

Parklands Educate Together Primary School



January 2024

Play Buddies

This week we saw our new Year 5 and 6 Play Buddies start on the playground at lunchtime. A number of Year 5 and 6 pupils have volunteered to be a Play Buddy, helping make our lunchtimes incredibly fun for all children. They have worked hard to develop different zones and are responsible for working with the Lunchtime Team to set up and manage the zones. Alongside this, they also have the responsibility:

- To help all children to play cooperatively with each other
- Teach children to play games
- To be a good listener when another child would like to talk
- Help lonely children make more friends
- Report any unkind things to an adult
- Be available as a friend to all of the other children

We are working hard to develop our playground and the provision we provide. We will keep you all posted on what is happening and how you can get involved over the next couple of terms.



New year, new website!

You may have noticed our website has a refreshed look. Some of the content has been updated, and we are working our way through it to ensure everything is current and easy to navigate for yourselves. The format makes it easier to use on mobile phones and tablets, with hopefully a more intuitive feel. There is a new 'parent links' drop down menu to signpost you to other sites that you may use, such as Arbor and TT Rockstars.

If there is anything else you would like to see on the website then please do drop your suggestions in an email to the office, as we want it to be useful.

Over time, we will update the images and introduce some video footage to makes things a little more interactive and fun.



Attendance

Attendance in schools has been in the headlines a great deal recently as there are worrying trends across the country of children not being in school when they should be. Our school is no different, and our aim is for children to be in school at least 95% of the time.

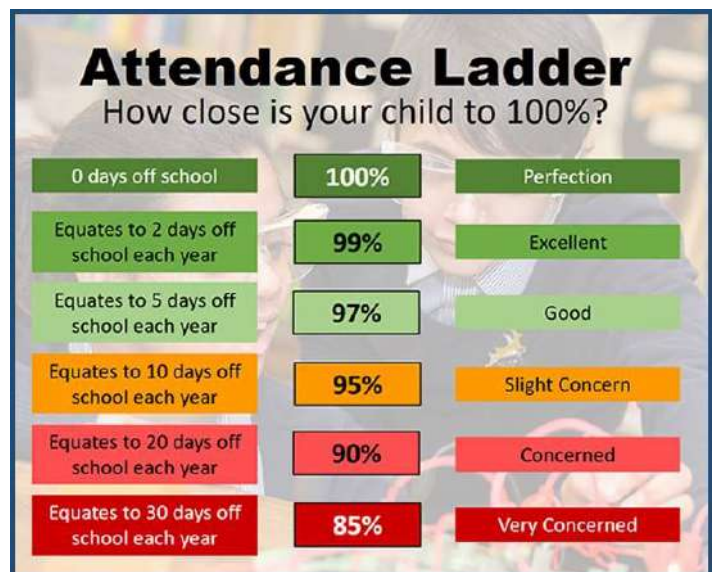
We do know that you have a dilemma when it comes to child sickness- do you send them in when you know they are poorly, do you keep them at home, if you send them in will we just call you to collect etc. There is no easy answer to this, however we would encourage you to send children in to school if they have a mild illness such as a cough or a cold, or if they are feeling a little under the weather but with no specific symptoms, as we can always ring you if we see symptoms getting worse. Other things are more clear, such as if they have a temperature above 38 degrees or have vomited, when they should remain at home. Further guidance is available on the NHS website about other common childhood conditions:

[NHS Guidance](#)

We don't give out '100% Attendance' certificates, which were used in the past by schools to celebrate this, as it was recognised that many children may not have 100% attendance and this is in no way their fault, but we do track the % per class and share this with children in assemblies so they can try to get 'their' number as high as possible.

The attendance data per class this week can be seen below for your information:

Classes	Attendance this week
Red Panda	98.6%
Otters	95.7%
Koala	94.9%
Honeybees	91.9%
Narwhals	95.5%
Tigers	89.0%
Galapagos Penguins	92.3%
Arctic Wolves	91.9%
Black Rhinos	82.6%
Golden Lion Tamarin	94.6%
Snow Leopard	96.7%



Holidays are not permitted within term time, so please try to organise these accordingly. The dates up until 2026 will be on the website within the next few weeks, allowing you to plan ahead. Fixed penalties are used, with fines of £60 per child, per adult used for the calculation (the adult can include the partner of the mother/ father the child lives with, as well as the birth parents). Guidance on fixed penalties from North Somerset can be found here:

[Penalty Notices code of conduct](#)

Road Safety

It is lovely that we have new neighbours, with Winterstoke Hundred Academy now being open, along with the Health Centre. This has resulted in more traffic in the area, so please remind your children about road safety, and of course please also be mindful of where you park so this isn't a danger to others.

Dates

January

- 15th - Nicole returns to school!
- 18th - Census Day- note menu change on next page
- 25th - Year 2 Birds of Prey experience
- 26th - School CLOSED for training day
- 31st - Year 5 Egyptologist in school
- 31st - Reception children local walk

February

- 5th - Parent's Evening
- 6th - Parent's Evening
- 9th - End of term
- 19th - Term 4 starts

Census day

The Department of Education undertakes three census days per year, with the next one being on Thursday 18th January. A lot of the data they capture is very routine around demographics of the children, however they also base an element of our overall budget on the children who have a school meal that day, which can amount to several thousand pounds.

We would like as many children as possible to have lunch that day, and although we provide a wonderful meal every day, the menu has been adapted to attract as many children as possible! We will provide a school meal for every child entitled to a free meal on the census day (younger children and those in receipt of FSM allowance), however if your child is in KS2 could we encourage you to book them in for a meal so that we can support the budget as much as possible.

The menu is on the next page, although of course if you want to send your child in with a packed lunch that is absolutely fine.



PreSchool

We have had a lot of children join us this month in our pre-school class, which is now full and so we are unable to take additional children at Easter. Any family who had applied should have been notified, with our next intake being September 2024.

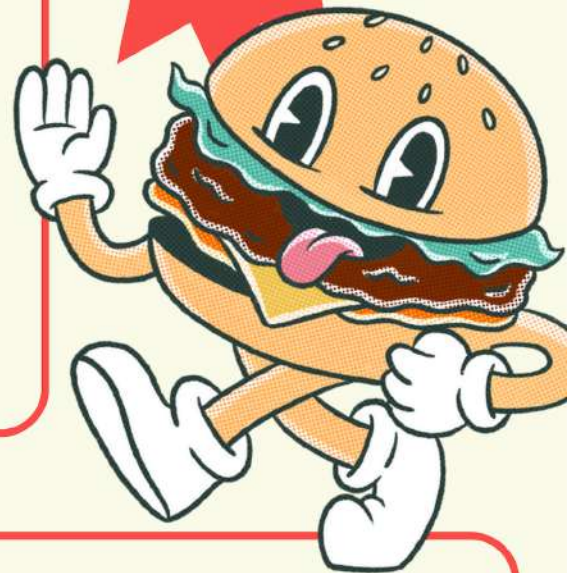
Census Day Menu January 18th 2023

Burger Bar

CLASSIC CHEESEBURGER
CRISPY CHICKEN BURGER
OR VEGETARIAN BURGER

SERVED IN A SOFT BUN

*Cooked
Fresh*



Sides

POTATO WEDGES
WITH FRESH SALAD

CRISP LETTUCE, CUCUMBER, TOMATO,
SWEETCORN



ICE CREAM STATION

VANILLA ICE CREAM AND CHOICE OF
TOPPINGS

SPRINKLES

DESSERT
SAUCE

FRESH
FRUIT