



Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024

# Park View Newsletter

Varley Street, Miles Platting, Manchester. M40 7EJ. Tel: (0161) 519 8562 Interim leader: Mr J Tomlinson

Dear parents/carers,

I would like to begin this newsletter by saying how fantastic our Year 6 pupils have been during SATs week. The tests were incredibly tough, but your children showed that they were up for the challenge and should all be very proud of themselves. It has also been so pleasing to see whole school attendance at one of its highest levels this week. Thank you to all of you for making this happen. As always, please find our [weekly safeguarding fact sheet](#) on page 3.

Reminder - Friday (24<sup>th</sup> May), we finish for the half term break. School re-opens on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June**.



Our superstar Friday certificate winners are listed below. Well done to you all!



## 'Excellent behaviour'

Alys & Chester - Year 1  
Nathan & Nimra - Year 2  
Porsche & Ollie - Year 3  
Vicent & Dhiya - Year 4  
Isabelle & Lasselle - Year 5  
Whole Class - Year 6

## 'Work of the week'

Willow & Shelby - Year 1  
Acer & Tayon - Year 2  
Sirajaldeen & Arisz - Year 3  
Elliott & Ella - Year 4  
Kaylen & Soulaymane - Year 5  
Whole Class - Year 6

## Nursery

Fahad, Nylah, Luke,  
Glory & Tyren

## Reception P

Logan, Aman &  
Fauziyah

## Reception V

Asa, Archie & Hassan

## Attendance

This week's attendance = **96.1%**. Attendance so far this year = **93.3%**

Nursery = 90.9% Reception P = 98.1% Reception V = 92.0%

Year 1P = 100% Year 1V = 96.7% Year 2P = 94.4% Year 2V = 97.3%

Year 3P = 96.7% Year 3V = 96.3% Year 4P = 94.6% Year 4V = 93.5%

Year 5P = 93.2% Year 5V = 96.2% Year 6P = 95.3% Year 6V = 98.7%



## A fantastic week's attendance!!

Parents/carers, I am really grateful to you for your continued support to make this happen.

**Attendance** Award winners this week: Reception P Year 1P Year 6V

**Punctuality** Award winners this week: Reception P Year 1V Year 6V



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## Polite reminder

As you know, the safety of all our pupils is of paramount importance to us. Please note, **dogs must not be brought onto the school site**. This also includes any dogs that are being carried by their owners.



## Diary dates

- 21<sup>st</sup> May – Years 3 & 4 ‘Keeping Safe’ workshop
- 21<sup>st</sup> May – Year 5 Author visit via Zoom
- 21<sup>st</sup> May – Reception **Class V** Parents ‘Stay and Play’
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Years 5 & 6 ‘Keeping Safe’ workshop
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 6 Careers workshop
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – school closes for the half term holiday.  
Pupils **return to school** on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June**
- 5<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4 Multiplication check
- 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June – Year 1 Phonics screening check
- Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June – SUMMER FAIR (11 a.m. – 1 p.m.)
- 12<sup>th</sup> July – Pupil reports home to parents
- 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 residential trip to Ghyll Head
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – school closes for summer.**

**COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY**  
WEDNESDAY 29TH MAY

REFRESHMENTS AND REWARDS ON THE DAY!

HELP US FILL OUR SKIP!

For one day only, on Wednesday in May half term we will be providing a large skip for any and all rubbish.

Get started on your big spring clean! We want you to bring any rubbish from your home or garden - furniture, non-recyclables, bin bags - bring it all!

Don't have any rubbish of your own to bring? Offer to help neighbours and friends with their clean-up, or join us litter picking!

Skip will be based outside of The Parish Church of the Apostles  
Ridgway Street  
Miles Platting  
M40 7FY

Come in and speak to Lucy or Ellie for more info

SOCIAL SUPER MARKET *of Asda*

Jigsaw

## Congratulations!

Our attendance day winners for this half term are:

- Honey-Blossom
- Abdul Samad
- Lacie-Mai
- Daniel

Each child will receive a £10 Asda voucher. Well done!



## What parents & carers need to know about...

# AMAZON ALEXA

Alexa is an artificial intelligence (AI) software assistant created by Amazon in 2014 through which smartphone, tablet and smart device users can issue voice commands and ask questions in a range of languages by issuing the 'wake' or activation word Alexa. It can be accessed in several ways and is integrated into a growing number of 'smart' products including speakers, phones and clocks. Once viewed as expensive gimmicks, Alexa is now one of the most used voice assistants in the world.

### Privacy concerns

By their nature, AI voice assistants involve the collection of large amounts data. How this is stored and the uses to which it is put has aroused growing concern. Experts also worry about who has access to voice recordings, which in 2019 the company admitted sometimes included employees of Amazon and its commercial partners. There is also the more general anxiety that internet voice assistants might record private conversations and not only commands or questions.

### Age-inappropriate content

Using Alexa as a speaker to play your favourite songs is one of the most popular uses for the device. However, without any parental controls in place, Alexa won't filter the lyrics so it's possible that children could hear something they shouldn't. Similarly, Alexa isn't always able to identify who or what age the person is who is issuing a voice command so if children ask a question which might not be age-appropriate, the chances are they're likely to get an age-inappropriate answer.

**NOS** National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday

PRIVATE

### Check privacy settings

It's possible to delete Alexa's recordings either entirely, or for a given period, with the instruction "Alexa, delete everything I said." Alternatively, set up the Alexa account privacy settings for that account to delete recordings every three or 18 months. Existing recordings made using the Alexa app can be deleted via Settings > Alexa Privacy > Review Voice History. A final tweak is to turn off the setting that allows Amazon to 'use voice recordings to improve Amazon services.'

### Control voice input

If privacy is paramount, one idea is to locate Echo devices in only one room rather than having several throughout the home. In addition, Alexa can be activated only when it is needed by manually turning off the microphone on Echo devices between use. Users can tell when Alexa is in listening mode as an indicator light should appear or an audible tone should sound.

### Set pin code

Amazon account users can order items from the company using a voice command, for example "Alexa, buy some toilet paper." To counter accidental use or misuse and avoid racking up big bills, this can either be disabled or protected with a PIN code (it should be noted that this is an audible PIN however, so is not as secure as a typed code).

### Look out for 'Skills' apps

A big appeal of Alexa is that thousands of companies have created apps, which Amazon calls 'skills', that add useful capabilities, often integrations with other products or services. These are installed by asking Alexa to 'open/play/start' the skill. For example, a travel skill might be installed to check and automate checking train times and hotel bookings. However, it's important to remember that each of these might have a different privacy policy. A cautious approach is to install as few as possible, de-installing ones no longer in use.

### Talk about technology

As more and more homes install voice assistants and smart speakers such as Alexa, it's a good idea to talk to children about safe use of technology. Talk to them about what Alexa can be used for, how useful it can be and how to use it properly. Use it together to begin with and discuss any concerns they might have. Always make sure that children know to never share any personal or sensitive information and that if they need to talk about anything, they should always speak to a trusted adult.

### Meet our expert

John E. Dunn has edited and written for numerous computer and technology magazines since the early 1990s, most recently Which Computing, The Register, Forbes.com, Techworld, Computerworld and Naked Security. He is a specialist in online cybersecurity and cybercrime and their growing effect on education, young people and the public.



"Alexa...Switch on the lights please..."

...Sure...Switching on lights..

## Safety Tips