



Parklands Weekly News 03/09/2026

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a lovely summer we have had. I hope you and your families enjoyed the break and have returned feeling refreshed and ready for the new school year ahead.

It has been wonderful welcoming the children back to Parklands this week. They have been fantastic and have settled into school life brilliantly. The children look incredibly smart in their new active wear, and it has been a pleasure to see the pride and confidence with which they have returned to school.

A huge Parklands welcome goes to all of the families who are joining our school community this year. We are delighted that you are part of the Parklands family and look forward to getting to know you over the coming weeks. Building strong relationships with our children and families is at the heart of what we do, and we are excited to begin that journey with you.

We are also pleased to welcome a number of new staff members to our wonderful Parklands team. They bring with them a wealth of experience, enthusiasm and expertise, and we know they will quickly become valued members of our school community. Please join us in giving them a very warm Parklands welcome.

One of the greatest privileges of my role is spending time in classrooms. Over the past few days, I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting each class, seeing the children in their new learning environments and watching new friendships and relationships begin to flourish. The excitement, enthusiasm and positivity around the school have been wonderful to see.

As always, we have a busy and exciting year ahead, filled with opportunities, memorable experiences and achievements. We look forward to sharing these highlights with you throughout the year and working together to ensure every child has the very best experience at Parklands.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday.

Kind Regards,

Charlotte Angeli

Headteacher

Welcome to Our New Team Members

I am delighted to welcome several new members to the Parklands team this September:

- Mrs Springthorpe joins us as our new Deputy Headteacher for Inclusion.
- Mrs Meyer joins us as our new SENCo.
- Miss Kelly will be teaching in Beech Class.
- Mr Glanville will be teaching in Pear Class.
- Miss Mellett, Miss Robinson, Mr Hardingham and Miss Wellham will be joining our support staff team.

Please join me in giving them a warm Parklands welcome. I am confident that their expertise, enthusiasm and dedication will be a fantastic addition to our school community



Communication and Support

At Parklands, we value the strong partnership between home and school. Open and effective communication is key to every child's success. If you have any concerns or questions, please follow the communication pathway below:

1. Class Teacher or Support Staff

Your first point of contact for classroom-related concerns.

2. Office Staff

For administrative queries and general information.

3. Family Liaison Officer (FLO)

For parental worries or concerns relating to your child or family.

- **Karen Coles** - Family Liaison Officer

4. SENCo or Teacher in Charge of the SSC

For concerns regarding your child's additional needs.

- **Mrs Meyer** - SENCo
- **Mrs Harris** - Teacher in Charge of the SSC

5. Senior Leadership Team

For phase-specific concerns or queries.

- **Miss Laker** - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
- **Miss Standing** - Years 3 to 6

6. Deputy Headteachers

For broader issues requiring further support or attention.

- **Mrs Springthorpe** - Deputy Headteacher for Inclusion
- **Mrs Earnshaw** - Deputy Headteacher for Teaching, Learning and Standards

7. Headteacher

For issues that have not been resolved through the usual communication channels.

- **Miss Angeli**

Our doors are always open, and we are here to support both you and your children.



Meet the Teacher - Garden Party

This year, we will be combining our Meet the Teacher event with our annual Welcome Back Garden Party, organised by our wonderful PTA.

When: **Tuesday 22nd September**

Time: **from 3:15pm**

This is an excellent opportunity to meet your child's teacher, learn about the curriculum for the year ahead and ask any questions you may have.

Join us for hotdogs, refreshing drinks, and a chance to grab some bargains at our Nearly New Uniform sale!

We look forward to seeing you there.

MEET THE TEACHER



Meet the New Inclusion Team

You are invited to 'Meet the Inclusion Team' coffee mornings, providing an informal opportunity for you to meet our new Deputy Headteacher for Inclusion and SENCo. These sessions are a chance to put a name to a face, make initial contact and ensure you know who to speak to should you need support in the future.

- Tuesday 22nd September - SSC Stay and Learn Session
- Monday 28th September - Year 1 and Year 2 Parents, 9:00am in the Studio
- Tuesday 29th September - Year 3 and Year 4 Parents, 9:00am in the Studio
- Wednesday 30th September - Year 5 and Year 6 Parents, 9:00am in the Studio



Mobile Phone Free Schools

The Government has reinforced its expectation that schools should be mobile phone free environments during the school day.

At Parklands, pupils should not bring mobile phones onto the school site unless there are exceptional circumstances agreed with the school. Where a mobile phone is required for travel arrangements, it must be switched off, handed into the class teacher on arrival and collected at the end of the day.

This approach helps pupils remain focused on learning, supports positive social interaction and contributes to a safe school environment.

Thank you for your support in helping us create the best possible conditions for children to learn and thrive.



Parking Considerately

A gentle reminder, about parking respectfully around the school site.

Please avoid parking on zig-zag lines, blocking driveways or stopping in locations that may create hazards for pedestrians. We ask all members of our community to show consideration to our neighbours and to help keep everyone safe.

If possible, please consider using a Park and Stride approach by parking a little further away and enjoying a short walk to school. This helps reduce congestion, improves safety and encourages healthy habits for our children.

Thank you for your continued support.



Drop and Go

To help ease congestion at the start of the day, **children in Years 3 to 6** may be dropped off from **8:30am** using our Drop and Go arrangement.

Children will be supervised by Parklands staff on the playground until 8:40 where they can head straight into school to begin their day.

We encourage families to make use of this option where possible, as it helps improve traffic flow and ensures a calmer, safer start to the morning.



Brain Best Journey

Starting the Year with Strong Connections

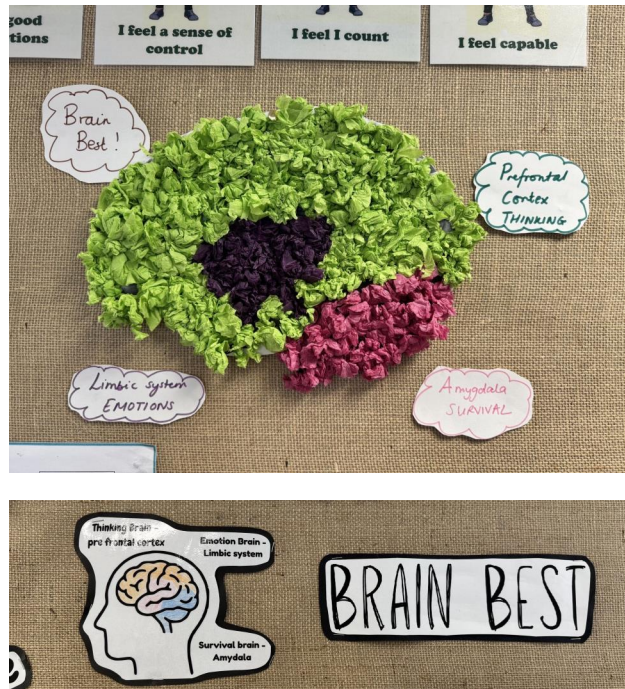
At Parklands, we want every child to be the very best they can be and to be at their **Brain Best**. Throughout the year, children learn about what helps them to feel good, learn well and thrive. This is an important part of our Empowerment Approach and Behaviour Policy.

This week, we revisited the **Hand Model of the Brain**, helping children understand their **Thinking Brain**, **Emotion Brain** and **Survival Brain**. We also explored our **5C Needs** and discussed how meeting these needs helps us feel safe, confident, connected and ready to learn.

As we begin a new school year, our focus has been on **Connection**. New teachers, support staff, classrooms and friendships can bring excitement as well as uncertainty. Strong connections help children feel secure, valued and supported as they settle into the year ahead.

We have encouraged children to think about who is holding their "**parachute of support**" - the trusted adults, family members and friends who help them through challenges and celebrate their successes.

Why not ask your child about Connection this week and find out who is in their parachute team? Together, we can help every child feel connected, supported and ready to be their **Brain Best**. 🌟



School Lunches

Our new school lunches have got off to a positive start, and many children have been telling us how much they are enjoying the meals on offer. The food has looked fantastic and it has been great to see so many children trying new dishes.

As with any new system, there have been a few teething problems. We are working closely with the catering company to address these quickly and appreciate your patience and understanding as we make improvements.

For more information please follow the link to FEED website: [Home | FEED West Sussex](#)

or contact them on the following:

feed@uk.issworld.com

Helpline Number: 01243 306314 (Open Monday – Friday from 8am – 4:30pm)



Outdoor Learning

Dear Parklands Community,

This year we will be working hard to create an exciting Outdoor Learning environment in our school forest. Over the next few weeks, we will be looking at creating some new areas for children to explore during their outdoor learning.

On Wednesday 9th, 16th and 23rd September, Mrs Sweeney will be on the playground in the morning and afternoon at drop off and collection to take any donations.

We are working hard to keep the outdoor learning environment as plastic free as possible. Please see the list below, we will be incredibly grateful for any donations:

- Metal or wooden mixing bowls
- Wooden or metal cooking utensils
- Metal watering cans/jugs
- Wooden chopping boards
- Wooden A-frame chalk board
- Mini chalk boards
- White sheets (preferably clean/unused and not elasticated)
- Glass jars

- Paintbrushes
- Wooden or metal pots and pans
- Pestle and mortar
- Metal Sieves

Many thanks for all your continued support,

Mrs Sweeney



Dates for Outdoor Learning

Outdoor Learning will take place on **Wednesdays** in the **forest area** and run by Mrs Sweeney.

Each year group will attend two groups of sessions designed to expose them to various weather conditions and natural outdoor habitats.

Please see following dates by year groups:

EYFS

First sessions - 27th Jan, 3rd Feb, 10th Feb

Second sessions - 9th June, 16th June ,23rd June

Year 1

First sessions - 30th September, 7th Oct, 14th Oct

Second sessions - 30th June, 7th July, 14th July

Year 2

First sessions - 21st Oct, 4th Nov, 11th Nov

Second sessions - 14th April, 28th April

Year 3

First sessions - 2nd Dec, 9th Dec

Second sessions - 24th Feb, 3rd March, 10th March

Year 4

First sessions - 18th Nov, 25th Nov

Second sessions - 24th March

Year 5

First sessions - 9th Sept , 16th Sept, 23rd Sept

Second sessions - 5th May, 12th May

Year 6

First sessions - 6th Jan, 13th Jan, 20th Jan

Second sessions - 19th May, 26th May

Family Assembly

Our family assemblies will be continuing next term.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to share their learning with you.

They will start at **2:45pm**

Year 4

- Maple Class – 24th September
- Mulberry Class - 1st October

Year 5

- Pear Class – 5th November
- Poplar Class – 12th November

Year 6

- Willow Class – 19th November
- Wisteria Class - 20th November
- Walnut Class - 26th November

Year 3

- Hawthorn Class - 28 January
- Hazel Class - 4th February

Year 2

- Chestnut Class - 11th March
- Cedar Class - 25th February

Year 1

- Beech Class - 29th April
- Birch Class - 6th May

We look forward to seeing you there.



You are invited...PTA Meeting

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) are holding their Annual General Meeting (AGM) and everyone is invited!

The AGM is when we report on the previous year's work and elect the new committee members. Committee members may be re-elected or be joining for the first time. We are looking to grow and energise the PTA – we need you!

When: **Sunday 27th September 2026 at 8pm**

Location: **Harbour Hotel Chichester**, 57 North Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1NH

We look forward to seeing you there.

The PTA Team.



Fidget Toys and Personal Items

Please **do not** send personal toys, games, fidget items or collectables into school.

Whilst we understand that some children enjoy these items, they can become a distraction during learning and may cause upset if they are lost, damaged or shared inappropriately.

Where children require a fidget for their sensory needs, the class teacher will provide a suitable resource.

Thank you for your support in helping us maintain a calm and focused learning environment.



Uniform Reminder

The children have returned looking incredibly smart, active and ready for learning. Thank you for your support with our uniform expectations. As a reminder:

- Long hair should be tied back.
- Earrings should be limited to small stud earrings only.
- Hoop earrings are not permitted for health and safety reasons.
- Jewellery should not be worn to school.

- Smart watches are not permitted.

We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a safe, practical and consistent approach across the school.



KS2 Lockers!

A huge thank you to the PTA for all your hard work in raising money for the new school lockers!

The children absolutely love them, classrooms and corridors are already looking tidy.

Thank you so much for your continued support!



Other Notices

St Wilfrid's Car Park

Please remember that this is the Church property and they can close the car park at any time due to private functions.

Can we remind all members of the school community parking there to be **respectful** towards everyone and to vacate the spaces as soon as possible at each end of the school day.

Please can we ask that adults **do not enter** the school building at the beginning or the end of the school day.

If you need your child needs to use a toilet or retrieve something from inside school please ask at the School Office.

Thank you for your continued support.

We aim to be a **Allergy Aware School**.

Please remember that the children should not have any food items that contain nuts in their packed lunches.

Thank you for your support with this.

Reminder

Please can we ask you **not to park on the grass** areas in Durnford Close. Local residents have phoned school to complain about vehicles parking inconsiderately.

Parking in the Surrounding Streets

We have been approached by residents in Cedar Drive to ask if parents can avoid leaving their engines idling when they are collecting or dropping their children at school.

Please do not park in the West Sussex Parking bays, these are for our organised transport only.

Thank you in advance for your support.



Next Week



Week Commencing 7th September

Monday

Tuesday

Karate Assembly

Wednesday

Year 5 - Outdoor learning

Thursday

Guitar Lesson

Violin Lesson

Fitness Friday

Dates for Your Diary



Please follow the link to our **whole school calendar** page on our **school website**:

[Parklands Community Primary School - Calendar](#)

Term Dates 2026 - 2027



Autumn term 2026

Tuesday 1 st September – INSET day school closed for pupils

Wednesday 2nd September – children return to school

Friday 23rd October – children break up for half term

Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October – half term

Monday 2nd November – INSET day school closed for pupils

Tuesday 3rd November – children return to school

Friday 18th December – children break up for the holidays

Monday 21st December – Friday 1 st January 2027 – school holidays



Spring term 2027

Monday 4th January – INSET day school closed for pupils

Tuesday 5th January – children return to school

Friday 12th February – children break up for half term

Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February – half term

Monday 22nd February – INSET day school closed for pupils

Tuesday 23rd February – children return to school

Thursday 25th March – children break up for the holidays

Friday 26th March – Friday 9th April – school holidays



Summer term 2027

Monday 12th April – INSET day school closed for pupils

Tuesday 13th April – children return to school

Friday 28th May – children break up for half term

Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June – half term

Monday 7th June – children return to school

Wednesday 21st July – children break up for the holidays



Contact Us

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