



**PARK HILL PREPARATORY
SCHOOL & NURSERY**

For boys and girls aged 2 years and above

**Prep School Information Booklet
Academic Year 2020\21**

Year 5



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Introduction Letter

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Years 5. We hope the following information will be of assistance to you and your child as they begin the journey in to their new year group. With the COVID-19 guidance having a influence on our school routines and practices, I am sure you understand that we may have to make changes and adaptations to school life as new guidance is released by the Government.

Details of any updates will be published through the school office but information relating specifically to the Year 5 class will be shared through the Showbie Year 5 Parent Group. The code to access this group is GBG4G.

Expectations

There is the continued expectation in Prep School that children are relied upon to continue to be ambassadors for Park Hill which requires them to:

- be good role models in how they behave and support their younger peers
- work to the best of their abilities
- be polite and courteous
- support others in the environment
- become more independent in everyday activities



Routines

Throughout the school year we will monitor and promptly respond to any official guidance regarding all COVID-19 related matters. As a result these procedures may change as we go through the year. All changes will be communicated through the official school channels.

In the morning the side gate will be open at 8:00am - 8:05am and again at 8:15am. Your child will be able to enter the classroom at 8:15am and, once settled in the classroom they will be expected to independently hang up their coat, PE bag and unpack book bags, putting any completed books in the box, handing their planner in to be signed and put any homework in the tray. Once this is complete they will be given a short task, so please ensure they arrive on time. If you have any messages or notes please put these in your child's planner or email us. Registration will be taken at 8:25am, with our first lesson beginning promptly at 8:30am.

At the end of the school day collection will be from the front of the school. Teachers will be present if you need to speak to them. If your child is going to be collected from school by somebody else at the end of the day please inform the office and write a note in their planner. We will not allow your child to go home with another adult, unless we have your written permission.



Uniform

Prep School children should come to school on most days wearing their formal uniform. On PE and Games days the children should come to school in their school sports kit in preparation for physical activity. On Mondays, children will wear their uniform and bring games kit adventure school waterproof clothing in their back pack. Please ensure their uniform is clearly labelled.

Until we receive information that we are able to resume swimming lessons, unfortunately we will be unable to schedule these lessons. One swimming does return to the Park Hill timetable, children should come to school in school uniform, bringing their swimming bag, towel, goggles and swimming hat.



Equipment

Please ensure your child has the following items for the beginning of the school year. The child's name should be clearly marked on each item.

- **Antibacterial wipes for keeping your iPad clean**
 - A pair of BLACK wired headphones. Please avoid headphones that require charging or connect using Bluetooth
 - A good quality stylus
 - Water Bottle
 - Named Park Hill Pencil Case
 - 5 Good quality HB Pencils
 - Sharpener (preferably self containing)
 - Highlighters (x2)
 - An eraser
 - Coloured pencils
 - Glue stick (Pritt Stick is preferred as it is long lasting)
 - Age appropriate scissors
 - Felt tips (Narrow point as they will be used for outlines, rather than colouring)
 - 30 cm ruler with CM and MM units of measure
 - A fine black pen
 - A pair of compasses
 - A protractor
 - Two dark blue Frixton pens (erasable ink)



- Descriptosaurus Vocabulary book - ISBN - 9780415640862

Homework

Homework will be set each Thursday and the various tasks set will be expected to be completed to a good standard and submitted for marking at the start of the following Thursday. Most commonly homework will be set through the Showbie app although there will be times when a particular piece of work will benefit from being completed using paper and pencil or another medium. In this instance an explanation of the work will still go onto Showbie.

In addition to this homework, the children will be given age-appropriate spelling tests each week. To facilitate this, the children will be given a list of words to learn each week. The words will be taken from the Year 5 spelling words but also other topical words that arise during class discussions and topic work.

Reading is an important tool to developing a child's working vocabulary and also underpinning good use of punctuation and grammar. Ideally each child should be self-motivated to read for pleasure for at least 15 minutes per day.

Timetable

A copy of the Prep School timetable will be sent home, via your child, in the first week of term.

Comprehension

It is important that when reading with a child that there is a focus on the comprehension (understanding of what's happening in the story) aspect of the book as well as the sounding out difficult or unfamiliar words. Some children may be able to easily read their book and to say all of the words, they also need to make sure they have a full understanding



of what it is about. Please encourage your child to read a variety of texts and genres.

Curriculum

To ensure the children receive the highest quality of teaching and learning, we have designed a challenging curriculum that extends the children well beyond the National Curriculum objectives using the Common Entrance Curriculum Syllabus (ISEB).

Mathematics

In Mathematics, the children will be building on from the Year 4 curriculum and will be learning more advanced number and shape work. Initially we will recap formal use of the four main mathematical operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) but throughout year five we will be applying the skills to solve more complex areas of maths such as working with fractions, decimals places, percentages, ratio, statistics and introducing the children to algebra. The children will be expected to be able to use their mathematical skills to solve other problems in History, Geography, Science, Computing, DT, and Art.

English

The children will be developing their knowledge on classic fiction, writing biographies and autobiographies, poetry, scripting arguments, debates and learning to use persuasive language. Accurate use of grammar and punctuation will be important as we move higher up the school. This will be taught and reinforced as both stand alone lessons (we call SPAG - Spelling, Punctuation And Grammar lessons), and within our topics. In Prep School, we will continue with guided/reciprocal reading groups while weekly comprehension activities will further extend their inference and deduction skills.



Science

Our Science curriculum is split in to the traditional areas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Within each, there are various topics that are outlined below.

-Biology

The children will be given an in depth understanding of the body, the nervous system, puberty, human reproduction, and healthy living in Year 5. Within these topics, we will be discussing microbes and the role they play in our day to day lives.

Plants and other animals will also be covered, with topics including classification, plants around the world, vertebrates and invertebrates, and finishing with evolution and adaptation.

-Physics

Physics will encompass many areas, including balancing forces, sound and vibration, electricity and circuits, and astronomy.

Physics teaching will also include a basic understanding of waves, and energy at Year 5.

-Chemistry

Chemistry topics include rocks, fossils, basic particle theory, and solutions in Years 5, they will develop their understanding of these areas, while also learning about states and phases of matter, chemical reactions, conductors and insulators, and the periodic table.

The goal in Science is to give the children ample opportunity to plan and carry out investigations, while giving them an excellent understanding of the world around them.



Computing

The children will be moving on to more advanced coding in Years 5. They will be experimenting with apps, cameras, and editing software to extend their ability to plan and create informative videos. The children will learn to use the internet safely, before learning how to research, fact check, and elicit information from the internet for use in reports and presentations.

Humanities

Humanities will include Geography and History, with 3 areas of each subject taught per year.

For geography based study in Year 5 the children will learn about the local area including fieldwork, North America and Africa. Whilst they explore the countries, the children will also be taught about the physical features of the continents.

Delving deep into History, the children will learn about Britain during World War II and life in Britain since 1948. Linking in with the geography topic of Africa, the children will also look into how Nelson Mandela helped change the country's history.



Outdoor and Adventure School (OAS)

With such an abundance of open spaces available to us, whether it is the school grounds, Richmond park, or further beyond in to the Surrey Hills, and The Downs, we shall be introducing a unique subject to the curriculum. With an emphasis on developing self esteem, collaboration, and communication skills, the children will follow a carefully planned curriculum further developing their practical outdoor and adventurous skills in a variety of environments. For example,

- Navigation skills (Compass, Map Reading, GPS, and Celestial Navigation)
- First Aid training (Wilderness and Domestic)
- Shelter building and Equipment (Bivi, Tarp, Canvas, appropriate clothing and footwear, and maintenance of equipment)
- Nutrition (Flora and Fauna, Calorie Intake, Camping Stoves, Food preparation, and Cooking)
- Team Building (Communication, Leadership, Collaboration, Problem Solving, and Critical Thinking)
- Adventure Touring (Climbing, Mountain Biking, Hiking, and Kayaking)
- Adventure Planning (Using skills developed from the above topics)

Micro Adventures



In a controlled and age appropriate environment, children will then develop the above skills in a series of Micro Adventures. This will include planning day trips in variety of environments, overnight trips, and extended trips as the children gain confidence.

Games and PE

We will continue to offer PE and Games lessons on the Park Hill site, on these days we ask the children to come to school in their appropriate sports kit. We endeavour to continue be the only Prep School using the impressive Kingston Grammar School Ditton Field but are awaiting the government guidance to suggest it will be safe and appropriate to do so. In normal circumstances, from Year 3 upwards there will be a structured competitive fixture list but if it remains impossible to fulfil the fixture calendar this academic year then the school will continue to arrange events such as the Tough Mudder and virtual triathlon.

Swimming

We look forward to receiving the approval to resume swimming at Park Hill. Swimming will be taught by qualified instructors at the Kingfisher centre in Kingston. There will be an additional focus on life saving and water skills. Miss Adamaidou will also include extra training for those in swim squad.



DT and Art

In DT and Art, we will be achieving our objectives through a cross curricular approach, by linking to Science, Humanities, English, and Maths topics.

In DT, children can create more advanced pieces of art or technology, linked to the topics we are covering in other subjects. They will be using a variety of materials to create their projects with wood, plastic, and card included. In addition, the children will be taught the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to design and create projects.

Art will feature a variety of different mediums, from paint to pencil to ink. We will be looking at artists, architects, and designers around the globe, as well as local artists. They will be developing their own ideas in a sketch book as well as improving their mastery of techniques.

11+

There will be a timetabled lesson each week to focus on verbal and non verbal reasoning, and critical thinking skills to help prepare them for the challenges ahead.

Music and Performing Arts

Music will encompass appreciating and understanding a wide range of music from different traditions and cultures, as well as looking at music from great composers. They will build up an understanding of the History of music, along with improvising and composing their own pieces.



Performing arts will focus on public speaking and presentations, as well as the traditional drama and dance.

French

French lesson will be extended to hour long session to accommodate the level of work that will be required. Children will be challenged here as we prepare them to move to secondary school. They will learn to speak to each other in French, developing simple conversations through role play.

Latin

The benefits of learning Latin are perhaps quite misunderstood but it is enjoying a resurgence as a considerable volume research is proving the benefits to children in English and also in modern foreign languages. Children will enjoy relating Latin to English and French and recognising the roots of words in common use today. Children will develop their breadth of vocabulary, applying it to relevant scenarios and further exploring the root uses of Latin words in English.

Sports Science

The science behind sport making connections to other areas of learning, a cross curricular context. Nutrition, psychology, biomechanics, performance analysis and physiology.

Extra Curricular Activities

After School Club runs daily, from 3:30 - 6pm, at a cost of £16 per day. Your child may also stay for After School Club, following an After School Activity (from 5:00 - 6pm) for £8 per day.



Breakfast Club runs daily from 7:30 - 8:15am, it includes breakfast and activities.

Medicines

Please advise the class teachers and school office of any medication or medical requirements for your child in writing. Office staff can administer medicine during the day as long as a form has been completed and signed by the parent. If your child needs medicine to be kept at school, including epi-pens, anti-histamines and inhalers, please ensure that they are in date for the entire term, clearly labelled with your child's name and with any additional equipment needed to administer it (for example, spacers to accompany inhalers). It is also useful to include a clear action plan for children who need emergency medicine. For children that have anti-histamines, please only provide medicine that has been prescribed for your child, with the prescription label clearly on the bottle or box. Please ask your GP to prescribe a non-drowsy anti-histamine, as, if this is given as part of an allergy treatment, it is essential that a medical team can tell whether a child is drowsy due to medicine, or unconscious.



Contact details

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