



# Peel Park Primary School

## Spring term 2024

### 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.**

As always at Peel Park, we really value the impact that parents and carers can have on the children within our school. It is for that reason that we had a themed 'Thrive Week' that celebrated the work that our whole school community is doing to support the 'whole child'. It was good to see everyone get involved and attend our sessions in school.

This week we also had a parents e-safety session, which gave some really practical advice on how to keep your child safe online when at home. As you will know, this is a very complex area, and while it was focused on e-safety at home, this can often spill into school and become something that we have to deal with too.

Alongside these sessions, we always have a number of other parent events happening about a variety of different things. More information on these can be found at the school office and/or on the Arbor app.

On another note, staff from school are beginning the final preparations to take large groups of our children on our annual residential trips. Our year six children are going to Tower Wood Centre next week to take part in many outdoor and adventurous activities, including hiking, canoeing, and power boating. The week after, I will be part of a staff team of six who will be accompanying nearly 60 year-five children on their annual trip to London. While there, we will be visiting many of the sites, taking in a west-end show, and having our own boat trip on the River Thames.

As always with these things and all things that happen within school, it is the dedication and commitment of the staff team that allows them to happen, so I would like to say a big thank you to them for continuing to give their all for the 622 children of our school!



## 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 the parents forum sessions to be done after school (rather than the school day)**

Upcoming parents forums will now be at 3.30pm to allow more parents to attend.

**You wanted a wider range of after-school clubs**

We now have a greater range of after-school clubs available, including non-sporting ones. We will continue to keep these as varied as possible to ensure that it interests as many children as possible. **We will also keep note of who has attended previously to allow as many children as possible the opportunity.**



## Parents Forums

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

## Mrs Rawstron

As the parents and carers within IRC will already know, Mrs. Rawstron will be leaving our school during the Easter holidays after 19 years as part of the Peel Park community. She is leaving to take a position as a registrar within the local area. We all wish her well for the future, will miss her positivity and humour across the school, and thank her for her commitment and dedication while she has been here. She will be a fantastic addition to her new role, where her nurturing personality will stand her in very good stead.

## Swimming Pool coming soon!

**Peel Park is soon to get its first ever swimming pool on our school site!** Arriving during the Easter holidays and staying with us for six weeks, we will have a swimming pool for the sole use of our children, and it will be placed on our EYFS playground. It is heated, 10 metres long, and will be a real asset for our children while it is here.

Given that it is just for us, we are hoping that **ALL CHILDREN** will have the opportunity to swim in it at some point. Some of our older children have a greater opportunity so that they can try to meet the national curriculum standard before they leave our school (25m).

We will be sending a letter out to all parents and carers in the next couple of weeks, but, for your information, all children who have the opportunity will need to bring appropriate equipment on their designated day: a **swimming costume (for girls), swimming shorts (for boys), flip-flops (or equivalent)** and a **large towel**. More information will be on the letter, and a full timetable will be sent out nearer the time. I am sure that the children will love it, and hopefully it is something that we can commit to annually from this point forward.

**While the pool is in place, all access to the EYFS playground will be restricted, and parents and carers will need to use another entrance and exit into the school.**

