



Peel Park Primary School

Unaccompanied children at the start of the school day

Our school day begins at 8.40am, and while the gates are opened at 8.30am to allow children to arrive, we cannot take responsibility for them until the school is open (at 8.40am).

We have a number of children who arrive at school unaccompanied and are making poor choices on the playground. We do not allow any games of football or tig before school, as there aren't any adults to support in case of accidents. We also don't allow any balls on any of the playgrounds, as it is difficult to manage while we have other parents trying to come into school.

Please, can I ask you to speak to your children about this period of time and accompany them to school if possible? If this isn't possible, then we will continue to address issues before school as they arise.

Investing in Peel Park Primary School

As we move towards the half-term holiday, I just wanted to keep you all abreast of some of the exciting changes that we have implemented at school recently to continue to improve Peel Park Primary School.

You will have seen our **resurfacing of parts of the playground** into astroturf. This came about due to feedback from the school council (among other people) to make the surface more suitable for playtimes, lunchtimes, and PE sessions. I think that you will agree that it really stands out now and has lifted those parts of the school.

We continue to **invest heavily in our IT equipment** within school so that children get the opportunity to integrate it into their learning. While we are doing so, we are retiring our old equipment so that the children can use technology that is reliable and quick.

Our **school minibus** arrived on the 6th February and is now ready to be used. This will be utilised by many groups across the school to take them to local museums, festivals, historical sites, forests, and many more. It will also take some of our children to their residential in the Lake District in March.

Future plans for the school, which are all in the planning stage, are the **upgrade of all of the external windows** (summer 2024), further **refurbishment of the school playgrounds**, a complete **overhaul of the school toilet facilities**, **upgraded CCTV**, and **continued investment in the classrooms** to bring them up to the required standard. Investment in the school building and facilities has always been a priority for the governing body to give our children the best environment possible to support their learning in school.

Mr Waites

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility in school, and we take this very seriously. Keeping your child safe is our primary concern. Our designated safeguarding officer is **David Waites**, and the deputy officers are **Gina Morson, Michael Kerr, Claire Holt and Danielle Childs**. If you need any more information about this, then please do not hesitate to ask.

You said and we did...

In this section of the newsletter, I am going to try and summarise some of the changes that we have implemented following suggestions **directly** from parents and carers:

You wanted a better understanding of how we teach reading in school (parents forum).

Miss Delisser sent home a letter to all parents that gave an overview of how reading is supported in school (Dec. 2023).

You wanted a fairer process for accessing after-school activities in school on Arbor

We now grant parents access to the after-school clubs at 6 p.m. (to allow all parents equal opportunity to access the sessions for their children).



Parents Forums

Following feedback from one of our most recent forums, we have decided to change the timings of the next two forums. We hope that this will allow more parents to attend.

The next forum will take place on Monday 25th March 2024 at 3.30pm.

School Uniform

At present, the year 6 children wear a different coloured jumper to the rest of the school (red rather than green). Initially, this was set up to give the children responsibility in their last year at Peel Park.

At the next Governing Body meeting (18th March 2024) we will be discussing whether to change this for September 2024 to align it with the wider school where the children will continue to wear green from EYFS-Y6. **The red hoodie on PE days will continue.**

If you have a particular opinion on this, please feel free to share this with me either by email or in person.

Internet safety

As part of Safer Internet Day, we had a visiting theatre company come to school to give a very enjoyable session to all of our children about staying safe online. We also did a number of activities during this week where we discussed with the children the approaches to staying safe online and what to do if anyone is worried about aspects of internet safety.

We have worked hard in school to ensure that all of our equipment is securely filtered and monitored, and this is reviewed on a monthly basis by our safeguarding team.

In order to support our parents in keeping their own children safe online, we have organised a session with Alan Donohoe (EXA Foundation) to explore how to do this at home. This will look into certain apps and give practical advice and support to help at home.

This will take place on Tuesday 27th February between 9am-9.45am and everyone is welcome. If you would like to come, please can we ask you to sign up via your child's Arbor account within the 'clubs' section.





Parents Information Session

HELP YOUR CHILDREN STAY SAFE ONLINE

Practical suggestions to help keep your children safe online.
Ask advice about **apps, social media** and **internet security** at home.

Date & Time

Tuesday 27th February at 9am

Location

Peel Park Primary School



Extra-Curricular Clubs Spring 2 2024

Mondays	Rec/Y1	Gardening	3.30pm-4.15pm
	Y3/4	Gymnastics	3.30pm-4.15pm
	Y5/6	Tri Golf	3.30pm-4.15pm
Tuesdays	Y1	Kurling	3.30pm-4.15pm
	Y4	Sewing	3.30pm-4.15pm
Thursdays	Y3/4	Boxing	3.30pm-4.15pm
	Y3-6	Chess	3.30pm-4.15pm
Fridays	Y1/2	Gymnastics	3.30pm-4.15pm
	Y3/4	Boxing	3.30pm-4.15pm
	Y3-6	Choir	3.30pm-4.15pm

New clubs shown above.

All available activities will be visible on Arbor within the 'clubs' section while places are available. With that in mind, please can we ask parents to only book one activity to give as many children the opportunity as possible?

Following feedback, most clubs will now run for a shorter number of weeks to allow more children to access them.

