



PARK ROAD

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEKLY UPDATE



15
December
2023



Next Week in School at a Glance

| Monday 18 | Tuesday 19 | Wednesday 20 | Thursday 21 | Friday 22 |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Lunch Menu Week 2* Festive clothes* CHRISTMAS LUNCH | <ul style="list-style-type: none">* 2.00 pm KS2 Christmas performance at St Mary's Church* 5.40 pm Children dropped off at church* 6.00 pm KS2 Christmas performance at St Mary's Church | <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Festive clothes* Party lunch* SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2.00 PM | <ul style="list-style-type: none">* School closed | <ul style="list-style-type: none">* School closed |

Current value/attribute: **Responsibility**

Mrs. Quigley's weekly message:

There has certainly been a very festive feel in school this week! Families and school have enjoyed wonderful performances from Reception and Key Stage 1. The children worked so hard putting this together, and all of the staff are so proud of them. The room was certainly filled with lots of smiles and joy. Photographs and videos from this will be shared with you over the next few days. Next week, we will have the pleasure of seeing the KS2 children perform at St Mary's. They have been rehearsing and filling school with their beautiful singing. I know, if you are coming, you are in for a treat!

On Monday, Carol and the ladies in the kitchen will be preparing Christmas lunch for the children. To keep with the festive feel of the day, children are invited to come into school in a festive outfit. This could be a Christmas jumper, t-shirt or full outfit. Children **do not** need to wear their school uniform with this. Please can I ask though that outfit choices are suitable for the school day.

Our final day of the term, Wednesday, will conclude our festive celebrations. Carol has offered to prepare party lunches for those children wanting a school dinner. In the morning children will enjoy some time in the hall taking part in party games. Anyone who knows me well will know I can't resist a disco dance, so I'm certain there will be some dancing in the morning too! Children are welcome to come into school in a party outfit to add to the celebratory feel.

Finally, thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas fair at the weekend. The PFA worked so hard to bring this all together, and it was lovely to see so many of you visiting. Our choir were just wonderful and really brought the whole community together to open the fair.

Enjoy the last weekend before Christmas, with hopefully some rest and relaxation! See you Monday.

Mrs Quigley

Parent Forum Feedback.

A few weeks ago, the Parent Forum met and shared some feedback around things that are working particularly well in classes and things that could be points for discussion. Here are the useful updates linked to this as we reach the end of this half term.

As always, if you have a suggestion that may support the whole school or class, please do share with your parent rep who will pass this on at the next meeting. Thank you again to the reps who are currently supporting this link between school and families.

| You said.... | We did.... |
|--|---|
| <i>Can the path at the KS2 side of school be repaired and widened?</i> | We are currently collecting quotes for this work and hope to discuss this further with the Trust when we have this further information. Please bear with us on this one, but know we are working towards this too. |
| <i>Is there an option for further tickets for the KS2 performance?</i> | Further tickets were provided, and we had earmarked an additional afternoon performance if this was needed. This was not needed on this occasion, but please know we will always try to ensure that parents/carers are able to see their children perform as we know how precious this opportunity is. |
| <i>Can the logo design be shared so parents can organise their own embroidery?</i> | Unfortunately this is not something we can offer. However, we do have contracts with Touchline and myclothing.com who offer competitive pricing. Please note we do not require children to wear uniform with logos embroidered and are happy for children to wear plain t-shirts, jumpers and/or cardigans - more details are on our website at https://www.parkroad.warrington.sch.uk/parents/school-uniform |
| <i>Can parents' evening time slots be released earlier to support working parents?</i> | Moving forward we will be offering online booking—similar to the system used during COVID. The appointment will still be face to face but this will allow you to book the most convenient time that is available. We will also look to share this option at least 2 weeks before, following feedback that it can be difficult for working parents. Our next parents' evening is in the second half of Spring and we will hope to have this in place for then. |
| <i>Can a homework club be facilitated for Y5/Y6?</i> | Having spoken to Miss Mills and Miss Shirley, this is something we think we could support and would be valuable for children, especially as homework expectations increase. They will contact Y5/6 parents via Seesaw in the new year to let them know when this will be and gather interest. |

Christmas Lunch

On Monday 18 December, as per the Dates for the Diary sent out in September, it will be the school Christmas lunch. The teaching staff will be helping to serve the lunches in the hall and there will be lots of festive fun with Christmas music and a Christmas cracker for everyone (even if you bring your own packed lunch).

Children can come to school in a **Christmas jumper/festive clothes** on the day - please remember that clothes should be appropriate for the school day and there should be no jewellery, earrings, heeleys etc. Please still remember to send in warm coats, hats, scarves etc for playtime!

Christmas Party Day

As mentioned on the Diary Dates sent out in September, on the last day, Wednesday 20 December, **school is closing at 2 pm** so please make sure that you have made arrangements for your child to be collected at that time.

On the last day, we will be having a party day and children can come to school in their **party clothes** (as always, they should still be appropriate for school with no jewellery, earrings, heeleys etc). Please still remember to send in warm coats, hats, scarves etc for playtime!

There will be a party lunch from Carol, including a sandwich, sausage roll, chicken goujon, tangerine, festive biscuit and a drink of milk or water. As always, there will be vegetarian/other dietary alternatives available for those who need them.

Delightful Dancing

Last week, Abigail, Bea, Eden, Heidi, Louisa and Sienna from Year 5 and Amelia P, Charlotte and Evelyn from Year 1 took part in the Felicia Burns School of Dance show 'That's Entertainment'. The performances included Y'viva Espana, Chick Chick Chick Chicken, 101 Dalmatians and Oliver. Well done girls for taking part in this amazing show, particularly the first timers!





Parents, Friends
Association



Thank You

A massive THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the setup and running of the fair - it was a huge success and raised approximately £1500!

Thank you to Mr Wiebe and the choir who put on a spectacular performance on the day as well as Mrs Clarke for her live music.

Thank you to everyone who helped at the disco last week and to those who have helped us in any way - we couldn't have done it without you!



We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and we will see all in the new year for our first event of 2024.

Kelly and the PFA

Community Pages

Any items shared on these pages are for information only and are not endorsed or vetted by school.



Christmas home security advice

We hope you have a safe and secure Christmas, please see the below to help protect your home during the festive period.

1. Make your home look lived-in

We all know it gets darker earlier in the winter, but if you're out running errands or just returning from work at your usual time, you may want to make sure your home look occupied even when it's not. This can be done with timers for your lights - if they plug into a socket - or by using an Alexa or Google Home to control the bigger lights to turn on at specific times, or control them with your phone.

2. Let there be light

Speaking of lights, the outside area around your home can provide all sorts of nooks and crannies for would-be criminals to skulk in. You might have a high wall or hedge that provides cover during the hours of darkness. Whilst we're not suggesting you cut down your hedge or knock down any walls for the festive season, you can still take inspiration from your Christmas tree and light up every corner of your garden.

Motion-activated lights could be used to catch unwanted visitors, as the sudden appearance of brightness will discourage them from continuing. Don't forget your back door, side entrances and driveways, too.

3. Look after packages

Porch pirates may be rampant at this time of year because they know people will be ordering Christmas presents to their homes. Having an outdoor security camera or video doorbell is a great way to deter quick-fingered thieves, as well as providing crucial evidence should the worst happen. If you know you're not going to be home for some deliveries, you could divert them to a trusted neighbour - ask first! - or a family member who will be home when you're not.

4. Lock everything

It may sound simple, but taking the time to do a quick double-check of your doors and windows could make all the difference. Our lives get so busy at the best of times, and Christmas only adds to our to-do list. Forgetting to lock up or leaving a window ajar - even if you're just nipping to the shops - provides exactly the kind of opportunity burglars may be looking for.

5. Limit access to house keys

Never to leave keys hidden under a plant pot or mat outside, as burglars know where to look. If you really need to leave keys outside, so family and friends have access to your property, buy a key safe or install a keyless lock and share access.

6. Letterbox fishing

You should also keep keys out of reach rather than on a sideboard or console table near the door. If you have glass doors, make sure that would-be thieves can't see where you are keeping your keys.

7. Be careful what you post on social media

A modern consideration for any Christmas home security tip is to be careful what you post on social media. If a burglar has access to your name through old post or personal information, they can easily find your social media accounts too. Sharing holiday countdowns or updates while you're away is an open invitation for burglars to head into your home with the knowledge that they won't be disturbed.

8. Keep cash in the bank

Never keep large amounts of cash at home. It can be tempting to keep cash around, especially if giving cash gifts to relatives and grandchildren, but limit the amount you keep. Consider fitting a safe at home, though ideally write cheques instead of giving cash.

9. Keep calendars out of sight

Appointments and festive holidays listed on calendars will give potential intruders a window of opportunity to break into your home undisturbed. Ensure information on any calendars cannot be easily viewed through a window. Ideally, use a digital or online calendar, such as one on your phone or computer.

10. Don't leave presents under the tree

Do not to leave presents under the tree, particularly if they're visible from windows or doors.

11. Recycle packaging of expensive presents

Dispose of present packaging carefully, empty boxes left outside can advertise that you have new and desirable goods inside your home. It's a good idea to recycle packaging, taking Christmas present boxes - especially for big-ticket items such as phones or games consoles - to your nearest recycling centre.

12. Garden and garage security

With the colder weather, you may not be thinking about your outdoor furniture, lawn mower, or garden tools - but thieves might be. Your back garden can be just as much of an entry point into your home as the front door, so make sure you consider garden security, too.

If you have a garage or shed, use it to lock up outdoor tools, accessories and bikes - anything that could be of any value. Consider properly securing bikes, even if they are locked in the garage. Add these areas to your list of daily checks to ensure doors and windows are locked, and consider adding outdoor cameras to man these areas.

13. Hide expensive items

Whether it's gifts for someone special or items you have in your home anyway, consider taking a few extra steps to keep anything of value out of sight of prying eyes. Keep phones and tablets away from windows where they can be easily spotted, and make good use of curtains and blinds to shield TVs and gaming systems. Again, it may sound simple, but it only takes a glance of a big ticket item to potentially entice someone inside when they shouldn't be there.

14. Speak to your neighbours

If you have friends or family close by or trusted neighbours, you could ask them if they wouldn't mind keeping an eye on your home for you - especially if you're going away for a few days. This could mean putting out the bins, taking in packages or turning lights on and off to give the illusion that someone is home. Or, if there is a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your area, you might consider getting involved to gain and provide support this festive season.

15. Arm your security system

Heading out for a day of Christmas shopping or doing the school run? Don't forget to arm your home security system. Even if you're only going to be out for a short time, it could only take minutes for someone to gain entry to your home and make off with your valuables. Don't forget to clean your keypad, burglars may look for a build up on specific keys and use this to guess your security code.

TransPennine Activity Packs

The TransPennine Trail have sent us a link for a lovely activity pack for families and children to do, why not have a look ...

<https://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Christmas-2023-Activity-Pack-1.pdf>



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Scout Fundraising for Norway 2025

Max B in Year 5 and some of his scout friends are raising money to go on an amazing adventure in Norway in 2025. As part of their fundraising they will have a stall at the Great Sankey Market at the Woodlands pub on Saturday 16 December, the market runs from 10 am until 4 pm. They will be selling their ever-popular S'mores kits and festive sweet cones, so why not pop by and say hello.

They are also offering a Christmas Tree collection service, which can be booked through their website www.10thwarringtonscouts.org.uk/shop. Trees will be collected on 6 - 7 January and shredded for mulch.

A graphic for S'mores kits featuring a stylized campfire with marshmallows on sticks. The background is dark blue with white stars. The text is in a playful, hand-drawn style.

Give me S'Mores!
Share Kit
£10 EACH
Perfect for Christmas Eve Boxes

*Raising Money to get
10th Warrington Scouts
to Norway 2025*

*Each kit contains: Disposable
Burner, Marshmallows,
Biscuits, Buttons,
Sprinkles & Skewers*

Made with PosterMyWall.com

A festive advertisement for Christmas tree collection. It features a green border, a string of bows at the top, and a red vintage truck carrying a large Christmas tree. The text is in a mix of serif and sans-serif fonts.

10th Warrington Scout Group

Fundraising for Norway 2025

Christmas Tree Collection

For more information contact
jen@10thwarringtonscouts.org.uk

Book online
www.10thwarringtonscouts.org.uk/shop

Trees collected 6th and 7th January 2024.