



Friday 3 July 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

So, we approach the end of undoubtedly the most tumultuous academic year on record. It has been a hugely challenging period for all but the indications for September are positive. It certainly won't be back to 'business as usual' for schools but it will mean we can get all pupils back and education can once again resume.

Usually we would have published the class lists and teachers for September prior to the 'moving up' day. Clearly this hasn't been possible, but we will be releasing information pertaining to September on Tuesday. After writing short reports in April, we will not be sending out the usual full reports at the end of this term.

As I prepare to hand over the reins to Mrs Allen, I reflect on a school that, despite the virus, is in very good heart. The Paragon is undoubtedly an incredibly special school with a remarkably positive atmosphere. The combination of engaging pupils, enthusiastic staff and supportive parents really is a winning formula. To say that I have been fortunate to run such a fabulous school would be a colossal understatement. I want to say a huge 'thank you' to the whole Paragon community. It has been a wonderful eight years which I will always cherish and remember fondly.

With best wishes,

Andrew Harvey



Paragon News & Notices

PS MAGAZINE 2020 - Home learning photo call

This year, PS Magazine will be a very important archive of a 2020 which turned our worlds upside down. We would love to feature as many photos of your children learning at home; whether using a screen, handwriting, creating a work of art, running a mile, playing an instrument, baking ... anything goes!

Please send your photos with HOME LEARNING in the subject bar to:

ehughes@priorparkschools.com by 7 July. Also, if your child dressed in blue for World Oceans Day and you didn't send in a picture, or you would like them to feature in a whole school collage, then email your picture to the above email address with WORLD OCEANS DAY in the subject bar.

KEY WORKER CLUB

Bookings for the key worker club should now be directed to our receptionists, using the email: reception.paragon@priorparkschools.com

Term finishes at lunchtime on Tuesday and the key worker club will not operate on that day.

The provision of a club for the children of key workers will not run at The Paragon during the summer break.

JULY LEARNING PROGRAMME (Y2-5)

Thank you to those of you who have registered your interest in the JLP for Y2-5. Registration is now closed, and we are delighted to say that it looks as though we will be able to meet all requests for certain dates. It also looks as though we will be able to offer at least six days of learning to every child registered for the programme. We now need to digest yesterday's latest government guidance in order to ensure our risk assessment is thorough and comprehensive, which we will do over the weekend. Further details will follow, as promised, on Monday. This will include your child's confirmed pod, the name of the teacher(s) who will teach them and individual arrival and departure times.

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUBS AT THE PARAGON

This year we are delighted to announce that we will be offering most of our usual holiday clubs at The Paragon with the exception of the cookery school. In order to adhere to government safety guidelines relating to Covid-19, the clubs will be open to pupils at The Paragon only and will operate at a reduced capacity where a maximum of 30 children at Camp Teepee will operate as two separate pods of 15. The camps will run for three days each in July and August and children registered will need to attend all three days. Booking for all clubs will open on **Monday 6 July** and details of how to book will be communicated on Monday to all parents via email, when you will also receive information about the Summer Learning Programme. A waiting list will be held once the clubs reach capacity.



Camp Teepee will run from **22- 24 July** and **18 - 20 August**, 9.30am - 4.30pm. Total cost for 3 x days £115 with wraparound available until 5pm.

***NB current government guidelines stipulate that a child should not attend multiple holiday provision settings. If your child is attending the Summer Learning Programme on 20 and 21 of July, they will not be able to join Camp Teepee in July as we will need to maintain the pod approach that The Paragon is adhering to. This advice may change and we will keep you informed of any changes.**

The Paragon Art School: Alex Hucks will be running two courses during the summer:
Thursday 30 July: 9am - 3.30pm, £40

Expressive drawing techniques using ink, wax resist and charcoal.

£40 per day, suitable for children from Y3 upwards. 9am - 3.30pm

Thursday 13 and Friday 14 August: 9am- 3.30pm, £80

2 x day Introduction to Printmaking for children in Years 4 - 6.

Children will explore a range of printmaking techniques including, mono printing, working with stencils, styrofoam and lino cutting to create a collaged composition. This workshop will involve the use of sharp lino cutting tools.

MUSIC NOTICES

Could you earn a Blue Peter Music Badge?

Have you ever dreamt of earning the iconic Blue Peter Badge? Well now, if you are a musician aged 6-15 who's been working hard at home these last few months, you can earn the Music badge designed by the one and only music sensation, Ed Sheeran! Follow this [link](#) to find out how, and once you've got it, please send us your pics with you and your badge!



Instrumental lessons

At The Paragon, we are lucky to have such a professional and enthusiastic team of peripatetic music teachers offering 1:1 lessons in most instruments. Further details and an application form to start in September can be accessed [here](#).

Have a wonderful summer; keep practising, keep creating and keep singing.

PHILOSOPHY

This week, from Years 3 to 5 their stimulus was the Dr Seuss book 'Oh the Places You'll Go!'. The questions that they could choose from were:

1. 'Congratulations! Today is your day!' Can a day belong to a person?
2. 'You can steer yourself any direction you choose.' Does free will really exist? Can we do anything we choose?
3. 'I'm sorry to say but, sadly, it's true that Bang-Ups and Hang-Ups can happen to you.' Do hard times make people stronger?
4. 'Wherever you fly, you'll be the best of the best.' Should we always try to be the best?
5. 'And I know you'll hike far and face up to your problems whatever they are.' Is there a solution to every problem?



In Year 6, to link with their Air Week, their stimulus was a piece of music composed by Erland Cooper called 'A Nightingale Sings Outside Our Window'. The music was composed for the radio station BBC6 Music and includes the sounds of listeners' lockdowns weaved into the composition. The questions that they could choose from were:

1. Can birds offer humans wisdom on how best to live our lives?
2. Are we ever truly free?
3. Is the meaning of life the same for humans as it is for animals?
4. Can a pandemic change the world for the better? Why?
5. Is pain and suffering a necessary part of being human?

'Philosophy thrives on the human need to understand the world around us.' This ancient need to make sense of our planet and the society that we live in has never been more evident than during the current Covid-19 pandemic. I hope that for many Paragon families, Philosophy discussions have provided you all with some precious breathing space and time to reflect.

I cannot wait until September when Prep children will be reunited for face-to-face philosophising. Until then, have a wonderful summer.

Best Wishes,
Miss Perrin

DOODLEMATHS SUMMER CHALLENGE!

In these unusual times, preventing learning loss is more important than ever. We want to support you and your child in any way we can, so DoodleMaths have created their biggest DoodleMaths Summer Challenge ever and made it even easier to take part!

According to a study by the University of Bath, just 20 minutes of DoodleMaths a week is scientifically proven to combat learning loss. This inspired them to launch the Summer Challenge which has prevented learning loss in thousands of children.

What you need to do:

Step 1: Log in to the Parent Dashboard and, in the Summer Challenge panel, press 'Register' next to your child's name.

Step 2: Encourage your child to earn 750 stars (or 600 if they were born after 31/08/13) and achieve a 14-day streak in DoodleMaths.

Step 3: When your child has reached their goal, visit the Parent Dashboard and press 'Submit entry' to claim their reward.

If you have any questions or need any help, just head to the Parent Dashboard or doodlemaths.com, and click on the green chat icon to find answers or speak with the Doodle Parent Support Team.

Happy Doodling!

UNIFORM

Please see [attached information](#) about purchasing school uniform from John Moore Sports over the summer holidays.

PTA NEWS

2nd hand uniform shop summer openings

We will be opening the second hand uniform shop twice over the summer holidays:

Tuesday 11 August 10am to 12pm

Wednesday 2 September 4pm to 6pm



Please do keep your donations of outgrown uniform coming in, it really does help the PTA raise money for school projects and the charity. You can contact Lucy directly on 07834 980 663 or lucy_stone@live.co.uk to make arrangements.

Thank you for all your support over the year. It wasn't the year we were expecting when we took over the running of the PTA, but we had some great events before lockdown and we can't wait to get up and running fully again. Thank you to everyone who has given their time and support, selling doughnuts, being an elf, donating uniform or Christmas gifts - it is all hugely appreciated. We will host events as soon as rules permit.

Thank you also to everyone who has volunteered to be a rep for next year. It's such a vital role and I promise it won't be too arduous!

As we mentioned previously, the school charity for next year will continue for one more year as the RUH Forever Friends appeal.

Have a wonderful summer,

Your PTA,

Lucy, George, Jaime, Ceri and Simon

ptaparagon@gmail.com

FASHION AND FAIRYTALE at Bath's Assembly Rooms, 3 - 5 August 2020, 10am -3pm **FREE EVENT**

Earlier this year, children in sewing club designed beautiful fabric couture bunnies to enter in the Fashion and Fairy-tale sustainable fashion competition - a not for profit, community project. With over 300 student competition entries BANES-wide, four manufactured winning outfits will be exhibited alongside international fashion designer, Cindy Beadman's gowns. Why not pop along to take a look at the exhibition this August.



CLASSIFIEDS

A link to our classifieds can be found [here](#).

Class Updates

Squirrels

Dear Parents,

Our final full week in Squirrels has been all about having lots of fun and enjoying our favourite activities again. We definitely managed it as the children delved into water beads,



splashed in the stream, created with paint dabbers and sang their favourite songs. We hope that they will all leave with very fond memories of their time in Squirrels, even if we did lose a few weeks in the middle! Thank you for all the bags for the children's artwork. These will be filled with their work and belongings and will be given to you on Monday.

Monday will be our last full day at Squirrels and we plan to put on all our outdoor gear, pack up our snack boxes and head off for a final adventure and picnic in the woods. Fingers crossed for some lovely sunny weather! I am sure we will also find time to do some fun party games and songs. On Tuesday, the day will finish for all the Squirrels Children at 12 noon, officially ending the school year. Please note that lunch will not be provided for the children on this day.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend,
The Squirrels Team

bhughes@priorparkschools.com

Reception

Dear Parents,

We can't believe that the school year has come to a close! We will miss the children so much next year, but will be pleased to see them lots in the playground.

This week has been 'pirate week'. The highlight was definitely finding the treasure map to help us find the lost Paragon treasure. This 'spring boarded' days of map making and treasure hunting around the school. Such fun!

For the holidays, we have put a link to 'Oxford Owls' on Showbie (in the Reading book folder). There you can find a selection of reading books (for free) that Oxford Press has released. Choose a level suited to their age and enjoy continuing to read. We would also recommend that the children continue to do a little bit of writing and counting as opportunities arise on holiday.

Please can we ask that any phonics or Monster Word cards are returned on Monday? We need to start the task of sorting them out for our next class. The same for any outstanding class and library books that may be hiding at home.

Just to remind you that on Tuesday we will finish early, before lunch, at 12.15pm.

Thank you for all your support this year and we wish all a wonderful summer!

The Reception Team

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Year 1

Dear Parents,

We have come to the end of the academic year (just about!) and what an unusual year it has been. The children have been fabulous this term and have tried so hard to follow the new rules - they are a credit to you.

This week has seen the children measuring in Maths, writing imaginative sentences in English and looking at how Bath has changed over the past century in Topic. The children



loved making a 'helicopter seed' as part of their Science lesson, learning about seed dispersal.

Tuesday is our last day together and we intend to have a fun morning! Pick up time is at 12:30pm in the usual place. The children will be bringing all their books and belongings home on this day unless an alternative arrangement has been requested. Please could the children bring in a good snack because we won't be offering a school lunch on this day - sorry.

It has been a pleasure to be part of your child's educational development this year and we shall wish them all a fond farewell and good luck for their new adventure as Year 2s!

Please don't forget to return your school iPad if you have borrowed one. There will be a box left outside the main building on Tuesday.

We hope you have a wonderful summer break and we look forward to hearing all about your child's holiday when we catch up with them in the Autumn Term.

Keep safe,

The Year 1 Team

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Year 2

Dear Parents,

We are so pleased that the children's return was successful and that there were lots of smiles all round! We had a wonderful time and were so pleased we were able to be together again for the last time. The children have worked so hard this term and we are so grateful for their enthusiasm and willingness to do well. As we only have a couple of days left next week, we are going to be doing some fun open-ended activities. There will be an origami activity, a memory Game, a chance to make a volcano, a painting activity and making a booklet for your new teacher. For the Volcano activity, you will need baking soda, vinegar, fairy liquid, a jar/bottle and optional food colouring. The Teams meetings on Monday will go ahead as normal and this will be the last meeting of the academic year.

Please don't forget to return your school iPad if you have borrowed one. There will be a box left outside the main building on Tuesday.

Thank you for all your support throughout the remote learning period. We appreciate all your hard work and efforts to help the children continue their learning journey and stay happy. We couldn't have done this without you!

The Year 2 team

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rgrinyer@priorparkschools.com

svangerwen@priorparkschools.com



Year 3

Dear Parents,

Wow! This week has been such an action-packed one and it's hard to believe that we were only in school three days ago! We all had such a wonderful time and it was cathartic to congregate as a Year 3 group one, final time. Both of us are fully confident that your children are ready for Year 4 and we shall really miss teaching each and every one of them. They have really matured and grown in confidence and although this was not the ending we would have hoped for, the children have coped, responded and adapted with positivity and enthusiasm. We would really like to thank them for this! All books will be sent home during the first week back and so please be reassured that you will receive these soon.

On Monday, we will host our final Teams chat: 3M will have the opportunity to all join the Group A Chat at 9:30 together and 3B will separate into girls and boys groups (same as Thursday).

Please don't forget to return your school iPad if you have borrowed one. There will be a box left outside the main building on Tuesday.

We hope that you all have a restful and exciting summer.

Best wishes,

Miss Barnes and Mrs Millard

rbarnes@priorparkschools.com

smillard@priorparkschools.com

Year 4

Dear Parents,

The last full week of the year has been completed and it is a bitter-sweet moment. The staff loved coming back in for three days to have one last chance to see their class and it acutely highlighted for us what we have all been missing. However, we all need a break, teachers, pupils and of course parents. The last term, memorable as it has been has put a tremendous strain on all of us, so well done one and all for getting to this point in such chipper spirits.

It has been fascinating to read the thoughts of the children and the people they interviewed for their time capsule. It has been really touching and comforting to realise that we have all been in this together and that we have all missed the same things during the lockdown period. Equally, we have re-evaluated what is important in our lives in similar ways.

The highlights of the week in Maths were the tessellating patterns. Inspired by Escher, many of the children made fantastically complex repeating patterns. They were really mathematically satisfying and artistically pleasing.

There will be some more work provided for Monday and Tuesday on Showbie and please can we all make one last superhuman effort to make it for the last Teams chat on Monday. It will be great to see you all one more time. Please don't forget to return your school iPad if you have borrowed one. There will be a box left outside the main building on Tuesday.

Have a super weekend,

Mrs Hammonds and Mr Hinde

mhinde@priorparkschools.com

rhammonds@priorparkschools.com



Year 5

Dear Parents,

This last full week of this unique academic year has given our Year 5 pupils the opportunity to be creative and take more ownership of their work. We are sure the Year 6 teachers will be very impressed when they see what all the children have produced during their remote learning time. Since this Monday, a wide range of assignments have been uploaded to Showbie, including an extensive variety of maths tasks, reports of Year 5 highlights, PowerPoints showing favourite family holidays and some amazing self portraits, presented in different formats.

We look forward to saying our final farewells to your children in Monday's Teams chat; they really have been a very rewarding year group to teach.

Please don't forget to return your school iPad if you have borrowed one. There will be a box left outside the main building on Tuesday.

The Year 5 staff team - Mr Guest, Mrs O'Connor, Mr Millar, Miss Perrin and Mrs Clague - wish you a very happy summer holiday.

eoconnor@priorparkschools.com

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cguest@priorparkschools.com

Year 6

Dear Parents,

The children have spent their final week at The Paragon writing letters, talking about their memories of school and putting their all into a range of activities linked to our final topic: AIR.

In PD we have talked about moving on and the pupils have mixed emotions about leaving; they are excited, sad, anxious and yet looking forward to the new adventure ahead. We will miss them enormously next year but we wish them every success and happiness in their new school, wherever it might be.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all you parents for your support throughout the year. It is a big change for the children as they take on more responsibility, sometimes have difficulties with relationships and have the pressures of exams on their shoulders... not to mention a period of remote learning and then a return to school in new classes, new teachers and new guidelines! Through all this you have supported them, and us, admirably in helping them through these changes. You have also been so, so generous with all your gifts, cards and kind words over the year that mean so much. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts.

Next week:

Monday: at Prior Park College. Please check the timetable sent last Monday for timings and what the children should bring and wear for the day.

Tuesday: Celebration at Prior Park College. Please check the timetable sent last Monday for timings and what the children should bring and wear for the morning.

We wish you all a wonderful summer break!

Kind regards, it's been fantastic!

The Year 6 Team



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