



PARK ROAD

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



16 October
2026

WEEKLY UPDATE



Next Week in School at a Glance

Monday 19	Tuesday 20	Wednesday 21	Thursday 22	Friday 23
* Lunch Menu Week 2 * 3.15-4.15pm KS2 Cross Country last one * 3.15-4.15pm Y1/Y2 Baking last one * 3.15-4.15pm Y3/Y4 Forest school last one	* 3.15-4.15pm Y1/Y2/Y3 Performing Arts last one – 4pm performance for parents * 3.15-4.15pm Y4-6 Choir * 3.15 - 4.15pm Y1/Y2 Forest School last one	* 3.15 - 4.15pm Y6 Crochet last one * 3.15 - 4.15pm Y3/4 Gardening last one * 2.45 pm Reception Class Museum Event	* Y4 trip to Cuerden Valley * 3.15 - 4.15pm Forest School Y5/6 last one * 3.15 - 4.15pm Multisports Y1-3 last one	* Break up for half term * PFA Bonkers Bingo event

Unique Individuals Learning Together

Mrs. Quigley's weekly message

Another week has flown by, and already we are in the last week of the half term! This week we have welcomed prospective families to school as part of our Open Day. Our Year 6 children were amazing, and every parent who visited commented on how confident they were. Many even said it was the best tour they had had so far! A huge well done and thank you Year 6, as well as to our children across school who showed what a great school we have through their learning in class.

I am delighted to share our new Park Road Legacy Framework, which sits at the heart of our Personal Development and Leadership curriculum this year. Through the theme Belong, Create, Leave a Legacy, every child will have opportunities to develop their confidence, leadership skills, communication and positive contribution to the wider community.

Autumn: Belong. Our first focus is helping children celebrate who they are, their achievements and their place within our school community. As part of this, each class will create a Museum of Learning, showcasing their identity, accomplishments and learning journey. Families will be invited to visit mostly after half term, with class teachers sharing dates and times shortly.

Spring: Create. In the spring term, children will take part in our Festival of Possibilities through class showcases and presentations. This links closely to our work on oracy, providing pupils with authentic opportunities to present, perform and share their learning with real audiences.

Summer: Leave a Legacy. During the summer term, children will work collaboratively on projects that make a positive difference to our school and local community. These will culminate in our Legacy Festival, celebrating the impact children have made and the mark they have left on the year.

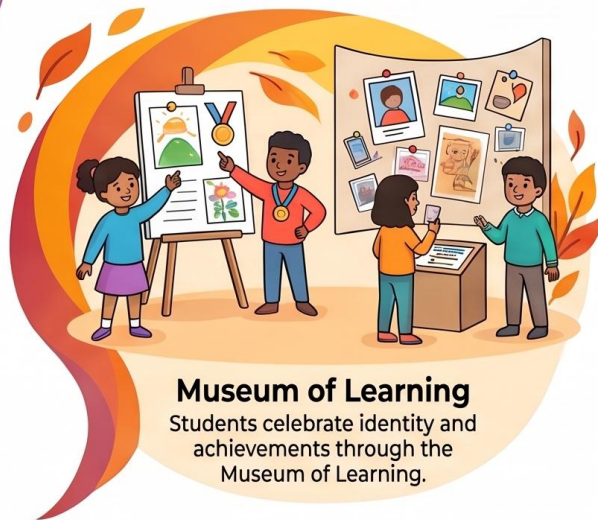
Alongside these exciting opportunities, we will continue to offer the rich range of enrichment experiences that make Park Road so special, including World Book Day, Rock Kidz Day, Big Dig Day, educational visits, visitors and many other memorable experiences throughout the year.

Please do have a read of the flyer attached to the next page. For now, have a lovely weekend and I will look forward to seeing everyone on Monday. Mrs Quigley

Park Road: Belong, Create, Leave a Legacy

The 2026–2027 Personal Development & Leadership Framework Journey

Autumn: Belong



Museum of Learning

Students celebrate identity and achievements through the Museum of Learning.

Spring: Create



Festival of Possibilities

Children build confidence and solve problems during the Festival of Possibilities.

Summer: Leave a Legacy



Legacy Festival

Students lead community and environmental projects through the Legacy Festival.

Student Growth & Outcomes



Leadership & Confidence

Children develop leadership skills and learn to talk proudly about their achievements.



Communication & Oracy

Students build strong speaking skills by presenting to authentic, real-world audiences.



Positive Community Impact

Every child participates in projects that make a difference to the world.

Picture News

The Picture News topic for next week is ...

'Should age decide what we're allowed to do?'



Eleven-year-old Bodhana Sivanandan from London has become the youngest person ever to earn the woman grandmaster title in chess. She achieved this while playing for England at an international competition in Uzbekistan. Bodhana said she was happy with her achievement and wanted to keep making history

Things to talk about at home:

- * ***How do you think adults might feel competing against someone much younger than them?***
- * ***What could you teach someone older than you?***
- * ***Should age decide what we're allowed to do?***
- * ***When might an age limit be fair?***

Parents Evening - Important Information

Please remember to book your Parents Evening slot before Friday. The invitations to book an appointment for Parents Evening have been sent out to the first contact that we have in our system. If possible, please book your appointments before half term so if you do have a problem, the office staff are available to help.

If you have parental responsibility, are not the first contact and would like a separate appointment, please contact the school office so that we can make alternative arrangements for you.

Hot Chocolate and Cake

Well done to the following children chosen this week:

Reception	Betsy L-B
Year 1	Darcey N
Year 2	Erin B
Year 3	Chloe B
Year 4	Hayden E
Year 5	Ciara T
Year 6	Alaina B

If a child is unable to attend their Hot Chocolate and Cake event because of an approved absence, we will provide a 'carry out' pack so they can enjoy it at home at their leisure!

Individual Photographs – No Proofs Reminder

Just a reminder that no proofs will be sent out for the individual/sibling photographs that were taken on Wednesday. You will have received a slip in your child's bookbag with a QR code and password so that you can log in, review the photographs and order them directly with Kittle. If you order promptly, your photographs will be returned for school to distribute.

Reception Class Museum of Learning

On Wednesday 21 October, Reception Class will be holding their Museum of Learning (as mentioned by Mrs Quigley this week). They plan to share their learning from this half term relating to 'people who are special to us'.

We will open the KS1 gate at 2.40 pm and close it at 2.45 pm so that the event can start.

The dates for the remaining classes are as follows and timings will be confirmed nearer the time, but it is expected to be approximately 2.30 pm.

Year 1	Friday 13 November
Year 2	Friday 20 November
Year 3	Wednesday 25 November
Year 4	Wednesday 18 November
Year 5	Thursday 19 November
Year 6	Wednesday 11 November

Absence Reporting by 9 am

Please remember to report your child's absence to the office each day by 9 am. If a child has vomited or has diarrhoea, we would expect them to be off for 48 hours but would need daily updates after this. If we do not hear from you by this time, we will give you a quick ring to check that everything is ok.

Community Cafe

Thank you to everyone who came along to our first Community Café – we hope you were able to relax, meet new members of community and enjoy the drinks and cake. Thank you to our Happiness Heroes and Animal Welfare teams who did a fantastic job helping at the Café.



A Huge Thank You to Hannah!

Following on from her amazing success last year, Hannah set herself another incredible challenge. Alongside her dad, she completed a sponsored 5km run and 10km bike ride to raise money for our Harvest Collection. We are delighted to share that Hannah successfully completed both challenges last weekend and has raised an incredible £300... absolutely amazing!



With the money raised, Hannah purchased and donated 116 selection boxes, which will be greatly appreciated by Good Neighbours WA5 to use in their charity work locally. Well done, Hannah! You are a true inspiration, and we are all so proud of you. Your determination, generosity and community spirit are outstanding. Thank you so much for making such a difference, Hannah.



Royal Legion

From Monday 19 October, we will be selling Poppies in school. The paper poppies are available for a donation or children are able to purchase the items shown, please send orders together **with the cash payment in a clearly marked envelope** with

- your child's name
- class
- details of the items you wish to purchase (including colours if appropriate)

Please note, we have limited stock on all items and will not be able to replenish them so when they are gone, they're gone! Last year we raised £686!



What Parents and Educators Need to Know About ...

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI COMPANIONS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Powered by generative AI models like ChatGPT and Google Gemini, AI companion apps and virtual chatbots such as Character.ai, Snapchat My AI, Replika and Talkie, allow users to create, customise, and chat to synthetic avatars around the clock. While many young people use them for harmless entertainment, creative writing or homework help, these tools are designed to simulate genuine human empathy, emotional bonding and deep friendship.

EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

AI companions are programmed to be endlessly agreeable, attentive, and available 24/7. Unlike human friendships, an AI companion never disagrees, sets personal boundaries, or gets tired. Young people (especially those experiencing loneliness, social anxiety, or low self-esteem) can quickly develop an unhealthy emotional attachment, viewing synthetic software as their 'best friend' or a surrogate romantic partner.

DANGEROUS MENTAL HEALTH ADVICE

AI chatbots possess no genuine empathy, professional clinical knowledge, or moral reasoning. While developers state these tools are not therapists, vulnerable teenagers often turn to them in crisis. Chatbots have previously hallucinated unsafe medical guidance, validated depressive spirals, and failed to safely escalate disclosures of self-harm or suicidal ideation to real-world protective services.

DATA HARVESTING & OVERSHARING

Because conversational bots simulate warmth and understanding, children often lower their guard and treat the chatbot as a trusted friend. They may disclose sensitive personal information, including full names, school details, private family problems, or secrets, unaware that their conversations are being logged, may be analysed by third parties (including advertisers), or used to train future AI models.

DISTORTED SOCIAL SKILLS

Navigating real-world friendships can be messy, involving dealing with conflict, compromise, boredom, and awkwardness. If a teenager spends hours interacting with an AI that is tailored specifically to validate and flatter them, they may become impatient with real-world relationships. Over time, this can lead to social withdrawal, heightened anxiety in peer groups, and isolation: a vicious circle of growing online dependency coupled with a heightened sense that relationships in the 'real world' are too challenging to maintain.

INAPPROPRIATE OR EXPLICIT CONTENT

While most mainstream platforms feature safety filters and guardrails, young people frequently discover 'jailbreak' prompts to bypass them. Some companion platforms subtly nudge users towards mature themes, romantic roleplay, or sexually suggestive conversations. In worse cases, third-party apps with weak safety checks have been found to generate sexually explicit text or intimate images.

"FREEMIUM" UPSELLS & SUBSCRIPTIONS

Many companion platforms operate on a freemium model. While basic chat is free, features like voice calls, uncensored responses, custom avatars, or 'deeper bonding' tiers are locked behind expensive monthly recurring subscriptions or in-app token purchases. This can lead to significant hidden costs and pressure on young people to spend money to maintain the 'friendship'.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK OPENLY ABOUT FAKE RELATIONSHIPS

Demystify how these tools work. Explain to young people that an AI companion has no feelings, memories, or consciousness; it is simply calculating the next most mathematically probable word based on its training data. It is helpful to explain to them the mechanics of large language models so that they understand how they are trained and how they are designed to always flatter and be helpful.

AUDIT PRIVACY SETTINGS & AGE LIMITS

Check which companion apps are installed on your child's phone or tablet. Many dedicated companion apps carry an App Store rating of 17+, while platforms like Character.ai set a minimum age of 13+ (or 16+ in the UK/EU). Review the privacy settings together: turn off data-sharing toggles, disable model training where possible, and ensure location permissions are blocked.

ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTION

Ensure technology habits do not replace face-to-face peer socialisation, sports, hobbies, and family time. Create healthy boundaries at home (such as keeping phones and tablets out of bedrooms overnight) to prevent late-night, unmonitored attachment loops with conversational chatbots when young people are at their most vulnerable.

REINFORCE WHERE TO GET REAL HELP

Make sure young people know that a machine can never replace professional pastoral or mental health care. Remind them of the trusted adults they can turn to at school – such as their Form Tutor, Head of Year, or the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – as well as dedicated youth support services like Childline (0800 1111) or Shout (text 85258).

Meet Our Expert

Darren Coxon is the Founder and Executive Director of Kompass Education, a consultancy specialising in supporting educators, students and parents in making wise choices with AI. His book *Ethical AI and Education*, co-authored with Clara Hawking, will be released later in 2026 by Taylor and Francis.



The
National
College

See full reference list on our website

Community Pages

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



Beware Rogue Traders and Cold Callers

We recently attended the address of an elderly resident who had fallen victim to so-called "tree surgeons" who cold called at his property.

The traders knocked on the door and offered to carry out tree work. A price was agreed for cutting down the tree and removing the waste. However, once the work was completed, they claimed that removal of the waste was extra and demanded additional payment.

Unfortunately, this is a common tactic used by rogue traders. One of the biggest warning signs is when someone arrives uninvited and says:

"We're working around the corner and noticed your tree/roof/driveway needs attention."

While some traders may be genuine, rogue traders often use this approach to pressure residents into making quick decisions without obtaining other quotes or checking credentials.

What should you do?

- ✓ Never agree to work on the spot from an unexpected caller.
- ✓ Ask for identification and a business card.
- ✓ Get at least 2-3 written quotes from reputable companies.
- ✓ Ask friends, family or neighbours for recommendations.
- ✓ Ensure you have a written agreement detailing exactly what work will be carried out, what is included, and the full cost before any work starts.
- ✓ If you feel pressured, simply say "No thank you" and close the door.
- ✓ If the caller refuses to leave when asked, contact police immediately.

Know Your Rights

Under UK consumer law, many agreements made following a doorstep sale are classed as "off-premises contracts". Traders must provide certain information, including details of your cancellation rights, and customers are generally entitled to a 14-day cooling-off period. www.GOV.UK advises that traders selling door-to-door must provide this information and inform customers of their right to cancel.

Protect Vulnerable Family Members: Rogue traders often target elderly or vulnerable residents. Please take a few minutes to speak with older relatives, friends and neighbours about the risks of doorstep traders and remind them that it is perfectly acceptable to say NO and seek advice first.

If you believe you have been targeted by a rogue trader, report it to Trading Standards. If a crime has occurred, contact the police on 101. Always call 999 if a crime is in progress, you feel threatened, or someone is at immediate risk.

Ofsted registered

Farm Fest

Not your average holiday club
For 5 - 11 year olds (Y1-Y6)

Join us for:

- Den building with loose parts
- Foraging and cooking
- Wildcrafting with real tools
- Relaxing in tents and hideouts
- Singing and music-making
- Meet and feed the resident pigs
- Free-range play all day

Tax-free childcare and vouchers accepted

Select 'Bring a Friend' ticket and save £6 each
£45.60 £39.60 per child

26th - 30th October
9am - 3.30pm

communitree.co.uk/dunham-massey
info@communitree.co.uk 0800 086 8837

SuperSTARS

Learning skills for Life

October
Holiday
Clubs

GAME OF HIDE AND SEEK

OCTOBER HOLIDAY CAMPS
AT Great Sankey Hub
WA5 3AA
MULTI SPORTS, FOOTBALL, DANCE
& LEGO SESSION everyday
HALLOWEEN CRAFTS DAY

WWW.SUPERSTARSCAMPS.CO.UK

SuperSTARS

Learning skills for Life

Sessions
Superstars Holiday Club everyday will deliver a programme of Multi Sport, Football, Dance and Lego Sessions (Halloween Themed for October and Festive Themed for December) for the children to engage and take part in across the day.
Along with the above, Superstars has programmed the following activities for children to enjoy:

Days + Times	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
October Half Term 26-30		Halloween Crafts Day			Halloween Party Day

Any children taking part in the Halloween + Xmas Crafts will be charge £3 on the day

Prices
0800-1630 - £26.50
School Special 0900-1500 - £21.50
Late Pick Up 1630-1800 - £5

To Book & Pay?
Booking your child into a Superstars Camps is fast and straightforward process using our online booking system at superstarscamps.co.uk

What your child needs to bring each day?

- A packed lunch with lots of little things in as they can graze all day.
- A refillable water bottle
- A coat or appropriate clothing for weather conditions
- £1 for tuck if you wish for your child to have a packet of sweets
- A smile for everyone

TEL : 01925 555859 INFO@LITTLESUPERSTAR.CO.UK