Evening
Wednesday March 18	Parents’ Evening
Thursday March 19	Parents’ Evening
Friday March 20	Family Event ‘Chocolate Bingo Night’ at 5pm
Wednesday March 25	Year 3/4 Production at 10am and 2pm
Friday March 27	Easter Egg and Easter Bonnet Competition
	Last day of autumn half-term 2

## Summer Term Diary Dates 2026

Monday April 13	Children return to school
	Swimming Pool on site for 2 weeks
Friday April 17	Class Newsletters sent home
Monday April 27	After-School Enrichment Clubs begin
Tuesday April 28	Year 4 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Chapman
Wednesday April 29	Year 4 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Beckett
Monday May 4	Bank Holiday
Tuesday May 5	Bikeability for Year 4
Wednesday May 6	Year 3 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Thompson
	Bikeability for Year 5
Thursday May 7	Year 3 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Johnston
	Bikeability for Year 5
Friday May 8	Bikeability for Year 5
Monday May 11	Year 6 SATs Week – Monday to Thursday
Friday May 15	Year 6 Trip to the Mill Adventure Base
Tuesday May 19	Year 1 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Wheeldon
Wednesday May 20	Year 1 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Melvin
Thursday May 21	Last day of summer half-term 1 for the children
Friday May 22	Inset Day
Monday June 1	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	Year 5 Residential trip to Scarborough (3 days and 2 nights)
Wednesday June 3	Year 6 Residential trip to London (3 days and 2 nights)
	Year 4 return from Walesby Forest
Thursday June 4	Year 5 return from Scarborough
	Year 2 overnight sleepover at school
Friday June 5	Year 6 return from London
Tuesday June 9	Year 2 Class Assembly at 9am – Mrs Mills
Wednesday June 10	Year 2 Class Assembly at 9am – Mrs Grayson
Tuesday June 16	Year 6 Class Assembly at 9am – Mr Powers
Wednesday June 17	Year 6 Class Assembly at 9am – Mrs Marriott
Friday June 19	Last day for After-School Enrichment Clubs
Monday June 22	Assessment Week
Tuesday June 23	FS2 Class Assembly at 9am – Mrs Watson
Wednesday June 24	FS2 Class Assembly at 9am – Miss Thornewill
Tuesday June 30	Year 5 Class Assembly at 9am – Mr Rodgers
Wednesday July 1	Year 5 Class Assembly at 9am – Mr Watson
	SEND Learning Plans Review – Parents' Meeting
Wednesday July 8	EYFS Sports Day at 9.15am

Wednesday July 8	Summer Disco and Year 6 Prom
Thursday July 9	Sports Day for Years 1/2/3 at 9.30am
	Sports Day for Years 4/5/6 at 1.15pm
Tuesday July 21	Band Showcase at 2.30pm
	End of Year Reports sent home
Wednesday July 22	Year 2 Graduation at 9.30am
Thursday July 23	Year 6 Graduation at 9.30am and Year 6 Leavers Events (pm)
	Last day of summer half-term 2