



# PARK HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

LOWER EASTERN GREEN LANE, COVENTRY - CV5 7LR  
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 Headteacher: Mr P Griffin

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are so pleased to have the children back at school and feeling the general buzz of learning going on across the school. KS1 have settled in particularly well and they are all looking like mini Park Hill role models! We are very proud of what each and every one of them has achieved so far in class and on the playground. From making new friends, to completing writing tasks that go way beyond our expectations. They are all superstars!

We would like to take the opportunity to share with you what they are going to get up to in their daily learning during the Autumn term. The curriculum has so far been based on the well-being of the children and introducing them bit by bit back into daily routines, talking about how they feel about being back and giving them plenty of opportunity to talk about and share what they have been up to during lock down. Here is an outline of the structure of a typical day:

YEAR 1		YEAR 2	
8:40 – 9am	Settle in and morning task	8:50 – 9am	Settle in and morning task
9-10am	Read, Write, Inc (our daily phonics programme)	9-10am	Read, Write, Inc (our daily phonics programme)
10-10:30	Break and snack	10-10:10am	Phonics practise (whole class and 1:1s)
10:30-11:30	Maths (this comprises of an anchor task, small group concrete learning and the application of the maths task)	10:10-10:25	Break
11:30-12	Story time and circle time	10:25-10:45	Story time and Snack
12-1pm	Outdoor play for lunch time and then lunch hall for school dinners and packed lunches	10:45-11:45	Maths (this comprises of an anchor task, concrete learning and the application of the maths task)
1-1:15	Small group work for handwriting, letter formation and fine motor skills	11:45-12:15	Guided reading
1:15-1:30	Assembly slot (on Monday, Tuesday, Friday)	12:15-1:15	Lunch hall for school dinners and packed lunches then outdoor play
1:30-2:30	First afternoon subject (for example Topic, Art, Music, PE, Science, RE etc)*	1:15-1:30	Assembly slot (on Monday, Tuesday, Friday)
2:30-3:10	Continuous Provision	1:30-2:30	First afternoon subject (for example Topic, Art, Music, PE, Science, RE etc)*
		2:30-3:30	Second Afternoon Subject

\*Just to note that during the afternoon Year 2 will have a short break between subjects. Movement breaks between and during lessons in order to keep the children's bodies and brains active are an essential part of our day!

In Year 1 we have three teachers and three support staff. Mrs Mann teaches 1M and leads RWI. Mrs Phillips teaches 1P and lead Early Literacy, she works on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning, for the remainder of the week Miss Anderson (our Inclusion and Additional Needs Leader) teaches in 1P on a Thursday afternoon and all day Friday. Year 1 are supported by Mrs Mould Mrs Ingram in 1M and Mrs McKinnell in 1P.

In Year 2 we also have three teachers and three support staff. Mrs Petros teaches 2P and is Assistant Head for KS1, alongside her is Mrs Warren who covers 2P on a Wednesday morning, Thursday afternoon and Friday afternoon. Miss Margrave teaches in 2M and leads PE. Year 2 are supported by Mrs O'Neill and Miss Bartlett in 2P and Mrs Ison in 2M.

## **Curriculum and content**

### **RWI**

This is our daily phonics programme that teaches Reading and Writing through a specific and structured programme aimed at getting the very best from pupils and helping them reach their full potential in these areas. The children are grouped and taught by all staff. Groups are regularly reviewed and assessed to ensure children are in the correct group and learning in the best way for them. We are very proud of how RWI has fostered enthusiastic and wonderful young readers at Park Hill.

### **Maths**

We view Maths at Park Hill as a subject that is fully enhanced by what we label as 'concrete' learning. This is the use of targeted apparatus to aid understanding, help children see what they are learning and put pictures and practical solutions alongside the more traditional 'application' (the number or shape work that goes into their books). Lessons are therefore structured in such a way as paired or group learning with physical objects, pictures and representations are viewed as important as the written calculation.

### **Science**

Science happens weekly and we aim to complete experiments, use our outdoor areas and be as practical as possible so that children's curiosity is sparked and their investigative skills are developed. We aim to get them questioning, talking freely and giving full and detailed explanations of what is happening in the world around us. In Year 2 we look at habitats, plants, living things, animals and the environment. In Year 1 we investigate 'Seasonal Changes' and 'Animals' (including humans and plants).

### **Humanities**

Our aim during our topic slot is to encourage children to find out about the wider world around them. We cover history and geography through an overarching theme. In Year 2 the theme is 'Explorers' so this term we will look at Neil Armstrong, Tim Peake, The UK and North America, Captain Robert Scott and global warming. In Year 1 the theme is The United Kingdom in which we delve into the world of Paddington, The Great Fire of London, The Monarchy, Coventry and even our very own Eastern Green.

### **PE**

In KS1 PE lessons children are taught a range of skills. They then apply these skills in a variety of games and activities during PE lessons. We ensure that children understand the benefits of exercise and keeping their bodies healthy. In addition, children will take part in the School Games where they can compete against other schools in the area. PE days for all of KS1 are a Monday and a Wednesday.

## **RE/Art/D&T/PSHE**

These subjects all aim to widen and broaden Park Hill pupils' knowledge of how we view the world, events, people and differing viewpoints. We teach them in such a way that children's understanding is enhanced, different learning styles are catered for and they get to express themselves in a safe and nurturing environment. We encourage sharing of ideas and like to see children celebrate the different ways in which we all live.

### **Homework**

The homework for KS1 is to READ, READ, READ! We are expecting children to read for at least 10 minutes **every day**. Read their home reading books and then read them again. Children should start to become familiar with the story, asking and answering questions, exploring characters, making predictions, uncovering and understanding new vocabulary. Books will **go out on a Monday** (we will be providing up to two books per week), to be brought **back to school on a Thursday**. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BRING THEM INTO SCHOOL EVERYDAY. Please record their reading in the reading diaries and we will be checking and rewarding the reading going on at home – but do remember to stick to the 10 minutes per day to keep children's interest and help them maintain just a short period of enjoyment and concentration. We would like to encourage 'Reading for Pleasure', when children enjoy Reading, they are more likely to be motivated to read. There will be a little surprise being sent home over the next few weeks, so tell children to watch out for this in their reading folders!

### **Expectations, Good to be Green and House Points**

Our expectations of behaviour are very high at Park Hill. We have wonderful children who consistently model wonderful behaviour and that is so important for their learning as well as their general school experience. We have 'Superhero' charts where the children can be moved to a new level when they show any one of our values at Park Hill. Our values are Hard-Work, Teamwork, Responsibility, Perseverance, Honesty, Respect, Aspiration and Kindness. Children can also earn house points for displaying these qualities. We also use the Good to be Green. Children who remain on Green all week are rewarded.

### **Uniform and equipment**

**All uniform should be clearly labelled** so it can be identified and returned to the child if misplaced, this includes lunch boxes and water bottles (**all children should have a water bottle** that they bring to school daily). KS1 are provided with healthy snacks and so there is no need to provide your child with a morning snack – unless this has been specifically agreed with the class teacher. Book bags or small rucksacks or tote bags are acceptable to carry their home reading books. PE kits comprise of their house colour t-shirt, black or navy shorts, leggings or joggers, in colder weather they can have a zipped warmer sports style top in black or navy, and **trainers for outdoor PE** – please ensure all items are **clearly labelled**.

**Thank you so much for all your recent co-operation with our 'Covid' adapted school day and systems. The flow of traffic through the school at key times is flowing and this is down to everyone doing their bit!**

We will do another letter in the Spring Term to update you on any changes and let you know what we are getting up to. We hope your children are enjoying Park Hill so far in the academic year and we are looking forward to it continuing in such a positive and encouraging way!

From all the KS1 Teachers and Team

Mrs Petros and Miss Margrave – Year 2

