

November (1) 2025

Dear parent,

We hope everyone is feeling refreshed after the mid-term break. As we begin this half-term, we'd like to send our warmest wishes to our two Primary 7 pupils who will be sitting the upcoming SEAG tests. They have shown great dedication in their preparations, and we are confident they will approach each test with focus and determination. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and resilience. Looking ahead, we're excited for the festive season, with plenty of fun events, activities, and engaging learning opportunities planned for all our pupils.

OPEN AFTERNOON

The school is hosting an open afternoon for prospective P1 pupils 2026. Parents and pupils will be able to see our classes in action, experience the foundation stage play resources, tour the school and hear a principal's address.

The open afternoon is planned for **Friday 28 November**. Pupils in **P1-P3** should be collected at **2.15pm** on this date.

Refreshments will be offered to visiting parents and pupils. Assistance with serving tea and coffee and chatting with parents about your experience of the school is being arranged by the PTA.

To help us promote the school more widely, please share our posts on Facebook and Instagram.

SAFEGUARDING – ANTI BULLYING WEEK

Every November schools throughout the United Kingdom take part in Anti-Bullying Week. This is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on bullying and consider the steps we can take together to stop it. Anti-Bullying Week 2024 will be taking place from Monday 10 November to Friday 14 November, with the theme 'Power for Good'. Pupils in P4-P7 will participate in an online assembly hosted by HIP Psychology and all classes will complete activities and discussions around this important topic. We will also participate in an "Odd Socks Day" on Friday 14 November. The children should come to school wearing odd socks.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

An updated Child protection Policy has recently been ratified by the Board of Governors. This is available to read on the school's website. The school's Child protection Policy is also available from the school office on request. Mr S Cunningham has been elected as the school's new Child Protection Governor.

<https://www.parkgate-primary.co.uk/school-policies>

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Pupils should bring a hat, scarf and gloves to school to wear during breaktimes in the colder months ahead. These items should **remain in school in a strong bag** to help keep our classrooms clutter free.

A copy of this newsletter is available on the school website

<https://www.parkgate-primary.co.uk/>

HOMEWORK CLUB – CHANGE OF DAYS

Homework club will revert to **Monday and Tuesday** afternoons from Monday 1 December onwards. A registration link will be issued later in the month.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Classes: P4-P7
Event: Ulster Orchestra School Concerts
Venue: Waterfront Hall
Date: **Monday 17 November**
Payment: £6 per pupil (payment due by 14.11.25)
Bus: Funded by PTA

Please complete the permission form linked below by Friday 14 November. **Pupils who do not have a permission form will not be able to attend.**

<https://forms.gle/JcUvuvLCmVCCd9ND7>

Payment should be sent in CASH to the school office by Friday 14 November.

All pupils in P4-P7 will require a PACKED LUNCH on this date.

Pupils in P1-P3 may order a school lunch as normal.

Classes: P6-P7
Event: Young Enterprise Business Masterclass
Venue: Mossley Mill
Date: **Thursday 20 November**
Payment: Free

Please complete the permission form linked below by Friday 14 November. **Pupils who do not have a permission form will not be able to attend.**

<https://forms.gle/53gXa2wGk8Eb2sUZ9>

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

All information and necessary forms have been sent home with pupils today. Nomination forms should be returned by **Friday 21 November**.

CHRISTMAS NEWS

The Parkgate and District Community Association has invited the **P4-P7** school choir to participate in the Christmas Lights Switch On. This is to be held on the evening of **Friday 28 November**. Further details to follow. Please complete the permission form below by **Friday 14 November** if your child can attend.

<https://forms.gle/jdaLnLK4RosFBZ4m7>

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CHRISTMAS PARTY LUNCH

This year a Christmas Buffet Lunch will be served on **Thursday 4 December**. If you wish to order a meal for your child, please complete the google form below and submit by **Monday 17 November**. Payment of £2.60 per child is not required until **Monday 1 December**.

<https://forms.gle/BT1PQ7ed9K1ivpEe7>

CHRISTMAS GIFTING

Considering current financial stresses, the staff would like to emphasize that families are under no obligation to gift presents to staff at this time. Should you wish to, a gift to a charity supporting underprivileged children is preferred.

SILVER SMASH

Remember to send you silver change every Monday.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Library Van – The next library van visit is **Wednesday 12 November**

Story & Rhyme – 2025 Dates

Friday 14 November

Friday 5 December

Friday 12 December

Templepatrick Christmas Lights – Information attached

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

12.11.25	Library van visit
17.11.25	Ulster Orchestra Concert – P4-P7 – Waterfront Hall
20.11.25	P6/P7 Young Enterprise Workshop – Mossley Mill
21.11.25	School Development Day 2
26.12.25	Library Van visit
28.11.25	P1 2026 Open afternoon
28.11.25	Parkgate Community Lights Switch on and Tractor Run
04.12.25	Christmas Party Lunch
09.12.25	Christmas Concert (6.30pm)
11.12.25	Whole School Photographs
19.12.25	End of Term – school closes at 12pm

Mrs V Ferguson
(PRINCIPAL)

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