



# Wombwell Park Street Primary School

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Chief Executive Officer of the ECM Trust: Mrs G Foster-Wilson

Headteacher: Mrs C Lawson

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs L Longden

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Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

## Newsletter – Autumn 2

I hope you have all had a restful Christmas time and New Year and have managed to enjoy some much-needed family time.

I am writing to keep you up to speed on some recent news from school over this past half term and to remind parents of key information.

## COVID-19

Thank you for your continued support of the school in recent months. The second half of the autumn term has continued to present its challenges, largely because rules are changing quickly and it is sometimes tricky to keep up!

We have continued to see a number of small outbreaks in classes and have worked with the DfE and our local Public Health teams to help prevent the spread. I would please ask that **parents and families continue to remain vigilant and follow the main Government guidance which Park Street adopts**. At the moment, this is that children and parents (and staff) should not come in to school if they are showing one or more of the three main COVID-19 symptoms, which are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Separate letters will be sent out as and when guidance changes, to try and keep you abreast of the current requirements. Should you have any queries or doubts in your mind then please do phone school and discuss your situation with the Admin team. They will refer in to the Senior Leadership Team for advice and support.

## Attendance Policy

Despite COVID-19 and the impact this is having on children's attendance, we still adopt a policy promoting excellent attendance and punctuality. The school is working as part of a wider Trust team now to ensure excellent attendance is achieved by all children. Obviously if your child develops COVID-19 and has to self-isolate, there is nothing that can be done about it and the priority is that the child (and your family) are keeping as safe and well as possible. We also know, from time to time, your child may become unwell with other things too. Whatever your child's illness we ask that you let school know at your earliest convenience. Should you wish to discuss any illnesses then the school's Admin team or our Parent Support Advisor, Mrs Hitchens, will be able to help and advise.

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## Uniform Policy

Generally speaking, the children have looked smarter than ever this last autumn half term – thank you! If any families are in need of support with school uniform then please simply mention this to a member of staff who will bring it to the attention of Mrs Hitchens (PSA). She has a stock of almost brand-new uniform ready to hand to anyone in need. Similarly, if you have any good quality spare uniform, we can always use this and if you place it in a plastic bag and pass it to a member of staff in your child's class team, they will pass it on to Mrs Hitchens (PSA).

Children are welcome to bring an additional jumper in to school during the winter months, to help keep them warm in class. Ventilation is key at the moment and something which is practised in every classroom as a crucial way to help prevent any COVID-19 spread.

Children should not be coming to school with pieces of jewellery on eg bracelets / necklaces. This is for health and safety reasons but also, we do not want the children to be upset should they misplace or lose important items.

## Lost property

Items of clothing are sometimes misplaced by children especially outdoor coats. Could items please be clearly marked/labelled up with your child's name. This will make it easier to locate any missing items and reunite them with their owner.

Lost property is placed in the baskets in the entrance of school, should you need to try to locate a piece of uniform.

**Thank you to the many children who always wear suitable school uniform – it does not go unnoticed!**

## Parking on Park Street and on the school site

Thank you all for your efforts to ensure you are using the school site and surrounding areas appropriately for parking. We received no complaints in the second half of the autumn term, so thank you for parking with care.

If you test positive for COVID-19 yourself but are able to drive your child to school, we are recommending that you drive your child to the top of the school drive for 9am, after the bottom gates have opened. If you contact school when you get to the top of the drive, a member of staff will receive the child at the door if you allow the child out of the car. The child will then be taken to class and you can drive home to continue isolating. The same can happen at the end of the school day too. If you are able to drive up at 3.30pm, a member of staff will watch your child to your car so as you can safely receive them without being a contact to anyone.

## Scooters on School Site

From September we have welcomed children to bring their scooters or bikes to school once again, should they wish to use them on their journeys. However, we have had a number of complaints from parents regarding children riding them on school property, particularly at the end of the school drive. These children must be Key Stage 1 / Year 3 children who have an adult with them and not in Key Stage 2 as these children go down the drive with their class teacher.

**Please can all parents note that children MUST NOT travel on their bike / scooter whilst on the school drive, for health and safety reasons.**

## Hazel in Reception wins Rotary Art Competition

This year the Rockley Rotary Club held their annual Art competition for schools to enter. As always, Mrs Fitchett made it her goal to get Park Street involved; we were one of thirty schools who entered. She sent in our finest Art work and Hazel in our Reception cohort WON! She was lucky enough to be presented with a wonderful award at a celebration Awards Ceremony in November, at the Metrodome. Myself, Mrs Fitchett and Mrs Hitchens attended along with Hazel's family and friends. She was lucky enough to have her awards given to her by local Artist, Ashely Jackson!

Our famous Hazel can be seen below with the VIPs who awarded her and our very own VIP, Mrs Fitchett (HLTA and Art Leader at Park Street). Further photos can be found at the following address too, should you wish to have a look!

<https://barnsleyrockleyrotary.org.uk/childrens-art-competition/>



A super big well done to Hazel and also well-done Mrs Fitchett who once again has ensured success for Park Street artists!

### **Local Labour MP Stephanie Peacock chooses Poppy at Park Street for Christmas Card Competition!**



Mrs Fitchett has again been busy this autumn term by entering Park Street children in to MP Stephanie Peacock's Christmas Card art competition! We like to enter this every year as it gives the children purpose to enter competitions and enjoy the prospect of success! We know our Art work at Park Street is amongst the best in Barnsley, but we were all astounded when our very own Poppy in Year 5 was chosen as the overall winner, for Stephanie's Christmas card! Well done Poppy! What an achievement! This card went to all of her contacts across the world!

As a result of this success, Stephanie came to Park Street and presented the award! However, in true Park Street style, not only did we win the overall winner, but two of our other children won 'runners up' too in the school's competition! Well done to Charlie in Year 6 and Neveah in Year 5!

Stephanie enjoyed her visit to Park Street to present all of the awards. She provided a wonderful opportunity too for our Key Stage 2 classes to meet her and ask questions about her role. Lots of children were interested in finding out more about London, the Houses of Parliament, what it is like to be an MP and also asked lots of inquisitive questions about our Prime Minister, Boris Johnson! It was an inspiring opportunity for the children to learn about such an important job.

Well done Park Streeters!

More information and a close-up picture of the winning card can be found at the following address:

<https://www.stephaniepeacock.org.uk/christmas-visit-to-wombwell-park-street-school/>

### **Christmas card Art work**

Once again, this year Mrs Fitchett has ensured that parents have had the opportunity to purchase Christmas cards and accessories, designed by their child! This is always a lovely opportunity for you as parents to send your child's work to your loved ones and I know this has been really popular over the last few years. It also helps school out too as the more money that is spent, the more commission our school makes! This year any commission will go towards enriching our computing curriculum in school – all £254.61 of it! Thankyou parents!

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## COVID memorial sculpture in Barnsley



Six of our Key Stage 2 children were successful in having their art designs sculpted on to Barnsley's COVID memorial sculpture! A huge well done to Ethan, Joshua, Sophia, Abigail, Jayden and Lewis!

This was a massive success for these Park Street children and one which I am incredibly proud of and will treasure for years to come! Can you imagine having your very own mark on such an iconic piece of art work, for such a wonderful cause too!

This once again exemplifies the excellent standard of art work which is produced by Park Street children.

Thankyou Mrs Fitchett!

## Dunelm Donations

I want to express a huge thank you to Dunelm in Wombwell / Stairfoot. This Christmas time, we were chosen as the school to receive all of the Christmas donations that they received in store! Mrs Fitchett and Mrs Hitchens worked tirelessly in the last week of term to organise all of the Christmas presents for families who attend Park Street. These were distributed based on our knowledge of families who could potentially be struggling and those families who had experienced difficult times recently and would be appreciative of a little 'pick me up'. The ladies drove around Wombwell and distributed these. Families were very appreciative and thankful and it was lovely to put a smile on people's faces. Thankyou Dunelm and all of the kind people in our community who donated!

## Salvation Army Donations

Thank you also to the Salvation Army in Wombwell. They contacted school to ask if our families would benefit from Christmas donations of presents, which of course we confirmed they would. In the last week of term, they arrived with so many wonderful gifts that again we could distribute out to families in need. Many thanks to the Salvation Army for your kindness and generosity – it meant the world to a lot of families in need!

## Children in Need!

Our team had great success on Children in Need Day on 19.11.22! We managed to raise the grand total of £303.04!

Well done Team Park Street – what a wonderful cause to raise money for!

## Sporting Trips

Park Street have been lucky enough to win a Beat the Street vouchers due to the positive feedback we were able to give Totally Runnable and we have also signed up to their Girls and Sports Pledge.

Park Street's boys' football team played High View's and drew 0:0 and the girls teams also played each other, with Park Street girls winning 1:0!

The Girls' table tennis team have also been successful in getting to the schools regional finals after being successful at the English Institute of Sport!

## Class Blogs

Our teachers in teams are trying hard to blog regularly on our school's website, to keep you informed of some of the exciting things the children have been learning about. These can be found through the school's website and then on each team's link under 'Team Groups'.



## Parental Group

As previously mentioned, school are keen to establish a working party of parents / carers of children at Park Street once again, to help support with money raising and event planning for the children. If you are interested in this aspect of voluntary work, please could you email the following address to express an interest.

The email address is: [parkstreet@ecmtrust.co.uk](mailto:parkstreet@ecmtrust.co.uk)

## Christmas

I was really proud of the children's efforts in making Christmas time special at Park Street. We hoped you enjoyed the Christmas production of Park Street's Inclusive Christmas – the children were phenomenal! I would also like to extend my praise and thanks to staff who put in a tremendous amount of effort to make this happen and provide the opportunity for the children to still perform. Thank you also to Mrs Firth and Mr Fidment for putting all of the videos together!

Involving children in performance is something which we are very passionate about at Park Street and we cannot wait for a time when we can safely hold more school events for parents once again!

## Halloween and Christmas Hamper Fundraisers

Thank you to all parents who donated and took part in our Halloween and Christmas Hamper fundraisers!

We managed to raise a whopping £142.35 on our Halloween Hamper fundraiser – to go towards the school's new football kit

We managed to raise a whopping £249 on our Christmas Hamper fundraiser – to go towards equipment to enrich our Computing curriculum.

On the note of the hampers, we do still have a number of unclaimed prizes left in school and we do not want you to miss out. Please check the following are not your prizes:

Blue 204 and 161 – Team CW

Pink 19 and 24 – Team CH

Orange 64 – Team LF

Pink 115 – Team CB

White 80 – Team EO

**Thank you to all involved and we hope you liked your hampers all you lucky winners out there!**

## Well done to Miyah and Eliza in Year 2 for their Christmas fundraising!

Recently Miyah and Eliza in Year 2 have been working hard with Mrs Hitchens to produce some Christmas crafts. They worked as a team so incredibly hard and raised £20 from selling their crafts to the school team. They have, very generously, chosen to spend this money on food to help re-fill Park Street's food bank, which helps lots of Park Street families out in times of need. Well done girls, we are so proud!

## Parental Evenings

Thank you to all of the parents who were able to make Parent's Evening in November / December time. We really appreciated the messages of thanks we received in relation to the steps taken to make the meetings as Covid safe as possible.

We will be holding further parental meetings towards the end of the spring term and look forward to seeing even more parents attending. Letters informing you of dates will be sent shortly. Hopefully, these will be face to face meetings once again and will provide you with a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and achievements.

## SEN Information

As many of you will know, Mr Fidment is our school's Special Educational Needs & Disability Co-ordinator (SENDCo). To ensure optimum communication with parents of children with SEND needs, he is often out on the school site at the top of the drive every day possible (staffing dependent). If you would like to speak to

him face to face then this is a good opportunity, even if it is to simply ask for a call back. As well as this, an email address has been organised for parents of children with SEND needs to email in to school directly about their child.

This email address is: [WPSSendco@ecmtrust.co.uk](mailto:WPSSendco@ecmtrust.co.uk)

Please could you use this email address in future and not Mr Fidment's personal work email. We are in the process of recruiting an Administrative Assistant for Mr Fidment and so this email inbox will be checked even more regularly. There is more chance of any issues questions / queries being answered if you contact school this way, regarding SEN needs.

### **Remote Learning**

Should your child have to self-isolate, then school are able to post learning on our online platform for learning (Seesaw). Please ensure you have access to this platform for if / when this situation arises.

Obviously, if your child is poorly with COVID-19 and is unable to learn from home, then there is no pressure to do so. Your child's health is the absolute priority.

On occasions, depending on staffing limitations, it may take a little while to sort, but staff will prioritise this when they can. If you have any issues or concerns regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact our Senior Leaders in school.

### **Exciting staffing information**

In December we said good bye to Miss S Powell, Teaching Assistant in Nursery, who was successful in gaining a promotion at another school! We wish Miss Powell lots of luck in her new role, she will be greatly missed!

We have been successful in recruiting two new Teaching Assistants over the Christmas holidays. Mrs V Jones will begin working in EYFS this January and Miss C Millns has been successful in securing a Teaching Assistant role in school, after her successful Apprenticeship which she has completed at Park Street over the last few years. Well done Miss Millns and we warmly welcome Mrs Jones to the school team!

I look forward to a positive half term here at Park Street.

As always, thank you for your continued support of school and the staff team.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Lawson  
Headteacher