

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another successful term, I would like to express my thanks to our amazing school community. Students, staff, and parents have all played a vital role in making this term truly memorable. As we look forward to the well-deserved Easter break, we can reflect on some of the key highlights of this term.

One of the most exhilarating events this term was our school ski trip to Italy as part of the Surrey Special Needs Ski and Outdoor Learning group (SPENSOL). Our students and accompanying staff had a fantastic time hitting the slopes, experiencing a new culture, and creating lasting memories together. Thank you to Mattie McCarthy, Isabel Vardy and Joan Wilson who accompanied the students.

This term, we also celebrated World Down Syndrome Awareness Day by donning odd socks in a colourful display of support. Our students and staff demonstrated great enthusiasm in raising awareness about Down syndrome and embracing the unique qualities that make each of us special.

Another memorable event this term was our World Book Day celebration. It was a delight to see our students and teachers dressed up as their favourite book characters, discussing their favourite reads, and participating in engaging literary activities including a visiting author. Thank you to Jane Brown for organising the day.



Students have enjoyed some great off-site trips. We have been playing in sports events against The Abbey School. We have won several matches and are really looking forward to completing in the six aside football tournament. The trophy is a replica of the FA cup. Y9 students enjoyed their trip to The Spike in Guildford as part of their learning in History. The Guildford Spike tells the story of a workhouse in the 1800s.

Looking ahead, we have several exciting events and initiatives planned for the upcoming term. Be sure to keep an eye on our school website and weekly newsletter for updates on upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and important announcements.

Please remember to encourage your children to engage in reading during the holiday. We continue to have a strong focus on reading each day and reading in the holiday not only maintains their phonics skills but also helps maintain the reading momentum we have built over the course of the term.

I just wanted to let parents and carers know that at the end of the summer term Mr McCarthy will be retiring. We are currently recruiting and some of you may have seen the advert that we have on our website for an Assistant Headteacher which is his replacement. We will enjoy a final term of working with him!

Staff have been working hard on our school improvement priorities around learning and the curriculum. During the term we have had a WMAT teaching and learning review and a Surrey Education Safeguarding review, which were both really positive.

Lastly, I would like to extend my gratitude to all parents and carers for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Your partnership is invaluable in helping us provide the best educational experience for our students. Together, we can continue to foster a nurturing and enriching environment for our children to learn, grow, and thrive.



Paul Walsh: Headteacher

### Safeguarding concerns

If you have an urgent safeguarding concern during the holidays you can email on [dsl@thepark.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:dsl@thepark.surrey.sch.uk)

### 2023-2024 Diary

Autumn Term 2023	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	INSET DAY – School Closed
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	INSET DAY – School Closed
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Yr7 Orientation Day (Yr7's only in school)
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Whole School Returns 9:00am
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Finish for Half Term 3:00pm
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Back to School 9:00am
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November (TBC)	Late November Break – School Closed
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November (TBC)	Late November Break – School Closed
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Finish for Holidays 1:00pm
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 24</b>	<b>Christmas Holidays</b>

Spring Term 2024	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	INSET DAY – School Closed
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Whole School Returns 9:00am
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Finish for Half Term 3:00pm
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Back to School 9:00am
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Finish for Holidays 1:00pm
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Easter Holidays</b>

Summer Term 2024	
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Whole School Returns 9:00am
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	BANK HOLIDAY
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Finish for Half Term 3:00pm
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Finish for Summer Holidays 1:00pm